STATE OF ARIZONA

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April 11, 2006

The Honorable Jim Weiers
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2478: workers' compensation; vehicle lessors; scope

Dear Speaker Weiers:

Today I vetoed House Bill 2478, which would have eliminated workers' compensation insurance for many taxi drivers.

I did so for many of the same reasons that I vetoed Senate Bill 1237 on April 25, 2005. Although the scope of House Bill 2478 is more narrow than Senate Bill 1237, I continue to believe it unwise to eliminate workers' compensation coverage for Arizona's taxi drivers, many of whom will turn to AHCCCS for medical coverage if they cannot get workers' compensation. I am also concerned that the elimination of the taxi industry from workers' compensation laws would violate Art. XVIII, § 8 of the Arizona Constitution.

For these and other reasons I am vetoing House Bill 2478.

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:TN/jm

cc: The Honorable Ken Bennett
The Honorable John McComish