



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST
750 PACIFIC HIGHWAY
SAN DIEGO CA 92132-0058

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Katie Hobbs
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs:

Subj: HB2570 (Biasiucci) – OPPOSITION TO INCOMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT AROUND
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

On behalf of the Military Services in Arizona, the Department of Defense is against legislation that does not protect areas in vicinity of military installations from non-compatible development. Since 2001, ARS § 28-8461, et al. has ensured the safety of the communities surrounding Arizona Military Installations, particularly those surrounding Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma, Davis Monthan Air Force Base (AFB), and Luke Air Force Base (AFB). It appears as if HB2570 erodes the protections in ARS § 28-8461, et al., that have served both the DoD and communities surrounding its installations for many years.

ARS § 28-8461 states that a “political subdivision that has territory in the vicinity of a military airport or ancillary military facility that includes property in a high noise or accident potential zone shall adopt comprehensive and general plans to assure development compatible with the high noise and accident potential generated by military airport and ancillary military facility operations that have or may have an adverse effect on public health and safety.” The DoD is concerned that community safety is eroded if the protections in the existing comprehensive and general plans are erased by HB2570.

Additionally, some DoD installations have developed Graduated Density Concepts (GDC) for residential density outside the established noise contours to further minimize densities outside the “high noise and accident potential zones” in the interest of community and aviation safety by reducing accident risks and potential noise impacts. Our local community partners have supported this concept through their municipal general plans and it appears HB2570 would prohibit municipalities from applying and enforcing these GDCs.

For these reasons, I am opposed to any bill that does not protect communities surrounding military installations. The DoD would like to continue the long-held Arizona history of avoiding non-compatible development in areas that have the potential to endanger public safety. Our point of contact for this bill is Ms. Wendy Ostapuk with Navy Region Southwest at (619) 933-2561 or kathryn.g.ostapuk.civ@us.navy.mil.

Sincerely,

Bradley N. Rosen
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy Commander,
Navy Region Southwest