March 28, 2020

The Honorable Katie Hobbs
Secretary of State
1700 W. Washington, 7th Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1692 general appropriations act; 2020-2021.

Dear Secretary Hobbs:

Today, as we work together as a state to fight COVID-19, I signed a series of bills that comprise the Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

This is not the budget we envisioned in January. But our world has changed. We are facing the realities of a public health emergency, and our priorities and our decisions have had to adjust accordingly.

I commend legislative leaders of both parties, and all the Republican and Democratic members who shaped and passed this package, for coming together, putting politics aside, and showing real leadership. It’s reflective of what we are seeing all across our state — Arizonans uniting to slow the spread of COVID-19 and save lives.

Proactively addressing this disease remains our top focus, and this bipartisan budget reflects that. It adds critical new resources for Arizonans who have had their lives turned upside down due to this disease.

In addition to addressing this disease from a public health standpoint, our work on the economic front will be ongoing. Everyday Arizonans and small and medium-sized businesses all across our state are struggling. People who have never asked for anything from the government have lost their jobs and lost their incomes, and they need our help. It’s our responsibility as public servants to answer that call, and I know we will.

Our job isn’t done with this package of budget bills. There will certainly be more work to do and many tough decisions ahead of us as we better understand the full impact of this crisis on our citizens and economy. But Arizona is once again showing what it means to come together and put the good of our citizens before partisanship or politics.
I have every confidence that we will get through this challenge, and we will be even stronger once we do.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona

cc: The Honorable Karen Fann  
The Honorable Rusty Bowers