STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

July 1, 2009

The Honorable Bob Burns
President
Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1035: budget reconciliation; general government

Dear President Burns:

Today I returned with my veto Senate Bill 1035.

In March I presented the legislature a comprehensive 5-point plan to address the State's pending financial crisis and to consider long-term structural improvements that would diminish or prevent a repeat of this fiscal disaster. This plan, along with the detailed budget plan I released publicly to you on June 1, 2009, contains a reasonable and sound approach to creating a balanced budget that takes into account the impacts and challenges of future budget years.

Unfortunately, Senate Bill 1035, along with the other FY 2010 budget bills adopted by the legislature, does not balance the state budget. We have a duty to adopt a budget that honestly and realistically addresses Arizona's growing fiscal crisis in a fashion that does not devastate the foundation of our most critical state government functions and services. These budget bills would prevent the proper function of many critical components of state government, as well as undermine our efforts to develop and encourage a prosperous future.

I am very well aware of the tremendous challenges that leadership must confront in the formation of balanced budget plan. I am also deeply and sincerely grateful for the months of hard work and diligence of the legislature in developing potential solutions. I stand willing to continue our many weeks of negotiations and welcome the opportunity to work closely with you and your members to develop a consensus solution that balances our state budget.

Sincerely,

Janice K. Brewer

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

cc: Speaker Kirk Adams
Sen. Russell Pearce
Rep. John Kavanagh

1700 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007
602-542-4331 • FAX 602-542-7602