STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 10, 2010

The Honorable Ken Bennett
Secretary of State
1700 W. Washington, 7th Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2300 (driving on highways; lane regulations)

Dear Secretary Bennett,

Today, I vetoed House Bill 2300. The bill requires the Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of Public Safety, to conduct a study to determine the likely safety improvements and feasibility of implementing commercial vehicle lane restrictions on the non-urbanized areas of Interstate 10 between Phoenix and Tucson, and other non-urbanized areas with three or more lanes in each direction.

This bill was introduced to look at improving the efficiency and safety of our highway system, however it is unnecessary and duplicative at this time. ADOT has the authority under current law (28-736) to do what HB 2300 proposes. At a time of restricted budgets, the Legislature is directing agencies of the Executive Branch, agencies whose primary mission is highway and public safety, to do what they are already responsible for doing.

More than one study has shown a 40% projected growth in truck traffic on I-10, which is the primary east-west route across the southern half of the U.S. Additional lanes and an upgraded and updated I-10 is the only answer. This is why my administration and the State Transportation Board have prioritized the I-10 corridor as a vital link in Arizona's economy by committing nearly $1 billion in current and future improvements in the Phoenix-Tucson section alone. Much of the widening and improvements are underway or already completed.

I commend the sponsor of the bill for his desire to explore ways that may improve the safety and efficiency of our transportation system. With the major improvements under way on the I-10 corridor, the Department is currently looking at whether vehicle lane restrictions would facilitate the safe and orderly movement of traffic and what types of vehicles should be restricted.

Director Halikowski and the traffic engineering professionals at ADOT, working cooperatively with DPS Director Halliday, will address this issue as they always do - with safety of the public as their priority.

Sincerely,

Janice K. Brewer

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

cc: The Honorable Kirk Adams
The Honorable Robert Burns
The Honorable Steve Farley

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Senate Engrossed House Bill

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-ninth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2010

HOUSE BILL 2300

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 28-736, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO DRIVING ON HIGHWAYS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)