



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

April 23, 2010

The Honorable Janice Brewer
Governor
State of Arizona
1700 W Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Brewer:

I write to you today regarding Senate Bill 1070. The bill before you now for final consideration is in my view very poor public policy for many reasons.

By enacting this bill Arizona sends a signal to the rest of the world that, as a result of deficient national immigration policy, it is willing to impose egregious state laws on the citizens of Arizona solely for the purpose of demonstrating the depth of its frustration with the stresses and strains that it attributes to the failures of the federal government.

In my own view, the law as written will also make Arizona seemingly and actually unfriendly to legal residents, potential residents and international visitors. This projection of a hostile environment will seriously and negatively affect the state's potential for economic development, its current economic activity, and the existing civil environment. In addition, I have spoken with numerous students, faculty and staff at Arizona State University who have shared with me their concerns about the range of interpretations that this poorly conceived and realized legislation could have among a highly diverse community like ours.

It is my own personal view that the wording of the bill, whether intentional or not, creates an environment in which tremendous uncertainty and ambiguity is imposed on our state law enforcement officers as they undertake yet another entirely new set of law enforcement obligations with no additional resources. History has demonstrated on more than one occasion that such ambiguity when combined with unfunded mandates imposed by the state on local government can lead to significant social disruption and the deterioration of civil relations. It is certainly frustrating that our national policy makers have been unable to offer sufficient policy or enforcement to help us to address the consequences of unmanaged immigration.

These consequences are real and meaningful, and such a wrong-headed approach does not offer real solutions to the problems faced by the State of Arizona.

It is important that our state be seen as a place where intelligent policy making prevails over emotional policy making, even when social and economic stresses are high.

Office of the President

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SB 1070 is not a direction that will be conducive to Arizona's success if we have any hope whatsoever of being part of a resurgent American economic recovery and a part of the broader global economic system.

I recommend that you not sign this bill and ask Congress to expedite its overall immigration reform efforts. In addition, the State of Arizona, with your leadership, should work closely with Senator Kyl and Senator McCain to enact and implement the improvements and changes needed to our national immigration and border security policy.

I know that this is a difficult decision, but my own belief is that this is an opportunity to demonstrate decisiveness and leadership that moves Arizona forward, not backward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Crow". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael Crow
President

MMC/js
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