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DISTRICT 20



COMMITTEES:

Education, Accountability
& Reform, Chairman
Judiciary, Vice Chair

Arizona State Senate

May 25, 2010

The Honorable Jan Brewer,
Governor, State of Arizona
1700 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Brewer:

My record as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, Accountability & Reform and as an 18- year veteran legislator is one of education reform. Over my career I have successfully sponsored and passed legislation that has expanded charter schools in Arizona, developed a statewide system of performance pay for our teachers, expanded alternative certification avenues, improved our assessments of academic gains and improved the accountability of various aspects of our state's education system. Arizona's Race to the Top application provides an excellent opportunity to accelerate the work for education reform and I confirm my support for this plan.

Recently, during Arizona's 2010 legislative session, we passed many additional education reforms, including those in assessment, accountability measures, teacher and principal evaluations, and the capacity of the data warehouse. With an award of Race to the Top grant funds, I am confident we will be able to effectively implement our academic reform agenda, leading to the improvement of outcomes for all of Arizona's students. The plan is carefully crafted to focus on the expansion of infrastructure in technology, professional development, and data driven accountability that ultimately will be sustainable long after federal funds have been expended.

I fully endorse and appreciate your efforts to pursue an additional opportunity for Arizona to further implement reforms and improve the quality of education in our state. Thank you, Governor Brewer, for your efforts on behalf of all the students and parents of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Huppenthal".

John Huppenthal
State Senator, District 20