Dear Governor Ducey and leaders of the Arizona legislature:

Our organizations are influential throughout the state advocating for a diverse range of issues that Arizonans care deeply about. We do not often have the opportunity to work together, but we do so at this critical time to urge you to pass a state budget that builds a stronger future for all Arizonans with investments in infrastructure, health care, and jobs. Arizonans are concerned with how they and their families will get through this health and economic crisis and they are looking to you to provide the investments that foster job training and skill acquisition; and assist working families struggling to afford the basics.

You can choose which road Arizona will take toward the future: one in which the state adequately funds vital resources so that all Arizonans have the supports needed to move up the economic ladder or a fiscally irresponsible and disastrous path for Arizona’s future that relies on cutting taxes and shuts the door on Arizona’s economic growth. Arizona is already a low tax state, but low taxes alone will not be enough if people cannot afford the cost of housing, tuition and child care and a low-skilled workforce cannot support high-wage jobs.

Recent polls show that more tax cuts are not a high priority for Arizona voters. What is important to them is that state lawmakers are funding the fundamental resources that enable them to work, receive an education, and provide for their families. Cutting taxes now in the middle of a pandemic is a risky and dangerous move at a time when Arizonans are desperately looking for certainty. As you know, while it only takes a simple majority vote to enact tax cuts, it would take a two-thirds supermajority vote of both chambers to repeal the tax cuts later if the state experiences a revenue shortfall.

February 24, 2021

FOR ELECTRONIC DELIVERY
We look forward to working together with you to build a state budget that invests in Arizonans and will bring our state out of these challenging times stronger than before. Alternatively, we are also ready to work together to oppose any shortsighted budget proposals that place a greater emphasis on tax cuts than funding the services that will keep Arizona thriving.

Sincerely,

Arizona Center for Economic Progress
Arizona Center for Empowerment
Arizona Center for Women’s Advancement
Arizona Education Association
Arizona Faith Network
Billie K. Fidlin
President
Arizona Faith Network Board of Directors
Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors
Arizona Ground Game
Arizona Interfaith Network
Arizona Rural Health Association
Arizona School Counselors Association
American Association of University Women AZ
Center for Economic Integrity
Joseph Garcia
Executive Director
Chicanos Por La Causa Action Fund
Child and Family Resources, Inc.
Children’s Action Alliance
Robert T. Hoshibata,
Resident Bishop
The Desert Southwest Conference
The United Methodist Church
Empowerment Systems, Inc.
League of Women Voters of Arizona
Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA)
Metropolitan Education Commission
National Council of Jewish Women AZ
Opportunity Arizona
Our Family Services
People’s Defense Initiative
Pima Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
Dustin Williams
Pima County School Superintendent
Protecting Arizona’s Family Coalition
Save Our Schools Arizona
Southwest Fair Housing Council
Stand for Children Arizona
Tucson Unified Parent Advisory Council (TUPAC)
Wildfire: Igniting Community Action to End Poverty in Arizona