



## Cochise County Board of Supervisors

Public Programs...Personal Service  
www.cochise.az.gov

**PATRICK G. CALL**  
Chairman  
District 1

**MICHAEL J. ORTEGA**  
County Administrator

**ANN ENGLISH**  
Vice-Chairman  
District 2

**JAMES E. VLAHOVICH**  
Deputy County Administrator

**RICHARD R. SEARLE**  
Supervisor  
District 3

**ARLETHE G. RIOS**  
Clerk of the Board

February 18, 2015

Senator Gail Griffin  
1700 W. Washington  
Room 302  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Governor's Budget Recommendations

Dear Senator Griffin:

Thank you for your continued support of Cochise County taxpayers. We are writing to you to express our concerns about the continuing and proposed cost shifts included in the Governor's budget recommendations. As we have mentioned to you in the past, since 2009, state action has impacted Cochise County nearly \$8M. Proposals you will be considering this session seek to impact us an additional \$1.1M. These ongoing fiscal impacts come on top of decreasing assessed values and decreases in corresponding property tax collections of over \$3.4M in the past four years. We urge you to vote against any additional State cost shifts and particularly the following:

- **Shifting 25% of the cost of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) to the counties.** The board of supervisors has no role in determining which youths are sent to ADJC. The guidelines for referring a youth to ADJC are controlled by the Courts. With this proposal, our taxpayers will be forced to foot the bill, estimated to be \$967,742 for Cochise County, for a program over which we have no control.
- **Shifting 17.5% of the cost of the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to counties and municipalities.** Requiring localities to contribute to the funding of a state agency without any type of managerial oversight is a bad precedent to set. This shift will cost Cochise County taxpayers \$158,839. While the proponents of this shift will insist that additional collections staff will counterbalance this shift, there is no evidence of how these increased collections will map across that state, nor do we know how it will impact the distribution formula particularly for rural counties like Cochise.

In closing, we urge you to evaluate the above proposals and the long-term impacts they will have on county finances, and work towards reducing any potential cost shifts and limiting the impact to counties. Thank you for your leadership during these difficult budget times and during this legislative session. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss any of these issues in more detail.

Sincerely,

Pat Call

Ann English

Richard Searle



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Clerk of the Board

February 18, 2015

Speaker David Gowan  
House of Representatives  
1700 W. Washington  
Room 117  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Governor's Budget Recommendations

Dear Speaker Gowan:

Thank you for your continued support of Cochise County taxpayers. We are writing to you to express our concerns about the continuing and proposed cost shifts included in the Governor's budget recommendations. As we have mentioned to you in the past, since 2009, state action has impacted Cochise County nearly \$8M. Proposals you will be considering this session seek to impact us an additional \$1.1M. These ongoing fiscal impacts come on top of decreasing assessed values and decreases in corresponding property tax collections of over \$3.4M in the past four years. We urge you to vote against any additional State cost shifts and particularly the following:

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February 18, 2015

Representative David Stevens  
House of Representatives  
1700 W. Washington  
Room 116  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Governor's Budget Recommendations

Dear Representative Stevens:

Thank you for your continued support of Cochise County taxpayers. We are writing to you to express our concerns about the continuing and proposed cost shifts included in the Governor's budget recommendations. As we have mentioned to you in the past, since 2009, state action has impacted Cochise County nearly \$8M. Proposals you will be considering this session seek to impact us an additional \$1.1M. These ongoing fiscal impacts come on top of decreasing assessed values and decreases in corresponding property tax collections of over \$3.4M in the past four years. We urge you to vote against any additional State cost shifts and particularly the following:

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