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13	MARICOI	PA COUNTY
14 15	ARIZONA SCHOOL BOARDS) No. CV2021-012741
13 16	ASSOCIATION, INC., an Arizona nonprofit corporation, et al.,) MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY
17	Plaintiffs,) INJUNCTION)
18	V.) (Tier 2)
19	STATE OF ARIZONA, a body politic, Defendant.) (Expedited Consideration Requested)
20) (Assign to the Hon. Katherine Cooper)
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"Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status."

~ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (August 5, 2021)

"I'm not an attorney, but it seems cut and dried. What I find especially egregious were all the bills that died and came back in the budget."

~ Sen. Paul Boyer R-Glendale¹

Introduction

The Arizona Constitution protects our representative democracy in two critical ways. It requires that laws passed by the Legislature: (1) cover only one subject; and (2) give adequate notice of the bill's contents in the title. Ariz. Const. art. IV, pt. 2, § 13.

Yet in the closing days of the 2021 legislative session, the Legislature ignored the clear 11 dictates of our Constitution, and crammed a hodgepodge of substantive law provisions into what 12 are known as "budget reconciliation" bills. In doing so, the Legislature ignored not only the 13 Constitution, but also explicit and repeated rulings of the Arizona Supreme Court, which caution 14 that lumping such unrelated provisions "in the same bill tends to undermine the legislative 15 process by stifling valuable debate within government's most important forum of persuasion and 16 policymaking, the legislature." Bennett v. Napolitano, 206 Ariz. 520, 528 ¶ 38 (2003).

The Legislature has disregarded these constitutional limits. First, they passed three bills 18 (HB2898, SB1824, and SB1825) with titles claiming that the contents of the act relate to "budget 19 reconciliation," yet the contents of each bill include substantive policy provisions that plainly 20 are not related to "budget reconciliation" and are not tied to general appropriations as set forth 21 in the "feed" bill. They also passed a bill (SB1819) with a title claiming that its contents relate 22 to "budget procedures" and "budget reconciliation," but it likewise includes substantive policy

²⁴ ¹ Pitzl, Mary Jo, Mask mandates, election changes don't belong in budget bill lawsuit claims, The Ariz. Republic, Aug. 13, 2021 (https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-25 education/2021/08/13/arizona-school-mask-law-covid-19-challenged-court-education-26 coalition/8119478002/).

legislation that has nothing to do with the budget. Second, SB1819 covers a hodgepodge of completely unrelated subjects in violation of the single subject rule. The medley of laws in SB1819 are precisely the type of "log-rolling" the single subject rule is intended to prevent. *Arizona Chamber of Com. & Indus. v. Kiley*, 242 Ariz. 533, 541 ¶ 30 (2017). The Court should enjoin these laws, which undermine our democracy.

One of the so-called budget reconciliation bills (HB2898) also blatantly violates Arizona's equal protection clause under Art. II, section 13 of the Arizona Constitution. HB2898 bans all public school districts and charter schools – but not private schools – from requiring students and staff to wear masks in school to protect against the spread of COVID-19. This arbitrary distinction unfairly discriminates against Arizona's public district and charter school students as compared to their private school peers about their right to a safe education, a fundamental right under Arizona law.

Worse yet, the Legislature passed these unconstitutional bills prohibiting COVID-19 mitigation measures while Arizona is firmly in the grips of the deadly Delta Variant of the pandemic. Without the ability to impose proven, science-based safety measures, students and teachers will get sick, and some may die. Unless the Court enjoins these dangerous laws, Plaintiffs and all Arizonans will suffer irreparable harm.

Background

I.

The Title and Single Subject Dictates of the Constitution.

Article IV, part 2, § 13 of the Arizona Constitution requires that every act passed by the Legislature "shall embrace but one subject and matters properly connected therewith, which subject shall be expressed in the title[.]" This provision has two distinct constitutional mandates: (1) legislation may only embrace one subject, and (2) the subject of the legislation must be properly addressed in the title of the act.

A. The title requirement.

2 The title requirement in Article IV, part 2, § 13 "was designed to enable legislators and 3 the public upon reading the title to know what to expect in the body of the act so that no one 4 would be surprised as to the subjects dealt with by the act." State v. Sutton, 115 Ariz. 417, 419 5 (1977) (quotations omitted). The "act's title need not be a synopsis or a complete index of the 6 act's provisions," Hoyle v. Superior Ct. In & For Cty. of Maricopa, 161 Ariz. 224, 230 (App. 7 1989), but the "title must be worded so that it puts people on notice as to the contents of the act," 8 Sutton, 115 Ariz. at 419. A title may not "mislead" but must fairly "apprise legislators, and the 9 public in general, of the subject matter of the legislation." Am. Estate Life Ins. Co. v. State, Dept. 10 of Ins., 116 Ariz. 240, 242 (App. 1977) (citation omitted).

When the title of an amendatory act "particularizes some of the changes to be made by the amendment[s], *the legislation is limited to the matters specified and anything beyond them is void, however germane it may be to the subject of the original act.*" *Hoyle*, 161 Ariz. at 230 (emphasis added).

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B. The single subject rule.

16 The "single subject rule" of the Arizona Constitution, Art. 4, Pt. 2, § 13, provides that "[every act shall embrace but one subject and matters properly connected therewith." The rule 17 18 "was intended to prevent the pernicious practice of 'logrolling." . . . A bill that deals with 19 multiple subjects creates a serious 'logrolling' problem because an individual legislator 'is thus 20 forced, in order to secure the enactment of the proposition which he considers the most 21 important, to vote for other of which he disapproves." Bennett, 206 Ariz. at 528 ¶ 37; Kiley, 242 22 Ariz. at 541 ¶ 30. For purposes of the single subject rule, the "subject" of legislation includes 23 "all matters having a logical or natural connection." Litchfield Elementary Sch. Dist. No. 79 of Maricopa Cty. v. Babbitt, 125 Ariz. 215, 224 (App. 1980) ("[A]ll matters treated of should fall 24 25 under some one general idea, be so connected with or related to each other, either logically or in 26 popular understanding, as to be parts of, or germane to, one general subject.").

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II. The Budget Reconciliation Bills.

Before analyzing why each of the budget reconciliation bills ("BRBs") violates either or both of the requirements of Article 4, Pt. 2, Section 13, it is helpful to understand the intended and appropriate use of BRBs.

A. "Budget reconciliation" bills are necessary because the Constitution prohibits putting substantive law in the general appropriations bill.

7 When the Legislature adopts a budget each year, a key part of the process involves the 8 appropriation of money. Specifically, each year the Legislature enacts a general appropriations 9 bill, which sets forth the many appropriations the Legislature makes for the upcoming fiscal year. 10 This general appropriations bill (also commonly referred to as the "feed bill") is governed by a 11 separate provision of our constitution, Art. IV., Pt. 2, § 20, which mandates that "The general appropriation bill shall embrace nothing but appropriations . . . All other appropriations shall 12 13 be made by separate bills, each embracing but one subject." (Emphasis added.) Arizona courts 14 have long held, "the general appropriation bill is not in the true sense of the term legislation; it 15 is, as the language implies, merely a setting apart of the funds necessary for the use and maintenance of the various departments of the state government" Caldwell v. Board of 16 17 Regents of University of Arizona, 54 Ariz. 404, 408 (1939) (citations omitted).

Arizona law is clear that the Legislature may not include general, substantive legislation in the appropriations bill, and "any attempt at any other legislation in the bill is void." *Id.* As the supreme court presciently explained, "[i]f the practice of incorporating legislation of general character in an appropriation bill should be allowed, then all sorts of ill conceived, questionable, if not vicious, legislation could be proposed with the threat, too, that if not assented to and passed, the appropriations would be defeated." *Id.*

Thus, under our Constitution, any changes in substantive law that are necessary to "effectuate" appropriations in the budget must be made in separate bills. Put differently, BRBs exist for the specific purpose of providing the substantive law that is necessary to implement or

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carry out the appropriations made in the general appropriations bill. [See Declaration of Chris Kotterman, attached as Ex. 1; Declaration of David Lujan, attached as Ex. 2]

To illustrate, a substantive change to the computation of Average Daily Membership for schools or a clarification of some funding formula may be included in a BRB because these provisions have an impact on the flow of funding to school districts and charter schools. [Kotterman Decl. ¶ 21]. And another example, the "environment" BRB passed this session includes a provision describing how the state forester will pay claims to rural fire districts, "subject to legislative appropriation." Section 37 of the general appropriations bill in turn includes a \$2,500,000 appropriation for this purpose. The Department of Forestry section in the Appropriations Report explains how the BRB effectuates this line item in the budget: "Pursuant to a provision in the Environment Budget Reconciliation Bill (BRB), these funds are available to assist fire districts with a population of less than 5,000, for expenses incurred providing emergency medical services on federal land." Ariz. FY22 Approp. Rep. at 198, https://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/22AR/FY2022AppropRpt.pdf (last visited Aug. 18, 2021).²

The legislature knows this is the appropriate function of the BRBs. According to the Legislative Council's Arizona Legislative Manual, BRBs "are used for statutory adjustments that must be implemented to carry out the adopted budget." [Compl. Ex. A] Senate fact sheets from this legislative session also warn: substantive law changes are not permissible in the general appropriations bill, but "it is often necessary to make statutory and session law changes to effectuate the budget. Thus, separate bills called budget reconciliation bills (BRBs) are introduced to enact these provisions." E.g., HB2898 Senate Fact Sheet, 55th Leg., 1st Reg. Sess. (Ariz. June 30, 2021) https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/55leg/1R/summary/S.2898

² Notably, in the Appropriations Report, there are no line items in the budget or BRB descriptions tying the challenged provisions in this lawsuit to an appropriation.

<u>APPROP_ASPASSEDCOW.pdf</u> (emphasis added). A true and correct excerpt is attached as Ex. 3.

Yet here, the Legislature stuffed into the various BRBs provisions that have nothing to do with "effectuating the appropriations in the budget." Rather, the Legislators crammed into the BRBs laws prohibiting mask mandates and other COVID mitigation measures, as well as enacting numerous other pet interests of various legislators that have nothing to do with "budget reconciliation." In doing so, the Legislature violated the clear dictates of article IV, part 2, § 13.

B. All of the Challenged BRBs Contain Provisions that are Not "Properly Reflected in the Title," and SB1819 Contains a Hodgepodge of Completely Unrelated Subjects.

1. HB2898 (kindergarten through grade twelve budget reconciliation).

HB2898's title is: "an act amending [listing approximately 100 statutes by number only]; appropriating monies; *relating to kindergarten through grade twelve budget reconciliation.*" (Emphasis added.) Despite the title limiting the scope of the act's contents to provisions "budget reconciliation," HB2898 includes substantive legislation that has nothing to do with effectuating or implementing the budget.

First, Section 12 prohibits "a county, city, town, school district governing board or charter school governing body" – but not private schools – from requiring students and staff to wear masks or to get a COVID-19 vaccine. [Compl. ¶ 53]

Second, Section 21 prohibits "a teacher, administrator or other employee of a school district, charter school or state agency who is involved with students and teachers in grades preschool through the twelfth grade" from teaching curriculum "that presents any form of blame or judgment on the basis of race, ethnicity or sex." This section goes on to vaguely prohibit teaching various "concepts," including the idea that an individual "should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress because of the individual's race, ethnicity

or sex." And it authorizes "disciplinary action" and enforcement action against a teacher who violates this section. [Compl. ¶¶ 57-58]

Third, Section 50 of HB2898 authorizes the Attorney General to initiate civil actions against a "public official, employee or agent of this State" who uses public resources to "organize, plan or execute any activity that impedes or prevents a public school from operating for any period of time," and against any teacher or other employee "whose violation of [Section 21] resulted in an illegal use of public monies." [Compl. ¶ 59]

2. SB1825 (budget reconciliation for higher education).

SB1825's title is "an act amending [listing approximately 12 statutes by number only]; appropriating monies; *relating to budget reconciliation for higher education*." (Emphasis added.) Consistent with this title, the stated purpose of SB1825 is to "[m]ake[] statutory and session law changes relating to higher education necessary to implement the FY 2022 state budget." SB1825 Senate Fact Sheet, 55th Leg., 1st Reg. Sess. (Ariz. June 22, 2021) <u>https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/55leg/1R/summary/S.1825APPROP_ASPASSEDCOW.pdf</u>. A true and correct excerpt is attached as Ex. 4. Despite the title limiting the scope of the act's contents to provisions "relating to budget reconciliation for higher education," SB1825 includes substantive legislation that is not necessary to effectuate or implement the budget.

Specifically, in Section 2 (A.R.S. § 15-1650.05), subject to limited exceptions, "universities and community colleges may not require that a student obtain a COVID-19 vaccination or show proof of receiving a COVID-19 vaccination or implement other mitigation measures that differentiate based on vaccine status.

3. SB1824 (health budget reconciliation).

SB1824's title is "an act amending [listing approximately 21 statutes by number only]; appropriating monies; *relating to health budget reconciliation*." (Emphasis added.) Consistent with this title, the stated purpose of SB1824 is to "[m]ake[] statutory and session law changes relating to health necessary to implement the FY 2022 state budget." SB1824 Senate Fact Sheet,

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55th Leg., 1st Reg. Sess. (Ariz. June 22, 2021), <u>https://www.azleg.gov/</u> <u>legtext/55leg/1R/summary/S.1824APPROP_ASPASSEDCOW.pdf</u>. A true and correct excerpt is attached as Ex. 5. Despite the title limiting the scope of the act's contents to provisions "relating to health budget reconciliation," SB1824 includes substantive legislation that has nothing to do with effectuating or implementing the budget.

First, Section 12 provides that an immunization that has an FDA emergency use authorization cannot be required for school attendance, and that immunizations cannot be required for school attendance unless set forth in a rule by the Director of the Department of Health Services. [Compl. \P 67]

Second, Section 13 prohibits the State or any city, town, or county "from establishing a COVID-19 vaccine passport," or requiring that any person "be vaccinated for COVID-19" or that any business obtain "proof of the COVID-19 vaccination status of any patron entering the business establishment." [Compl. ¶ 68]

4. SB1819 (budget procedures).

SB1819's title is "an act amending [listing approximately 31 statutes by number only]; appropriating monies; *relating to state budget procedures*." (Emphasis added.) Consistent with this title, SB1819's stated purpose is to "[m]ake[] statutory and session law *changes relating to budget procedures* necessary to implement the FY 2022 state budget." SB1819 Senate Fact Sheet, 55th Leg., 1st Reg. Sess. (Ariz. June 23, 2021), <u>https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/</u>55leg/1R/summary/S.1819APPROP_ASPASSEDCOW_REVISED.pdf. A true and correct excerpt is attached as Ex. 6. Despite the title limiting the scope of the act's contents to provisions "relating to state budget procedures," SB1819 includes substantive policy legislation that has nothing to do with budget procedures.

For example, Section 5 sets forth various requirements for "fraud countermeasures" used in ballots. In Section 33, the Legislature grants the Attorney General the authority to defend election laws and "speak[] for this state" in election litigation "through January 2, 2023." [Compl. ¶¶ 71-73]

Section 35 provides that the Secretary of State must request that the United States election assistance commission include Arizona's proof of citizenship instructions on the federal voter registration form. In Section 39, the bill prohibits a "county, city or town" from adopting "any order, rule, ordinance or regulation related to mitigating the COVID-19 pandemic that impacts private businesses, schools, churches or other private entities," including mask requirements. Section 47 establishes a "special committee" on the Senate's "audit" of the 2020 General Election in Maricopa County.

Even more, SB1819 also violates the single subject rule, because it contains legislation on multiple, unrelated subjects that have no logical connection to each other. Among other subjects, – and in addition to those described above – SB1819 covers: dog racing permitting; requirements for the Arizona Game and Fish Dept. to assist with voter registration; amending the definition of a "newspaper" under Arizona law; local authority to pass COVID mitigation measures; amending the study committee on missing and indigenous peoples; the creation of a "special committee" to review the election "audit"; and requirements for the agreement of unit owners to terminate a condominium.

It is difficult to conceive of more blatant violations of the requirements of both the title and the single subject requirements of the Arizona Constitution.

<u>Argument</u>

A party seeking a preliminary injunction must establish that (1) there is a strong likelihood of success at trial on the merits, (2) the possibility of irreparable harm that is not remedied by monetary damages, (3) the balance of hardships tips in its favor, and (4) public policy favors the injunction. *Shoen v. Shoen*, 167 Ariz. 58, 63 (App. 1990). Courts consider the likelihood of success on the merits and the possibility of irreparable harm on a sliding scale, and they will grant an injunction when the balance of hardships tips sharply in the movant's favor

with less likelihood of success, and vice versa. *Smith v. Ariz. Citizens Clean Elections Comm'n*, 212 Ariz. 407, 411 ¶ 10 (2006). Plaintiffs are entitled to a preliminary injunction under either formulation of the rule. They have a strong likelihood of the success on the merits, and the consequences of these unconstitutional laws will cause an irreparable hardship that tips strongly in favor of Plaintiffs and the public.

III. Plaintiffs Are Likely to Succeed on Their Claims.

While Section 13's single subject rule and title requirement are "interpreted liberally so as not to impede or embarrass the legislature in its business," they shouldn't be interpreted "so foolishly liberal as to render the constitutional requirements nugatory." *Litchfield Elementary*, 125 Ariz. at 224 (quotations omitted). Here, the violations of Section 13 are egregious. To uphold these laws would render the crucial protections in the Constitution "nugatory."

A. The BRBs violate the title requirement.

Arizona courts have repeatedly struck down legislative acts that violate the title requirement of Article IV, part 2, § 13. *See, e.g., State v. Sutton*, 115 Ariz. 417, 419 (1977); *White v. Kaibab Rd. Improvement Dist.*, 113 Ariz. 209 (1976); *Am. Estate Life Ins. Co. v. State, Dept. of Ins.*, 116 Ariz. 240 (App. 1977). As the Supreme Court in *Sutton* explained, the title provision "was designed to enable legislators and the public upon reading the title to know what to expect in the body of the act so that no one would be surprised as to the subjects dealt with by the act." *Sutton*, 115 Ariz. at 419 (quotation omitted). "By confining the legislation to the subject contained in the title, neither the members of the legislature nor the people can be misled to vote for something not known to them or intended to be voted for." *White*, 113 Ariz. at 212. While the "act's title need not be a synopsis or a complete index of the act's provisions," *Hoyle v. Superior Ct. In & For Cty. of Maricopa*, 161 Ariz. 224, 230 (App. 1989), the "title must be worded so that it puts people on notice as to the contents of the act." *White*, 113 Ariz. at 211.³

³ The Legislature is well-aware that the title requirement in Section 13 applies to all legislation it passes, including BRBs. [Compl. Ex. B at 9] *See* 2020 Bill Drafting Manual at 9,

"The courts cannot enlarge the scope of the title; they are vested with no dispensing power. The Constitution has made the title the conclusive index to the legislative intent as to what shall have operation. It is no answer to say that the title might have been made more comprehensive, if in fact the legislature have not seen fit to make it so." *White*, 113 Ariz. at 212 (citations omitted).

Here, the BRB's titles list various statutes that are amended, and then states the bills/amendments are for "budget reconciliation." For example, HB2898 lists *over 100 statutes that will be amended*, but says that the bill is "relating to kindergarten through grade twelve budget reconciliation." This is crucial because, when the title of an amendatory act "particularizes some of the changes to be made by the amendment, the legislation is limited to the matters specified and anything beyond them is void, however germane it may be to the subject of the original act." *Hoyle*, 161 Ariz. at 230; *Sutton*, 115 Ariz. at 419-20. Here, by stating that the measures related "to budget reconciliation," the title "particularizes some of the changes to be maders and must "be limited to the matters specified." Anything beyond that is "void."

In similar circumstances the courts have struck down as void any provisions that are not set forth in the narrative description, even where specific statute numbers were referenced. For example, in *American Estate*, the title of the statute under review explicitly identified a series of statutes that would be amended, and also explained in narrative terms what the act addressed. 116 Ariz. at 242. The narrative terms did not, however, describe a new tax that appeared in the act. The court held that a title may not "mislead" but must fairly "apprise legislators, and the public in general, of the subject matter of the legislation." *Id.* The court rejected the State's argument that the title included the term "insurance," which was broad. *Id.* Instead, it struck down the law as unconstitutional because "the title to the act fails to give adequate notice within

https://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/council/2021-2022_bill_drafting_manual.pdf (noting that the "title is a constitutional requirement of every bill," and it "must state the subject of the legislation with sufficient clarity to enable persons reading the title to know what to expect in the body of the act.").

the contents of the act that there is a new tax placed on 'orphan premiums.'" *Id.* at 243. *See also Sutton*, 115 Ariz. at 419-20 (where title of statute listed some changes to credit card theft statute but not others, court struck down provisions not referenced in title); *State Board of Control v. Buckstegge*, 18 Ariz. 277 (1916) (even giving liberal construction, title "should not be so meager as to mislead or tend to avert inquiry into the contents thereof"; court struck down statute where title said "providing for old age and mothers' pension and making appropriation therefor" because title provided "no suggestion" that bill also abolished existing poor houses).

Comments from numerous legislators make clear that inclusion of substantive policy changes in the BRBs was not to effectuate the budget (i.e. "budget reconciliation"), but were required to "buy" their votes for the entire budget. [Kotterman Decl. ¶ 16; see also Compl. ¶¶ 89-92, Exhs. C-E; see also Complaint at ¶ 89-93 (collecting public statements of legislators)] One legislator recently conceded that the practice is illegal: "Sen. Paul Boyer, R-Glendale, questioned how the Legislature would defend itself when, in his view, the process so clearly violates the state Constitution." Pitzl, Mary Jo, Mask mandates, election changes don't belong budget bill The 2021 in lawsuit claims. Ariz. Republic, Aug. 13. https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-education/2021/08/13/arizona-schoolmask-law-covid-19-challenged-court-education-coalition/8119478002/.

There can be no doubt that the challenged provisions-most of which relate to COVID

The title of HB2898, ⁴ provides no suggestion that the bill would: (1) ban public schools

from implementing mask mandates; or (2) ban teaching vague concepts relating to race

mitigation policies—do not relate to "budget reconciliation." Yet that is the misleading title that

was slapped on each of the BRBs. Each of the BRBs violates the title requirement of the

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 ⁴ The inclusion of the words "appropriating moneys" does not save these provisions. None of these provisions appropriate money. As Judge Warner recently ruled regarding the mask

and providing penalties and enforcement mechanisms.

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Constitution. For example:

mandate: "The statute is not an appropriation measure, it is a regulation of school districts."

- The title of SB1825, provides no notice that the bill would prohibit universities and community colleges from requiring vaccinations and alternative COVID mitigation measures for those who were unvaccinated.
- The title of SB1824, provides no suggestion that it would include provisions (1) providing that an immunization that has an FDA emergency use authorization cannot be required for school attendance; (2) that immunizations cannot be required for school attendance unless set forth in a rule by the Director of the Department of Health Services; or (3) that no city or town can establish "a COVID-19 vaccine passport" or require business to obtain proof of vaccination status.
- The title of SB1819, provides no notice that it would include provisions (1) requiring the Secretary of State to give access to the statewide voter registration database to any "person or entity that is designated by the legislature" to review voters who are registered to vote for federal only races, (2) that it would establish "fraud countermeasures" to be used in paper ballots; (3) or make any of the other changes itemized in § II (B)(4) above.

Each of these measures violates the Constitution's title requirement, and each of the
 offending provisions should be declared unconstitutional and enjoined from taking effect. Ariz.
 Const. art. IV, pt. 2, § 13. See Sutton, 115 Ariz. at 419.

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B. SB1819 also violates the single subject rule.

The single subject rule mandates, that "[every act shall embrace but one subject and matters properly connected therewith." Ariz. Const. art. 4, Pt. 2, § 13. The "subject" of legislation includes "all matters having a logical or natural connection." *Litchfield Elementary*, 125 Ariz. at 224 (citation omitted). Thus, to comply with the single subject rule, "all matters treated of should fall under some one general idea, be so connected with or related to each other, either logically or in popular understanding, as to be parts of, or germane to, one general subject." *Id.*; *see also Hoffman v. Reagan*, 245 Ariz. 313, 317 ¶ 16 (2018) (the single subject rule requires that a bill's provisions be reasonably related).

As explained above, SB1819, the "budget procedures" BRB, blatantly violates this constitutional mandate. It is a hodgepodge of completely unrelated subjects, from dog racing

- *Hester v. Phoenix Union High Sch. Dist. et al.*, Maricopa County Superior Court No. CV2021-012160, Aug. 16, 2021 Minute Entry. A true and correct copy is attached as Ex. 7.
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permitting to voter registration; the Governor's emergency powers; the definition of a "newspaper"; local authority to pass COVID-19 mitigation measures; the study committee on missing and indigenous peoples; the practices of social media platforms and internet search engines relating to political contributions; the creation of a "special committee" to review the Maricopa County election "audit"; requirements for the agreement of unit owners to terminate a condominium; and so on. None of these subjects have any logical connection to each other or "fall under some one general idea." *Litchfield Elementary*, 125 Ariz. at 224.

Like the provisions in Litchfield Elementary relating to an "executive aircraft for the Department of Public Safety, a mobile dental clinic to be operated by the Dental Health Bureau, an apparently operational grant to the Board of Dental Examiners, an historical data based crossreference index for the Incorporating Division of the Corporation Commission, and a capital appropriation the Department of Corrections for а variety of to purposes," SB1819's provisions simply have no "realistic commonality." Id. at 225. Indeed, the Arizona Supreme Court has noted – without deciding because the parties did not raise the issue – that similar BRBs appeared to violate "the single subject rule in the legislative process." Bennett, 206 Ariz. at 528 ¶ 39 & n. 9 (describing similar hodgepodge in a reconciliation bill).

SB1819 also undermines the purpose of the single subject rule. This constitutional is "designed to prevent the evils of omnibus bills, surreptitious and 'hodgepodge' legislation." *Litchfield Elementary*, 125 Ariz. at 223–24. For that reason, when a bill violates the single subject rule, it is "infected by reason of the combination of its various elements rather than by any invalidity of one component," so "the entire act must fall." *Id.* at 226.

"A bill that deals with multiple subjects creates a serious 'logrolling' problem because an individual legislator is thus forced, in order to secure the enactment of the proposition which he considers the most important, to vote for others of which he disapproves." *Bennett*, 206 Ariz. at 528 ¶ 37 (quotations and citations omitted). That is exactly what the Legislature did here.

Republicans hold a majority by only one vote in each chamber of the Legislature, and they were having a difficult time gathering enough votes to pass the budget this year. To put pressure on the Legislature to pass the budget, Governor Ducey vetoed 22 bills, and announced that he would not sign any legislation until the Legislature passed the budget. Running out of time, lawmakers shoved a hodgepodge of substantive policy legislation into the budget to get the votes they needed.

Never before has the legislature so ignored the normal process and procedure for enacting laws as they did this session. [Lujan Decl. ¶¶ 16-19]. Lawmakers openly admitted that they were withholding their votes on the budget unless they could include their own pet policies, including ones that already died during the session. [Kotterman Decl. ¶ 16; Compl. ¶¶ 89-95] That is textbook "logrolling," and the very evil the single subject rule is designed to prevent.⁵

The Court should enforce the dictates of the Arizona Constitution before article IV, part 2, § 13 is rendered wholly meaningless.

C. HB2898 violates public school students' equal protection rights.

The ban on mask mandates also unlawfully discriminates against Arizona's public and charter school students in violation of article II, section 13 of the Arizona Constitution. That provision provides that "[n]o law shall be enacted granting to any citizen, class of citizens, or corporation . . . which, upon the same terms, shall not equally belong to all citizens or corporations." No matter what test the Court applies, HB2898 violates equal protection.

When a statute treats two classes differently in a way that burdens a "fundamental right," courts "subject it to strict scrutiny and will only uphold it if it is necessary to promote a compelling state interest." *Big D Const. Corp. v. Ct. of Appeals for State of Ariz., Div. One*, 163 Ariz. 560, 566 (1990); *see also Charfauros v. Bd. of Elections*, 249 F.3d 941, 952 (9th Cir. 2001)

⁵ If SB1819 is considered an appropriations bill, it fails for the same reason. Ariz. Const. art. IV, pt. 2, § 20; *Litchfield*, 125 Ariz. at 226.

(courts apply strict scrutiny to a statutory classification that "significantly interferes with the exercise of a fundamental right") (quoting *Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374, 388 (1978)).

Education is a fundamental right in Arizona. *Shofstall v. Hollins*, 110 Ariz. 88, 90 (1973); *Magyar By & Through Magyar v. Tucson Unified Sch. Dist.*, 958 F. Supp. 1423, 1442 (D. Ariz. 1997) ("[T]he Arizona Constitution establishes education as a fundamental right of students between the ages of six and twenty-one years.") (citing *Shoftstall*).⁶ Indeed, an entire article in the Arizona Constitution covers "education" (Article XI), including the requirement that the Legislature "provide for the establishment and maintenance of a general and uniform public school system." Ariz. Const. art. XI, § 1. Other states with express constitutional provisions like Arizona's have held that education is a fundamental right under state law. *See, e.g., Claremont Sch. Dist. v. Governor*, 703 A.2d 1353, 1359 (N.H. 1997). A basic component of the fundamental right to education, of course, is the right to a safe educational setting. *Cf. Abbeville Cty. Sch. Dist. v. State*, 515 S.E.2d 535, 540 (S.C. 1999) (finding that "adequate and safe facilities" were minimum requirements for similar constitutional provision).

To be sure, not every distinction between public and private school students regarding education will trigger strict scrutiny. But when, as here, a law substantially interferes with the right to an education in a reasonably safe setting that complies with CDC and all public health guidance for only one class of students, it can be upheld only if it is necessary to serve a compelling state interest. HB2898's distinction between Arizona's public schoolchildren and

⁶ Though the Supreme Court expressly held in *Shofstall* that education is a fundamental right, *id.* ("We hold that the constitution does establish education as a fundamental right of pupils between the ages of six and twenty-one years."), the court inexplicably applied the rational basis test to the equal protection claim. But *Shofstall* relied on *San Antonio Indep. Sch. Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1, 55 (1973), which found that education is not a fundamental right under the federal constitution. In a subsequent case noting this "conundrum," Justice Feldman noted that the court in *Shoftsall* simply failed to apply "the proper strict scrutiny analysis." *Roosevelt Elementary Sch. Dist. No. 66 v. Bishop*, 179 Ariz. 233, 244 (1994) (Feldman, J., concurring).

private schoolchildren regarding their physical safety in school no doubt fails that test.

There is simply no conceivable state interest (let alone a compelling one) in forcing public and charter school students into unsafe educational environments, while allowing students who can access private education to get adequate protection.⁷ In the midst of a public health emergency, HB2898 bans evidence-based masking measures for public schoolchildren that reduce transmission of a deadly airborne virus. [*See* Declaration of Sean Elliott, MD, attached as Ex. 8; Declaration of Cadey Harrel, MD, attached as Ex. 9]. What interest could the State possibly have in prioritizing the health and safety of Arizona's private school students over public school students? There isn't one. To the contrary, HB2898 <u>undermines</u> commonly raised government interests, including public safety and preserving local and control.

To the extent the State has an interest in giving parents the option whether to take reasonable precautions to protect their own children from COVID-19, distinguishing between public and private school students isn't necessary to achieve that goal. All children have a right to be physically safe while they attend school, not just students with access to private schools. *Cf. Kramer v. Union Free Sch. Dist. No. 15*, 395 U.S. 621, 626 (1969) (law granting the fundamental right to vote in school board elections "to residents on a selective basis" couldn't survive strict scrutiny).⁸ At bottom, no state interest justifies HB2898's distinction between the health and safety of children in public and private schools.

 ⁷ Notably, the Legislature includes private schools in other statutes about the physical safety of schoolchildren. *E.g.*, A.R.S. § 15-871 (article governing school immunization requirements applies to public and private schools); A.R.S. § 15-151 (requiring eye protective gear when students in private or public schools are exposed to certain materials).

⁸ The Supreme Court of California has analogized the fundamental right to education to another
fundamental right: the right to vote. *Serrano v. Priest*, 487 P.2d 1241, 1258 (Cal. 1971). That's
because education and voting "are crucial to participation in, and the functioning of, a
democracy," and "education makes more meaningful the casting of a ballot. More significantly,
it is likely to provide the understanding of, and the interest in, public issues which are the spur
to involvement in other civic and political activities." *Id*.

Even if a rational basis standard applied (it doesn't), Section 12 of HB2898's arbitrary distinction between Arizona's public and private schoolchildren does not have a "conceivable rational basis to further a legitimate governmental interest." *State v. Arevalo*, 249 Ariz. 370, 375 ¶ 15 (2020) (quotations omitted). The law irrationally bans reasonable safety measures to protect children from a highly contagious virus, but only in public schools. Again, there is simply no legitimate state interest supporting this unfair and unprincipled distinction. An Arkansas court recently enjoined a similar ban on mask mandates in public schools on equal protection grounds, holding that the law "facially violates the equal protection provisions of Article 2 of the Arkansas Constitution, in that it discriminates, without a rational basis, between minors in public schools and minors in private schools." *McClane et al. v. Arkansas et al.*, Pulaski County Circuit Court, No. 60ev-214692 (Ark. Aug. 6, 2021), <u>https://</u>wehco.media.clients.ellingtoncms.com/news/documents/2021/08/06/Fox_Mask_Order.pdf (last visited Aug. 16, 2021). So too here.

The Court should declare that HB2898, Section 12 violates equal protection.

IV. Plaintiffs Will Suffer Irreparable Harm Without an Injunction.

A. Legislature Bans COVID-19 Mitigation in the Face of Public Health Crisis.

Across the country and in Arizona, the number of COVID-19 cases is climbing, including among children. [See Elliott Decl. ¶¶; Harrel Decl. ¶¶]. The present surge is a result of the Delta variant, which is far more contagious than the original strains of the virus. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 3] Alarmingly, the Delta variant is affecting more and more young individuals, including children. [Id.; Harrel Decl. ¶ 6] The Delta variant produces a significantly higher viral load (the amount of virus in a person), especially in the nasopharynx. This leads to more spreading in the air. [Declaration of Jeremy Feldman ¶ 4, attached as Ex. 10] The net effect of this is that a shorter exposure to an infected person is needed to infect others, even with just speaking and breathing. [Harrel Decl. ¶ 6; Feldman Decl. ¶ 4] The viral load peaks during the pre-symptomatic stage of

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the disease, meaning the person spreading the virus is often unlikely to even know they are infected. [Harrel Decl. ¶ 6; Declaration of Ruth Franks Snedecor ¶¶ 3-5, attached as Ex. 11]

Not only are more children becoming infected, more are suffering serious illness requiring hospitalization. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 3, 6] More and more children are experiencing significantly symptomatic disease and many pediatric health care centers are becoming overwhelmed with severely ill COVID-19 pediatric patients. [Feldman Decl. ¶ 3] The Delta variant also has now demonstrated increased infectivity from pediatric patients to all others, including susceptible adults. [Elliott ¶ 4] This is a "game changer" that makes children particularly capable of becoming super spreaders, among their peers, their teachers, and their families. *Id.* While vaccines provide significant protection, there are many unvaccinated people in Arizona, and the vaccine provides only partial protection if people have immunodeficiencies or have received immunosuppressive medications. *Id.* ¶6.⁹ There is a growing number of even fully vaccinated adults are dying from COVID. [Feldman Decl. ¶ 4] Additionally, children under 12 cannot be vaccinated. Further, among those in the 12 to 20 age group, the vast majority are not vaccinated. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 9]

Also, with the Delta variant it has been proven that vaccinated individuals can carry an equal amount of virus in their nasopharynxes as other who are exposed to COVID-19. This means that even fully vaccinated people who are exposed to the Delta variant now pose the same risk of carrying it to susceptible, unvaccinated people (including children) as those who are not vaccinated. [Elliott Decl. \P 6; Franks Decl. \P 3-4]

⁹ The fact that vaccines offer significant protection and the best way to protect all those in a community bear directly on the risk of irreparable harm from the unlawful COVID mitigation prohibitions improperly included in the higher education budget reconciliation bill affecting universities and community colleges (SB1825), the health reconciliation bill (SB1824), and the budget procedure reconciliation bill (SB1819). [*See, e.g.*, Elliott Declaration at ¶ 6]

Alarmingly, Arizona is the worst, or is among the very worst states in the country in child hospitalizations due to COVID-19, pediatric cases per 100,000 residents, total pediatric deaths, and deaths per capita. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 10; Harrel Decl. ¶ 8; Franks Decl. ¶5]

In a recent research report by Dr. Joe Gerald of the University of Arizona, COVID-19 rates in Arizona have been increasing for eight straight weeks, signaling that a "substantial surge is imminent in the coming weeks." *Joe Gerald, MD, Ph.D.*, Weekly Arizona COVID-19 Data Report: Researcher Analyzes Arizona COVID-19 Spread Models for Decision-Makers, Univ. of Ariz., Aug. 6, 2021, <u>https://publichealth.arizona.edu/news/2021/covid-19-forecast-model</u>. In sum, due to the nature of the Delta variant nationally and specifically in Arizona, the risk to and by Arizona School-children for an explosion of COVID-19 cases is extreme. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 10] And the risk of secondary spread to Arizona communities from infected and exposed, unvaccinated school children is also extreme. [*Id.*]

Importantly, the consequences for those who will be infected and become ill are often not short term problems, even for those who make it through the acute stage of the illness. A large number of those infected will demonstrate symptoms of "long COVID." This can encompass anything from COVID related heart failure, chronic blood clots, pulmonary disease from damage to lung tissue, brain fog, and depression or other mood disorders. [Harrel Decl. ¶ 5] Even in patients who did not require hospitalization, a very large percentage will experience long COVID symptoms. [*Id.*] Young people are susceptible to long COVID symptoms. [*Id.*]

The Ability to Implement Mask Mandates and to Use Other COVID Mitigation Measures Are Critical to Prevent Irreparable Harm.

Universal masking is a proven public health disease mitigation tool, and is one of the only
tools available to protect children. [Harrel Decl. ¶ 7; Feldman Decl. ¶ 5] *The CDC and nearly every single public health and medical guiding body recommends universal masking in schools and other indoor settings.* The "CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers,
staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status." CDC, Interim Public

В.

Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People, July 28, 2021, <u>https://www.cdc.gov</u>/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html. [See also Feldman Decl. ¶ 5]

Masks have proven very effective with no proven harmful effects. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 7] However, to realize the societal and protective effects of mask-wearing, nearly everyone in that setting must wear a mask. Only with universal masking in schools can all people be protected against acquiring the virus and infecting others. Even if an individual child wears a mask, that protects that child from infecting others. However, if that same, masked child is surrounded by others who are not wearing mass, the risk to the masked child from acquiring COVID-19 increases significantly. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 8; Harrel Decl. ¶ 7; Franks Decl. ¶ 6] Simply masking only one child, or even a few, is not effective, since others who are unmasked will continue to spread and become infected with the disease. Critically, those people who are unvaccinated and have risk factors for serious COVID-19 must be protected by everyone around them wearing a mask. [Elliott Decl. ¶ 8] Mask mandates in school are the only accessible, effective, and evidence-proven intervention likely to prevent the expected explosion of Delta variant COVID-19 related to school activities. [Id.; see also Declaration of Beth Lewis ¶ 6-20, attached as Ex. 12 (explaining risks to teachers and students, and her inability to physical distance in her classroom)] Moreover, there is compelling data that if the entire class is wearing a mask, there will be far less need for quarantines, meaning mask mandates help keep children in school learning. [Feldman Decl. ¶ 5] The only available way to keep our children and teachers safe is to allow schools to require masking. Any other path will lead to countless unnecessary COVID cases and deaths in our community. [Id. \P 7]

Several Arizona school districts have adopted mask mandates in line with this expert guidance, including (among others) Phoenix Union High School District, Madison Elementary School District, Alhambra Elementary School District, Roosevelt Elementary School District, and Phoenix Elementary School District, and Tucson Unified School District.

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HB2898's design to prevent mask mandates defies the scientific evidence of pandemic response and causes extreme potential for irreparable harm to Arizona and her people. Unless HB2898 is declared unconstitutional and enjoined, school districts' mask mandates will be unlawful when HB2898 takes effect on September 29, and public schools could be left powerless to protect their students and staff. Even more, they are at risk of adverse action being taken against them, as urged by Republican lawmakers. See Compl. Ex. F (urging retribution against Districts issuing policies requiring masks).¹⁰

According to Dr. Gerald, "[r]esumption of in-person instruction (K-12 and universities) in the face of high community transmission, low vaccination rates, prohibition of universal masking, lack of surveillance testing, and minimal physical distancing will undoubtedly lead to frequent school-related outbreaks and accelerating community transmission." Joe Gerald, MD, PhD, Weekly Arizona COVID-19 Data Report: Researcher Analyzes Arizona COVID-19 Models for Decision-Makers, Univ. of Ariz., Aug. 6. 2021, Spread https:// publichealth.arizona.edu/news/2021/covid-19-forecast-model. [See also Elliott Decl.; Harrel Decl.; Feldman Decl.; Franks Decl.]

Indeed, many schools are already reporting COVID outbreaks. [Compl. ¶¶ 118-122]

V.

Without an Injunction, The BRBs Will Cause Irreparable Harm.

A violation of the Arizona Constitution constitutes irreparable harm, and an injunction is Plaintiffs' only available remedy to prevent enforcement of these unconstitutional laws. See, e.g., Goldie's Bookstore, Inc. v. Superior Ct. of State of Cal., 739 F.2d 466, 472 (9th Cir. 1984)

https://brophyprep.myschoolapp.com/podium/push/default.aspx?i=435655&s=750&snd 26 =8a1d17dc-bce7-442e-ac99-633ceceb5911 (last visited Aug. 12, 2021) [Compl. Ex. G].

¹⁰ Private schools, on the other hand, will be unaffected by HB2898 and may continue to require masks to keep students and staff safe. Brophy College Preparatory and Phoenix Country Day School, for example, have mask mandate for students and staff, and will be able

to maintain those policies even if HB2898 takes effect. Letter from the Brophy Principal's Office, Aug. 4, 2021,

("An alleged constitutional infringement will often alone constitute irreparable harm.") (citing Wright & Miller, 11 Fed. Prac. and P. § 2948 at 440 (1973)).

What's more, Plaintiffs face imminent irreparable harm if the challenged BRBs become effective. If the Court does not enjoin HB2898, the teacher Plaintiffs will lose their ability to work in a reasonably safe environment or to have a classroom that is safe for their students. [See Lewis Decl. ¶ 6] They are also at risk of potential disciplinary sanctions – including loss or suspension of their teaching licenses – or civil enforcement actions if they are found to be teaching vaguely described "concepts" that the Legislature has apparently found too controversial. [Id. ¶ 7]

If HB2898 goes into effect, schools that currently require masks will lose that ability to protect students and staff from a deadly airborne virus. [*Id.* ¶¶ 8-21] If that happens, the minor children of the parent Plaintiffs are at risk of contracting a highly contagious virus. [*Id.*] Dr. Harrel has three children in public schools. One of her children has an IEP, and she wants that child (and all her children) to benefit from in-person learning. She was faced with the difficult choice of her children's physical safety and their academic success. She recently made the difficult decision to move her children to a school district that implemented a mask mandate despite the threats outlined above. [Harrel Decl. ¶ 9] But if HB2898 is permitted to take effect, she will lose that ability, and she and her children will be irreparably harmed. *Id.* All of the plaintiff parents face the same risk of harm. [*E.g.*, Lewis Decl. at ¶ 8-15; Franks Decl. ¶¶ 7-8]

Likewise, if the COVID mitigation prohibitions of SB1825 are permitted to go into effect, the students, faculty, and staff at our higher education institutions will suffer irreparable harm. For example, Plaintiff Newhauser is a professor at ASU, who must conduct in-person teaching. [Declaration of Richard Newhauser ¶¶ 2-3, attached as Ex. 13] He is at increased risk for serious illness from COVID because of his age and an underlying health condition. [*Id.* ¶ 4] In June, ASU announced a policy that put in place significant mitigation measures to protect the students, faculty, and staff at ASU. [*Id.* ¶ 5] The governor issued an executive order banning these

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measures, which will be rescinded at the end of September. [*Id.*] But if SB1825 goes into effect, ASU and other higher educational institutions will be permanently prohibited from implanting those mitigation policies. If allowed to stand, the faculty, staff and students will be exposed to a higher risk of contracting COVID. Even ASU's recent implementation of a mask mandate will not prevent the increased risks from implantation of SB1825. [*Id.* ¶¶ 8-9; *see also* Elliott Decl. at 5-6 (discussing importance of vaccine in limiting spread of illness)]

The risk of irreparable harm caused by SB1825 affects large groups of people, including students, faculty, and staff whose ages range from young adults to professors in their 70's and 80's. [Declaration of Laurie Stoff ¶¶ 2-6, attached as Ex. 14] Many of these individuals care for and live with their spouses and children and others care for or live with elderly parents. Some faculty and staff have health conditions that put them at increased risk of harm or death from COVID, such as those undergoing chemotherapy, and some live with or care for family members with similar conditions. [*Id.* ¶ 6] ASU and UA are returning to a great extent to in-person learning. In many of their classrooms it is not possible to physically distance. [*Id.* ¶ 7] If the challenged portion of SB1825 takes effect the faculty and staff, our students, our families, and the larger communities where they work and live, will be exposed to a greater risk of contracting COVID. [*Id.*]

Allowing SB1819 to become effective would also irreparably damage Plaintiffs' ability to participate in our political system. Many Plaintiffs are active participants in the legislative process. [*E.g.*, Compl. ¶¶ 9-21; Lewis Decl. ¶ 3; Declaration of Joel Edman ¶ 10, attached as Ex. 15] Plaintiff AZAN's core mission, for example, will be harmed by the Legislature's conduct of improperly including various unrelated policies in the budget reconciliation bills instead of through proper legislative channels. [Edman Decl. ¶ 4] A cornerstone of our democracy is that political decisions are driven by voters and that laws are passed in the open, after robust public debate. [*Id.* ¶ 8] That legislators "sold" their votes behind closed doors in exchange for getting

pet policies added to budget reconciliation bills is antithetical to AZAN's mission and many Plaintiffs' work in the Legislature. [*Id.* ¶¶ 11-13] *See Bennett*, 206 Ariz. at 528 ¶ 38.

VI. The Balance of Hardships and Public Interest Favor an Injunction.

Lastly, the balance of hardships and public interest weigh heavily in Plaintiffs' favor. Upholding the foundation of our representative democracy serves the public interest. An injunction would safeguard that interest against unconstitutional conduct by the Legislature and preserve the proper legislative process. And because the BRBs violate the Arizona Constitution, "public policy and the public interest are served by enjoining [this] unlawful action." *Arizona Pub. Integrity All. v. Fontes*, 250 Ariz. 58 ¶ 27 (2020). Beyond that, Plaintiffs face grave hardships caused by these laws. As detailed above, the many Plaintiffs and their families will be at risk of contracting COVID-19 because the BRBs will prohibit safety measures that will keep employees and children reasonably safe at work or school.

Conclusion

The Legislature has been pushing the envelope for years, and this time they have gone too far. They buried substantive policies in the budget with no adequate notice to the public, and filled a "budget procedures" bill with multiple, unrelated subjects. The constitution doesn't allow that. It also doesn't allow the Legislature to arbitrarily discriminate against public school students and their right to be physically safe at school.

The Court should declare HB2898, Sections 12, 21, and 50; SB1825, Section 2 (A.R.S. § 15-1650.05); SB1824, Sections 12 and 13; and SB1819 unconstitutional, and enjoin the State and its agents from implementing or enforcing them. The Court should also award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs under the private attorney general doctrine and any other applicable statute or equitable doctrine.

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1	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 18th day of August, 2021.		
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3		COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC	
4		By /s/ Roopali H. Desai	
5		Roopali H. Desai	
6		D. Andrew Gaona Kristen Yost	
7		ARIZONA CENTER FOR LAW IN THE	
8 9		PUBLIC INTEREST Daniel J. Adelman <i>Attorneys for Plaintiffs</i>	
10			
11	ORIGINAL served via electronic means this 18th day of August, 2021, upon:		
12	Brunn W. Roysden III (beau.roysden@azag.gov) Michael S. Catlett (michael.catlett@azag.gov) 2005 North Central Avenue		
13			
14	Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Attorneys for Defendant State of Arizona		
15	/s/ Diana J. Hanson		
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EXHIBIT 1

Declaration of Chris Kotterman

1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the matters in this declaration.

2. I am the Director of Governmental Relations of Arizona School Boards Association ("ASBA"), and I am authorized to make this declaration on its behalf.

ASBA is a private, non-profit, non-partisan organization that provides training,
leadership and essential services to public school governing boards statewide. More than 240
governing boards, representing nearly 1 million Arizona students, are members of ASBA.

9 4. I am familiar with the mission and goals of ASBA, as well as our members'
10 priorities and concerns.

11 5. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this Declaration. Except
12 where described otherwise, my personal knowledge is based on my personal participation in or
13 observation of the matters set forth herein.

14 6. ASBA's vision is: "The best schools in every community." Its mission is to
15 "cultivate excellence in locally-governed school districts." In its advocacy, ASBA strives to be
16 the most influential voice for public education in Arizona.

As an organization, ASBA is deeply concerned about the erosion of public 17 7. education in Arizona. As a registered lobbyist for ASBA, I engage in the Legislative process on 18 behalf of ASBA member districts, which currently includes every school district in the state. 19 ASBA's primary goal is to advocate for adequate funding to support high quality district public 20 schools, and protecting and preserving local control/district autonomy. Chief among the 21 concerns regarding local control are the preservation of district authority regarding curriculum 22 and instruction, oversight of district employees, and authority over the management of student 23 conduct to preserve a safe and secure school/educational environment. 24

8. The budget process during the last legislative session, including the passage of
budget reconciliation bills ("BRBs") containing non-budget related substantive enactments

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restricting school districts, schools, and teachers, has frustrated ABSA's mission and advocacy goals, and forced it to divert resources in response. 2

9. 3 The budget process, perhaps more than any other legislative process, is conducted 4 with minimal public input, and in modern times has been controlled entirely by the party holding the majority in the state Legislature. This is because the majority party shapes a budget largely 5 6 out of public view, meeting with small groups of legislators that do not constitute a majority of 7 the caucus, shaping a proposal that can secure the necessary votes from the majority caucus. 8 Then and only then is the proposal drafted into bills and presented for a public hearing before 9 the appropriations committee. This step is merely a formality, however, because the deal has 10 already been struck. The members who have agreed to the deal vote yes, and those who do not 11 agree vote no (usually the minority), and the budget passes within a day if not hours. Any 12 attempts at persuading members to refuse to vote for the budget over some objections they may 13 have are usually futile, as they are told by their leadership that they are holding up the budget.

14 10. Contrast this to the typical bill process, where there is an opportunity to lobby 15 members on the policy involved, and the bill stands on its own merits without leadership having the additional leverage to blame members for withholding support for the entire state budget. 16 17 Politics are still involved, but ultimately, voting against a bill is possible because it is not 18 packaged with other provisions (such as education funding) that the member may care about.

19 ASBA was deprived of meaningful participation in the budget process this past 11. legislative session because policies that ASBA opposes were added in HB 2898, a 200-plus page 20 floor amendment that was released with less than 60 minutes' notice before members were 21 expected to vote on it, while members of the House of Representatives were already on the floor 22 of the House. The public was not permitted access to the floor of the House, and thus 23 Representatives were inaccessible to those wishing to plead their case. Further, after HB 2898 24 25 was passed out of the House, the Senate majority suspended the rules of the Senate requiring a hearing on all legislative matters (Senate rule 2J), depriving myself as the organizational 26

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representative, ASBA members, and the public of the ability to give public comment on the bills
 as amended which contained the objectionable provisions.

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12. It is my opinion that that ASBA could have blocked objectionable policies, such as the prohibition on certain curriculum and instruction, had they not been logrolled into a BRB.

13. Indeed, SB 1532 was the original bill that was amended in the House of Representatives to include the prohibited curriculum and instruction provisions. After it passed the House and went to the Senate, ASBA spoke to Sen. Paul Boyer about its opposition to the bill. Sen. Boyer voted against SB 1532 on May 27, 2021, and the bill failed. Substantially the same provisions from SB 1532 later reappeared in a BRB, HB 2898.

10 14. The BRB provisions challenged by ASBA in this lawsuit are not related to budget
 11 reconciliation. They are **not** statutory and session law changes necessary to effectuate the budget.

15. The House conducted a final vote on HB 2898 later the same day, with no meaningful opportunity to engage with sympathetic House members on the policy changes. This time, Sen. Boyer's vote was secured on the budget by adding Empowerment Scholarship Account provisions to HB 2898.

16 16. Several legislators made no secret about the fact that they would leverage their
17 votes on the budget, particularly to prohibit masks in schools. For example, Representative
18 Chaplik affirmatively stated that he would not agree to any budget that does not strip authority
19 from districts to issue mask mandates.

20 17. Ultimately, despite having zero budget impact whatsoever, substantive policy
21 provisions prohibiting public school district mask mandates and prohibiting certain curriculum
22 and instruction were added to a BRB, HB 2898, to garner the votes of all the Republicans to pass
23 the budget.

18. ASBA expends significant resources to influence public policy according to the
member-driven agenda, including preventing the passage of laws it deems objectionable and
challenging those that are worthy of legal challenge. Any time and effort spent on defending

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districts from objectionable and unconstitutional laws is time and effort ASBA cannot spend 1 proactively advancing the interests of its members.

Prior to working for ASBA, I was a member of the staff at the Legislature serving 19. on the Democratic staff of the House and Senate for a combined total of seven years. For six of those years, I was the K-12 committee analyst for the House and Senate Democrats and handled the K-12 aspects of the budget. For four of those years, I also served as the lead appropriations analyst for House Democrats as well, covering every aspect of the budgeting process except for Health and Human Services.

The practice of using BRBs is relatively new. But even as the practice has become 9 20. more common, it is still required that all provisions must be "germane." 10

Importantly, therefore, every provision in a BRB must relate to something in the 11 21. general appropriations (aka "feed") bill. In other words, for an item to be included in a budget 12 bill, including in a BRB, it must have some connection to a specific appropriation. For example, 13 a substantive change to the computation of Average Daily Membership for schools or a 14 clarification of some funding formula may be included in a BRB because these provisions have 15 an impact on the flow of funding to school districts and charter schools. 16

Combining other substantive policy enactments into budget bills is misleading to 17 22. the public because the provisions are not "germane" and there is no adequate notice that policy 18 19 changes are contained in the budget bill.

This is especially true if the policy provisions were introduced but defeated in the 20 23. normal legislative process. For example, the prohibited curriculum and instruction provisions 21 were adopted as a floor amendment to a bill that was originally a transportation bill and was 22 amended to be an education-related bill via a strike-everything amendment in the Transportation 23 Committee. Until the bill was up for 3rd read to pass out of the House, the bill appeared in the 24 public information system as "county transportation planning assistant." 25

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24. ASBA holds as one of its core values that the basic life needs of children must be met for them to succeed. This includes the protection of student health and safety while they are at school. ASBA has advocated for increased physical and mental health supports for students because students who are in good health miss school less and are able to learn better. School districts also have a responsibility to protect students in their care from harm. The CDC, the nation's pre-eminent authority on infectious disease, now recommends masks on all K-12 students and staff in school. Failing to implement that guidance risks infection in students and staff, particularly those under 12 who cannot yet receive a vaccine. In order to credibly fulfill its mission, school districts must have the ability to follow the guidance of public health officials.

10 25. The challenged BRB provisions pose a completely unnecessary threat to the health
11 and safety of students and staff. I do not believe we can keep our children safe unless the
12 challenged provisions are invalidated.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August <u>1</u>?, 2021.

Chris Kotterman

EXHIBIT 2

Declaration of David Lujan

2 1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the matters in this declaration. 3

2 I am President and CEO of Children's Action Alliance ("CAA"), and I am 4 5 authorized to make this declaration on its behalf.

6 3. CAA is a private, non-profit, non-partisan organization that provides an 7 independent voice for Arizona children at the state capitol and in the community.

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4. I am familiar with the mission and goals of CAA.

9 5. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this Declaration. Except 10 where described otherwise, my personal knowledge is based on my personal participation in or 11 observation of the matters set forth herein.

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6. CAA's vision is: "An Arizona where all children and families thrive." CAA's 13 mission is to be "an independent voice that identifies and eliminates barriers to the well-being 14 of children and families and creates opportunities through partnerships and policy solutions."

15 The primary manner in which CAA carries out its mission of creating an Arizona 7. 16 where all children and families thrive is through advocating for policies and legislation at the 17 State Capitol. Fifteen out of 19 of CAA's employees are policy and communications experts 18 and their job responsibilities include researching and analyzing legislation and building 19 coalitions throughout Arizona to mobilize and engage those coalitions to support and/or oppose 20 legislation at the legislature. They also assist in writing legislation and amendments to 21 legislation. They regularly meet with lawmakers, testify in committees and prepare updates to 22 keep the public aware of the status of legislation CAA cares about at the State Capitol.

23 8. One of the main focus areas of CAA's advocacy work is children's health. The 24 policy to prohibit school districts and localities from mandating masks in their schools is one 25 that CAA is deeply interested in especially as the number of COVID cases are increasing in 26 Arizona. Had the policy enactments moved through the process as stand-alone bills, there would

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be a period of several weeks from the time the bill was introduced, then scheduled for its initial 1 hearing, then Rules and caucus and then committee of the whole and 3rd read in its initiating 2 3 chamber. If it passed that chamber, it would then go through the same process in the other 4 chamber. Throughout that time period, CAA would have been able to produce data, research 5 and other written material to inform the public, media and lawmakers why they should oppose the legislation. CAA would have been able to schedule time to meet with lawmakers and testify 6 7 in the committees in opposition to the legislation. CAA would have had time to make people 8 aware of the legislation and inform them on the various ways they could engage in the legislative 9 process to oppose the legislation (call their legislators, testify in committee, email their 10 legislators, etc.).

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9. The provisions challenged in this lawsuit were inserted into budget reconciliation bills ("BRBs") and, therefore, CAA was denied meaningful notice and participation in the 12 13 regular legislative process. Budget bills are introduced in an expedited manner, with very little time between when they are introduced and the time they are enacted. 14

15 10. Inserting substantive law changes, like the prohibition on mask mandates, into 16 BRBs with dozens of other unrelated policies completely changes the ability to effectively 17 advocate for a particular issue. Instead of lawmakers and the public considering the policy on its 18 own individual merits, the policy must now compete with all the other unrelated policies 19 contained in the legislation. Instead of lawmakers either supporting or opposing the policy on 20 the merits, they now must weigh whether their support or opposition for that policy is 21 outweighed by their support or opposition to any of the other policies contained in the budget 22 bill.

23 11. Because the Legislature inserted dozens of policy issues unrelated to the budget 24 into the budget bills, CAA's mission has been frustrated and it has been forced to divert resources 25 in response. In just the past two months, I estimate that we have spent 50 hours of staff time 26 (totaling thousands of dollars) reacting and responding to the BRB enactments.

{00564508.1 }

1 12. I have worked or served in the legislature for more than 20 years in various 2 capacities. As an Assistant Attorney General from 1998 to 2002, I represented the Arizona 3 School Facilities Board and was also the attorney in the AG's office taking the lead on school 4 finance matters. In this capacity, I was often asked to weigh-in on budget and assist in drafting 5 provisions in the budget related to school finance or the school facilities board.

From 2003 to 2004 I worked in the State Senate as a Research Analyst/Attorney
for the Senate Judiciary Committee. In this position I participated in drafting legislation and
needed to be familiar with the state budget. I also went through training through Arizona
Legislative Council on proper bill drafting procedures.

10 14. I served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 2005 to 2011 and in the
11 Senate from 2012-2013. I was the House Minority Leader in 2009 and 2010. I served on the
House Appropriations Committee from 2007 to 2008. As a state lawmaker, particularly serving
13 on the Appropriations committee and in leadership, I was very involved in the state budget
process and was aware of how budget bills are drafted.

15 15. I have been employed with CAA and its affiliate the Arizona Center for Economic
Progress since April 2016. During that time, I have closely followed and participated as an
advocate/registered lobbyist on six budgets.

18 16. Budget bills, commonly known as BRBs, include only the statutory changes
19 necessary to achieve the spending levels of the fiscal year budget that were appropriated in the
20 general appropriations (aka "feed") bill. Put differently, a statutory change or session law is only
21 properly inserted in a BRB if it is necessary to effectuate the budget.

17. Where, as is the case with the challenged BRB provisions, there is no direct tie to
the "feed" bill, the substantive law changes are not related to budget reconciliation. Furthermore,
because the challenged BRB provisions are not related to budget reconciliation, the title of the
BRBs are misleading and do not provide adequate notice of the policy changes.

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18. During the last legislative session, the Legislature blatantly included non-budget related enactments in various BRBs, such as the challenged provisions in HB 2898, SB 1824, SB 1825 and SB 1819, to buy votes from legislators for the budget. Indeed, CAA openly saw lawmakers stating they would withhold their votes if they did not get their pet issue passed as part of the budget.

19. Combining non-budget related substantive policy enactments into BRBs is misleading to the public and poses a direct harm to CAA's work and mission. Further, the BRB provisions challenged in this lawsuit are harmful to Arizona children and families for whom CAA advocates.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August <u>18</u>, 2021.

David Lujan



ARIZONA STATE SENATE Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

AMENDED FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2898

K-12 education; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022.

Purpose

Makes statutory and session law changes relating to K-12 education necessary to implement the FY 2022 state budget.

Background

The Arizona Constitution prohibits substantive law from being included in the general appropriations, capital outlay appropriations and supplemental appropriations bills. However, it is often necessary to make statutory and session law changes to effectuate the budget. Thus, separate bills called budget reconciliation bills (BRBs) are introduced to enact these provisions. Because BRBs contain substantive law changes, the Arizona Constitution provides that they become effective on the general effective date, unless an emergency clause is enacted.

S.B. 1826 contains the budget reconciliation provisions for changes relating to K-12 education.

Provisions

Basic State Aid

- 1. Increases the base level for FY 2022 from \$4,305.73 to \$4,390.65.
- 2. Adjusts, effective July 1, 2022, the basic state aid apportionment schedule to provide payments on the 15th business day, instead of the 1st business day of each month.

Charter Schools

- 3. Increases the Charter Additional Assistance (CAA) amount per student count for FY 2022:
 - a) from \$1,875.21 to \$1,897.90, for students in preschool programs for children with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades 1 through 8; and
 - b) from \$2,185.53 to \$2,211.97, for students in grades 9 through 12.

Transportation Funding

- 4. Increases the transportation support level per route mile formula amount for FY 2022:
 - a) from \$2.74 to \$2.77 for 0.5 or less approved daily route mileage per eligible student transported;
 - b) from \$2.24 to \$2.27 for more than 0.5 to 1.0 approved daily route mileage per eligible student transported; and
 - c) from \$2.74 to \$2.77 for more than 1.0 of approved daily route mileage per eligible student transported.



ARIZONA STATE SENATE Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

AMENDED FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1825

higher education; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

Purpose

Makes statutory and session law changes relating to higher education necessary to implement the FY 2022 state budget.

Background

The Arizona Constitution prohibits substantive law from being included in the general appropriations, capital outlay appropriations and supplemental appropriations bills. However, it is often necessary to make statutory and session law changes to effectuate the budget. Thus, separate bills called budget reconciliation bills (BRBs) are introduced to enact these provisions. Because BRBs contain substantive law changes, the Arizona Constitution provides that they become effective on the general effective date, unless an emergency clause is enacted.

S.B. 1825 contains the budget reconciliation provisions for changes relating to higher education.

Provisions

Agricultural Workforce Development Program (Effective January 1, 2022)

- 1. Requires the University of Arizona cooperative extension office (cooperative extension office) to establish the Agricultural Workforce Development Program (Development Program) to provide incentives to food-producing agricultural organizations to hire apprentices by partially reimbursing apprenticeship costs.
- 2. Allows, subject to legislative appropriation, the cooperative extension office to reimburse a participating food-producing agricultural organization up to the actual cost of employing an apprentice.
- 3. Requires the Director of the cooperative extension office (Director) to adopt rules for the Development Program that, at a minimum, establish:
 - a) qualifications for food-producing agricultural organizations to participate in the Development Program, including need, the ability to supervise apprentices and the ability to provide meaningful, food production-focused work experience;
 - b) preferences for food-producing agricultural organizations owned or operated by farmers and ranchers located in rural areas, tribal areas or historically underserved areas;
 - c) a requirement that participating food-producing agricultural organizations pay apprentices an hourly wage rate that is at least the Arizona minimum wage rate;



ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

AMENDED FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1824

health; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

Purpose

Makes statutory and session law changes relating to health necessary to implement the FY 2022 state budget.

Background

The Arizona Constitution prohibits substantive law from being included in the general appropriations, capital outlay appropriations and supplemental appropriations bills. However, it is often necessary to make statutory and session law changes to effectuate the budget. Thus, separate bills called budget reconciliation bills (BRBs) are introduced to enact these provisions. Because BRBs contain substantive law changes, the Arizona Constitution provides that they become effective on the general effective date, unless an emergency clause is enacted.

S.B. 1824 contains the budget reconciliation provisions for changes relating to health.

Provisions

Arizona Long-Term Care System (ALTCS)

1. Outlines the following FY 2022 county contributions for ALTCS:

County	Contribution
Apache	\$662,900
Cochise	\$4,551,700
Coconino	\$1,990,00
Gila	\$2,327,100
Graham	\$1,32,000
Greenlee	\$0
La Paz	\$375,100
Maricopa	\$184,272,900
Mohave	\$9,154,300
Navajo	\$2,744,100
Pima	\$44,073,400
Pinal	\$12,109,900
Santa Cruz	\$2,242,800
Yavapai	\$9,074,300
Yuma	\$9,701,600



ARIZONA STATE SENATE Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

REVISED

AMENDED FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1819

budget procedures; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

Purpose

Makes statutory and session law changes relating to budget procedures necessary to implement the FY 2022 state budget.

Background

The Arizona Constitution prohibits substantive law from being included in the general appropriations, capital outlay appropriations and supplemental appropriations bills. However, it is often necessary to make statutory and session law changes to effectuate the budget. Thus, separate bills called budget reconciliation bills (BRBs) are introduced to enact these provisions. Because BRBs contain substantive law changes, the Arizona Constitution provides that they become effective on the general effective date, unless an emergency clause is enacted.

S.B. 1819 contains the budget reconciliation provisions for changes relating to budget procedures.

Provisions

Defense of State Elections Laws

- 1. Asserts, through January 2, 2023, the AG speaks for Arizona and must be allowed to intervene on behalf of the state in any proceedings in which the validity of a state election law is challenged if the AG determines that intervention is appropriate.
- 2. Exempts court challenges to the validity of the Clean Elections Act from language asserting the AG speaks for Arizona and must be allowed to intervene in proceedings in which the validity of a state election law is challenged.
- 3. Asserts that among state officials, the AG has sole authority to direct the defense of state election law or laws being challenged.
- 4. Allows the AG to intervene at any state of a proceedings, including to appeal or petition any decision, regardless of whether any state agency, political subdivision or officer or employee thereof is or seeks to become a party.

Clerk of the Superior Court *** Filed *** 08-16-2021 8:51 AM P. McKinley Deputy Clerk

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA MARICOPA COUNTY

CV2021012160

08/16/2021

HONORABLE RANDALL H. WARNER

CLERK OF THE COURT P. McKinley Deputy

DOUGLAS HESTER

ALEXANDER M KOLODIN

v.

PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT, MARY R O'GRADY ET AL.

JUDGE WARNER

MINUTE ENTRY

Plaintiff's August 2, 2021 Motion for Temporary Restraining Order, and Defendants' August 6, 2021 Motion to Dismiss, are under advisement following argument.

1. <u>Temporary Restraining Order</u>.

A.R.S. § 15-342.05 was enacted during the COVID-19 pandemic to prohibit school districts from requiring students and teachers to wear masks. Phoenix Union High School District cites no legal authority that this statute is beyond the Legislature's power. Indeed, Arizona law expressly limits school districts' authority to policies that "are not inconsistent with law." A.R.S. § 15-341(A)(1).

But A.R.S. § 15-542.05 has not yet become effective. Under Arizona law, new laws are effective 90 days after the legislative session ends, which is September 29 this year. Ariz. Const. Art. IV, Pt. 1, § 1. Although there is an exception for emergency measures, they require a two-thirds vote and this statute was not approved by a two-thirds majority.

Docket Code 019

Form V000A

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Plaintiff argues that the statute's retroactivity clause makes it effective immediately. A retroactivity clause is not an emergency clause, and cannot be used to avoid the two-thirds vote requirement needed to make a statute immediately effective.

Plaintiff further argues that A.R.S. § 15-342.05 is an appropriations measure, which does not require an emergency clause and a two-thirds vote to be immediately effective. *See Garvey v. Trew*, 64 Ariz. 342, 354, 170 P.2d 845, 853 (1946) (requirements for emergency measure do not apply to appropriation measures). The statute is not an appropriation measure, it is a regulation of school districts. The inclusion of A.R.S. § 15-342.05 in a bill that also includes appropriations does not make the statute itself an appropriation measure.

Plaintiff argues in Reply that the District's mask policy violates existing law even without A.R.S. § 15-342.05. It does not. Arizona law gives school boards the authority to protect students and ensure the orderly operation of schools, subject to statutory limitations imposed by the Legislature. A.R.S. § 15-341(A)(1); *see also Pendley v. Mingus Union High Sch. Dist. No. 4 of Yavapai Cty.*, 109 Ariz. 18, 22, 504 P.2d 919, 923 (1972) ("There must, of course, be some authority to operate a school on a day-today basis and this statute amply supports the authority of the school board to pass reasonable rules and regulations for the orderly operation of the school."); *Kelly v. Martin*, 16 Ariz. App. 7, 9, 490 P.2d 836, 838 (1971) ("the legislature has delegated to the governing board of a high school district the control of the affairs of the district, subject to certain statutory controls").

IT IS ORDERED denying Plaintiff's August 2, 2021 Motion for Temporary Restraining Order.

2. Motion to Dismiss.

Because A.R.S. § 15-342.05 is not yet effective, the District argues that this lawsuit is premature and, therefore, should be dismissed. Plaintiff responds that he does not have to wait until A.R.S. § 15-341.05 becomes effective to challenge a policy that violates it. He notes that the Rules of Procedure for Special Action permit relief when a public body is "threatening to proceed" unlawfully. Ariz. R.P. Spec. Act. 3(b). He also argues that it is inevitable the law will come into effect on September 29, 2021 and that the mask policy will be illegal at that time.

Plaintiff is not required to wait until the day the statute becomes effective to seek relief. But its effective date is weeks away, and many things could change in that time. This far from the effective date, it cannot be said that a justiciable issue is inevitable, or that the District is threatening to proceed in violation of A.R.S. § 15-341.05.

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The Court will not dismiss the case, however, without giving Plaintiff the opportunity to amend the complaint. *See Wigglesworth v. Mauldin*, 195 Ariz. 432, 439, 990 P.2d 26, 33 (App. 1999) ("Before the trial court grants a Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss, the non-moving party should be given an opportunity to amend the complaint if such an amendment cures its defects."). This will make a new lawsuit unnecessary in the event Plaintiff needs to challenge the policy once A.R.S. § 15-341.05 becomes effective.

IT IS ORDERED denying Defendants' August 6, 2021 Motion to Dismiss, and granting Plaintiff leave to file a second amended complaint within 45 days.

Declaration of Sean Elliott, MD

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1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the matters in this declaration.

2. I am a medical doctor. I am board certified in pediatrics and in the subspecialty of 4 pediatric infectious disease. I have served at the University of Arizona as a Professor of 5 6 Pediatrics, and the Associate Chair for the Department of Pediatrics, and the Director of Infection 7 Prevention for Banner University Medicine – Tucson. I retired from the University of Arizona College of Medicine and provide pediatric subspecialty clinical care. I have consulted with 8 numerous healthcare systems in Arizona regarding COVID-19. I have expertise and knowledge 9 10 about the current science and medicine that affects the efficacy of COVID-19 mitigation measures, and about the Delta Variant of COVID-19.

12 As with the rest of the U.S., Arizona currently has entered yet another surge in 3. 13 COVID-19 cases, 93% of which are caused by the Delta variant (B.1.617.2) originally described 14 in India. The Delta variant represents a significant change in the patterns so far identified for the pandemic. It is significantly more contagious than the prior, primary variant in the U.S. (Alpha 15 16 variant, B.1.1.7) and is causing disease in much younger people than previously. Likely 17 associated with both factors, there has been a significant increase in symptomatic pediatric 18 COVID-19 and a related increased hospitalization rate of children with SARS-CoV-2 infection. The principal reasons for this increased infectivity lie in the new mutations that have evolved in 19 the Delta variant, making it both more successful in attaching to its target cells in the human 2021 nasopharynx and in causing invasive, symptomatic disease. These same factors also increase the 22 ability of the variant to shed in respiratory droplets between humans and thus make the Delta 23 variant the most successful variant to date in spreading between humans.

24 4. Additionally, and for the first time, the Delta variant now has demonstrated increased infectivity from pediatric patients to all others, including susceptible adults. Thus, the 25 26 COVID-19 pandemic has entered a new, "game changer" phase in which children and adolescents are, for the first time, as likely if not more likely to spread the virus to others. In this
 regard, the Delta variant now behaves just like Influenza, Respiratory Syncytial Virus,
 Rhinovirus, and many others in which children are known to be the super-spreaders from schools
 to their families every year.

Fortunately, the currently-approved vaccines in the U.S. (Pfizer, Moderna and, to 5. 5 a lesser extent, Johnson&Johnson) retain protective efficacy against all SARS-CoV-2 infection, 6 including that caused by the Delta variant. These vaccines are highly protective against severe 7 COVID-19 caused by the Delta variant and have demonstrated superior efficacy at preventing 8 hospitalizations and Intensive Care Unit admissions. Ideally, every human should be vaccinated 9 fully and immediately to realize this significant protective effect and prevent further infections. 10 Sadly, the current reality is far from ideal, and many adults choose not to be vaccinated. Still 11 others remain only partially protected by their full vaccine series due to their underlying 12 immunodeficiencies or receipt of immunosuppressive medications. Importantly, children under 13 age 12 years are currently unable to be vaccinated. 14

The disparities in vaccine coverage in the U.S. have several important 6. 15 implications. First, any unvaccinated adult or child has a high risk of acquiring COVID-19, 16 becoming severely symptomatic and requiring hospitalization, followed by yet further risks of 17 death related to COVID-19. Children, once thought to suffer only mild or even asymptomatic 18 19 COVID-19, now are experiencing significantly symptomatic disease, and many pediatric health care centers across the country are overwhelmed with severely ill, COVID-19 pediatric patients. 20 The same risks of death and prolonged health impact seen in adults now can be anticipated in 21 children. Second, the Delta variant now has been shown to cause equal numbers of viral load 22 (numbers of viruses present) in the nasopharynxes of all people exposed to COVID-19, 23 regardless of vaccine status. Sadly, this means that even fully vaccinated people who are exposed 24 to the Delta variant now pose the same risk of carrying it to susceptible, unvaccinated people as 25 those who are unvaccinated. This finding now applies especially to young adults, adolescents, 26

and children due to the high-infectivity patterns of the Delta variant described previously. Third,
any person who is actively infected with the Delta variant expresses far greater viral load in their
nasopharynx and thus poses even greater risk of infecting others around them. Because
vaccination remains highly successful in preventing active infection, this means that
unvaccinated people who acquire COVID-19 pose a huge risk in being contagious to others.
Again, this fact has disproportionate negative impact on children younger than age 12 years,
since they remain unable to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

7. 8 To summarize the preceding points: the Delta variant is a game-changer due to 9 significantly increased infectivity which poses extreme risk for severe, symptomatic COVID-19 in unvaccinated people including children and adolescents. The baseline risk of infectivity from 10 11 the Delta variant is much higher than any previous variant, and becomes even higher when an unvaccinated person acquires infection with the variant. This risk exists regardless of how 12 symptomatic a COVID-19 patient is or isn't. Because children and adolescents now carry a 13 higher risk of infectivity due to the Delta variant's mutations, this group of young people are a 14 source of significant exposure to unvaccinated people, as well as vaccinated people who have 15 16 only partial protection as a result of immunodeficiencies or receipt of immunosuppressive medications in the U.S. and elsewhere. 17

Fortunately, other interventions exist to mitigate the risk of transmission of the 18 8. 19 SARS-CoV-2 virus between humans. Masks have proven highly protective in this endeavor with no proven harmful effects. Far more effective than social distancing, temperature checks, spot-20 21 check COVID-19 screening tests, and other important pandemic mitigation measures, effective 22 wearing of a mask is the most-effective and easiest intervention to implement in preventing 23 COVID-19 societal transmission. However, to realize the societal AND personal protective 24 effects of mask-wearing, nearly everyone must wear the mask properly. Only with universal mask-wearing can all people, vaccinated and unvaccinated, be protected from acquiring SARS-25 26 CoV-2 colonization of their nasopharynxes and posing contagious risk to their secondary

contacts (e.g. family members, co-workers, service-industry workers, etc.) An individual child 1 who wears a mask is very unlikely to infect or expose others to COVID-19. However, if that 2 same, masked child is surrounded by others who are not wearing masks, the risk to the masked 3 child for acquiring COVID-19 increases significantly. Critically, those people who are 4 unvaccinated and have risk factors for serious COVID-19 must be protected by everyone around 5 them wearing a mask. If some people are not masked, the potential for COVID-19 transmission 6 to the susceptible person via creation of a cloud of airborne Delta variant is significant. That risk 7 8 extends also to all secondary contacts as noted above.

9 9. While important national organizations agree that a return to in-person school is critical for the mental, emotional, physical and educational health of schoolchildren in the U.S., 10 it is also true that schools now represent a venue of extreme risk for transmission. This is due to 11 the increased infectivity of Delta variant in school-children and adolescents and the extreme risk 12 of those children and adolescents taking active COVID-19 contagiousness home to their 13 susceptible family members, followed by still further secondary spread to those family members' 14 co-workers, classmates, etc. To prevent this cascade of events from occurring, the most-ideal 15 intervention of course is to fully vaccinate everyone. However, school children under age 12 16 years cannot be vaccinated and thus remain at high risk both for personal infection and for 17 triggering the above-described cascade of societal infectious outbreak. As well, the vaccination 18 19 rate of adolescents ages 12 years – 19 years is barely 10% in many parts of the U.S. and in Arizona. Thus, supporting vaccination of school-children, while important, is not an effective 20 intervention. Instead, universal masking via a mask-mandate in school is the only accessible, 21 22 effective, and evidence-proven intervention likely to prevent the expected explosion of Delta variant COVID-19 related to school activities. Already, there is ample evidence of multiple 23 outbreaks of COVID-19 directly associated with in-person school activities in schools and 24 school districts which have not implemented a mask mandate. Historically, the same evidence 25 exists in the annual influenza epidemic experienced in the U.S. and related directly to school-26

associated transmission. Importantly, those schools which have implemented mask mandates
 have NOT suffered the same numbers of cases and outbreaks. From a population-data
 perspective, this difference in outcome is quite significant.

Specific to Arizona, the state's experience with COVID-19 has been extreme. 4 10. 5 Arizona has been the worst state in the country (and even the world) for more than several weeks due to its high attack rate of COVID-19. Arizona is nowhere near the identified 70% vaccination 6 7 goal set previously for last July for the U.S., meaning that a significant number of Arizona residents and workers are still unprotected from possible introduction of COVID-19 into their 8 communities by infected school children. Arizona has been the in top 5 worst states in the U.S. 9 since the start of the pandemic due to its attack rate of COVID-19 in children, based on 10 cases/100,000 data submitted bi-weekly to the American Academy of Pediatrics. Arizona is the 11 2nd worst state in the U.S. for total pediatric deaths due to COVID-19, following only Texas 12 13 which has a much larger pediatric population. In mortality rates per 100,000 children, Arizona 14 is the worst.

15 11. These facts suggest that the risk to and by Arizona school-children for an explosion of COVID-19 cases due to school activities is extreme. Follow this risk with the equally extreme 16 risk of secondary spread to Arizona communities from infected and exposed, unvaccinated 17 18 Arizona school-children, and the personal and societal potential impact of the Delta variant on all Arizonans is potentially catastrophic. Fortunately, a simple, cheap, safe, and effective 19 20 intervention with ample power to prevent this human disaster exists: mask mandates in schools have huge potential to protect all Arizonans from school-associated COVID-19 outbreaks with 21 22 their attendant extreme morbidity and mortality. Any executive order or legislation designed to prevent such mask mandates directly defies the scientific evidence of pandemic response and 23 also causes extreme potential for irreparable harm to Arizona and her people. 24

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August 18, 2021.

Sean Elliott, MD

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Declaration of Mary Catherine "Cadey" Harrel, MD

1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the
matters in this declaration.

2. I am a medical doctor. I am board certified in family medicine. I was an Assistant Professor and the Founder of the Women's Health Clinic at Banner-University of Arizona. I received the Banner Health Hero Award for my commitment to my patients. I am also the parent of three children who attend public schools, but who are not yet eligible for the vaccine.

3. When the pandemic struck the United States, I was faculty with Banner University
of Arizona College of Medicine Tucson. I was placed on a dedicated COVID monitoring team
that tracked positive cases identified within our dedicated sick clinic, and would follow up with
patients remotely to ensure resolution of symptoms or that they were accessing hospital care
should their disease progress.

4. Eventually, I was shifted to care for patients both via telehealth and in person. As a primary care physician, not only was I regularly caring for patients recovering from COVID, but I cared for pregnant patients and children with the disease, and would regularly act as a liaison to families of hospitalized patients with severe disease since our Intensive Care Units were so busy, with little time to regularly update families. I have seen firsthand how devastating this disease can be, with even three generations of the same family I cared for in the ICU at the same time, and three members dying within two weeks of one another.

5. Now in private practice, I continue to see patients that are infected, including a
recent rise in pediatric cases coinciding with the school year starting. Notably, I care for a very
large number of patients with "long COVID." Most weeks, I will see at least 3 patients per day
with long COVID symptoms. This can encompass anything from COVID related heart failure,
chronic blood clots, pulmonary disease from damage to lung tissue, brain fog, and depression or
other mood disorders. We know from a recently published research from the Arizona CoVHORT
that even in non-hospitalized COVID positive patients, that the prevalence of post-acute sequelae

of Sars-CoV-2 at 30 days post-infection was 68%. Additionally, another study published recently 1 2 in *the Lancet* looked at over 80,000 recovered individuals, some with long COVID symptoms 3 and some without any symptoms at all. This study showed that participants exhibited significant 4 cognitive deficits versus controls when controlling for age, gender, education level, income, 5 racial-ethnic group, pre-existing medical disorders, tiredness, depression and anxiety. These 6 studies included young people, and indeed, we see long-COVID in children as well. One young 7 child I care for still has yet to recover a normal sense of taste and smell eight months out from acute infection, and as a result, has been struggling with a food aversion and normal weight gain 8 9 during a critical period of development. Everything for this child tastes like burnt orange peel, 10 and he has lost weight and is requiring regular visits, including with a gastroenterologist who is 11 now entertaining the need for tube feeding.

12 6. Now with the Delta Variant, more and more young individuals in our communities 13 are being infected. This is partly due to the documented higher "R nought" of the mutated virus, 14 which is the number of people a sick person will infect if the entire population is vulnerable to the virus. But it is also due to inconsistent mask wearing due to the new legal restrictions, since 15 16 we know that, while universal masking will not prevent all cases of transmission, it significantly 17 reduces the rate of transmission and the viral load that those who do become infected are exposed 18 to. In schools, since the majority of children are NOT vaccinated, this will lead to a higher rate 19 of infectivity than seen with the alpha variant, as well as a higher viral load, which is the 20 concentration of virus active in the body. The higher viral load of the delta variant means that a 21 shorter duration of exposure to an infected person is needed to be exposed and infected due to a 22 higher concentration of the airborne virus even just with speaking and breathing. The viral load 23 of the virus, as with many, also peaks during the pre-symptomatic stage of the disease, meaning 24 the person spreading the virus is unlikely to even know they are infected since they feel fine.

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7. This is why universal masking is a proven public health disease mitigation tool, 1 2 and one of the only tools we have right now until children can be vaccinated. The CDC, Arizona 3 Department of Health Services, and nearly every single public health and medical guiding body recommends universal masking in schools and other indoor settings. Simply masking only one 4 5 child, or even a few, is not effective enough, since others who are unmasked will continue to spread and become infected with the disease. In fact public health modeling based on viral 6 7 transmissibility has demonstrated that at levels of masking around 80% or greater significantly reduce disease transmission, and could even eliminate transmission over time, even when 8 9 wearing non-medical grade masks. However, the same study found that when 50% or less of the population is masking, there is minimal impact on disease transmission. Observational studies 10 11 made throughout the pandemic have validated the need for universal masking, with countries, states, and work places requiring masks seeing far fewer clusters of disease than those without. 12

8. Arizona is already in the top three states in the nation for both pediatric related COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths. This will only continue to increase now that schools are back in session, and schools are unable to require proven public health prevention tools. Given that we are still learning whether the delta variant causes more severe disease in unvaccinated people, especially children, we are placing our children in the middle of a dangerous medical experiment without masking in schools. But we do know they can get sick and die, and that the long-COVID outcomes do not discriminate in children.

9. As a parent of three children, and a family medicine physician who has dedicated my career to maternal and child health and reducing health disparities, I recently made the difficult decision to unenroll my children from a school that did not require masks due to concerns about their safety. I have witnessed firsthand the devastating toll of this virus, and have spent the entire pandemic taking extreme precautions to prevent becoming infected and transmitting this virus to my own family. One of my children has an IEP for a learning disability, and last year, fell behind with a lack of support on remote learning. All children learn best when in the classroom, but this is even more important for many children with IEPs. I was faced with the choice of my children's physical safety and academic success. I decided to enroll them in a school district that currently requires masks. However, this places a burden on my family due to out of district transportation, and also the emotional toll on my children being in an unfamiliar learning environment without any of their friends and familiar support systems. My ability to have my minor children attend their school in a reasonably safe environment is being impeded and threatened by the unconstitutional laws that are the subject of this action.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 17, 2021.

Mary C. Harrel, MD

Mary Catherine "Cadey" Harrel, MD

Declaration of Jeremy Feldman, MD

1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the matters in this declaration.

I am a medical doctor. I am board certified in internal medicine, pulmonary
medicine, and critical care. I have extensive experience treating patients with COVID-19. I
served as an expert for Governor Ducey early in the pandemic in support of COVID mitigation
measures the Governor had ordered and have been advising major companies in the state and
nationally. My team and I have cared for over 6,000 patients hospitalized with COVID over
the past 18 months and we continue to care for patients both in the hospital and in the office.

10 3. Arizona is in a major health crisis. The hospitals are at or above operating capacity 11 in many respects due to the present surge, and our younger children are unable to be vaccinated. 12 Hospitals around the state are unable to accept critically ill patients in transfer in a timely fashion 13 due to the COVID surge. The emergence of Delta variant is the engine driving this crisis 14 combined with poor public health policy. Early literature suggested that COVID was less likely 15 to affect children and less likely to be transmitted by children. More recent data strongly 16 contradicts the notion that COVID is not a concern for children. To the contrary, across the 17 country and around the state children's hospitals are caring for critically ill children with 18 COVID. Recent studies confirm that children are susceptible hosts and excellent at spreading the infection. 19

4. Why is Delta variant different? First, Delta variant is much more infectious. The
virus spreads more easily. In comparison to Alpha variant, people infected with Delta have much
more virus in the nose and back of the throat. This leads to more virus spreading in the air.
Second, fully vaccinated people are susceptible to getting infected and are able to spread Delta
variant to others. This is a very different from Alpha variant. For Alpha, vaccinated people
were not felt to be able to spread the infection. Although the majority of fully vaccinated people
who get infected with Delta will have mild to moderate symptoms, we are now seeing between

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2-5% of the patients in the hospital with COVID are fully vaccinated. We are seeing young fully
 vaccinated adults dying from COVID. Third, many older people are now more than six months
 from their second dose of vaccine. Data from Israel shows that in the presence of Delta, vaccine
 protection wanes after six months.

5 5. Mandatory masking in schools is the most effective public health measure to slow 6 the spread of COVID and prevent children and adults from becoming ill. Every major public 7 health organization recommends that children wear masks at school. This protects children from 8 getting sick and infecting their classmates, families and teachers. Furthermore, the primary 9 objective of schools is to teach children in school. There is compelling data that if the entire 10 class is wearing a mask, we will not have to quarantine the entire class when a single child tests 11 positive. Not only do masks limit transmission, they keep our children learning in school.

6. As to the argument that wearing masks is a hardship—this is a rationalization that
places politics over public health. Last year our students wore masks at school without any
significant problems. From a medical and public health perspective, the only way to keep our
children and teachers safe is to allow schools to require masking. Any other path is reckless and
will unequivocally lead to countless unnecessary COVID cases and deaths in our community.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 18, 2021.

Jeremy Feldman, MD

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Declaration of Ruth Franks Snedecor, MD

1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the
matters in this declaration.

I am a medical doctor. I am board certified in internal medicine. I provide care to
 hospitalized patients and train physicians to do the same and am an Academic Hospitalist and a
 Clinical Assistant Professor at University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix. I have
 extensive experience caring for patients with COVID-19. I have cared for patients with COVID
 from the outset of the pandemic until today. I have advised a public school district about COVID
 mitigation measures since June of 2020 to present.

I have seen firsthand the terrible toll that the Delta variant is causing in Arizona.
 This variant is far more contagious, and infected individuals carry drastically higher viral loads
 than those infected with the earlier dominant COVID-19 strain. The higher viral load that
 infected people carry means that there is a higher risk of that person infecting other people. The
 higher the viral load delivered upon infection, the worse the severity of illness.

4. Vaccinated individuals and formerly infected individuals can have a significant
viral load, even when completely asymptomatic, and can transmit the virus to others for many
days (and unvaccinated individuals are contagious for even longer) with the Delta variant which
is the dominant strain currently impacting Arizona. Exposing people to unmasked individuals,
even if vaccinated or previously infected, presents a serious risk especially since most of the
children in school are too young to be vaccinated and carry no immunity.

5. The science is clear that children can be infected with COVID, and that they can
and do become sick and some will die. It is clear that they can and do spread the virus to others,
including their family members and friends, and particularly those who are unvaccinated or are
immunocompromised. Children are far more impacted with severe illness than previous
COVID-19 strains or variants. Arizona is currently among the worst in the nation for COVID19 infections in children.

6. Mask mandates are the proven most effective currently available method of 1 2 protecting children in schools. Several studies last year have shown that masking strategies 3 significantly reduced spread of COVID-19 in the classroom and that children tolerate masking 4 extremely well. It is not sufficient to say that each person can decide for themselves whether to 5 wear a mask, because it is when masks are worn by nearly all individuals then infected individuals will be far less likely to transmit the disease to others. An unmasked COVID-19 6 7 positive child/staff member still poses a significant health risk to masked children/staff around 8 them considering the previously mentioned reasons, more contagious and higher viral load. In 9 other words, my child's mask protects other children, and their mask protects my child.

10 7. I am also a parent with children. Through the pandemic, I have done all I could to keep my children safe. We have given up playing sports, seeing family members, attending 11 birthday parties or playdates with friends, and even dining out or going to places of amusement. 12 13 Despite these sacrifices and my best efforts over the past 18 months, they could potentially sit 14 next to an unmasked child or staff member in the classroom and contract COVID-19. One of my children has severe asthma and is followed by a lung specialist and has been hospitalized. 15 16 She is on three asthma controlling medications daily. She is at greater risk of suffering serious 17 complications from COVID if she contracts it. Only one of my children is old enough to be 18 vaccinated (and has been). My girls are too young to be eligible. My children attend school in 19 the Madison School District, which currently has a mask mandate.

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8. However, I am aware that the laws being challenged in this case seek to ban school districts from using this life saving public health tool. My ability to have my children attend school in a reasonably safe environment is being seriously threatened if this law is permitted to go into effect.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 18, 2021. DocuSigned by: Ruth Franks Snedecor -A83D40261CCF45E... Ruth Franks Snedecor, MD

Declaration of Beth Lewis

1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the
matters in this declaration.

4 2. I am a public school teacher in the Tempe Elementary School District and the
5 parent of minor children who attend public schools.

6 3. As an active participant in the legislative process, the budget reconciliation bills
7 (BRBs) as written this legislative session deprived me of my ability to engage and participate as
8 I normally would.

9 4. The inclusion of other legislative pieces unrelated to the budget led to horse trading
10 within the legislature that arguably removed citizens from the process of advocating for a better
11 budget. Backroom deals were made in order to sell the budget by adding ideas from bills that
12 legislators attempted to move through the legislative process, but did not have the votes to pass
13 for the entire legislative session.

14 5. As an Arizona educator and parent, these BRBs pose immense personal risk of
15 harm to myself, my unvaccinated children, and my unvaccinated students.

16 6. If the challenged provisions in HB 2898 go into effect on September 29, educators
17 in schools that currently require masks will lose that protection and be forced to be exposed to a
18 deadly airborne virus. If an injunction is not granted, as a classroom teacher I will lose my ability
19 to work in a reasonably safe environment or to have a classroom that is safe for my students.

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21 22 7. As an educator, I am also at risk of potential disciplinary sanctions, including loss or suspension of my teaching license, or civil enforcement actions if I am found to be teaching vaguely described "concepts" that the legislature has apparently deemed "too controversial."

8. As a parent, because of certain provisions in HB 2898, I am unable to both keep
my children safe and choose in-person learning.

25 9. At the time I filed the complaint in this case, the district where my children attend
26 school said everyone is "expected" to wear masks, but there is no enforcement of this

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expectation. I can attest, based on information and belief, that the district was reluctant to 1 2 mandate masks because of the BRB. According this to article. 3 https://www.12news.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/tempe-school-district-urges-arizonalawmakers-to-allow-mask-mandates-to-slow-the-spread-of-covid/75-3fa95ab2-30ca-47f0-4

5 <u>9fc7-c41cfce04b10</u>, the district urged lawmakers to reconsider the law, and expressed that they
6 would like to have control over the decision to require masks.

7 10. After another court held that HB 2898 is not currently in effect, my district adopted
8 a mask mandate. But that mandate will no longer be legal if the challenged provisions in HB
9 2898 go into effect on September 29.

10 11. I can attest, upon information and belief, that districts in the area are worried that
11 their insurance trust will hold them liable if they mandate masks, and some district board
12 members worry they will be sued personally.

12. Significantly, districts are being threatened with defunding if they mandate masks. 14 Representative Hoffman penned a letter asking the Governor to "withhold the federal funding 15 currently under the Governor's management from any school district that is non-compliant with 16 state law" and to "authorize temporary Empowerment Scholarship Accounts (ESAs) for all 17 students trapped within any school district that is non-compliant with state law." 18 <u>https://www.azleg.gov/press/house/55LEG/1R/210811HOFFMAN.pdf</u>. To date, 25 other 19 lawmakers have signed on to this letter.

13. Days after Representative Hoffman issued his press release, Governor Doug
Ducey announced a program that offers grant funding to schools that comply with the ban on
mask mandates, <u>https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2021/08/governor-ducey-announces-</u>
<u>nearly-65-million-expand-learning-programs</u>, and to families who face "barriers" from "closures
and school mandates . . . that are not in compliance with the provisions set forth in state law."
<u>https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2021/08/governor-ducey-announces-relief-program-k-</u>
<u>12-students-families</u>.

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1 14. This action by the Governor, relying on the unconstitutional laws challenged in
 2 this case, ignores the worsening public health crisis and the importance of safe in-person
 3 learning, and it puts children and teachers at risk.

4 15. As a parent and an educator, I am extremely concerned about the levels of
5 community transmission and the fact that certain provisions in HB 2898 seek to prohibit school
6 districts from implementing the most effective mitigation strategy.

16. Current case counts in Tempe Elementary School District are 67 (as of August 12,
8 days after school started) and growing. <u>https://www.tempeschools.org/parents/return-to-</u>
9 <u>school-2021-22-school-year/covid-19-dashboard</u>. As these numbers climb, once the challenged
10 provisions in HB 2898 go into effect, the district will have no ability to impose proven, science11 based mitigation measures to protect my children.

12 17. Both of my children are under the age of 12 and are therefore not eligible to be
13 vaccinated. I have serious concerns about what will happen to them if they contract a deadly
14 virus, particularly as child hospitalizations increase under the Delta variant.

15 18. The Maricopa County Health dashboard for schools gives a broader context of
16 community spread and shows Tempe Elementary School District in "High" transmission rates
17 (over 100 cases per 100,000).

18 19. As of August 7 (only 3 days after the start of school), case rates rose from 206 per
19 100,000 the week prior to 260 per 100,000. According to the CDC and Maricopa County Health
20 dashboard, elementary schools in communities with high transmission should be in "hybrid
21 learning mode or reduced attendance with physical distancing of 6 feet or more, to the greatest
22 extent possible," but our schools are not in hybrid mode.

23 20. As an educator, I cannot distance kids more than 2-3 feet because I have 25
24 students in my relatively small classroom.

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As a parent who is spending my days in the classroom, I do not believe 21. we can keep our children safe unless the challenged provisions in HB 2898 are invalidated. I have serious concerns about the impact on the health and safety of my own children and my students.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August <u>8</u>, 2021.

<u>Beth Lewis</u>

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EXHIBIT 13

Declaration of Richard Newhauser, Ph. D.

1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the
matters in this declaration.

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4 2. I am a Professor of English and Medieval Studies at Arizona State University,
5 where I have been on faculty since 2007.

3. I have an office on the campus of ASU. I also am teaching an in-person class at
7 ASU during the 2021 fall semester.

8 4. I am at increased risk for suffering serious illness from COVID-19 for at least two
9 reasons. First, I am over 70 years old. Second, I have been diagnosed with a medical condition
10 that has been identified as posing an increased risk of mortality if I contract the disease.

11 5. On June 14, 2021, ASU announced a policy that put in place significant mitigation 12 measures to protect people like myself, as well as other members of the faculty, students, and 13 the enormous non-faculty staff at ASU. (Update on Student Vaccine Expectations (available at https://eoss.asu.edu/health/announcements/coronavirus#covid-archive)). 14 The Governor immediately issued an executive order banning ASU and other higher education institutions from 15 implementing this policy. In response, ASU rescinded the policy. The executive order will be 16 rescinded at the end of September. 17

18 6. I am aware that the legislature passed a law that will ban the sort of mitigation
19 measures that ASU originally announced as being necessary for the safety of individuals like
20 myself, as well as all students, staff, and faculty at ASU. Unless stopped by the court, this law
21 will go into effect at the end of September.

7. If this legislation is permitted to stand, I will be exposed to a higher risk of
contracting COVID-19 (even though I am vaccinated), and from suffering a worse course of the
disease due to my increased risk factors discussed above.

8. I am aware that ASU has instituted a mask requirement for in-person classes and
in limited other settings. Even with this requirement, I am still at increased risk due to the

inability of the University to implement the other mitigation measures that were announced in
 its June 14th policy. Further, the mask "mandate" does not apply to all indoor areas at ASU. If
 I go to the library (which I do as part of my job), or to the student union, I will be surrounded by
 people that are not subject to the mask requirements.

9. I am not only worried about my own health and safety. I have close friends, good colleagues, and graduate students with whom I work closely. None of them should be faced with the prospect of working in a riskier environment due to the unconstitutional law that was included as part of a budget reconciliation bill. Nor should my colleagues, co-workers, and friends be faced with the prospect of bringing infection home to their spouses, children, or aged parents.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 17, 2021.

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Richard Newhauser, Ph. D.

EXHIBIT 14

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Declaration of Laurie Stoff, Ph.D.

I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the 1. matters in this declaration.

2. I am a Principal Lecturer and Honors Faculty Fellow at Arizona State University, 4 where I have been on faculty since 2014.

I have an office on the campus of ASU. I also am teaching in-person classes at 3. ASU during the 2021 fall semester.

I am a member and have a leadership role in the United Campus Workers of 4. 8 Arizona (UCWAZ) labor union. I have been authorized by the Union to submit this declaration 9 10 in support of this case.

5. The membership of UCWAZ includes faculty, staff, graduate student workers, and undergraduate student workers. We have a diverse membership that includes positions that range from senior professors to custodial workers. A primary mission of UCWAZ is to advocate for a safe work environment for all those who work at Arizona's university campuses.

15 6. UCWAZ's membership includes a broad range of ages, from young adults, and parents with young children, to older professors in their 70's and 80's. Many of our members 16 care for and live with their spouses and children, and still others live with or care for their elderly 17 parents. I am aware of members who have health conditions that put them at increased risks of 18 harm or death from COVID (such as those undergoing chemotherapy), and members who live 19 20 with or care for family members at increased risk from similar conditions. I personally am aware of many workers on ASU's campus who have been diagnosed with COVID-19. 21

ASU and the University of Arizona are returning to a great extent to in-person 22 7. learning. The ability to provide accommodation for remote teaching is quite limited and I and 23 most of my colleagues would not qualify for accommodation. Faculty and graduate student 24 workers have been told that they must teach in person with no ability to switch to remote 25 instruction regardless of the degree of spread of the virus on campus or in our classrooms. I 26

1 know from my own experience that it is not possible to physically distance in many of our 2 classrooms. I will be teaching this fall semester in classrooms where physical distancing will be 3 impossible. As a lecturer in Barrett, the Honors College at ASU, I (along with all of my 4 colleagues) teach in smaller classrooms that will be filled to capacity. Many of my colleagues 5 throughout the University face similar circumstances. Further, the inability to physical distance 6 applies not only in classrooms, but also in many of the offices for faculty and staff at ASU.

On June 14th, ASU announced a policy that put in place significant mitigation 7 8. measures to protect people like myself, as well as other members of the faculty, students, and 8 the enormous non-faculty staff at ASU. (June 14, Update on Student Vaccine Expectations 9 (available at https://eoss.asu.edu/health/announcements/coronavirus#covid-archive)). The 10 Governor immediately issued an executive order banning ASU and other higher education 11 institutions from implementing this policy. In response, ASU rescinded the policy. The 12 executive order will be rescinded at the end of September. 13

9. I am aware that the legislature passed a law that will ban the sort of mitigation
measures that ASU originally announced as being necessary for the safety of students, staff, and
faculty at ASU. Unless stopped by the court, this law will go into effect at the end of September.

17 10. If this legislation is permitted to stand, I, along with the membership of UCWAZ,
18 the other faculty and staff at our Universities, our students, as well as our families, and the larger
19 communities where we work and live, will be exposed to a higher risk of contracting COVID20 19. Many will be at risk of serious illness or death.

11. I am aware that ASU has instituted a mask requirement for in-person classes and
in limited other indoor settings. Even with this requirement, we are still at increased risk due to
the inability of the University to implement the other mitigation measures that were announced
in its June 14th policy.

25 12. On behalf of myself and UCWAZ, I ask the court to consider the irreparable harm
26 that will result from the implementation of Section 2 of SB 1825. The faculty and staff of our

Signatu	Laurie St. ff (Aug 18, 2021 15:25 PDT)
Em	ail: ffots1@gmail.com
1	universities should not be placed in a riskier environment due to the unconstitutional law that
2	was included as part of a budget reconciliation bill.
3	I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
4	Executed on August 18, 2021.
5	Laurie Stoff
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7	Laurie Stoff, Ph.D.
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EXHIBIT 15

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Declaration of Joel Edman

1. I am over 18 years old, competent to testify, and have personal knowledge of the
matters in this declaration.

4 2. I am the Executive Director of the Arizona Advocacy Network ("AZAN"), and I
5 am authorized to make this declaration on its behalf.

6 3. AZAN is a non-profit organization dedicated to defending and deepening
7 Arizona's commitment to democracy.

4. AZAN's mission, including allowing citizen participation in the legislative
process, is frustrated by the legislature's conduct of improperly including various provisions in
the budget reconciliation bills in violation of the constitution as explained in this lawsuit.

5. We are committed to preserving a truly representative political system in which all
Arizonans make their voices heard. Ensuring Arizonans' right to vote and sanctity and privacy
of its voter information is a core mission of AZAN.

6. We have diverted significant time and resources analyzing the impact of various
election-related provisions in the budget reconciliation bills this legislative session. This
legislative session, two full time AZAN staff were devoted to jointly working with coalition
partners to block legislative attacks on voting rights and democracy through advocacy,
education, and organizing.

7. Our ability to advocate for and defend a truly representative political system was
impeded this session by the policies passed through budget reconciliation bills as part of larger
effort by Republican lawmakers to undermine Arizona's democracy.

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8. One of the cornerstones of our democracy is that political decisions are driven by voters, and AZAN is committed to preserving citizen participation in the legislative process.

24 9. Another cornerstone of our democracy is that the legislative process is open to the
25 public and laws should be made in the open, after fulsome public debate, rather than in secret.

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1 10. AZAN is an active participant in the legislative process, but the budget
 2 reconciliation bills passed this legislative session deprived us of our ability to engage and
 3 participate as we normally would.

4 11. Further, the fact that legislators "sold" their votes in exchange for getting pet
5 policies added to budget reconciliation bills is antithetical to AZAN's mission and its work in
6 the Legislature.

12. If SB 1819 goes into effect, AZAN's mission will be harmed by the Legislature's
conduct of improperly including various unrelated pet policies in the budget reconciliation bills
instead of through proper legislative channels.

10 13. SB 1819 is an egregious example of "logrolling" multiple completely unrelated
11 subjects into one bill. From dog racing, to voter registration, newspapers, and COVID-19
12 mitigation (to name a few), SB 1819's subjects have nothing to do with each other.

13 14. AZAN is also dedicated to ensuring Arizonans' right to vote and protecting the
14 sanctity and privacy of their voter information. This core mission will also be thwarted if SB
15 1819 goes into effect.

16 15. Enjoining SB 1819 is critical to preserving and protecting Arizona's democracy, a
17 core mission of AZAN.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August 18, 2021.

<u>/s/ Joel Edman</u> Joel Edman

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