



★ ARIZONA ★

# ARIZONA

PUTTING ARIZONANS *FIRST*

AMERICA FIRST POLICY INSTITUTE

# To know Arizona, one need look no further than the image of the phoenix, of the fiery sprawling deserts at dawn, of its mountains and plateaus and mesas.

This land has been inhabited for thousands of years and continues to build itself into something greater. From the Grand Canyon to its Douglas fir forests, from its orange groves to its cattle ranches, Arizona has long captivated the imagination. Arizona is at the very heart of the American West, its natural beauty matched only by its diverse population and maverick spirit.

During the last several years, Arizona has become a haven of sound policy and good governance. Families and businesses seeking to exit the continued upheaval in California have flocked to the state. Today, the state's capital, Phoenix, is the fifth-largest city in the country, and the state is now one of the fastest growing in the Nation. Arizona has been on the forefront of good policy for many years, but Arizona has more work to do to remain great and ensure its plethora of new residents do not bring the failed policies of other states with them.

The America First Policy Institute (AFPI), a nonprofit, non-partisan research institute that educates lawmakers and the American public on the policies that put America first, has founded a new state chapter in Arizona. Building on AFPI's America First Agenda, the Arizona chapter aims to keep the state as an example to the Nation and advance strong policies that work for all Arizonans.

# *We base our work on the following policies:*

## **Strengthening the Arizona ECONOMY**

Arizona's pioneering spirit is evident in the bold policy reforms its conservative leaders have been willing to pursue, including nation-leading cuts to its income tax rate. To counter the national cost-of-living crisis, the state should further cut taxes, remove hurdles to abundant energy availability, and address artificial impediments to housing development.

## **Keeping Arizona's BORDER Secure**

Arizona has been affected more than almost any other state by the chaos at the southern border. Politics and a lack of support from Washington, D.C., have gotten in the way of the security every Arizona family should feel. State policymakers must take steps to stop the flow of fentanyl into Arizona's communities, combat human trafficking, build physical barriers along the border, and advocate for other solutions that keep Arizonans safe.

## **Protecting EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM**

Arizona has established wide-ranging school choice programs so that all families have an opportunity to get the best possible education for their kids. Unfortunately, some policymakers in Phoenix want to remove this choice and cut back on the educational options families have. Policymakers must push back on any efforts to limit school choice, empower parents to make decisions regarding their children's education, and ensure that all students have the resources they need to achieve a quality education.

## **Protecting NATURAL RESOURCES and Enhancing ENERGY SECURITY**

Arizona is facing increasingly severe periods of droughts and electricity blackouts. Policies that prevent efficient usage of water, along with heavy-handed mandates that undermine free-market energy solutions, are exacerbating these struggles. As a Nation, America has proven that with the right policies, we can establish energy independence and preserve our natural resources for generations to come. By opposing subsidies and mandates, allowing all sources of energy to compete fairly, and developing realistic solutions for environmental issues, we can achieve energy independence while also preserving natural resources in Arizona.

## **Making GOVERNMENT WORK for the People**

Arizonans deserve openness and transparency throughout all levels of government. State and local elected officials alike should ensure that the bureaucracy is accountable to the people, taxpayer dollars are spent wisely, and elections are fair, secure, and transparent. Accountability and trust in the basic functions of government are at the very foundation of our republic, and Arizona's elected officials have a responsibility to meet these expectations for the people of their state.

**For more information and policy recommendations, check out AFPI's website today!**

**LEARN MORE**

# A Strategic Approach for Arizona

AFPI-Arizona brings key partners together who can help build out these policy prescriptions. Arizona is a policy powerhouse full of freedom-oriented thought leaders, including academic institutions, think tanks, civic groups, and religious organizations.

## WE WILL BUILD THE *AMERICA FIRST* MOVEMENT FOR ARIZONA THROUGH:

### Engagement

By connecting with Arizona communities, we strengthen alliances and foster new relationships.

### Policy Development

We are building out an agenda that develops Arizona-specific policies and solutions, tapping into best practices from academic experts, policy practitioners, and other thought leaders.

### Research Partnerships

By bringing together like-minded Arizonans, we work as a force multiplier for each other's work so that our assets go even further.

### Events

By regularly convening speakers and meetings across Arizona, we reinforce the message that there are still many hardworking, honest, and thoughtful Arizonans who want to maintain the state's place as an example to the Nation.

By mobilizing these efforts, we are expanding upon the America First Agenda and addressing the needs of hardworking Arizonians. This state is a national leader for good governance. **LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY.**

For an in-depth understanding of our work, please visit

[americafirstpolicy.com/state-chapter/america-first-arizona](https://americafirstpolicy.com/state-chapter/america-first-arizona)



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