



June 20, 2025

Governor Katie Hobbs
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs:

On behalf of the Arizona Education Association (AEA), which represents more than 22,000 teachers, librarians, custodians, cafeteria workers, and other educators, I strongly urge you to veto HB 2610 and protect locally-led decision-making in Arizona school districts.

Earlier this year, hundreds of our members in the Isaac School District [voted to work without pay](#) during the district's financial crisis. As a union of public school educators, our livelihoods depend on the financial solvency of Arizona school districts, and we consistently advocate for responsible district governance that brings families and educators to the table. The concerns associated with Isaac schools are now being addressed at multiple levels of government, and we must trust voters in the Isaac community to decide how to best address their local governing board. We oppose HB 2610 because it is a heavy-handed and punitive approach to the Isaac crisis that will have far-reaching consequences for Arizona schools.

If enacted, HB 2610 would punish districts placed under state receivership by forcibly terminating the district superintendent and most members of the district governing board. While we support accountability for any leaders involved in mismanagement of district funds, we **do not** support removing the most-experienced district leaders against the wishes of the local community. It is the prerogative of district voters – not state legislators – to retain or remove leaders who are elected at the local level. HB 2610 undermines long-held tenets of local control that underpin Arizona democracy, and it should not become law.

In addition, HB 2610 injects greater partisanship into decisions surrounding Arizona school districts in a way that will be detrimental to public education. Allowing a partisan superintendent to override the will of the voters and appoint a full governing board will shift the balance of power away from communities and into partisan hands. We have seen several recent instances in which partisan county superintendents advance appointees who do not have the best interests of the community in mind. We oppose any bills that threaten to make that situation more common.

We urge you to reiterate your commitment to strong, locally-led school district governance by vetoing HB 2610. If you have further questions, please contact Isela Blanc on our staff at Isela.Blanc@arizonaed.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marisol Garcia'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Marisol' being more prominent than the last name 'Garcia'.

Marisol Garcia
President
Arizona Education Association