



**JANE DEE HULL**  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF ARIZONA

April 15, 1999

The Honorable Jeff Groscost  
Speaker of the House  
Arizona House of Representatives  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Speaker Groscost:

Today I vetoed House Bill 2005. There are many provisions within this bill that I support, including language that addresses funding for disproportionate share payments to hospitals, services for persons who are hearing impaired, poison control efforts, and state lab equipment. There are also important provisions that address psychotropic medications and matching funds for Medicaid and KidsCare.

Unfortunately, the bill also includes language transferring responsibility for vital records and public health statistics from the Department of Health Services to the Secretary of State, a concept I have opposed since it was first mentioned to me earlier this year. I have clearly and consistently stated throughout this session, and throughout the budget discussions, that I would veto any bill that included such a transfer. When there is a problem within a state agency, the solution is **not** to move the problem; the solution is to **fix** the problem -- which I am doing. The DHS director has replaced the administrator of Vital Records with a results-oriented person who has already implemented numerous changes to improve customer service, and I am currently working with legislative leadership to secure the needed resources to do a quality job.

To now disrupt the vastly improved operations of Vital Records by moving it to another state agency accomplishes nothing except to invite disruption to people who are trying to obtain such records as birth and death certificates. It would be irresponsible to move authority for vital health records and public health statistics to the Secretary of State's office, which has no experience in managing health-related functions. In addition, any move would jeopardize a program that has enabled the Department of Economic Security to efficiently establish paternity for nearly 31,000 children since 1997.

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It is my hope that the Legislature can return a bill to me that includes all of the provisions contained in HB 2005, minus the transfer of Vital Records. The Department of Health Services can then devote its energy to changes that will actually help customers, rather than shuffling boxes around on organization charts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Dee Hull". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

JANE DEE HULL  
Governor

Passed the House April 7, 1999,

by the following vote: 36 Ayes,

22 Nays, 2 Not Voting

[Signature]  
Speaker of the House

Norman L. Moore  
Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate April 7, 1999,

by the following vote: 16 Ayes,

13 Nays, 1 Not Voting

Bruce Burns  
President of the Senate

Charmian Bellington  
Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill was received by the Governor this  
8 day of April, 1999,

at 8:25 o'clock a M.

Sandra Ramirez  
Secretary to the Governor

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of Arizona

**VETO**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State  
this 15 day of April, 1999,

at 2:45 o'clock P M.

Steve Bayless  
Secretary of State

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
H.B. 2005