

May 20, 2003

The Honorable Jake Flake
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2259: domestic relations committee; membership

Dear Speaker Flake:

I am forwarding to you with my veto House Bill 2259, relating to the membership of the Domestic Relations Committee.

Domestic relations is not a partisan issue. Nevertheless, House Bill 2259 purports to strip the Governor's office of the ability to appoint two parents who are knowledgeable in domestic relations issues while adding three appointments by legislators (and one member of the judiciary) who are all members of the opposite political party of the Governor. The bill further politicizes the Committee by shifting the numbers of legislators appointed from each chamber of the legislature from two to three, making it impossible to have equal party representation among the legislators who serve on the Committee. We should not be altering the makeup of such an important and non-partisan commission on what are obvious partisan political grounds.

Very truly yours,

Janet Napolitano
Governor

cc: The Honorable Ken Bennett
The Honorable Karen Johnson