



OFFICE OF THE
ARIZONA STATE TREASURER



KIMBERLY YEE
TREASURER

February 12, 2025

The Honorable David Livingston
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Rep. Livingston:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the ongoing budget negotiations between the Legislature and Governor's Office.

As we discussed, some members of the public have misinterpreted the current budget discussions as though there is "missing money" or that the Governor "misplaced" a substantial amount of money. Some of this misinterpretation stems from comments made in recent meetings of the House Appropriations Committee, which you serve as chairman. In response to these allegations of missing money, members of the public have called on my office to investigate the "missing" funds.

As you know, the Arizona State Treasurer's Office has no constitutional or statutory authority to investigate state agency spending. Our role is to distribute the funds under the enacted budget. However, because we take allegations of "missing money" seriously, if we ever suspected that state money was "missing," we would immediately alert the Office of the Auditor General, the Attorney General, or other law enforcement, as appropriate, to investigate.

I appreciate your recent letter to Governor Hobbs clarifying these comments and that there is no "missing money." Instead, the "missing money" comments describe what appears to be unfortunate gross financial mismanagement by the Hobbs Administration.

For example, it is concerning that one agency would request such a large supplemental appropriation to reimburse itself for expenditures that the Legislature did not approve in the last budget cycle. A simple principle that I share as I travel across the State is: "Never spend more than you make." This applies to our state budget as well. The Arizona taxpayers deserve nothing less and this principle is already engrained in the Arizona Constitution and statutory guidance from the Legislature.



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Arizona taxpayers deserve to know what the State is doing with their hard-earned dollars. As the State's Chief Banking and Investment Officer, I appreciate your diligence in addressing the gross mismanagement of state agency funds under the Governor's leadership. I also appreciate that the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, which has jurisdiction to investigate the propriety of agency spending, has taken the appropriate actions to hold the Hobbs Administration accountable. My office will direct taxpayers to your Joint Legislative Budget Committee staff for further clarification and inquiries.

If my office can be of service or provide additional information on this important issue, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kimberly Yee".

Hon. Kimberly Yee
Treasurer of Arizona