Executive Order 2005-19

Executive Order Establishing
"Governor's P-20 Council of Arizona"

WHEREAS, a healthy economy and individual earning potential depends on the quality and availability of education from preschool through adulthood; and

WHEREAS, Arizona's population continues to grow at nearly double the national average, placing greater demand on the state's public elementary, secondary and post-secondary institutions; and

WHEREAS, Arizona employers and educators alike recognize the importance of well-aligned, rigorous educational opportunities and to create a workforce that is qualified for high-value jobs that can sustain Arizona's economy and fast-growing service needs into the future; and

WHEREAS, currently only one-third of all college age Arizonans enroll in two or four-year post-secondary institutions, only 50 percent of those enrolled complete a Bachelors degree, and these statistics place Arizona well below the national average; and

WHEREAS, improved access to and completion of higher education may require new, affordable and more flexible ways of delivering degree programs among and between community colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, communities, employers and educators across Arizona have begun looking at new ways to address educational rigor and preparation for post-secondary training and college; and

WHEREAS, enhanced student achievement in elementary, secondary and post-secondary institutions, as well as in the workplace, requires a comprehensive, statewide approach to education that ensures opportunities for individual success from pre-school through post-secondary education;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, do hereby create the Governor's P-20 Council of Arizona (the "P-20 Council") and order as follows:

(1) The P-20 Council shall consist of an appropriate number of members to represent the education and workplace communities. The Governor shall Chair the Council and appoint all members. Additional membership shall include but not be limited to:

- Not more than four members of the Arizona State Legislature who will serve as ex-officio members;
- The Superintendent of Public Instruction;

- A Member of the Arizona Board of Regents who is a member of the Joint Conference Committee (JCC);
- Arizona's three State University Presidents;
- Not more than four Community College Representatives, of which at least one shall be a member of the JCC, one shall be a rural community college representative, and one shall be an urban community college representative.
- Two Superintendents of a Joint Technological Education District, of which at least one shall be a representative of a rural district and one shall be a representative of an urban district;
- Three P-12 Education representatives, of which at least one shall represent a middle school or junior high school, one shall represent a high school, and one shall represent a charter school;
- A Member of the Arizona State Board of Education;
- A Representative of a four-year, private post-secondary institution;
- A Representative of the Governor's Council on Innovation and Technology;
- A Representative of the Governor's Council on Workforce Policy;
- Not more than eight members of the public representing parent groups, business and industry;
- A Representative of the Governor's School Readiness Board;
- A Representative actively engaged in high school dropout prevention programs or policy;
- A Student representative of a high school or post secondary institution;
- A Tribal Representative;
- Not more than two locally elected officials.

(2) The P-20 Council shall explore ways Arizona can achieve a more effective, efficient and equitable education pipeline through some or all of the following strategies:

- Aligning high school, college, and work expectations to meet industry-specific skill sets in high-growth, high-skill occupations that will bring economic prosperity and diversity to Arizona.
- Helping students at all levels meet higher standards and prepare for formal education and workforce training beyond high school.
- Giving all students the excellent teachers and leaders that they need, particularly in the areas of math, science and literacy.
- Strengthening high school and postsecondary accountability systems to better prepare students for college and increase enrollment and completion rates.
- Improving middle school and elementary school standards to ensure high school preparedness for math and science.
- Ensuring clear pathways for all students to obtain college degrees, regardless of point of entry.
- Assessing the need to expand four-year degree programs at post-secondary institutions.

(3) Members shall serve for staggered terms of one or two years. Members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

(4) Members may not send designees to represent them at the Council meetings. Members who miss more than three consecutive council meetings are subject to replacement at the sole discretion of the Governor.

(5) The Chairperson may form an executive committee or other committees as necessary.

(6) The Council shall meet to conduct its affairs at least four times each year at various locations across the state.

(7) The status of the Council shall be reviewed no later than December 31, 2006 to determine appropriate action for its continuance, modification or termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Arizona.

GOVERNOR

Done at the Capitol in Phoenix on this 8th day of July in the Year Two Thousand and Five and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirtieth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE