STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

April 17, 2013

The Honorable Andy Tobin
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: House Bill 2433 (Arizona state guard; age)

Dear Speaker Tobin,

Today, I vetoed House Bill 2433 which would have removed the upper age limit of 45 years old for service in the militia of the state of Arizona. It also added, without definition, provisions relating to being "capable of bearing arms."

This legislation amends Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 26-121 that actually applies to the Arizona National Guard, the state guard, and the unorganized militia. Moreover, A.R.S. § 26-174 provides that the state guard be "governed by and subject to the laws of the state pertaining to the national guard." Accordingly, the standards of both the state guard and unorganized militia should be in conformity with the standards for service in the National Guard.

Furthermore, it gives me pause to amend a statute that is intended, according to testimony, to apply to a "state guard" that has not yet been established or funded. If Arizona does have an interest in updating this statute, there may be other provisions worthy of analysis and discussion.

These are the primary reasons I have vetoed House Bill 2433.

Sincerely,

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

cc: The Honorable Andy Biggs
The Honorable Carl Seel

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