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Arizona State Senate

COMMITTEES:

WATER AND ENERGY, CHAIR

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

RULES

September 21, 2016

Senator Jeff Flake
Washington, DC

Re: The Abuse of Presidential Power Regarding National Monuments in Arizona

Dear Senator Flake,

I am pleased that the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hear S. 437 and S. 1416 on September 22nd. As you are aware, Arizonans have a grave concern that the current administration has abused its authority in an effort to put even more Arizona land under federal control through the Antiquities Act. Our concerns culminated in the Arizona Legislature passing by an overwhelming margin Senate Concurrent Memorial 1001 during the 2015 legislative session (attached).

The prevailing sentiment in the Legislature and amongst all Arizonans is that this egregious over-extension of federal authority subverts the purpose of the numerous federal and state laws already in place to protect vulnerable lands. This arbitrary and reckless designation of national monuments puts the state's proud environmental heritage and future fiscal well-being in danger. Further federal interference in Arizona land management will only undo the progress made in ensuring state lands are available for future generations.

Please encourage your U.S. Senate colleagues to listen to our concerns and support S. 437 and S. 1416. Thank you for reaching out to your constituents and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gail Griffin".

Gail Griffin
Legislative District 14