Bernadette Russell

DATE 10.5.21 ITEM NO. Add 3

From:

Anissa Ramirez

Sent:

Monday, October 4, 2021 2:40 PM

To:

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Maria Klucarova; Jennifer Cabrera

Subject:

FW: Meeting agenda

From: sara McCallum

Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 2:29 PM

To: District1 < District1@pima.gov >; DIST2 < DIST.2@pima.gov >; District3 < District.3@pima.gov >; District4

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Subject: Meeting agenda

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AZ Bill of Rights protects parents and children from government overreach such as masks.

Parents, not the government, have the right to make their children's life decisions. This is a foundational (Natural) right. Arizona state law reflects this principal in specific and unambiguous terms:

State Law: The Parental Bill of Rights and others

According to the Center for Arizona Policy: "Recognizing the need to specifically protect parents' rights in state law, CAP worked with the Arizona Legislature in 2010 to pass the Parents' Bill of Rights. This statute sets forth the broad rule of parents' rights: "The liberty of parents to direct the upbringing, education, health care and mental health of their children is a fundamental right." A.R.S. 1-601(A). The government may not interfere with parental rights unless it demonstrates a compelling interest of the highest order that is narrowly tailored to meet that interest and that is not otherwise served by a less restrictive means. A.R.S. 1-601(B). This standard allows for children to be protected from abusive situations, while still ensuring that parents' rights are not infringed by government officials who may simply believe they know better than a parent.

The Parents' Bill of Rights recognizes a parent's right to:

- Direct the education of their child.
- Direct the upbringing of their child.
- Direct the moral or religious training of their child.
- Make healthcare decisions for their child.

"Parents have the solemn right and responsibility to raise their children according to their own sincerely held convictions. Government must always recognize this right and make every effort to support parents in the choices they make while raising children. In Arizona, citizens should be aware of the extensive parental rights in state law and their ability to freely exercise them."

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Additionally, ARS 15-873(A)(1), allows parents to exempt their children from immunization requirements for K-12 school admission if "due to personal beliefs, the parent or guardian does not consent to the immunization of the pupil."