



## Statement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Statement from Arizona Board of Regents Chair Larry E. Penley in Response to Governor Ducey's State of the State Address**

"We applaud Governor Ducey for prioritizing excellence in public education, opportunity for all and a vibrant 21<sup>st</sup> century economy – and leading The Arizona Way.

"Governor Ducey's leadership, with the support of the Arizona Legislature, has positioned the state as a leader in job growth and economic prosperity. With a balanced budget and record revenues, the governor has transformed the fiscal landscape of our state and prepared Arizona for the challenges and opportunities of the new economy.

"Governor Ducey has asked public universities to be problem solvers and economic drivers. With the New Economy Initiative, universities are doing exactly that. We are proud Governor Ducey recognized the innovative approach of the board's New Economy Initiative, which will help us graduate more students for the critical jobs of today and tomorrow.

"Thank you, governor, for your continued support of the Arizona Teachers Academy. We look forward to continued growth in the academy so more aspiring teachers can stay and teach in Arizona and students have access to the quality teachers they deserve.

"The Arizona Board of Regents looks forward to learning more about the governor's plans to support these goals as he unveils his executive budget later this week. As always, we look forward to working with the governor and legislators as we diligently advocate on behalf of the Arizona students, families and faculty members we represent."