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Statement from ABOR President Eileen Klein in Reaction to Governor Ducey's Executive Budget Proposal

"Both K-12 and higher education are paramount to a thriving economy, competitive workforce and strong future. Governor Doug Ducey's budget proposal clearly prioritizes public education. We appreciate his support and value his ongoing commitment to bolster our public universities in setting these priorities for our state."

"Last year, the governor and Legislature made possible a landmark \$1 billion investment in Arizona's public universities to support critical research and development infrastructure at Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona. The executive budget released today keeps this commitment to long-term capital investment so we can continue to serve the state's growing population.

"The majority of our students come from Arizona. But with a growing economy and rising workforce expectations, we need even more students throughout our state who are prepared to learn after high school. We are pleased that the governor's budget again makes K-12 education the largest beneficiary of new state dollars over the coming year to help more students get the education they need to prepare for work and college.

"Our state leaders play a critical role in helping to keep college education within the reach of all families. In the days ahead, the Arizona Board of Regents will consider the governor's budget recommendations in greater detail. We will remain in close contact with the governor, legislators and staff members throughout the budget process and – as always – remain committed to ensuring the voices of Arizona students and families are taken into account as the state budget is finalized."

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