

State Senator Jake Hoffman Extremism Spotlight

Hoffman sought court intervention to block an executive order protecting LGBTQ workers from discrimination. In 2023, Hoffman and other members of the Arizona Freedom Caucus held a news conference to announce plans for a lawsuit against Gov. Katie Hobbs, alleging that Hobbs's executive order reinforcing nondiscrimination laws in state agencies protecting LGBTQ workers is unconstitutional. The executive order was similar to those issued by Republican governors, but caucus members claimed that didn't matter, and that Hobbs was attempting to usurp legislative power. Arizona Freedom Caucus Chairman state Sen. Jake Hoffman accused Hobbs of attempting to legislate via "executive fiat." [AZ Mirror, [1/10/2023](#)]

Hoffman called for first degree murder charges against women who obtain abortions and their doctors. In 2021, Hoffman co-sponsored one of the most extreme anti-abortion bills in the country, HB2650, to give county attorneys the power to prosecute "homicide by abortion," regardless of conflicting federal laws or court decisions. According to the Arizona Republic, "The legislation, which expands the definition of a 'person' to include 'an unborn child in the womb at any stage of development,' would allow both the state attorney general and county attorneys to prosecute 'homicide by abortion.' It removes existing protections for 'an unborn child's mother' as well as 'the person ... performing an abortion' with the mother's consent. The Arizona bill leaves open the possibility of first-degree murder charges — which can result in the death penalty or a lifetime sentence — and does not protect mothers from prosecution." The bill stalled in committee and was not passed by the legislature. [The Arizona Republic, [1/22/2021](#); HB 2650, [Accessed 10/18/2021](#)]

Hoffman founded and chairs the Arizona Freedom Caucus. The Arizona Freedom Caucus is modeled on its federal counterpart in the U.S. House. According to Axios, "A group of GOP lawmakers announced on Friday that 'nearly a third' of the 31 Republicans in the state House had founded the Arizona Freedom Caucus. Rep. Jake Hoffman, the caucus' chairman, said their goal is to combat both the left and 'establishment GOP that refuses to answer to the will of the people.'" The Freedom Caucus seeks to move the legislature towards far rightwing extremism. [Axios, [7/25/2022](#)]