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**ARIZONA TAX RESEARCH ASSOCIATION**

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## **ATRA OPPOSES SB1067**

*Removes Voters Say on WIFA Debt*

SB1067 is a measure that would allow the largest cities and towns in Arizona to circumvent their voters and enter into debt with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA). SB1067 was amended in Senate Natural Resources to increase the population threshold from 150,000 to 300,000 for a city or town to enter into WIFA debt without voter approval.

The advocates argue that voter approval frustrates and complicates the planning process of city governments. They believe a city council vote provides sufficient public oversight and awareness of higher government debt. ATRA disagrees.

What used to be a much smaller threshold of 50,000 will now balloon to 300,000 under SB1067. Increasing the threshold to that amount would leave only the two largest cities, Phoenix and Mesa, subject to the voter approval requirement.

**ATRA Strongly Encourages Lawmakers to Vote NO on SB1067!**