

Media contact: Ken Strobeck, Executive Director
League of Arizona Cities and Towns
kstrobeck@azleague.org
602-258-5786

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS RESOLUTION
CALLS FOR COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP WITH
STATE ON BUDGET ISSUES**

PHOENIX (Jan. 4, 2011) - Please see below for a copy of the League Resolution that was passed by the League Executive Committee on December 16, 2010.

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING COLLABORATION BETWEEN
ARIZONA'S CITIES AND TOWNS AND GOVERNOR AND STATE
LEGISLATURE IN DEALING WITH BUDGET ISSUES IN THE
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

Whereas, the incorporated cities and towns of Arizona understand and appreciate the budget and financial challenges faced by all levels of government in Arizona, having experienced together with our partners in the Governor's Office and the Legislature a major decline in jobs in the private and public sector, a severe increase in home foreclosures, and the sharp declines in sales tax revenue and income tax revenue; and

Whereas, cities and towns believe that long-term financial stability for governments in Arizona will be achieved only by growing our economy and that all sectors of government need to work together to encourage economic development by providing opportunities for businesses to locate to the state and at the same time keep good-paying jobs with career opportunities in Arizona; and

Whereas, cities and towns create and support the quality of life that attracts today's best businesses by providing the utility and transportation infrastructure and the attractive, safe neighborhoods and amenities where businesses and their employees locate; and

Whereas, the State Government and Local Government operate within the same economy and are inextricably linked together in an effort to provide visionary policy decisions and leadership to our shared constituency; and

Whereas, city budgets on average are 25-30% smaller than they were just three years ago, and municipal workforces have been reduced and restructured in order to operate more efficiently and continue to protect core services such as public safety; and

Whereas, the League of Arizona Cities and Towns demonstrated its support of state government's efforts to find solutions by endorsing the referral of Proposition 100 (the three-year one-cent sales tax increase) to the voters while at the same time voluntarily giving up our dedicated portion of the increased sales tax, which will amount to an estimated \$600 million over three years; now therefore,

Be it resolved that the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, representing all 91 of the incorporated municipalities in the state, commits to be a positive partner with our Governor and State

Legislature in addressing the issues of the budget shortfall and structural deficit by working collaboratively and creatively on ways to correct the ongoing state budget deficit, to develop policies that will enhance Arizona's long-term competitiveness for business attraction, retention and growth while minimizing negative impacts on state or local budgets, and to restore Arizona's image as an innovative leader and the best state in the West for businesses and families.

Authorized by the Executive Committee of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns December, 16, 2010.

About the League:

The League of Arizona Cities and Towns is a voluntary association of all the 91 incorporated cities and towns in the state of Arizona. It provides policy and legislative advocacy, information and inquiry services, along with publications and educational programs to strengthen the quality and efficiency of municipal government. It was founded in 1937 to serve the interests of cities and towns and to preserve the principles of home rule and local determination. For more information, visit www.azleague.org.

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Posted: January 4, 2011