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Arizona House of Representatives
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

DISTRICT 30

September 10, 2008

RRNA Board Members
Ken Moyes
RRNA Secretary/Director
Andrew Quintero ive

Dear Board Members:

Thank you for your invitation to participate in the Rita Ranch Neighborhood Association Candidate Forum. It is with deep regret that I will be unable to attend and contribute to your Forum this year as I am an Arizona delegate to the biannual Border Legislative Conference where the date was to be determined. I have recently been notified of the date and find that it conflicts with your Forum.

Two years ago I was appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to represent the state at the Border Legislative Conference. The BLC is a part of the U.S. Council of State Governments. It meets in Mexico in the Spring and in the United States in Fall. It has delegates from each border state and counterpart delegates from Mexican states. The Conference meets twice a year to create border policies relating to issues such as illegal immigration and commerce. There are votes required on each resolution and policy decision. We present our findings to the U.S. Congress and the U.S. trade representative and their counterparts in Mexico and our agenda will be introduced in legislation in the session next year.

I do not miss forums lightly, but as a State Representative of Legislative District 30, I am the only delegate in Arizona representing a border county and must attend this conference to vote on behalf of constituents and the State.

I request a surrogate, namely Pima County Supervisor Ray Carroll, be allowed to speak at your Forum in my place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Paton".

Jonathan Paton
State Representative
Legislative District 30

JP/ph