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GOP is wrong on taxes

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Editor, Casa Grande Dispatch:

There is ample historical evidence that adequately demonstrates the false premise of “trickle down economics” on the national level. Not one single time has this experiment produced widespread economic growth. Since the 1980s, in fact, the only result has been a net disproportionate gain in wealth for the already wealthy while middle class income has stagnated.

The best example of the GOP's failed tax strategy is on full display right here in Arizona. Since the Great Recession of 2008, our state's tax policy, spending policy and therefore its economy have been fully directed by the GOP. Those policies have followed the “trickle down” recipe 100 percent and here are just some of the results after 9 full years:

- Lowest economic growth among the eight Western states
- Slowest growth of small businesses in the nation
- Highest 25 percent in the nation for sales tax rate
- Tied for lowest in the nation for corporate income tax rate
- Lower state revenue every year
- Lowest paid K-12 and 48th lowest high school teachers in the nation
- Statewide teacher shortage approaching 2000
- 90 percent cuts to school districts for building and bus maintenance

We now have tax giveaways via corporate income taxes and corporate sales tax loopholes that exceed the state's budget by over \$4 billion per year! There is no question whatsoever that the Arizona GOP has balanced the state's budget on the backs of middle class families.

Our current governor and state legislators are bragging about the amazing job they've been doing. Any voter who takes an honest look at the facts will see the truth: **THE GOP IS WRONG ON TAXES, THE ECONOMY AND CREATING QUALITY JOBS!**

Ralph Atchue

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The writer is a Democratic candidate for state Senate in Legislative District 11.