The Arizona Physics Education Crisis

Arizona is unable to meet competitive demands of industry and commerce in the 21st century without highly qualified physics teachers.

**GOAL:** extend and expand funding with SB 1051

There are only **159** highly qualified high school physics teachers left in AZ.

→ That’s ONE Arizona teacher for every 2,158 high school students.

AZ students do not have access to physics classes.

→ Arizona students take physics at half the rate of the national average.

Physics is a foundational course for STEM careers:

- Students who take physics are **twice as likely** to be ready for college science.
- 60% of new jobs in the 21st century require STEM skills that are based in physics.
- AZ industry cannot fill current STEM positions.

Progress:

- In 2017, the Arizona State Legislature passed Arizona SB 1038.
- 150 mini-scholarships were granted to educators seeking to become highly qualified STEM teachers.
- This resulted in **33 teachers working towards physics certification**.

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