## OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR **ALTON JOE SHEPHERD** APACHE COUNTY DISTRICT 2

"BETTER ROADS, BETTER COMMUNITIES"



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## SB 1177 - SENATE BILL: GANADO SCHOOL LOOP ROAD



Supervisor Shepherd address Senate Committee

Senator Peshlakai introduces SB 1177

*Arizona State Capital* – Supervisor Alton Joe Shepherd testified before the Senate Transportation & Public Safety Committee on SB 1177 a bill sponsored by Senator Jamescita Peshlakai and co-sponsored by Senator Sally Ann Gonzales, Senator Victoria Steele, Representative Arlando Teller, and Representative Richard C. Andrade. SB 1177 seeks appropriation of \$908,300 by the Arizona State Legislature for Fiscal Year 2020. This bill requests state funds for pavement reconstruction and road enhancement in District 2 to benefit the Ganado Unified School District. Representative Alando Teller is sponsoring a similar bill HB 2198 in the House of Representatives for appropriations. These bills and their funding request will be used to address road deterioration and improve safety on this school corridor for students, teachers, and parents.

Supervisor Shepherd continues to work toward the goal of "Better Roads and Better Communities" through purpose, planning, partnership, and progress. This particular road project is vital to meeting the educational needs of the District's children. Over the last 30 years, this road has started to show its age and began to fail-all while having a traffic count of 4,298 in a given week. That is a daily count of 977 vehicles using this road. If this road continues to deteriorate, it will drastically impact school operations of over 1,388 students. Supervisor Shepherd and Chapter President Marcarlo Roanhorse spoke in support of the legislation and requested favorable approval. Supervisor Shepherd thanked the Ganado Chapter officials, Ganado Unified School District transportation staff, and Mr. Barry Aarons, consultant to Apache County for their attendance in this committee meeting. The Senators provided words of encouragement and expressed their support of the bill with a vote 8-0 in favor of the funding request for the Ganado School Loop road. The bill will continue to move through the legislative process before consideration by the full House and Senate.