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March 25, 2003

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Assemblywoman Christina Giunchigliani
Nevada State Assembly
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Assemblywoman Giunchigliani:

The National Association of Social Workers-Nevada Chapter (NASW) firmly supports AB118, your bill that will prohibit the sentence of death for individuals who were under 18 years old at the time of the commission of a crime. NASW-Nevada urges the Assembly Judiciary Committee to vote "do pass" on AB118.

Supporting efforts to reform Nevada's death penalty system is one of our top legislative priorities. It is in the interest of every Nevadan that our justice system is fair, accurate, and equitable. AB118 is an excellent example of legislation aimed at correcting one of the most inhuman characteristics of our current system.

Social workers are professionals who work every day for social justice by being a voice for those who often go unheard. Social workers follow a code of ethics that charges them to challenge social injustice and to respect the dignity and worth of every individual. Supporting social policies that increase social justice in our society is an inherent part of the social work profession.

Thank you again, Assemblywoman Giunchigliani, for introducing this important legislation.

Please include this letter of support in the public record during the committee hearing.

Sincerely;



Executive Director

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY

DATE: 3/27/03 ROOM: 3138 EXHIBIT M

SUBMITTED BY: BOBBIE GANIS