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Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

April 23, 2003

Chairman David Parks Assembly Taxation Committee Nevada State Assembly Legislative Building Carson City, NV 89710

Chairman Parks and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (NNADV), the statewide coalition of domestic violence programs in Nevada. I am writing to express concern about taxing legal services.

Over the last year and a half the Network has been working with attorneys in private practice to provide legal services on a pro bono or reduced fee basis for victims of domestic violence in rural communities. It is difficult to recruit these attorneys as they are both few and far between and that they have difficulty making a living in rural communities. We would have concern that taxing legal services would impact the willingness of attorney's to participate in such programs. The end result could actually hurt those least able to afford such services. This is a regressive tax on the poor.

This piece of legislation could undo much of the progress that Nevada has made over the past decades in providing legal services to victims of domestic violence, and we encourage you to reject it.

Sincerely,

Susan Meuschke

Executive Director, NNADV

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

DATE: 4/4/03 ROOM: 4/00 EXHIBIT

SUBMITTED BY: PAULA BERKLEY