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STATE OF NEVADA
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December 16, 2002

FRANKIE SUE DEL PAPA
Attorney General

THOMAS M. PATTON
First Assistant Attorney General

TIMOTHY D. HAY
Chief Deputy Attorney General

Senator William J Raggio
P O Box 281
Reno Nv 89504-028108

Dear Senator Raggio:

The Office of the Nevada Attorney General recently received approximately \$1.7 million from the settlement of an antitrust lawsuit with six vitamin makers. These monies were distributed among programs dedicated to improving the health and nutritional needs of Nevadans.

The Nevada Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition and School Health, was awarded \$641,625 to conduct a statewide Breakfast in the Classroom Pilot Project. This award is the single largest grant made by the Office of the Attorney General from the Vitamins antitrust fund, and it has been approved by Carson City District Court Judge Mike Griffin.

Breakfast at school is food for thought. Evidence from studies in both Minnesota and Maryland clearly indicates that students who are well-fed perform better academically. Nevada's fourth grade students currently rank below the national average in reading, mathematics, science and writing on the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The school breakfast program is one of the steps that we can take to correct this problem.

Feeding our children breakfast in the classroom will raise the level of Nevada's academic performance. A school breakfast program for students infuses a new level of energy into the school day and reduces several common roadblocks to learning. School breakfast programs result in:

- Increased test scores
- Increased student attention
- Improved student behavior
- Reduced nurse visits
- Positive parent reactions
- Social benefits
- Increased participation of students who are eligible for free and reduced rates

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Breakfast in the Classroom Pilot Project
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I strongly encourage you to overcome any barriers or obstacles to making the Breakfast in the Classroom Pilot Project in Nevada a reality. For more information about this program, please contact Pat Cook, Education Consultant, Nevada Department of Education, 775-687-9153.

Sincerely,



FRANKIE SUE DEL PAPA
Attorney General

cc: Governor Kenny Guinn
Jack McLaughlin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction