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CHAIR

Nevada Commission on Economic Development

CHAIR Nevada Commission on

VICE CHAIR Board of Directors Nevada Department of Transportation

STATE OF NEVADA



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR LORRAINE T. HUNT

February 12, 2003

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Senator William Raggio Senate Finance Committee Nevada State Legislature Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Support for Commission on Economic Development Budget

Dear Chairman Raggio:

Please accept my apologies for not being present this morning for the budget hearing for the Commission on Economic Development. As Western Regional Chair, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Lt. Governor's Association, I will be in Washington D.C. attending the National Lieutenant Governor's Conference.

As the chairwoman of the Commission on Economic Development, I am pleased to support our budget as presented this morning. The budget reflects a commitment to holding the line in new expenditures while emphasizing critical programs that will enable the state to grow and diversify its economy. This budget will effectively help the state in focusing on ways to attract new corporate entities to locate operations here, to help existing Nevada businesses to expand, and to nourish new start-up entrepreneurs in our state.

During the past difficult economic times and the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 tragedy, the Commission's various program areas performed extremely well. The Nevada Film office, the Global Trade and Investment program, the Procurement Outreach program, the Rural Community Development program, and our Economic Development program all had success. These successes translated into significant economic impacts for our communities and the state as a whole.

EXHIBIT D Senate Committee on Finance

Date: 2/12/03 Page 1 of 2

Senator William Raggio, Chairman February 12, 2003 Page 2

Governor Guinn recently said, "We cannot cut our way to prosperity." There could be no truer statement as it applies to our tourism efforts. We must spend a little to gain a lot.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

LORRAINE T. HUNT Lieutenant Governor State of Nevada

cc: Senate Finance Committee Members