



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KENNY C. GUINN
Governor

June 14, 2005

The Honorable Richard D. Perkins
Speaker of the Assembly
Nevada State Assembly
Legislative Building
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

To the Honorable Members of the Nevada State Assembly:

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Assembly Bill 505, which is entitled:

AN ACT relating to transportation; revising provisions governing the registration of motor vehicles with a declared gross weight in excess of 26,000 pounds; abolishing the Transportation Services Authority; transferring the duties and responsibilities related to motor carriers and the storage of household goods and effects to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada; revising provisions governing regulation of certain taxicab drivers; providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

I would be in support of Assembly Bill 505 and would sign this legislation into law if it were not for Section 133 of this legislation. Section 133 provides that:

[A] taxicab driver shall not accept a tip, gift, gratuity, money, fee or any other valuable consideration of any kind from a person who has been issued a license by a board of county commissioners, a county liquor board, a county licensing board or the city council or other governing body of an incorporated city for the conveyance of a passenger to the location of the person who holds the license.

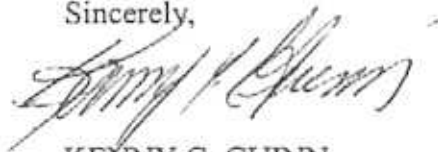
Section 133 was quietly amended into Assembly Bill 505 at the very end of the Legislative Session. The proponents of Section 133 should have provided taxicab drivers with an opportunity to testify at a public hearing regarding this provision so they could describe the impact it would have on their livelihoods. A public hearing would have also allowed the proponents of Section 133 to identify the resources either needed or available to enforce

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Section 133, and it would have allowed them to provide an explanation as to why limo drivers, doormen, bellhops, and other professions were left out of this section of the bill. Further, if a public hearing had been provided, local governments could have identified their responsibilities with respect to curtailing the behavior of persons who have been "issued a license by a board of county commissioners, a county liquor board, a county licensing board or the city council or other governing body of an incorporated city."

Taxicab drivers contribute greatly to the economy of this state. I cannot support Section 133 of AB 505 because it singles out and hurts the financial well-being of taxicab drivers. Additionally, I know all of the legislators serving in the Legislature, and I do not believe a majority of them would have supported Section 133 had it been fully and fairly debated in an open public forum. Therefore, I am exercising my right to veto this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kenny C. Guinn", written in a cursive style.

KENNY C. GUINN
Governor

KGM/lf