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## Office of the Governor

June 16, 2011

The Honorable Ross Miller Secretary of State Capitol Building 101 South Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701

Assembly Bill 136 of the 76th Legislative Session

Dear Secretary Miller:

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Assembly Bill 136, which is entitled:

AN ACT relating to criminal laws; revising provisions governing credits for offenders sentenced for certain crimes; revising provisions governing the sealing and removal of certain records; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

This bill allows people convicted of certain category B felonies to earn credits to reduce their sentences, thereby allowing for an earlier release from prison. Under existing law, these so-called "good time credits" can be earned by offenders convicted of certain category C, D or E felonies by acquiring vocational skills or undergoing drug treatment programs. The bill would extend the good time credit provision to Class B felons, with the exception of repeat offenders and offenders guilty of violent crimes or sexual assault. The bill also authorizes a person to petition for the sealing of records relating to an arrest if the prosecuting attorney declines to prosecute the charges.

Assembly Bill 136 has been promoted as a cost-cutting measure that will save money by reducing the cost of housing certain non-violent criminals in Nevada's crowded prisons. However, I am concerned that the bill will allow dangerous criminals to be

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prematurely released from prison, thereby increasing risk to Nevada's communities and sending a message to offenders that this state is soft on crime. Because of these concerns, I veto this bill and return it to you without my signature and without my approval.

Sincere regards,

BRIAN SANDOVAL

Governor

## Enclosure

CC:

The Honorable Brian Krolicki, President of the Senate (without enclosure) David A. Byerman, Secretary of the Senate (without enclosure) Susan Furlong, Chief Clerk of the Assembly (without enclosure) Brenda Erdoes, Esq., Legislative Counsel (without enclosure)