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## Office of the Governor

June 1, 2011

Speaker John Ocegüera  
Nevada State Assembly  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

**RE: Assembly Bill 253 of the 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Assembly Bill 253, which is entitled:

AN ACT relating to occupational safety; revising certain fines for willful violations of the Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Act; authorizing citations and fines for violation of a settlement agreement; providing for a survey of salaries of safety and mechanical inspectors; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

This bill relates to occupational safety. It proposes significant increases to the fines that may be imposed for willful violations of the Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA). The bill also revises the punishment for a willful violation that results in the death of an employee.

There is some merit to the argument that the bill's increased fines may help reduce the number of willful OSHA violations occurring in Nevada's workplaces. However, a more innovative and proactive approach is warranted to improve workplace safety and change behavior before it results in workplace injuries or death. I therefore exercise my constitutional grant of authority to veto AB 253 and return it to you without my approval.

Sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Sandoval".

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
Governor

*Enclosure*

cc: Lieutenant Governor Brian Krolicki, President of the Senate (without enclosure)  
The Honorable Steven Horsford, Senate Majority Leader (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)