

Office of the Governor

JIM GIBBONS
GOVERNOR

June 9, 2009

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

RE: Assembly Bill 503 of the 75th Legislative Session

Dear Secretary Miller,

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Assembly Bill 503, which is entitled:

AN ACT relating to transportation; creating an advisory committee to develop recommendations relating to the funding of the construction and maintenance of highways in this State; providing for the membership, compensation and duties of the advisory committee; authorizing the advisory committee to place advisory questions regarding its recommendations on the ballot for the general election to be held in 2010; requiring the Secretary of State to appoint committees to prepare arguments for and against approval of the recommendation proposed in any such advisory question placed on the ballot; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assembly Bill 503 would establish a committee appointed solely by members of the legislative branch to make recommendations with respect to transportation funding. The bill would also mandate that any such recommendations be placed on the general election ballot in 2010 as an advisory question. This bill effectively circumvents the legislative process by allowing a small group of non-elected officials to make recommendations that have major implications on taxpayers, and to then present those recommendations to the voters. If such recommendations are to be submitted to the

101 N. Carson Street • Carson City, Nevada 89701 • Telephone: (775) 684-5670 • Fax: (775) 684-5683 555 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 5100 • Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 • Telephone: (702) 486-2500 • Fax: (702) 486-2505 The Honorable Ross Miller June 9, 2009 Page 2

voters, they should be recommendations from the Legislature as a whole. This bill represents an abdication of legislative authority that I cannot support.

For these reasons, I hereby exercise my constitutional grant of authority and veto Assembly Bill 503.

Sincerely,

JIM GIBBONS

Governor

Enclosure

Cc: The Honorable Barbara Buckley, Assembly Speaker (without enclosure)

The Honorable Steven Horsford, Senate Majority Leader (without enclosure)

Susan Furlong Reil, Chief Clerk of the Assembly (without enclosure)

Claire J. Clift, Secretary of the Senate (without enclosure)

Brenda Erdoes, Esq., Legislative Counsel (without enclosure)