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Office of the Governor

June 13, 2013

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

RE: Assembly Bill 150 of the 77th Legislative Session

Dear Secretary Miller:

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Assembly Bill 150, which is entitled:

AN ACT relating to legislative affairs; creating the Legislative Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability; prescribing the powers and duties of the Committee; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assembly Bill 150 creates the Legislative Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability. The measure authorizes this new Committee to study and comment upon issues relating to the operations and accountability of "any agency, office, board, commission, department, division, bureau, authority, institution, district, or other unit of the State or a political subdivision of the State," and to conduct investigations related thereto. Finally, it authorizes the Committee to provide for the administration of oaths, the deposition of witnesses, and the issuance of subpoenas in connection with those investigations and hearings.

The Legislature, through its existing 12-member Legislative Commission, currently has the ability to investigate and comment upon issues related to any area within the competence of the Legislature, important issues of public policy, or questions of statewide interest. This existing Commission holds hearings, conducts studies and investigations, receives and makes recommendations, and has subpoena power to

compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents for the discharge of its duties.

Additionally, the Legislative Commission has fourteen standing subcommittees which deal with topics ranging from budget, education and health care to veterans, public lands and natural resources. These various committees are in addition to the Legislature's Interim Finance Committee and associated subcommittees, which administer contingency funds for the State and also review early intervention services and public works matters.

The new Committee proposed by Assembly Bill 150 is duplicative of the numerous existing interim committees. Moreover, the Nevada Constitution mandates that there must be a separation of powers between the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches of government, and further declares that the supreme executive power of the State shall be vested in the Governor. Assembly Bill 150 seeks to establish yet another entity dedicated to extending the powers of the Legislature into matters of which it is not constitutionally authorized.

Because of these concerns, I veto this bill and return it to you without my signature and without my approval.

Sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Sandoval", written over the printed name.

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

Enclosure

cc: *The Honorable Brian Krolicki, President of the Senate (without enclosure)*
 The Honorable Moises Denis, Senate Majority Leader (without enclosure)
 The Honorable Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Speaker of the Assembly (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)