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Office of the Governor

June 11, 2025

The Honorable Francisco Aguilar
Nevada Secretary of State
101 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Assembly Bill 600 of the 83rd Legislative Session

Dear Secretary of State Aguilar:

I am forwarding to you, for filing within the time limit set forth in the Nevada Constitution and without my approval, Assembly Bill 600 ("AB 600"), which is titled as follows:

AN ACT relating to the Legislative Department; clarifying that proceeds of sales of certain items approved by the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau must be deposited in the Legislative Fund; clarifying that the organization of the Nevada Revised Statutes into titles by the Legislative Counsel does not constitute a legislative determination for certain constitutional purposes; placing a certain parcel of land under the exclusive supervision and control of the Legislature, contingent upon its purchase; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

I cannot sign AB 600 because Section 3 conflicts directly with both the plain language of the Nevada Constitution and recent binding precedent from the Nevada Supreme Court interpreting that language.

Very recently, in *NPRI v. Miller*, 140 Nev. ___, 558 P.3d 319 (2024), the Nevada Supreme Court addressed this precise issue. The Court held:

"We conclude that the Board of Regents has an independent constitutional authorization and constitutional power *discrete from the other departments of state government* and the Board is protected from otherwise empowered

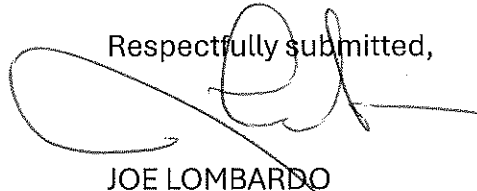
constitutional actors improperly intruding into its essential functions. Further, neither Nevada's constitution nor its statutes suggest the Board of Regents' incorporation within a department of state government. *And therefore, we conclude that the NSHE is not within the executive department."* *Id.* at 327–28 (emphasis added).

Section 3 of AB 600 either disregards this authoritative holding or attempts to circumvent it by statutory amendment. Both approaches are constitutionally impermissible. While the Legislature retains authority to revise statutes in response to judicial interpretations of state law, it may not overrule the judiciary's interpretation of the Nevada Constitution through statutory means. Any change to the Court's constitutional interpretation must come through either a constitutional amendment or a subsequent decision by the Nevada Supreme Court itself.

Because AB 600 includes a provision that is highly likely to be unconstitutional, I cannot support it.

For these reasons, I veto this bill and return it without my signature or approval.

Respectfully submitted,



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor of Nevada

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Stavros Anthony, President of the Senate (without enclosure)
The Honorable Nicole Cannizzaro, Senate Majority Leader (without enclosure)
The Honorable Steve Yeager, Speaker of the Assembly (without enclosure)
Brendan Bucy, Secretary of the Senate (without enclosure)
Bonnie Borda Hoffecker, Chief Clerk of the Assembly (without enclosure)
Diane Thornton, Legislative Counsel Bureau, Director (without enclosure)
Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel Bureau, Legislative Counsel (without enclosure)