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Office of the Governor

June 12, 2025

The Honorable Francisco Aguilar
Nevada Secretary of State
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Senate Bill 303 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, Senate Bill 303 ("SB 303"), which is titled as follows:

AN ACT relating to civil liability; revising provisions relating to civil liability to persons using certain premises for recreational activity under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

While it's important to address imbalances in Nevada's recreational-immunity statutes, SB 303 overcorrects in a way that may create new problems. Under NRS 41.510, private landowners in rural and semi-rural areas are immune from liability for injuries sustained during recreational activities they permit on their land. However, Section 1(1)(c) of SB 303 narrows this protection by limiting immunity only to "nonresidential" land. This language could unintentionally exclude landowners who live on their property but still allow the public to use it for recreation—the very kind of voluntary access the statute is intended to encourage.

Additionally, there is concern that SB 303 could have a chilling effect on community-driven land use and recreational development, particularly in areas where mixed-use or small-parcel arrangements are common. By creating uncertainty around who qualifies for immunity, the bill may discourage certain non-profit organizations from opening their land altogether.

I appreciate the significant work that has gone into developing this legislation and recognize its well-intended goals. With further collaboration and refinement, I believe we

can achieve a version of this bill that preserves access while avoiding unintended consequences. I look forward to continuing this important conversation with stakeholders during the interim.

For these reasons, I veto this bill and return it to you 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)