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Office of the Governor

June 10, 2025

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

Re: Senate Bill 295 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 295 ("SB 295"), which is titled as follows:

AN ACT relating to food establishments; requiring certain local boards of health to provide certain information relating to sidewalk vendors and compact food cart vendors; establishing requirements for a compact food cart vendor; authorizing a registered compact food cart vendor to sell certain food items; setting forth certain requirements for the regulation of sidewalk vendors and compact food cart vendors by certain local boards of health and certain local zoning boards, planning commissions and local governments; exempting an establishment that sells or offers or displays for sale certain foods and a compact food cart vendor from the definition of "food establishment"; revising certain requirements which certain local boards of health are required to adopt relating to sidewalk vendors who sell food; prohibiting certain governmental bodies from limiting the types of food that may be sold by a sidewalk vendor or compact food cart vendor; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

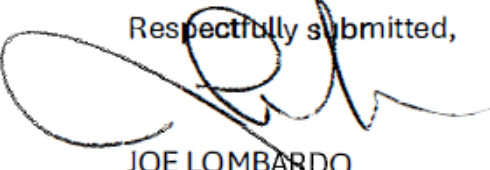
While reducing regulatory burdens on small businesses is often a worthwhile goal, this bill compromises public health and safety in ways that are difficult to justify. By exempting compact food cart vendors from the definition of "food establishments," the bill allows them to bypass the more rigorous health and safety standards that apply to traditional food businesses. This not only creates an uneven playing field for existing food establishments,

but it also potentially misleads consumers, who may reasonably assume that all food vendors—regardless of size—are held to the same safety standards.

Additionally, compact carts, by design, operate in very limited spaces, which inherently increases the risk of cross-contamination, even when best practices are followed. If these vendors are also subject to reduced inspection frequency or oversight, the risk of foodborne illness becomes significantly greater. This risk is further compounded by the bill's allowance for storing food carts in private homes. Unlike regulated commercial kitchens, private residences are not subject to routine sanitation or pest control measures. Without ongoing monitoring, there's no reliable way to ensure that these home storage environments meet even basic health standards, creating a potential vector for daily contamination.

Since SB 295 would pose a risk to food safety, regulatory fairness, and public trust in the safety of street-vended foods, I cannot support it.

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)