Attachment 13

March 18, 2013

Governor Sandoval and members of the Board of State Prison Commissioners

Subject: Opposition to the plan to move Parole & Probation under NDOC

Dear Governor and Commissioners:

Governor Sandoval, the plan proposed in your Executive Budget to move parole functions, or all of Parole & Probation, under NDOC would have Nevada become like California with parole and probation functions just as broken and corrupt. California has one of the worst parole systems in the nation, and their failures are staggering. Consider just the failures of the Gardner, Garrido and Davis cases. You may know that there is no parolee accountability in California, which uses non-revocable parole with all costs for a state managed system being paid for by the counties. Texas was also cited by Director Cox as one of the states Nevada could emulate, however the Texas Senate is now considering moving Parole away from Corrections in their state. Nevada doesn't need to be like California, or any other state, and we certainly don't want cash register justice.

The plan proposed in your budget, Governor, is appalling, especially when we've learned that NDOC is using questionable business practices in prison industries, and Deputy Director Reed told the legislature on March 8th that the NDOC has been keeping "two sets of books" for their programs. The NDOC is certainly not an agency qualified to run Parole functions, unless you want those functions also run very badly.

Governor, it appears that you may have relied upon current and former NDOC employees regarding this proposal, along with Mr. Austin of JFA Associates. Mr. Austin provided biased and misleading information to the 2012 Advisory Commission, and was confronted by commissioners. I have worked for the Division of Parole & Probation for over 19 years. I can assure you that your plan will have a negative impact upon not only all employees now working at Parole & Probation, but also every man, woman and child in Nevada. Nevada has a well working check and balance system in place now for parole releases, with excellent Parole & Probation services under the Department of Public Safety. Please do not radically change a program or agency which has been performing well. Putting parole under the Department of Corrections will mean that one agency, which has documented corruption and management problems, will control both the front door for inmate release to parole, and the back door for returning parolees to prison on violations. This would very quickly become a public safety nightmare.

Governor, your budget proposal will release unsuitable criminals to our streets who will plague our communities and molest our families and the many visitors to Nevada. The second part of your plan to move Probation functions to the Counties is likewise unthinkable. Nevada would indeed become poorly protected, with every law enforcement agency and county impacted, just like California. I hope you were misled or misinformed regarding this idea, and now that you see there are very valid concerns regarding NDOC, you will withdraw your support for the plan.

Governor and Commissioners, my wife and I are registered voters and longtime Nevada residents. We ask that you please **DO NOT SUPPORT** this plan.

I am willing to assist the Governor and Commissioners in understanding what I believe are very negative impacts should this proposal proceed. Please contact me with any questions, or for a time to meet and talk.

Respectfully,

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