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Office of the Governor

June 2, 2025

The Honorable Nicole Cannizzaro
Majority Leader of the Nevada State Senate
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Senate Bill 141 of the 83rd Legislative Session

Dear Leader Cannizzaro:

I am forwarding to you, for filing within the time limit set forth in the Nevada Constitution and without my approval, Senate Bill 141 ("SB 141"), which is titled as follows:

AN ACT relating to corrections; providing for the development and implementation of certain policies relating to prisoners in a county, city or town jail or detention facility who are transgender, gender non-conforming, gender non-binary and intersex; authorizing the development and implementation of certain training relating to such prisoners; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Jails and detention centers should be safe, secure facilities where offenders' needs are respected and fulfilled to the extent reasonably possible. Under current Ninth Circuit and Prison Rape Elimination Act ("PREA") guiding standards, it is best practice for the jails and detention centers implicated by this bill to implement policies to ensure the offenders contemplated by this bill are treated appropriately. Indeed, last session I signed SB 153 which authorized the Director of the Department of Corrections to implement similar policies through regulation with Board of Prison Commissioners' approval.

Based on those considerations, regulation in this area is more appropriate than statutory codification, as regulations can be more accessibly reviewed and potentially revised if necessary to account for shifting standards. Federal authority in this space is potentially evolving and, if altered, could conflict with the provisions of this bill leading to decreased state and local access to vital federal funding. If a conflict does arise between federal

authority and SB 141, then local governments would be required to return in two years to change this law so that Nevada law conforms with federal law. Notably, returning in two years to propose a change to the law: 1) does not guarantee the law will change; and 2) does nothing to address the potential loss of federal funding for the affected agencies. It is more appropriate, especially considering potential revision to federal guidance, that Nevada's local jails and detention centers retain their current decisional autonomy with respect to these policies.

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 Steve Yeager, Speaker of the Assembly (without enclosure)
The Honorable Francisco Aguilar, Secretary of State (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)