

Governor Sisolak's State of the State: *Six Months Later*

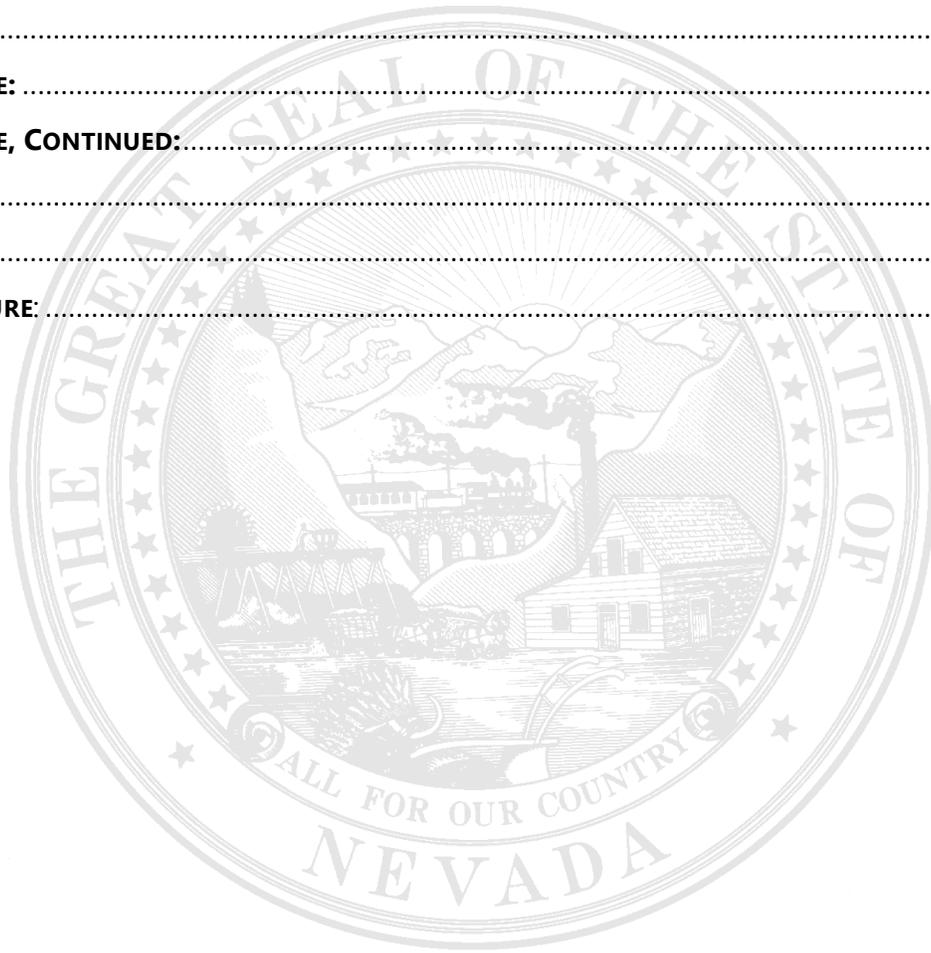
Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak gave his 2022 State of the State on February 23, 2022, in Las Vegas at Allegiant Stadium – a location that represents new jobs, new determination, new pride, and new progress for Nevada. The Governor declared the State of the State as resilient and getting stronger every day – Nevada was on the move.

Six months later, this pronouncement holds true. Nevada continues to move in the right direction for residents.

This document summarizes the promises the Governor laid out in this speech – and provides an update on the vision. The Governor has acted on every promise made and will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of the 3.2 million people who call the Silver State home.

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Promises Made, Promises Kept

Governor Sisolak promised no new taxes for Nevadans (“not one penny”) in every proposal made during his 2022 State of the State address.

“That starts with holding the line on taxes. Since I’ve been governor, we haven’t raised one penny of new taxes on the people of Nevada, not one penny, and that’s also true of every proposal I’m offering tonight – no new taxes, no new taxes.”

CHILD CARE:

\$160 million investment to help lower costs for parents and keep child care workers on the job.

- The State made [\\$30 million available](#) in Child Care Expansion Grant Funds applications.
 - Applications closed on June 23 and are being reviewed.
- The Interim Finance Committee (IFC) approved \$50 million to allocate toward the changes in child care subsidies that went live on July 1. The State expanded eligibility generally for families that qualify for assistance to 85% of state median income (large increase) and is using American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to cover the costs of copays for all eligible families through 2023 or until funding runs out.
 - The [Nevada Child Care Fund officially launched](#) on July 7.
- The other \$80 million was ARP dollars that were directed to the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) for specific enumerated uses in ARP – primarily for direct assistance to child care providers.
 - This funding includes support for the [child care hubs for providers in Northern and Southern Nevada](#), capacity building for home-based providers, contracted slots to expand programs to meet the needs of communities, and other efforts related to staffing and provider support.

HOUSING:

\$500 million “Home Means Nevada” initiative

- The Home Means Nevada program [launched on April 14](#) and eligible organizations were able to pre-apply [online](#).
 - A total of 234 pre-applications were submitted <https://nevadarecovers.com/by-the-numbers>
 - Applications were provided to qualified pre-applicants and a webinar training session was held recently to walk them through the full application.

State Infrastructure Bank, funded for the first time ever under Governor Sisolak, is developing a new partnership with the AFL-CIO to invest \$20 million toward new housing developments, constructed by union workers.

- The work of the Bank is ongoing, and [the Bank is actively soliciting projects for funding](#).

HEALTH CARE:

Nevada will join the Northwest Prescription Drug Consortium to hold drug companies accountable and get prescription costs down.

- [Nevada announced in February](#) that the State will be joining with Oregon and Washington to reduce prescription drug costs through implementation of a statewide drug discount card for enrolled Nevadans.
- Nevada, Oregon and Washington have now executed the interagency agreement so Nevada can participate in the state-run Consortium ([now rebranded as ArrayRX](#)).
- Participation in ArrayRX will allow Nevada the opportunity to join with Oregon and Washington to work toward solutions to address drug costs.
- Nevada residents are able to enroll late Summer 2022.

HEALTH CARE, CONTINUED:

Investing \$6 million from the State Opioid Response grant program to ensure Nevada has the right infrastructure in place to address the opioid crisis.

- The Interim Finance Committee approved additional funds in April to [increase access to treatment](#), reduce unmet treatment needs, and reduce opioid overdose-related death through prevention, treatment and recovery activities.

\$20 million to fund Nevada’s Crisis Stabilization Centers, announced by Governor Steve Sisolak during his April Healthcare Provider Summit.

- This will allow the State to develop the infrastructure needed for [emergency behavioral health care centers](#) in Nevada. Additionally, \$10 million for emergency crisis behavioral health services will help address the immediate needs of the communities while the crisis stabilizations centers are being established.

Leveraged nearly \$4 million in federal funds to streamline the Medicaid renewal process.

- This reduces the need for members to send follow-up information to complete the renewal process, reduces workload for State eligibility staff, and minimizes the risk of individuals enrolled in Medicaid/Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) losing coverage unnecessarily.

Creating a Healthcare Workforce Committee to build on the lessons learned over the last two years.

- The [comprehensive report from the Provider Summit](#) will serve as the starting point for the Committee to begin its work.

EDUCATION:

Invest in teacher recruitment by providing nearly 4,000 future educators with stipends and tuition assistance to address the teacher shortage.

- More than 2,300 subgrants have been awarded by the Nevada Department of Education to future educators and applications are ongoing. Each candidate who receives these funds must obtain a Nevada standard teaching license and teach for two years in a public school in the State of Nevada.

Investing federal dollars to ensure schools can provide free lunch for all students in Nevada for the 2022-23 school year.

- In June, the Interim Finance Committee [approved \\$75 million](#) to ensure universal free school meals for all Nevada public schools for the 2022-2023 school year.

SAFETY/POLICE:

Governor will propose a salary increase for state police when the legislature returns to Carson City – their first significant pay increased since 2006.

- The 82nd Session of the Nevada Legislature will begin on February 6, 2023.

Nevada launched a virtual mental and behavioral health pilot program with 11 law enforcement agencies across rural Nevada.

- The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services [received a \\$3.8 million grant from the Helmsley Charitable Trust](#) to launch the Virtual Crisis Care program to rural and frontier communities in Nevada. This program will equip law enforcement officers with the tools to offer 24/7 access to mental health professionals for those in crisis. This program will de-criminalize behavioral health issues, as well as help officers who are in communities that don't have close access to mental health resources be able to de-escalate and keep their communities safer.

SAFETY/POLICE, CONTINUED:

Continuing to invest in the Victims of Crime Program to maintain operations and payments to assist victims.

- In April, the Interim Finance Committee approved [\\$1.6 million in federal funding to continue operations and payments to assist victims through the Victims of Crime Program](#). IFC has also approved multiple Community Recovery Grants to programs like SafeNest and Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, that provide services to victims of domestic violence and crime.

Governor will continue to partner with anyone and everyone to make communities safe and make sure police have the support they need.

- In May, [Governor Sisolak toured the College of Southern Nevada Police Academy](#) Training Center where he discussed Nevada securing approximately \$12 million in funding from the U.S. Justice Department, which will pay for, among other things, police recruitment. Additionally, the Governor shared how funding for state police is up by 11% since he took office. To attract and retain troopers, he's proposing their first significant pay hike since 2006.

CLIMATE:

Investing in transportation electrification. Implementing a plan to ensure that 50% of Nevada's energy comes from clean energy by 2030, with net-zero greenhouse gases by 2050.

- In February, the Interim Finance Committee approved repurposing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to [build out EV charging infrastructure at state buildings](#).
- In March, the [Governor signed onto](#) the multi-state Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicle memorandum of understanding to accelerate transportation electrification in Nevada.
- In April, the Governor's Office of Energy, Renewable Energy Tax Abatement (RETA) program [issued new abatement approvals](#) and many projects recently broke ground.
- In May, the Governor [fought against the leveraging of tariffs](#) on solar panels manufactured overseas to ensure the clean energy economy continues to grow in Nevada.
- In July, the Governor [convened a roundtable](#) on the solar economy to identify needs in the industry to expand solar.

Governor will convene members of his Cabinet, scientists and climate leaders to create a statewide strategy for dealing with extreme heat.

- In March, [the Governor created](#) the extreme heat leadership and environmental justice teams.
- The team has convened partners working to protect Nevadans during extreme heat waves to share ideas and information and ensure we keep our communities safe through this summer and [developed online resource to support Nevadans](#) during hottest days.
- In July, [the Governor launched the Climate Series 2022](#), as part of the NV Climate Initiative, to build awareness and preparedness for growing impacts of climate change.

ECONOMY:

Occupational Licensing Task Force to reduce barriers for those looking for licensure

- The Governor’s team is working with regulatory agencies and multiple stakeholders on staffing the task force and setting the appropriate agenda.

Nevada Small Business Accelerator Program to help new startups get off the ground

- In March, [the Governor announced](#) that [gener8tor Las Vegas](#) and [gener8tor Reno-Tahoe](#) accelerators were coming to Nevada to spur business formation and job growth.
- Applications were due July 10 – first session of the incubator begins Sept. 8.

Looking out for taxpayers and prioritizing fiscal responsibility by keeping Nevada a low tax state.

- Nevada maintained its [highest credit rating](#) in history.
- Nevada’s General Fund tax revenues are [nearly \\$800 million](#) more than forecasted – about a 25% increase over projections.

Directed Governor’s Workforce Development Committee to explore ways to make community college or other apprentice and training programs free for more Nevadans by 2025.

- In May, [the Governor announced](#) the creation of the Workforce Development Subcabinet, which will investigate issues related to community college capacity, programming, and wraparound services.
- In June, [the AB450 Committee approved the Workforce Incentive Grant](#), which will provide up to \$5 million in scholarship money to non-traditional students in community colleges taking courses in high-demand industries. The \$5 million comes from American Rescue Plan (ARP), per the Governor’s direction.
 - The AB450 Committee also supported a funding study to examine the state’s funding formula for community colleges.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

Invest \$4 billion from bipartisan infrastructure bill to upgrade roads, bridges and water systems and more.

- Between American Rescue Plan (ARP) and Infrastructure funds, Nevada is investing more than more than \$500 million for new broadband infrastructure. [Phase 1 of High Speed NV](#) was launched in May.
- The funds also include new improvements to our airports and public transportation systems. Money will be sent directly to [airports and other transportation systems](#).
- More than \$8 million was set aside for wildfire prevention and money is being allocated directly to [prevention efforts](#).
- In May, the Governor launched the [I-15/Tropicana Interchange](#) project, a \$305 million project that will both create more than 4,600 good-paying jobs and will make this intersection safer and more reliable.

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