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Office of Governor Steve Sisolak

October 29, 2020

Dear Nevadans –

The late Nevada author Robert Laxalt drew inspiration from our state flower to describe Nevadans in his 1976 book, “Nevada: A Bicentennial History.”

“How very much like the sagebrush the people are, at least in the hinterland that makes up most of Nevada, setting down roots and thriving in unlikely places, hardy and resilient, stubborn and independent, restrained by environment and yet able to grow free.”

Time and again, as we prepare to celebrate our 156th year of statehood, Nevadans have been asked to live by our state motto: “All for Our Country.” Our state has endured through wars, economic hardships, natural and man-made disasters with resiliency and determination. We are Battle Born, and battle tested.

This year, 2020, has been as challenging as any we have faced with the coronavirus pandemic disrupting virtually all aspects of everyday life, from the workplace to schools to our homes. Distance learning can be challenging. Wearing masks can be frustrating. Keeping your distance from a loved one can be infuriating. But it is also necessary at this time. To date, more than 98,000 cases of the virus have been confirmed, more than 1,750 Nevadans have died. This is serious and it is not over.

Despite the frustrations, what we have also seen and draw inspiration from daily is the true spirit of Nevadans – from the front-line workers in health care, the first responders, business owners and entire communities – rising up to do their parts for all of us. They are doing this by following the public health measures put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19: wearing masks, social distancing, washing their hands and helping to ensure they are not only protecting themselves, but all those around them.

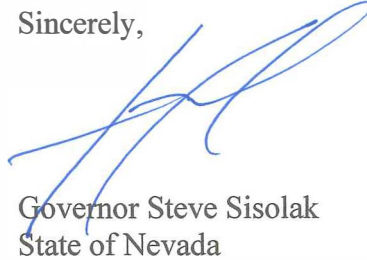
It truly is uplifting when I hear the stories of those that are doing their part, no matter how big or small. The Nevadans sewing masks, donating time to help those in need of rides or dealing with food insecurity, and the slew of businesses of all types and sizes doing everything they can to follow health guidelines, stay open, and keep their customers safe.

The wonderful people of Nevada have and will continue to drive my team and I to do everything that we possibly can to help keep everyone, both residents and our guests, safe. This State and the people that reside here are the reason we are working so hard to keep our economy running, moving toward lifting restrictions for conventions and getting our kids back to in-person learning. The resolve of Nevadans has been nothing short of remarkable throughout all of this. So, I will

continue to promise you all that we will prioritize the health and safety of all Nevadans and continue our diligent work with stakeholders to keep the State on the path for a much-needed economic recovery.

I am aware, none of this is easy. It is not convenient and we've all already sacrificed so much. But it is still, even more so than at the beginning of this pandemic, necessary for us all to do our part. We are hardy and resilient, stubborn and independent. We are Battle Born. We are Nevadans and, on our anniversary, it is important to remember that we will keep fighting and we will get through this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Steve Sisolak", written over the printed name.

Governor Steve Sisolak
State of Nevada