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**Williams, Don**

**From:** Williams, Don  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 07, 2003 7:14 PM  
**To:** Giunchigliani, Chris Assemblywoman  
**Cc:** Van Geel, Michelle  
**Subject:** A.J.R. 7 Provisions Limiting Scope of Even-Year Session  
 Assemblywoman Giunchigliani (Chris),

As you know, I have been assisting Assemblyman Mortenson and the Assembly Committee on Constitutional Amendments with the issue of the scope of the even-year session in A.J.R. 7, your proposed constitutional amendment to provide for limited annual legislative sessions. Michelle Van Geel has been coordinating the proposed amendments to the other provisions in A.J.R. 7.

After serious consideration of some of the issues you raised about the need for the Legislature to be able to act on various policy issues (raised by constituents and others) in addition to budget matters, I discussed possible amendment options with both Kim Morgan and Bob Erickson. After researching the constitutional provisions in the other states with limited annual sessions and based on my conversations with Kim and Bob, I offer for your consideration the following two possible options for amending A.J.R 7 relating to the scope of the even-year session:

1. Do not limit the scope of the annual session in either year. This option is consistent with the existing constitutional provisions that do not limit the scope of the regular session. The proposed amendment would remove (delete in its entirety) subsection 4, at lines 11-19, on page 3 of A.J.R. 7 (part of the language amending Section 2 of Article 4 of the Nevada Constitution). This option provides the maximum flexibility for the Legislature to consider legislation on all possible topics. Of the 33 states that have limits on their annual legislative sessions, only five (Connecticut, Louisiana, Maine, New Mexico, and Wyoming) limit the scope of either session. If necessary to increase voter support for the proposed constitutional amendment, the 2005 or 2007 Legislature could pass legislation enacting a statute, effective upon approval by the voters of A.J.R. 7, limiting the scope of either session and the number of measures that could be introduced in either session; **OR**
2. Do not limit the scope of the annual session in either year, but provide that the Legislature's first priority in any regular session must be the preparation and consideration of budgetary matters. Amend subsection 4, at lines 11-19, on page 3 of A.J.R. 7 to include language stating that budgetary matters must be given priority over all other measures. A variation of this amendment would be to include this priority requirement only in the provisions relating to the even-numbered year session.

I will make myself available to meet with you to discuss these and other possible options. Let me know if you want to meet with me or if you have any thoughts, questions, or concerns.

A.J.R. 7 is scheduled again for work session in the Assembly Committee on Constitutional Amendments after the adjournment of the floor session on Friday, May 9.

Don

**Donald O. Williams**

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ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
 DATE: 5/9/03 ROOM: 3161 EXHIBIT C 1 of 1  
 SUBMITTED BY: Chairman Mortenson

5/7/2003