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SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA

DEBORAH A. AGOSTI, CHIEF JUSTICE 201 South Carson Street CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701-4702 (775) 684-1510



March 13, 2003

The Honorable Bernie Anderson Chair **Assembly Judiciary Committee** Nevada Legislature 401 South Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Chairman Anderson:

This letter will serve as my written testimony on behalf of the Supreme Court of Nevada. We wholeheartedly support AB 242 which raises administrative assessments on misdemeanors by \$10.00.

As you know, the AOC's entire budget and a major portion of the Supreme Court's budget, fiftytwo percent, is funded through administrative assessments. This method of funding the judicial branch of government's budget has resulted in a major negative consequence in FYs 2002 and 2003 when the total sum of administrative assessments collected statewide declined. In FY 2003 alone, the Supreme Court's budget, approved in the last legislative session, was short \$344,000.00. In order to make up the shortfall and in order to address the seriously inadequate computer and technology support for the Supreme Court it is imperative that AB 242 passes into law.

I thank you for your consideration of this important matter. If you or any member of the committee has questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Agosti

Chief Justice

DAA:jm

All Assembly Judiciary Committee Members cc:

> ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY DATE: 3 1903 ROOM: 3138