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OSCAR B. GOODMAN  
MAYOR

March 11, 2003

The Honorable Morse Arberry, Jr.  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada, 89701

Chairman Arberry:

I am writing in support of Assemblyman Horne's legislation (AB 238) to make an earmark for a Mental Court System in Southern Nevada. The City of Las Vegas has participated in several mental health task forces, which have created a list of priorities that will address the mental health needs of our communities.

The Southern Nevada Mental Health Coalition has made the creation of a mental health court system a priority, and I support their efforts. According to recent statistics, fifteen percent of our jail population suffers from mental illness, and of that percentage, a considerable number of those inmates are not on necessary medications. A mental court system could address the unique needs of this population and help Southern Nevada as a whole.

Once again, I urge your consideration of AB 238. If you have any further questions, or would like more information, please feel free to contact my office at (702) 229-6241.

Sincerely,

Oscar B. Goodman

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ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: 3-12-03 ROOM: 3137 EXHIBIT G

SUBMITTED BY: Assemblyman Horne

G1001

