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Nevada Conference of Police and Sheriffs

1250 So. Burnham, Suite # 110
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104



February 19th, 2003

Senator Ann O'Connell
Chairwoman, Senate Government Affairs
401 So. Carson St.
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Senate Bill SB53

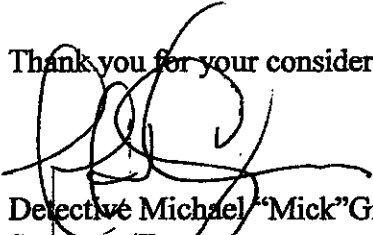
Senator O'Connell:

Nevada Conference of Police and Sheriffs would like to express our support for Senate Bill SB53, as an organization that represents more than 3000 law enforcement officers across the State of Nevada.

We know that the Sheriffs and District Attorneys in this state have long needed a pay increase. We believe that SB53 addresses the issue of pay disparity that has existed between the Sheriffs and District Attorneys and their administrative staffs. As you know, elected public service is a difficult endeavor that requires much sacrifice both personal and professional from the individual holding the position and their families. Therefore, it is only fair that persons in these positions should be compensated in an amount consistent with the pay scales of the organizations that they represent. We believe the scale outlined in SB53 best reflects these needs.

The nay sayers to this bill would have you believe that it would not be fiscally sound to increase the pay of the Sheriffs and District Attorneys during times of tight budgets. The fact is, now is the time to insure that we are attracting the best qualified individuals in these fields. These individuals will be better suited to manage the resources and manpower available to these organizations efficiently. This practice would be far more fiscally sound than trying to attract those who would work for the cheapest price. We would be doing ourselves and the people we represent a disservice if we cannot see that the pay in these positions is an important part of attracting and keeping the caliber of people we need now and in the future.

Thank you for your consideration,


Detective Michael "Mick" Gillins
Secretary/Treasurer
Nevada Conference of Police and Sheriffs