



Happy 150th Birthday, Nevada.





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Happy 150th Birthday, Nevada!

Now celebrating its sesquicentennial celebration, Nevada has grown into a great state. But what makes a state great? Believing in an idea and finding people with equal parts vision and passion who can transform that idea into a reality. We live in a state that was imagined by others in our past, and what we do today will be the Nevada for future generations.

The Council for a Better Nevada would like to augment this special year with another important attribute. Nevada is a Meaningful Place to Live and Work. To achieve that goal, we are pleased to present our 2014 Annual Report.

We are grateful for the privilege to build on Nevada's accomplishments, even when those tasks prove difficult. Building a vital community and a robust state were no easier for those who came before us, yet they were innovative and focused in their commitment. We can do no less.

The Council's 2014 agenda was favorably impacted by the passage of the ballot initiative Question 3, which created the first Intermediate Court of Appeals in the state's history. As a result of a 40-year effort by many along the way, 2014 became the year in which Nevada was successful in this endeavor. Our judicial system and those involved with it will be stronger for its implementation.

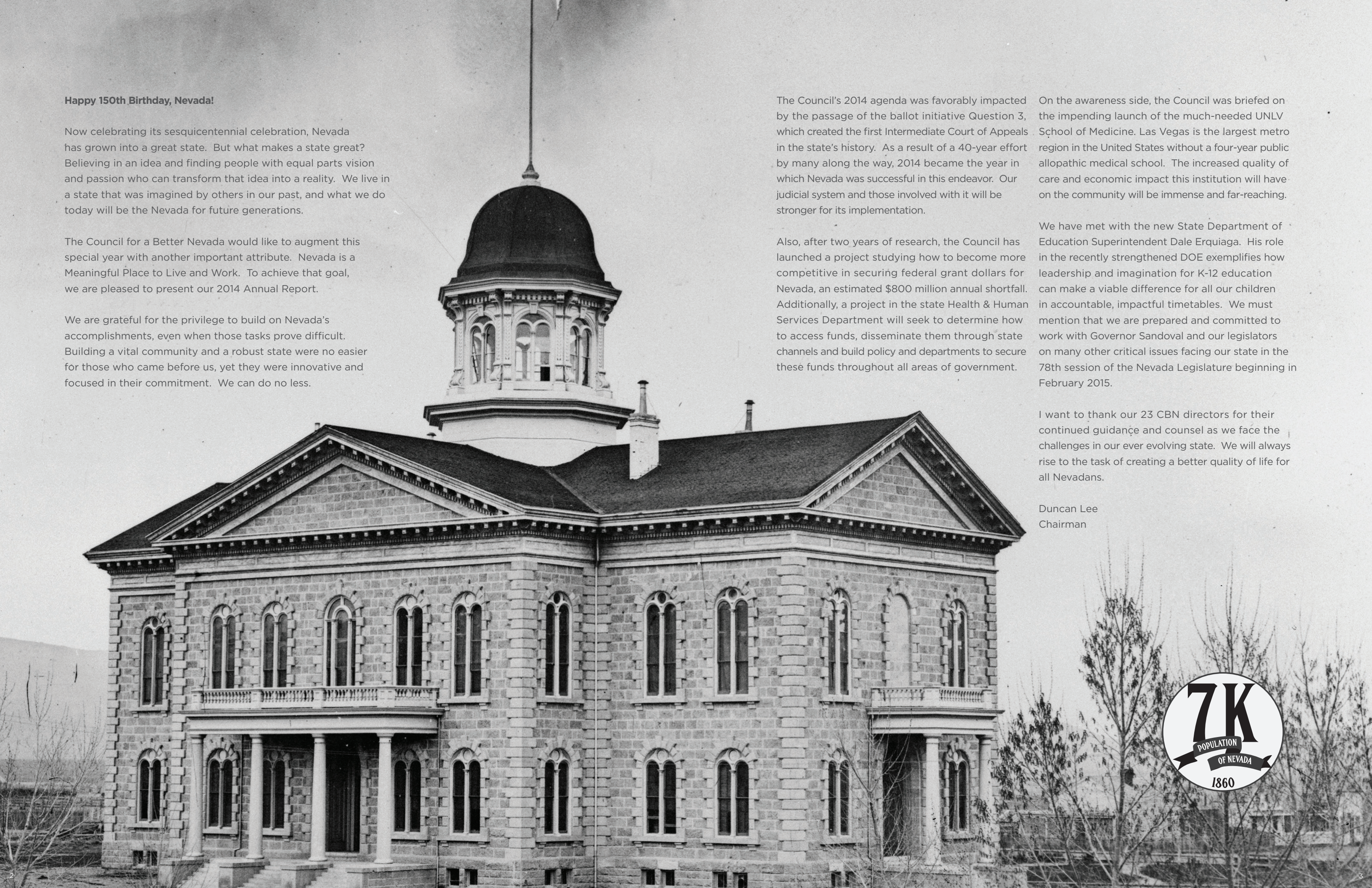
Also, after two years of research, the Council has launched a project studying how to become more competitive in securing federal grant dollars for Nevada, an estimated \$800 million annual shortfall. Additionally, a project in the state Health & Human Services Department will seek to determine how to access funds, disseminate them through state channels and build policy and departments to secure these funds throughout all areas of government.

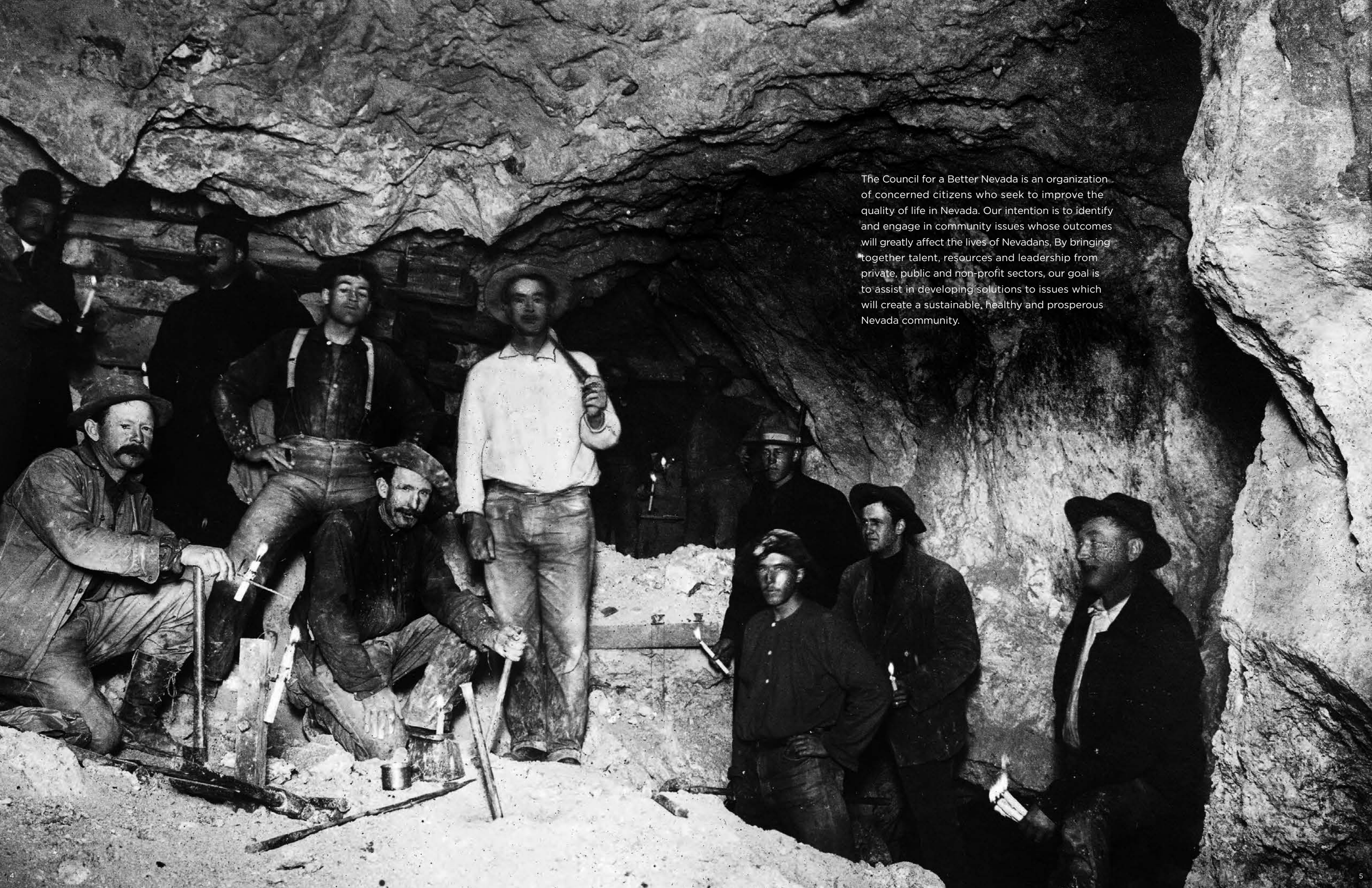
On the awareness side, the Council was briefed on the impending launch of the much-needed UNLV School of Medicine. Las Vegas is the largest metro region in the United States without a four-year public allopathic medical school. The increased quality of care and economic impact this institution will have on the community will be immense and far-reaching.

We have met with the new State Department of Education Superintendent Dale Erquiaga. His role in the recently strengthened DOE exemplifies how leadership and imagination for K-12 education can make a viable difference for all our children in accountable, impactful timetables. We must mention that we are prepared and committed to work with Governor Sandoval and our legislators on many other critical issues facing our state in the 78th session of the Nevada Legislature beginning in February 2015.

I want to thank our 23 CBN directors for their continued guidance and counsel as we face the challenges in our ever evolving state. We will always rise to the task of creating a better quality of life for all Nevadans.

Duncan Lee
Chairman





The Council for a Better Nevada is an organization of concerned citizens who seek to improve the quality of life in Nevada. Our intention is to identify and engage in community issues whose outcomes will greatly affect the lives of Nevadans. By bringing together talent, resources and leadership from private, public and non-profit sectors, our goal is to assist in developing solutions to issues which will create a sustainable, healthy and prosperous Nevada community.



GARY ACKERMAN
GAUDIN AUTOMOTIVE GROUP
CEO



JOHN BAILEY
BAILEY KENNEDY LAW FIRM
MANAGING PARTNER



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JABARRETT COMPANY
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, USA



MARYKAY CASHMAN
CASHMAN EQUIPMENT CO.
CEO AND CHAIRPERSON



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MDL GROUP
PRESIDENT



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THE WOLFGANG PUCK
FINE DINING GROUP
SENIOR MANAGING PARTNER



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PRESIDENT



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CHAIR
RDL INVESTMENTS, INC.
PRESIDENT



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METROPOLITAN
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CEO



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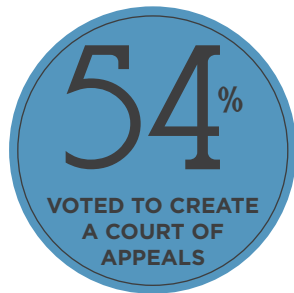


- DICK HADRILL
- STEVE HILL
- BILL MARTIN
- HEATHER MURREN
- LARRY RUVO
- PHIL SATRE
- DON SNYDER
- TERRY WRIGHT
- MICHAEL YACKIRA

110K
POPULATION OF
NEVADA IN 1940



Nevada Appeals Court: The Road So Far

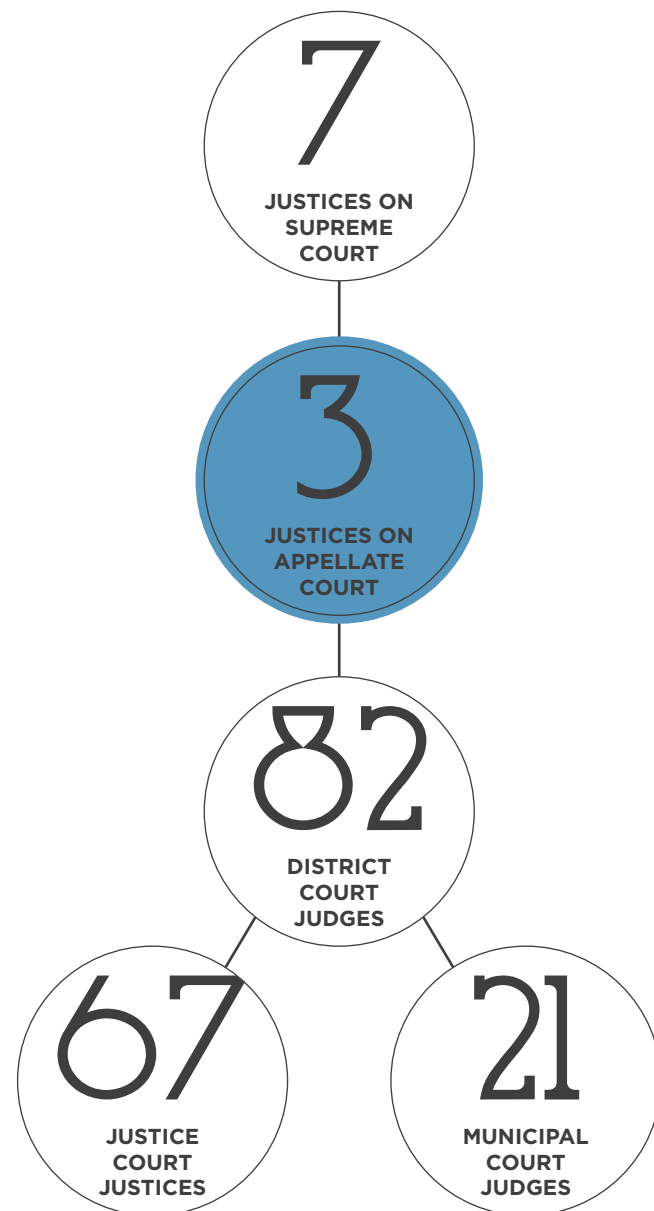


In an historic decision, which is already beginning to transform the state's judiciary in significant ways, Nevada voters elected to create an Intermediate Court of Appeals during the November 2014 election cycle.

The result signaled a change on an issue that had proved intractable over the last five years. The passage of a Senate Joint Resolution in two consecutive state biennial legislative sessions, followed by a statewide voter campaign by current Nevada Supreme Justice James Hardesty in partnership with a statewide coalition of legal, business, political and community leaders helped pave the way for approval of the court.

Since the 1970s, Nevada voters have consistently voted against the creation of an Intermediate Court of Appeals for the state, doing so four times, forcing appeals directly to the Supreme Court.

A Court of Appeals, situated between the District Courts comprised of 82 judges and the State Supreme Court made up of 7 judges allows for appeals of cases at the District Court level to proceed forward and be heard in a timely fashion without burdening the existing workload of the Supreme Court.



Before passage of Question No. 1 on the ballot this year, the Nevada judiciary was facing a number of mounting challenges:



The Nevada Supreme Court hears every case that is appealed from the lower courts, including driver's license revocation appeals and prisoner food complaints.

The Nevada Supreme Court justices have the highest per justice caseloads (357) of any State Supreme Court in the United States.

In 2012 alone, 2,500 cases were filed with the Supreme Court, leaving 1,900 cases pending and creating a massive backlog that accumulates year over year.

Child custody cases often take up to four years to resolve because of the overwhelming backlog.

Growing economic development concerns are linked to the inability of the judicial system to resolve corporate litigation in a timely manner.

Without passage of the 2014 Ballot Question 1, the volume in the current system would continue to accelerate.

One issue that proponents of the new appellate court were able to successfully navigate this time was the state's culture of small government and less is more. This prevailing thought has previously hurt the idea of creating another court. The latest effort created a cost-neutral plan, utilizing existing building infrastructure and operating funds that came from moneys the Supreme Court returned to the State general fund from their own budget each biennium.

A three-judge court would be created and, using a push-down model, 700 select cases would be assigned to the Court of Appeals, therefore not requiring a new court clerk or central legal staff. There would also be no added judicial bureaucracy, with the Writ of Certiorari review only to the Supreme Court. This approach achieved a balance between the need for the additional court and the continued efficiency of government so ever-present in the culture of Nevada.





An Act to form an Advisory Council to develop and oversee the implementation of a statewide strategy that increases Nevada's total receipts of federal funds, maximizes the effective use of such funds, and safeguards against overreliance and administrative complexity in receiving such funds.



An Act to increase the maintenance, monitoring and use of records on federal funding, including an annual report that identifies and tracks federal funds coming into the State.



An Act to ensure the complete and maximum use of federal funding the State receives by establishing a notification and reallocation process for granted but unused funds.

Nevada gravely harms itself and its residents by failing to procure federal formula and grant funding for which it is eligible. In fact, for nearly 40 years Nevada has ranked at or near the bottom of all 50 states and three territories in collecting federal formula and competitive grant funding (grants in aid).

In 2012 alone, Nevada as compared with neighboring intermountain west states lost out on an estimated \$529 million (excluding Medicaid) of funding from the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Transportation, Education, Energy and Housing and Urban Development.

These shortfalls cost Nevada taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars (in paid federal taxes that yield no local benefit), reduce the quality and quantity of services and programs in the State, unnecessarily increase burden on the General Fund and, in turn, increase demand for more local revenue.

The 2015 Nevada Legislature can make unprecedented and lasting progress by passing legislation that reduces the State's largest barriers to right-sizing its share of federal funds.

Specifically, the 2015 Legislature should promulgate three bills and amend the standard language in the Senate's Authorization Bill.

NEVADA STATE LINE

NO INCOME TAX
NO SALES TAX
NO INHERITANCE TAX
NO CORPORATION TAX
NO GIFT TAX

ADMITTED TO
THE UNION AS
36TH STATE IN
1864

A DEBT FREE STATE
WELCOMES
YOU

NEVADA CLUB
STATE LINE
DINNER DINING



Coca-Cola

COCA-COLA
SODA WATER
ICE CREAM
CANDY
TOBACCO
CIGARETTES
PAPER
STATIONERY
Etc.

1
PROPOSED
B

An Act to form an Advisory Council to develop and oversee the implementation of a statewide strategy that increases Nevada's federal funds receipts, maximizes the effective use of such funds and safeguards against overreliance and administrative complexity in receiving such funds.



Through its usual course of business the Legislature can introduce, craft and authorize legislation to create Advisory Council for specific purposes. An Advisory Council can be a permanent and invaluable source of leadership, expertise, oversight and support. Typically, Advisory Councils are reserved for issues that are particularly complex, specific and/or important to the State. The matter of federal funding meets each of those conditions and then some. Federal funding is integral to delivering a broad range of programs and services, serves an important function in the State's budget and its current shortcomings are costing Nevadans hundreds of millions of dollars.



Form an Advisory Council to inquire into and examine the State's approach and results in obtaining federal funding; make recommendations on legal, policy and process barriers that inhibit progress; identify key opportunities for progress; develop a comprehensive statewide strategy; support and oversee the strategy's implementation.



2
PROPOSED
B

An Act to increase the maintenance, monitoring and use of records on federal funding, including an annual report that identifies and tracks federal funds coming into the State.



Most states have a process and practice to account for, maximize return on, plan the use of and/or plan for the reduction of federal funding. Nevada, however, does not comprehensively collect, maintain, or report information on the State's applications, receipts and uses of federal funding. Without this information, the State cannot accurately diagnose its challenges nor make progress towards effectively identifying, competing for, securing, or using federal funds. Further, it cannot determine the optimal level of federal funds in the State's budget, the total amount of funds lost every year, or the investment costs required for progress.



Amend NRS 353.245 of the State Budget Act to expand its current submission and resubmission of budgets of state executive departments and agencies requesting federal money requirements to include provision for the maintenance of records and an annual report from the Budget Office and Fiscal Analysis Division of the LCB.







An Act to ensure the complete and maximum use of federal funding the State receives by establishing a notification and reallocation process for granted but unused funds.

☒ Troublingly, even when Nevada receives federal funds for approved uses, the State sometimes returns those dollars to the Federal Government having failed to completely use them for local purposes. These dollars are often surpluses created by careful fiscal and programmatic management, still, rather than returning money to the federal government Nevada should use the funds for local benefit if possible. The State can proactively accomplish this by establishing a process wherein State departments and agencies notify fellow agencies and departments, as well as colleagues in county and local governments and nonprofits about available use ☒ limited funds. Fortunately, the State already has a process for notifying and distributing grants that can be adopted and amended for this purpose.

☒ Develop and establish a process and system to notify eligible agencies (of state government, county and local governments and nonprofits) of grant dollars that will be unused for their initial primary purpose, so that such agencies can apply and timely utilize the funds.



☒ The Senate ☒ biennial authorization bill (SB 521 for 2013 ☒ 2015) disincentivizes agencies and departments from proactively increasing their federal funding by decreasing their General Fund allocation in lock ☒ step with federal funding ☒ other revenue ☒ increases.

Specifically, Section 7 requires that ☒ the portion provided by appropriation from the State General Fund or the State Highway Fund must be decreased to the extent that the receipts of the money from other sources is exceeded ☒ Therefore, departments have no incentive to increase federal funding receipts and, in actuality, have a disincentive to do so as they will be expend resources to replace hard money (General Fund allocation) with soft money (temporary or cyclical federal funds).

☒ Amend the traditional wording in ☒ 7 of the bill to eliminate the explicit direction that budget surpluses resulting from new and expanded federal funding be o set by a reduction in State General Fund appropriations; add language in ☒ 7 that provides additional revenues received as a result of increased federal funding, as authorized by the Interim Finance Committee, shall not be utilized to decrease State General Fund appropriations and instead and instead shall augment the department/agencies budget.



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POPULATION OF
NEVADA IN
1960



BEA

647
45,93

BEA



All Nevadans ready for success in the 21st Century



To improve student achievement and educator effectiveness by ensuring opportunities, facilitating learning and promoting excellence.



Elevate student achievement results for all students.

Improve the graduation rate including expanding the advanced diploma rate.

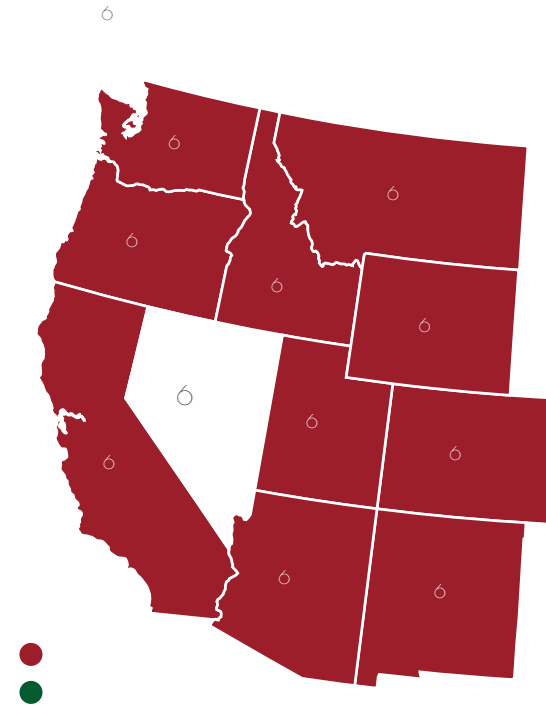
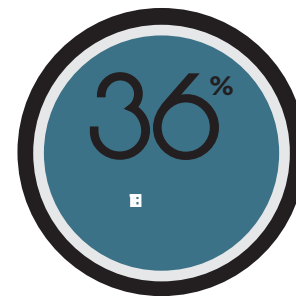
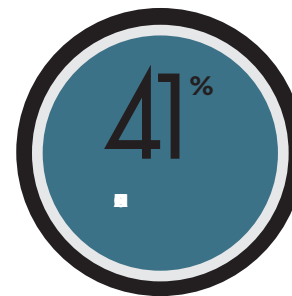
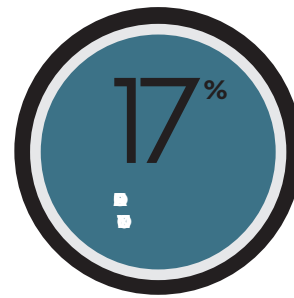
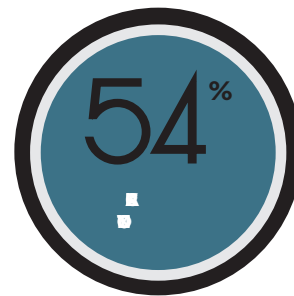
Ensure college and career readiness when students graduate from high school.

Ensure Nevada's students are educated by effective teachers and administrators.

Support and expand innovative programs to improve learning.

Increase productivity and return on investment.

BEY
ER



Dale Erquiaga was appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction by Governor Brian Sandoval in August of 2013. Dale is serving as Nevada's second gubernatorial appointed head of the Nevada Department of Education, following 2011 legislation that gave the Governor the authority to appoint a Superintendent to run the Department.

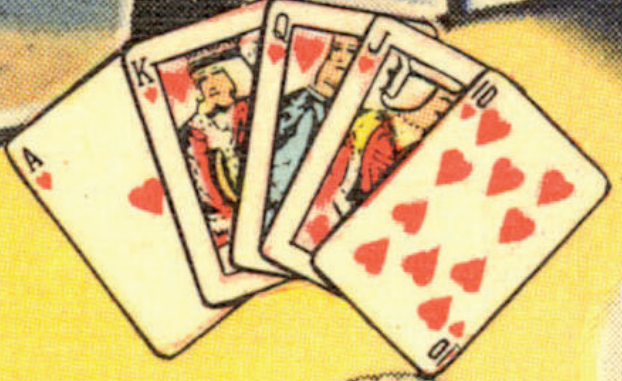
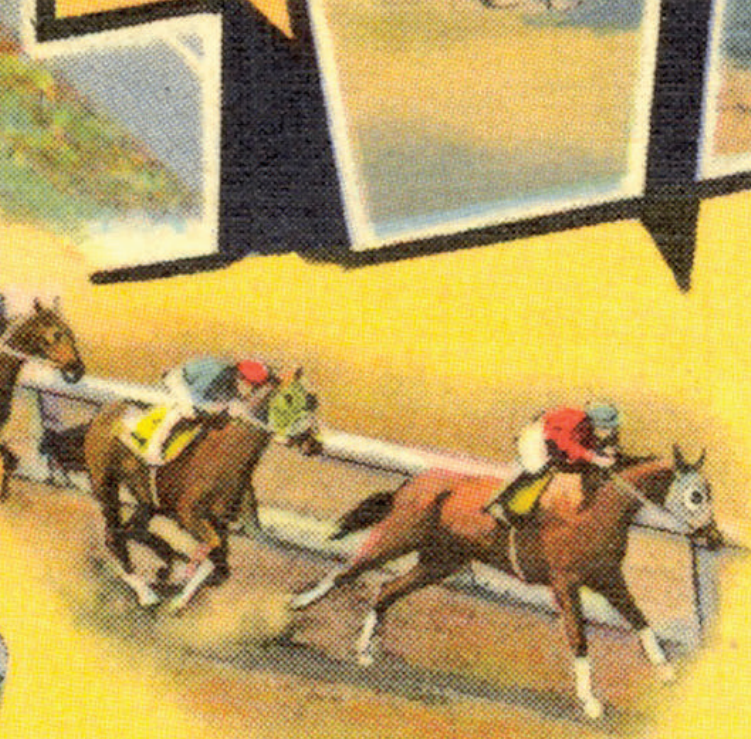
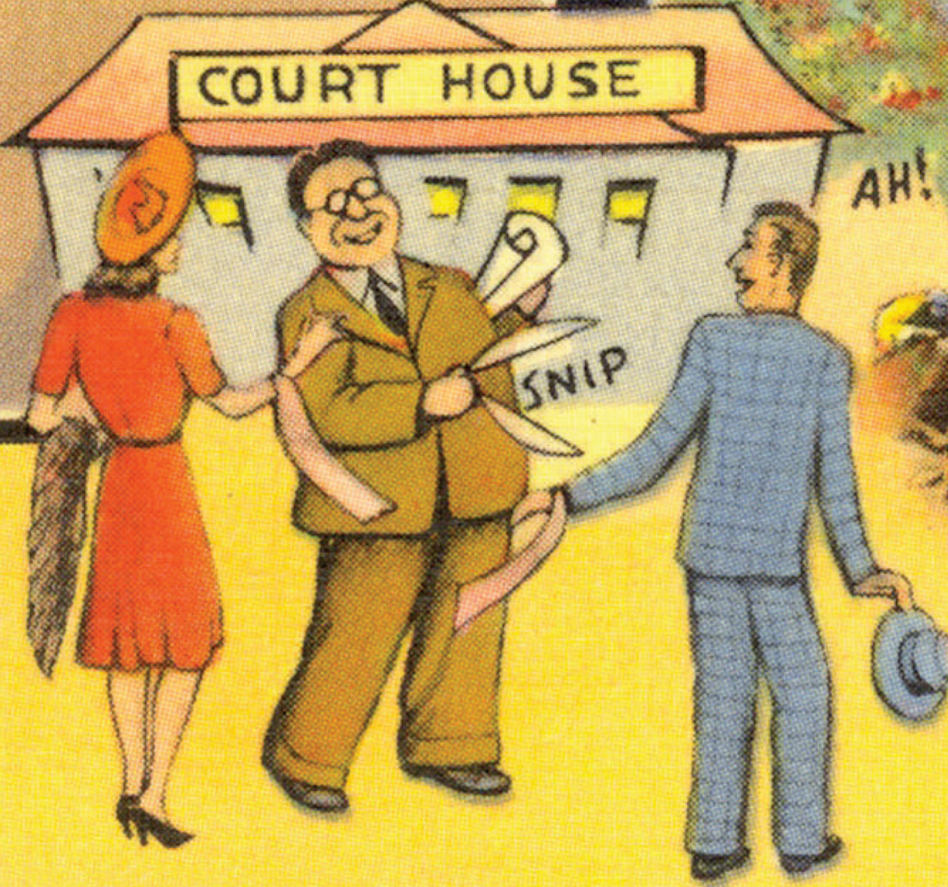
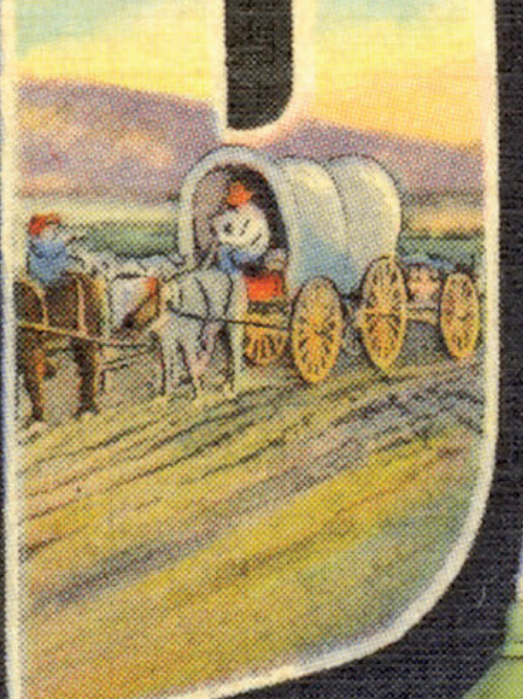
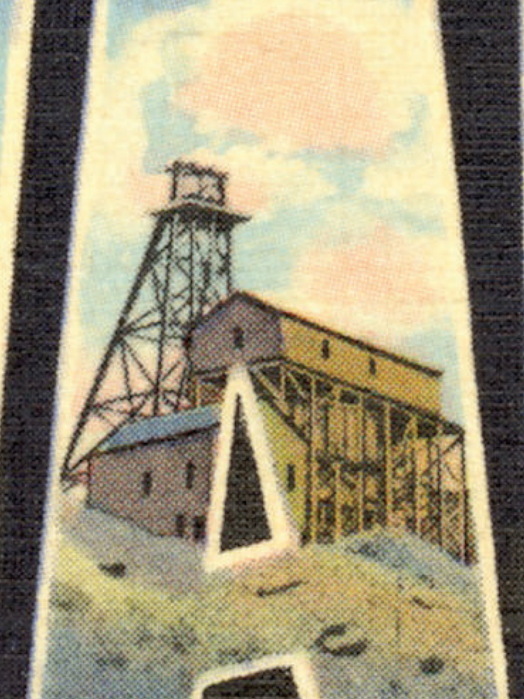
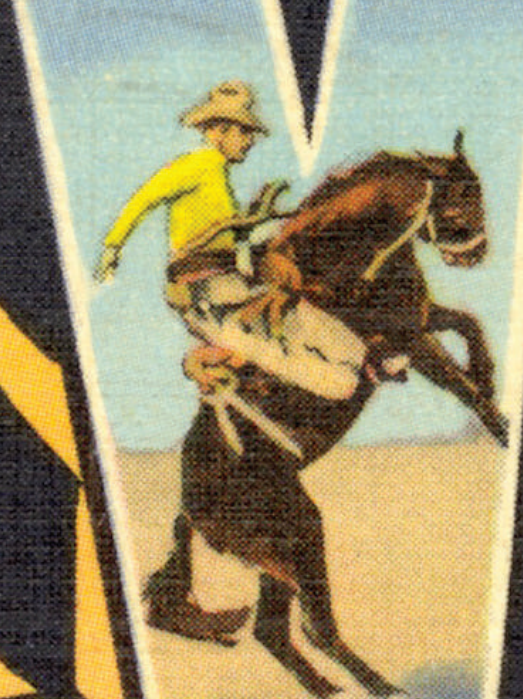
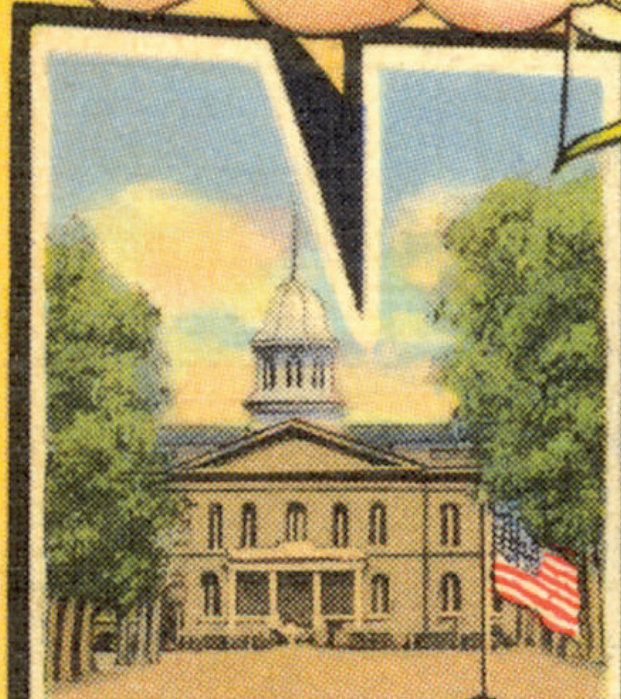
A native Nevadan, Dale brings significant management, consulting and communication experience to his role as Superintendent and has been active in Nevada state government for years. He served as Director of the Department of Museums, Library and Arts

and was Chief Deputy Secretary of State for Secretaries of State Lau and Heller. He also served as chairman of the Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF), the Las Vegas Arts Commission and as a board member of the National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement (Mob Museum) and the Las Vegas Centennial Committee.

He currently serves as a member of the advisory board of the Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Greetings

FROM





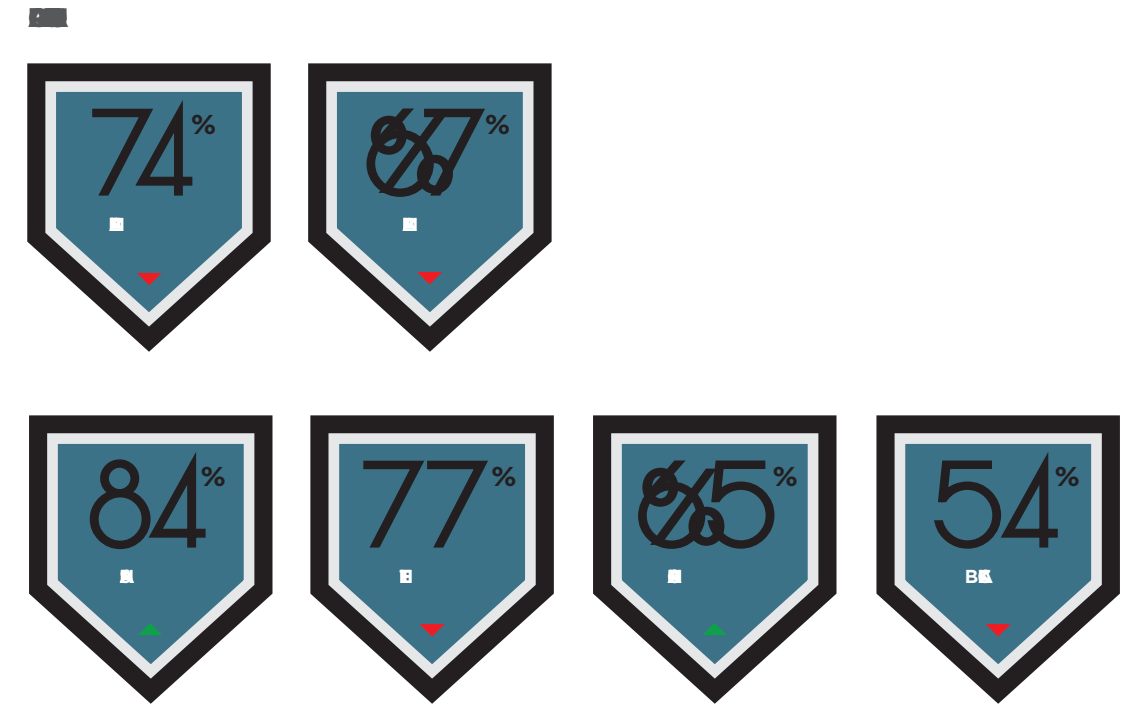
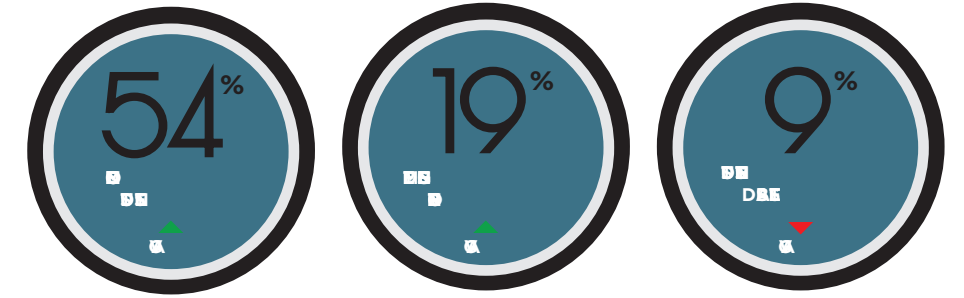
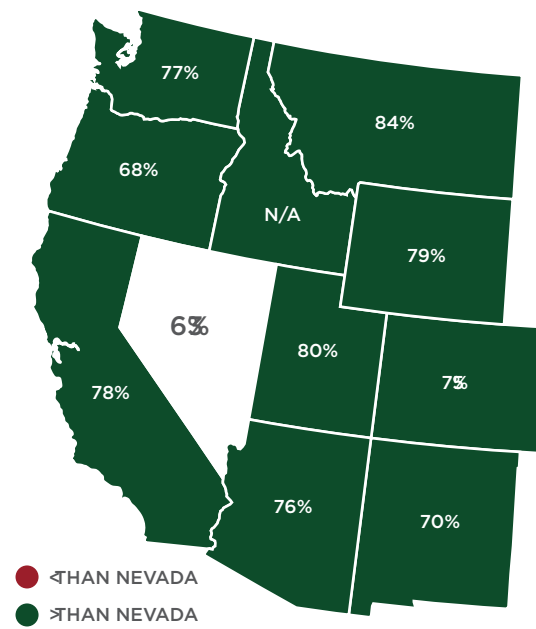
Implement standards, programs and assessments that prepare all students for college and careers.

Facilitate high-impact instruction and leadership through measurement and support of educator effectiveness and family engagement.

Evaluate and publicize school, district and state performance and assign rewards, technical assistance and interventions.

Continually improve Departmental leadership and collaboration with all stakeholders.

PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL 4-YEAR GRADUATION RATE





FREE
PARKING
WITH VALIDATION
IN REAR
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Jack Pot
ARCADE

JEWELRY
LOAN CO
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IN DAY
FOR THE
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WALKING
STREET



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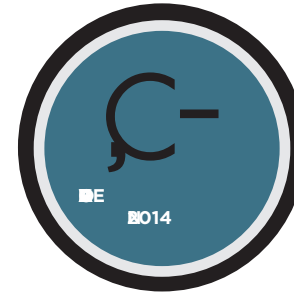
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Nevada and 24 other states require students to pass an exit examination in order to graduate. However, Nevada's High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) is currently being phased out. It will be replaced with end-of-course exams in key subjects and a college and career readiness assessment that students must take, but will not be required to pass for graduation.



- Teachers can receive additional pay for working in high-need schools or shortage subject areas.
- Teachers of core subject areas must pass subject matter tests to attain licensure.
- Performance pay will be available beginning in School Year 2015-2016.
- Evidence of student learning is a key criteria used in Teacher Evaluations.
- During reductions in force, a "last hired, first fired" policy is prohibited.
- Districts have the authority to determine how teachers are paid.
- All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test to attain licensure.
- Tenure decisions are connected to teacher effectiveness.
- Teachers must be evaluated annually.



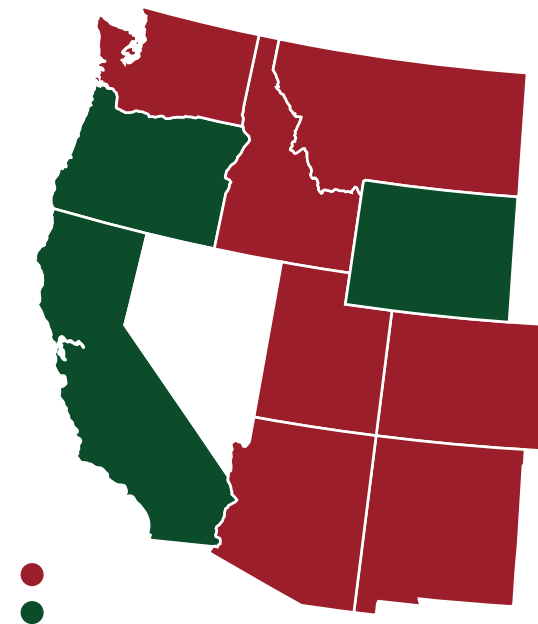
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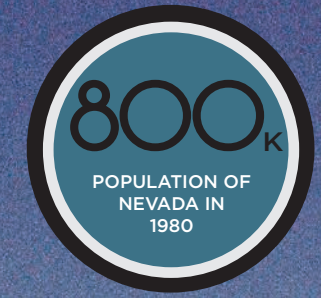


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To develop a world-class center for education, patient care and research that prepares Nevada's doctors with the most innovative and technologically advanced forms of medical training while servicing the health care needs of a diverse and urban population through community partnerships.



Strategic partnerships, startup money from the state, philanthropy, clinical services, research grants and tuition will combine to fund the UNLV School of Medicine.



Train doctors and specialists who will serve Nevada.

Focus on mental health and addiction, neuroscience, cardiology, cancer, and orthopedics.

Generate a local economic impact of more than



Nevada is currently unable to meet the health care needs of its citizens. Las Vegas is the largest U.S. metropolitan area without an M.D. granting (allopathic) medical school.

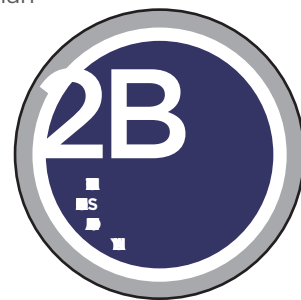
Nevada ranks 48th in the U.S. for number of primary care physicians per 100,000 population.

Nevada's existing residencies cover less than half of medical specialties.

Nevada lacks key transplant programs.

Nevada is last among all 50 states in the number of psychiatrists.

More than



The UNLV School of Medicine will leverage significant existing health care assets within academic, public and private sectors.



UNLV's schools of Allied Health Sciences, Community Health Sciences, Dental Medicine, Life Sciences and Nursing.
Academic Health Center Infrastructure for Clinical and Scientific Research.
Additional Clinical Research Trials for Southern Nevadans.
More State-of-the-Art Medical Technology and Equipment.

Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health
Nevada System of Higher Education Institutions
Veterans Administration Southern
Local and Regional Hospitals
Nevada State Health Division
Nevada Healthcare System





\$11.6
\$5.7
\$45
\$48
\$80
\$50
\$8
\$2
\$3

Beyond improving access to high-quality healthcare in the Southern Nevada region, the UNLV School of Medicine will stimulate the economy.

\$1.2 billion Annual economic impact.

Approximately \$60 million in annual revenue for the state of Nevada.

UNLV has requested nearly \$27 million in the 2016/2017 biennium state budget for the new UNLV School of Medicine. State money will be used for start-up and operational costs, but funds for capital and academic program development will come from private donations and other revenue sources.

- Improve access to high-quality health care in Nevada.
- Help meet market demand for future physicians.
- Increase the number of medical specialists.
- Generate high-level clinical and specialty care.
- Attend to diverse and medically underserved populations.
- Spur medical innovations that stimulate the state's economy.
- Attract more high-quality businesses to Nevada.
- Contribute to the quality of life for Nevadans.





2 39,900

▲ 4,963 2013



\$51,230

11.6

15.

7





LAS VEGAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

Food & Beverage



1,002,571

1,16,936



54

46

\$165,000

639,25

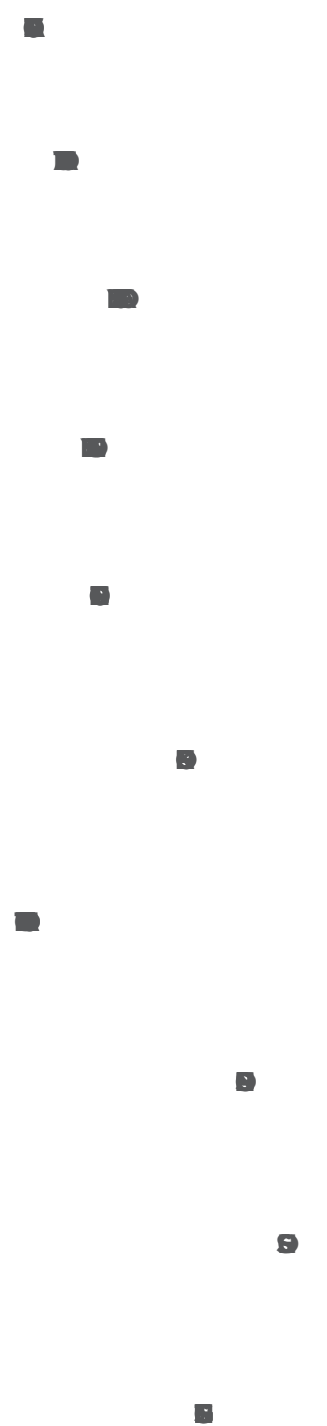
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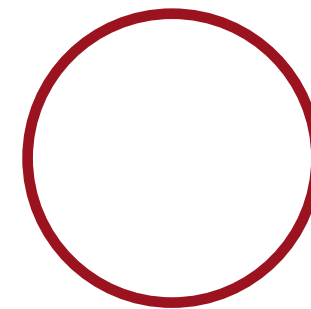
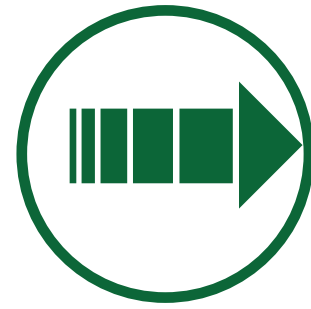
AVERAGE
2.75
HOUSEHOLD

AVERAGE
3.41
FAMILY

POPULATION OF NEVADA
2.8
M
IN 2014









A day in your life, 2015.

9 AM _____

NOON _____

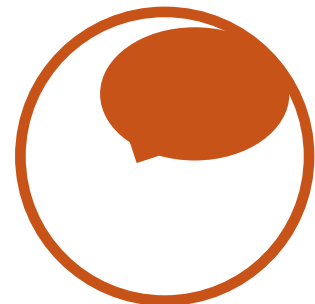
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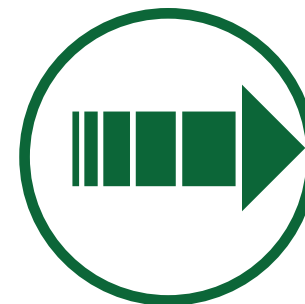
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What are people talking about in 2015?

What are the biggest unanswered questions?

What is the biggest issue facing Nevada right now?



Must have

Must have



Must have

with Reverence and Respect, the Council for a Better Nevada



CBNoline.org