



Nevada Legislature

May 21, 2009

The Honorable Jim Gibbons
Governor of the State of Nevada
101 N. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Gibbons:

We are writing to express our concerns regarding your letter to our Legislative Counsel limiting the authority to receive and receipt for enrolled bills to Kelly Chouinard, when previously virtually your entire staff had this authority. We are hoping that this designation does not in any way hamper the ability of the Legislature to work with your office to ensure the efficient completion of the legislative session. We know that we share with you a desire to have the Legislature complete its work as smoothly and quickly as possible.

The end of a legislative session always results in a large number of bills being delivered to the Governor in the final 15 or 20 days; the structure of the 120-day calendar is such that most bills are now completing review by the second House and heading for enrollment and delivery to your office. Limiting the authority to receive and receipt for bills may inhibit our respective staffs in conducting our business. The prior designation has worked well, allowing delivery of enrolled bills whenever they were ready, including this past Sunday. Limiting the designation could be particularly problematic if for some reason Ms. Chouinard were unavailable when legislation was awaiting transmittal. We therefore urge you to reconsider this restrictive designation and authorize at least a few members of your staff to receive and receipt for enrolled bills for the remainder of session.


The Legislature plans to work continuously through the next several days in an effort to complete our work for the citizens of this State. We hope and expect that measures that are enrolled in the next few days can be delivered to Ms. Chouinard or another designee over the weekend. This has been the practice during the last few weeks of each of limited 120-day sessions, including

the 2007 session. In fact, Ms. Chouinard received and receipted for 121 bills on Memorial Day last session. We would appreciate it if you would confirm that she, or some other employee you designate, will be available to receive and receipt for enrolled bills throughout the 3-day weekend. The people of the State of Nevada properly expect that we can work together on such matters to ensure the timely completion of the Legislature's work.


Sincerely,




Assemblywoman Barbara E. Buckley
Speaker of the Assembly




Senator Steven A. Horsford
Majority Leader of the Senate



Assemblyman John Ocegüera
Majority Leader of the Assembly



Senator William J. Raggio
Minority Leader of the Senate



Assemblywoman Heidi Gansert
Minority Leader of the Assembly