



Office of the Governor

JIM GIBBONS
GOVERNOR

May 25, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Buckley
Speaker of the Assembly
Legislative Building
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Assembly Bill 119 of the 75th Legislative Session

Dear Speaker Buckley,

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Assembly Bill 119, which is entitled:

AN ACT relating to planning; requiring the comprehensive regional plan in certain counties to include provisions concerning the sustainability of certain water resources; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

This bill makes changes to regional planning in Washoe County with respect to water use. Regional planning in Washoe County is handled by the Regional Planning Commission and its Governing Board, both of which are composed of various local government officials. Existing law mandates that regional planning in Washoe County address various aspects of conservation, including the use and protection of water resources. NRS § 278.0274(2). Moreover, regional planning must address the availability of natural resources, including water, before approving any expanded development. NRS § 278.0274(4).

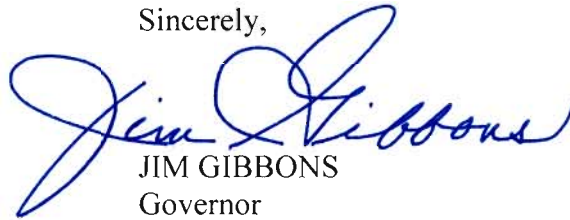
Assembly Bill 119 is redundant and unnecessary as current law already limits development in areas that do not have adequate water resources. Furthermore, the Regional Planning Commission and its Governing Board, as bodies of local government,

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are the entities that are best equipped to represent the citizens of Washoe County and make determinations on responsible expansion of development and the resulting impact on limited water resources. Regional planning should be handled by local governments, who are the most knowledgeable with respect to local planning. Assembly Bill 119 represents an unnecessary intrusion into a well-established regional planning program.

For these reasons, I hereby exercise my constitutional grant of authority and veto Assembly Bill 119.

Sincerely,



JIM GIBBONS
Governor

JG/kjc

Enclosure

Cc: The Honorable Steven Horsford, Senate Majority Leader (without enclosure)
The Honorable Ross Miller, Secretary of State (without enclosure)
Susan Furlong Reil, Chief Clerk of the Assembly (without enclosure)
Claire J. Clift, Secretary of the Senate (without enclosure)
Brenda Erdoes, Esq., Legislative Counsel (without enclosure)