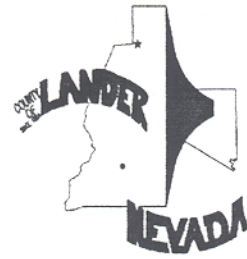


*Debbie Carone*  
*Lander County Executive Director*



2/12/02

Mr. Guy Hobbs, Chairman, Governor's Task Force on Tax Policy in Nevada  
Legislative Counsel Bureau  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Mr. Hobbs,

We in Lander County would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the Governor's Task Force on Tax Policy in Nevada. With the recent decline in mining and the current slump in statewide sales tax revenues, we are finding it more challenging to provide the necessary services to the people of Lander County.

Counties such as ours rely on a major industry (mining) to provide much of the revenue source for local government operations. Mining has a direct impact on all types and levels of sources of revenue in Lander County. When the industry is prospering, the revenue source is a lifeline for the community. Currently with the depressed precious metals market, mining is in a downturn and the County revenue sources are strained tremendously. Even if the markets improve, there is a limited amount of minerals in the ground and it does not appear that there are any new mining operations planned in our area.

We encourage the committee to develop an equitable tax plan that would provide local government revenue stability for counties such as ours. At a time when parts of the state are experiencing unparalleled growth and economic prosperity, many rural counties such as Lander County are facing revenue shortfalls and major fiscal challenges.

We look forward to working with your committee in the coming months to help make the necessary changes for a fiscally healthy Nevada.

Respectfully,

*"Signed"*

Debbie Carone  
Lander County  
Executive Director