## STATE OF NEVADA LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

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October 10, 2024

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Joe Lombardo Governor of Nevada State Capitol Building 101 North Carson Street, Suite 1 Carson City, Nevada 89701-4786

Incoming Chair Nevada State Senate Committee on Finance 401 South Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747

Incoming Chair Nevada State Assembly Committee on Ways and Means 401 South Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747

Dear Governor Lombardo and the Incoming Chairs of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means:

As the Chair and Vice Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary (*Nevada Revised Statutes* 218E.320) during the 2023-2024 Interim, we are writing to inform you of an action taken by the Committee at its final meeting on August 30, 2024. The Committee voted to send a letter asking for the consideration of funding for a statewide human trafficking management information system.

As you may be aware, Nevada is one of the top ten states for trafficked and exploited youths, according to the Nevada Sustainability Alliance. In 2021, the National Human Trafficking Hotline was contacted 571 times about Nevada-related calls, with 201 cases identified in this state.

The Nevada Policy Council on Human Trafficking (NPCHT), a permanent statewide policy council for human trafficking in Nevada, testified before the Committee on <u>April 26, 2024</u>. The Council was founded prior in 2020 and its mission is to advocate for just and equitable policy solutions through education, collaboration, and coalition building to improve State and federal anti-trafficking systems.

Lauren Boitel, Co-founder, NPCHT stated that the human trafficking response system in Nevada is still young, small, and underdeveloped. It currently does not meet the needs of The Honorable Joe Lombardo
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victims, survivors, service providers, law enforcement, lawmakers, and other stakeholders. To combat this pressing issue, funding for data collection via a State Human Trafficking Management Information System is needed to identify victims and provide wrap-around services. From this presentation, the Committee voted unanimously that this issue should be a priority item for budget consideration.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Committee staff, Diane Thornton (<a href="mailto:diane.thornton@lcb.state.nv.us">diane.thornton@lcb.state.nv.us</a>), Deputy Research Director or Patrick Guinan (<a href="mailto:pguinian@lcb.state.nv.us">pguinian@lcb.state.nv.us</a>), Chief Principal Policy Analyst.

Sincerely,

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Chair Senator Melanie Scheible, Vice Chair Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary 2023-2024 Interim

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cc: Ryan Cherry, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
Madeline S. Burak, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor