



2520 St. Rose Pkwy, Suite 202-C | Henderson, NV 89974  
702-685-4041 | nvhca.org

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August 4, 2020

RE: SB 4 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Special Legislative Session

**Nevada Assembly Members,**

I am president of the Nevada Health Care Association/Nevada Center for Assisted Living. Our association represents senior care facilities – assisted living and skilled nursing facilities throughout Nevada.

We currently oppose SB 4 because of the exclusions of health care facilities in Sec. 25 of the bill.

Our members have already faced difficult litigation trends even before the pandemic. The threat of litigation filed against our members because of COVID-19, could decimate our portion of the health care continuum.

We are only requesting the same COVID-related liability protections that will be provided other businesses during this pandemic. We don't want protections to shield bad actors, but rather, a legislative recognition of the unprecedented nature of the current crisis, and to ensure good actors do not face a flood of litigation, which could put immense financial pressure on them during an already difficult time.

You have heard a lot about how COVID-19 has impacted Nevada businesses. Our members are the ones taking care of the most vulnerable for the long term – the elderly and seriously ill – and unfortunately – our residents are the ones most susceptible to COVID-19.

How unfortunate it would be to exclude health care facilities from the same protections as other Nevada businesses during a health care crisis.

We have heard in public testimony that health care providers have some sort of protection based upon language in the Governor's *Declaration of Emergency – Directive 011*. If that protection does exist for health care facilities, then please include similar language in this legislation for health care facilities and remove Section 25 of the bill.

We respectfully request that you provide reasonable protections for health care facilities in this legislation.

Sincerely,

*Brett S.*

Brett Salmon, President/CEO  
Nevada Health Care Association  
Nevada Center for Assisted Living

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