

SB 177

Opposition Statement

William Cunningham

Firstly, I would like to applaud you for your commitment to domestic violence, which is a serious issue and deserves funding. However, to increase this through the marriage license fee is not the right thing to do at this time. This will affect not only wedding chapels and private officiants but also affect photographers, florist, disc jockeys and other related businesses. The wedding industry has been in decline over the past several years and with businesses struggling to recoup from the recent pandemic, now is not the time to increase the fees of marriage licenses. Other alternatives to raise more funds for domestic violence include increasing vehicles registration by a dollar or two or to impose the fee for gun registration. Another suggestion is specialized license plates that raise money for such things as Animal Appreciation, Autism and Childhood Cancer, just to name a few. Please reconsider passing SB177. It would harm Nevada citizens who are trying to recover from the recent economic difficulties brought on, in part by the covid epidemic, and also reduce associated revenue brought into the state by destination weddings. I do believe domestic violence is a worthy cause and can be further funded without putting the burden on the associated businesses related to marriage license fees.

Thank you for your consideration on SB177.

William Cunningham