



April 4, 2023

Dear Members of the Assembly Committee on Revenue,

I am writing on behalf of the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada in support of Assembly Concurrent Resolution 7 to direct the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Revenue to conduct a study regarding wealth taxes.

According to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, Nevada has the 5th least equitable tax structure in the nation.¹ Nevada has the 3rd-highest state-level general sales tax collections per capita, and the 5th-highest general sales tax as a share of general revenue in the nation.² In fact, the bottom twenty percent of Nevadans, with an income of less than \$20,500 pay 10.2% of their daily income in taxes, 7.1% specifically in sales tax, while the top one percent of Nevadans, with an income of \$473,600 or higher pay only a 1.9% share of their family income on taxes, and only 0.7% of their family income in sales tax.³

Nevada continues to give away money in abatements for aviation, data centers, capital investments, and groups like Tesla and the Las Vegas Raiders Stadium. In fiscal year 2019, Nevada counties lost approximately \$30 million in consolidated taxes, \$34 million in school support taxes, and \$11 million in local options taxes due to abatements.⁴

Our families and children suffer as a result of the state's tax structure as the state continues to rank at the bottom of public school systems in the nation and in access to mental health care. By studying wealth tax options during the next interim we have the opportunity to bring a more just and sustainable tax proposal to the next legislative session to fund our state's critical services. We urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine Saunders".

Christine Saunders, MSW
Policy Director
Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada

¹ <https://itep.org/whopays-map/>

² <https://guinncenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Guinn-Center-Sales-Tax-Dependence-in-Nevada-2020.pdf>

³ <https://itep.org/wp-content/uploads/itep-whopays-Nevada.pdf>

⁴ http://controller.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/controller/nvqov/Content/FinRpts/GASB/2019_Local_Governments_Abatements_FY19_II.pdf

The Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada was founded in 1994 by Nevada activists to build a more fair and just Nevada that puts people and planet first. We organize with front line communities and directly impacted leaders for policy changes and community investments that improve the lives of Nevadans.