

Testimony in opposition to SB394

Lee Sterrett,

I am opposed to this version of SB394. This bill as amended would cap abatements that could be given out by the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) to \$500,000, (currently no limit) and anything over that would need to be brought to the legislature for approval in the form of a BDR.

The ability of the GOED to negotiate timely agreements including abatements with major companies has promoted substantial short and long term economic growth in the State of Nevada. The growth includes employment, population, construction, and related businesses which increases the tax base. Many of these agreements are reached by competitive negotiations and the ability to make a commitment during the negotiations is mandatory. This bill is a hindrance to economic development..

On the NELIS survey 95% of the public is currently opposed to this bill.

The history of this bill reflects on its nature:

SB394 was introduced on March 27 with the Summary "Revises provisions governing property taxes levied for the support of public schools. (BDR 34-603)".

The summary you have now reads "Revises provisions governing abatements and partial abatements of certain taxes. (BDR 32-603)"

A hearing of the Senate Revenue Committee was held at 11:47 on April 14th (the last day for bills to be heard). The Agenda did not list any bills and only stated "Possible Work Session on Bills Previously Considered".

SB394 was the only bill discussed and it was amended and passed along party lines, with both Senators Gansert and Buck offering opposition comments. The hearing only lasted 14 minutes and

Contrary to what is stated in the video record, the wording of the amendment was not available to the public on NELIS. In addition it was more than a week before the NELIS public overview or text was updated.

R. Lee Sterrett