

# Steven Cohen

Las Vegas, Nevada 89129

May 29, 2023

## **Via E-mail**

The Honorable Myron Freedman  
Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums and History  
412 East Musser Street, Suite 2  
Carson City, NV 89701

**Re: AB 252 - Accessible Museums - Fiscal Note**

Good morning Administrator Freedman,

I write today on behalf of Dora Uchel-Martinez, a blind Nevadan for whom interfacing with the Legislative process is difficult.

In this regard, Ms. Uchel-Martinez has provided me with a series of communications between yourself, Assemblywoman Lesley Cohen (no known relation), and Department of Administration Deputy Director Matthew Tuma, among others.

People with disabilities are people first, and the largest minority population of Nevadans, approximately 20%, depending upon which source you use, deserve to be recognized throughout the State in a positive light. Website and document remediation to the minimum standards set forth by the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), as are amended from time to time, is one such way this can occur.

In addition, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as is amended from time to time, requires State and local governments to take affirmative steps to remove all barriers that unfairly discriminate against people with disabilities, including Websites and other digital media. While I agree with Assemblywoman Cohen's desire to have no fiscal note on the above-referenced bill, if we must, spending this necessary \$25,000 is the right thing to do, and will be of benefit to the Division of Museums and History, bringing positive revenues from previously underserved populations, including people with disabilities. This necessary investment in WCAG compliance is less expensive than any potentially resulting litigation from non-compliance.

Finally, according to Accessible, there is an up to \$5,000 tax credit available for compliance to business entities with less than \$1,000,000 in annual revenues and/or 30 employees or less. This could reduce the fiscal note to, at most, \$20,000.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me at (732) 567-4048 and/or Steven.Cohen@Alumni.UNLV.edu with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Steven Cohen

Steven Cohen

CC: Dora Uchel-Martinez

CC: Trudy Boissonneau, President, Nevada Council of the Blind

CC: Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

CC: Dawn Lyons, Executive Director, Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council

CC: Dr. Sondra Cosgrove, Executive Director, Vote Nevada

CC: Tim Robb, Nevada Governor's Director of Strategic Initiatives

CC: The Honorable Lesley Cohen, Assemblywoman, District 29

CC: The Honorable Steve Yeager, Speaker of the Assembly, District 9

CC: The Honorable Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Chair, Assembly Ways and Means Committee, District 1

CC: The Honorable Nicole Cannizzaro, Majority Leader of the Senate, District 6

CC: The Honorable Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair, Senate Finance Committee, District 8

CC: Brenda Scolari, Director, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs

CC: Daphne DeLeon, ASO II, Division of Museums and History

CC: Matthew Tuma, Deputy Director, Department of Administration

CC: Jack Robb, Director, Department of Administration

CC: Tim Galluzi, CIO, Department of Administration

CC: Darla Dodge, Deputy Administrator, Department of Administration

CC: JoVon Sotak, Chief of Policy and Communications, Department of Administration