



November 3, 2014

Tom Skancke
President & CEO
Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance
6795 Edmond St., Suite 260
Las Vegas, NV 89118

Dear Tom:

Thank you for including the Retail Association of Nevada in some of your email announcements and information. I have been watching the LVGEA with great interest as RAN agrees with Governor Sandoval in his efforts and methods toward economic development.

RAN supports the stated goals of the LVGEA and its' operation, which I assume is quasi-governmental when you consider the funding sources.

This support became strained with the discussion during several "Question 3" meetings when you discussed working on "a deal" as opposed to fighting the initiative. This approach was not consistent with the business community's efforts to defeat this initiative and it was requested that the LVGEA not send mixed messages to the proponents.

In receiving the notice for the upcoming luncheon, RAN is concerned that again mixed messages are being sent. Tom, you and I have worked together for many years and I believe have a mutual regard; however, with the defeat of Q3 I believe the message is clear. The funding of the state and the future of our schools are best served by the Governor and Nevada Legislature. Yes, I know that the press loves to write that they neglected their duty; hogwash, everyone knows why nothing came out last session.

RAN's concern has always been and continues to be that the state must have a long-term solution with reforms and recognition that the entire state and its' many departments have needs that must be addressed. The wasted revenue generated in 2003 is a sad reminder of how money can only follow change. Yes, the budget suffered from an economic downturn but no changes were implemented and the business community will not support that anymore.

RAN is ready to work on these issues and the work includes the entire business community, which I see is poised to expand in ways that we haven't seen due to the economic development efforts. This work and these negotiations are best served within the governing bodies of this state – not an organization whose mission does not include public policy.

Sincerely,

Mary

Mary Lau, President & CEO