



CULINARY UNION 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES





CULINARY UNION FIGHTS FOR ALL NEVADANS

The Culinary Union is continuing the campaign to win Neighborhood Stability by taking a stand against corporate Wall Street price-gouging landlords and by fighting to protect Nevadans from being pushed out of our homes.

As one of the largest organizations of working women, the Culinary Union is advocating to protect guest room attendants and jobs by fighting for Daily Room Cleaning. Culinary Union is also urging the Nevada Legislature to create a State Lottery that would dedicate sustainable funding to youth mental health and education.

The Culinary Union has a long history of fighting and winning for working families in Carson City, and this year is no different.

One job should be enough to have a roof over our heads and ensure Nevada's youth have quality mental health care access and education.

Just like we have throughout our 88 year history, we will stand together and win a future where Nevadans thrive.

CULINARY UNION 2023 NVLEG PRIORITIES

LABOR

Oppose SB441 - Ending daily cleaning of hotel rooms: *Repeals Nevada law requiring daily room cleaning, potentially results in tens of thousands of mostly women of color losing their jobs.*

HOUSING

Support SB426 - Neighborhood Stability: *Would ensure that rents don't increase faster than wages.*

Support SB78 - Fines & fees tenant protections: *Requires transparency for fines and fees and ties fees to cost.*

Support SB335 - Rental assistance protections: *Protects Nevadans waiting for rental assistance from being evicted for non-payment of rent.*

Support SB371 - Local control over housing policy: *Clarifies that local governments have authority to pass affordable housing laws.*

Support AB176 - Income discrimination: *Prohibits landlords from discriminating against tenants who receive government assistance or based on other income.*

Support AB340 - Summary Evictions: *Provides more transparency and predictability for tenants facing evictions by making Nevada's eviction process more similar to the rest of the country.*

REVENUE

Support AJR5 - Enabling a State Lottery for youth mental health care & education: *Removes the constitutional prohibition on a state lottery with the ultimate goal of creating a state lottery funding youth mental healthcare and education.*

HEALTH CARE

Support SB348 - High quality medical care in working neighborhoods: *Requires licensure for freestanding emergency rooms to provide patients and payers with transparency about community healthcare facilities and ensure community members are informed about changes in their neighborhood medical care.*

Support AB11 - Employment freedom for doctors: *Guarantees doctors the freedom to work at whichever hospital they choose to and protects patients' access to doctors.*

Support AB6 - Health care benchmarks: *Enable the State to set healthcare cost benchmarks to encourage the healthcare industry to keep care affordable and within reach of Nevadans.*

Support AB7 - Patient control of medical data: *Ensures that Nevada's patients have the freedom to control the movement of their own medical data quickly and easily.*

IMMIGRATION

Support SB210 - Board diversity: *Ensures that Nevada's boards and committees reflect the diversity in the state.*

Support SB262 - Including all Nevadans on Town Advisory Boards: *Allows all Nevadans, including non-citizens, to serve on Town Advisory Boards.*

Support SB419 - NV HOPE Act: *Enables undocumented Nevadans to seek preventative care by enrolling in Medicaid and allows healthcare providers and insurance/insures administrators to maintain and exchange health information electronically.*

Support AB226 - In state tuition for DREAMers: *Enables all DACA recipients to receive in-state tuition in Nevada.*

Support AB246 - Language access for voters: *This bill will ensure voting materials are made available in the languages most commonly spoken by Nevadans.*

Support AB251 - Prescription drug language access: *Requires pharmacies to provide information in NV's 10 most spoken languages.*

Support AB328 - Immigration Clinic Funding: *Appropriates funding to the UNLV Immigration Clinic.*

Support AB336 - Drivers Authorization Cards Equality: *Revises provisions around drivers' authorization cards to ensure they can be valid for the same period as a driver's license and are valid IDS.*

Support AB366 - Keep Nevada Working Taskforce: *Moves the Keep Nevada Working Taskforce to the Office of Secretary of State.*

DEMOCRACY

Support AB192 - Standardizing election materials: *Ensures Nevadans mail ballots will be uniform in style and establishes standards for notices posted at polling locations.*

Support AB354 - Stopping voter intimidation: *Protects Nevadans against intimidation while voting by limiting the presence of guns at polling locations.*

Support AB394 - Protecting election certification: *Guards Nevada's elections by ensuring timely certification and counting of votes.*

Support SB406 - Protecting election workers: *Protects election workers from violence, threats, and intimidation.*

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Support AB363 - Occupational licensing reform: *Ensures returning citizens in Nevada have a second chance by preventing discrimination regarding workplace licenses.*



NVLEG MUST SUPPORT DAILY ROOM CLEANING





ENDING DAILY ROOM CLEANING (SB441) WILL HURT WORKING WOMEN, ESPECIALLY WOMEN OF COLOR

Culinary Union is opposed to SB441 as currently written because it eliminates daily room cleaning.

A lack of daily room cleaning leads to job losses in the hospitality industry, makes work particularly more difficult for women, especially women of color, is inconsistent with the gaming industries' commitment to safety, and is inconsistent with Nevada's promotion of being a premiere travel destination.

The potential job losses due to the elimination of daily room cleaning will have a disproportionate impact on communities of color.

Any efforts to reduce housekeeping jobs in the hotel would further devastate the communities of color, which are still recovering from the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021 UNITE HERE national report highlighted that **73% of hotel housekeepers in the U.S. are people of color.**

A 2016 time-motion study by an industry publication *HOTEL MANAGEMENT* of an all-suite hotel found that **checkout rooms took 82% longer to clean** than stay-over rooms.

The American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) has recommended that for pests, including bed bugs, "**the best prevention is daily inspection.**"

In a March 2023 poll of union and non-union Nevadans, **90% said that they would support a law mandating daily room cleaning.**

DAILY ROOM CLEANING MUST REMAIN THE STANDARD IN NEVADA'S #1 INDUSTRY

The New York Times

"SAY GOODBYE TO DAILY HOTEL ROOM CLEANING"

The New York Times reported in March 2023 that a travel industry observer asked about hotels in general:

"Why would you stay at a full service hotel if they strip away all the benefits?"

The lack of daily room cleaning is concerning for Nevada's reputation and standards as a premiere travel destination.

Customers pay for full service and they should get the quality service that hospitality workers in Nevada provide. Casino companies are still charging record room rates and service charges, but cutting jobs and offering less service - it's bad for customers and Nevada.

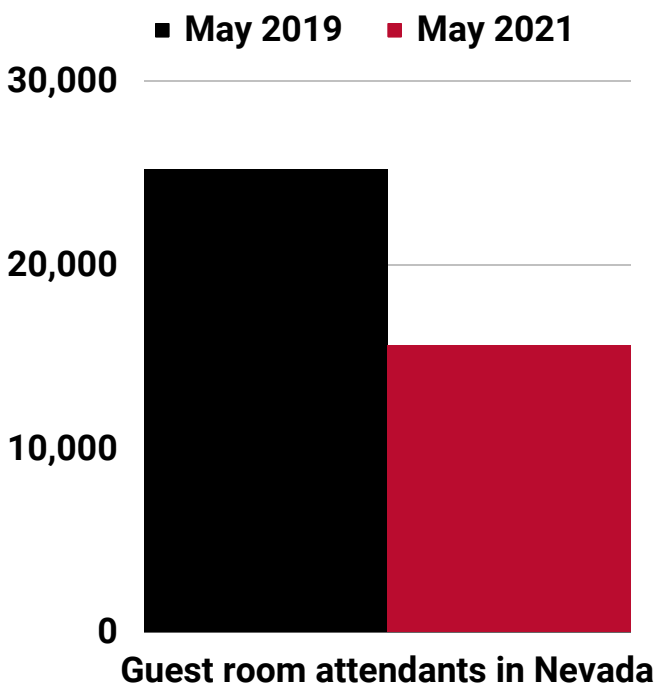
The lack of daily room cleaning unnecessarily downgrades and degrades the kind of resort experience guests would expect when paying hundreds of dollars either on vacation or on a business trip.

Dirty rooms, hallways full of garbage, customers hunting down toilet paper and fresh towels - it's not the standard Nevada's travel industry should be.





ENDING DAILY ROOM CLEANING = 40% OF HOUSEKEEPING JOBS WOULD BE ELIMINATED



In Nevada, there were 25,140 workers working as guest room attendants in May 2019. By May 2021, that number was only 15,580 statewide.

A roughly 40% reduction due to the elimination of daily room cleaning would mean the destruction of 9,800 jobs and \$310 million in lost wages for workers in our community and a windfall profit for Nevada’s resort hotels and companies.

This would be an absolute blow to a group of workers, who are majority women and women of color, who have already been economically most impacted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

BARBARA PEREZ, GUEST ROOM ATTENDANT

"One of my coworkers is a guest room attendant was attacked last year by a guest while she was cleaning a room. She pressed the safety button, but security did not come to help her.

She was wearing high-compression shape-wear under her uniform and thanks to that piece of clothing, the man was unable to achieve his goal. The man ran away when he realized that he couldn't get any further during the attack.

Daily room cleaning is a safety issue.

Guest room attendants are often working alone in the hallways if there isn't daily room cleaning. When there is daily room cleaning, workers know their customers and are able to watch for each other because there are more guest room attendants on the clock.

We, the guest room attendants, ask the Nevada Legislature to stand up for working women and protect us by opposing SB441."



DAILY ROOM CLEANING IS A SAFETY ISSUE FOR WORKING WOMEN

When daily room cleaning is NOT happening, guest room attendants are often working isolated and alone in the hallways and casino towers.

When there IS daily room cleaning, workers know their customers and are able to watch for each other because there are more guest room attendants on the clock.

ELENA NEWMAN, GUEST ROOM ATTENDANT



"When rooms are not cleaned daily, there is excessive work. There is soap scum built up in the bathroom, lots of trash in the room, and it takes a lot longer to clean and vacuum the rooms. It gives me a lot of stress because I get behind on my work.

Recently my coworker and I found a man sleeping in the hotel tower that we were assigned to clean, I pushed the safety button and called my supervisor, but by the time security showed up the guy was long gone.

Daily room cleaning is a safety issue. When we aren't cleaning daily, there is less workers and when there are less workers in these massive hotel towers, we aren't able to look out for each other.

By law we need to clean the rooms every day. We want to keep that law.

I ask the Nevada Legislature to oppose SB441. This legislation won't protect us."



RAWANDA ROGERS GUEST ROOM ATTENDANT

"A few weeks ago, while I was working, I had a gentleman force his way into a room I was cleaning. I called security, but it took them over 30 minutes to respond."

If SB441 passes, we could lose a lot of guest room attendants who don't want to work in an environment where workers feel they are at risk.

If there is a shortage of guest room attendants, then the workload will increase, which will lead to more unsafe working conditions.

Daily room cleaning is a safety issue. I've seen guns, drugs, and needles in guest rooms while cleaning. For the safety of my coworkers and I, please oppose SB441."

DAILY ROOM CLEANING IS A SAFETY ISSUE FOR WORKING WOMEN

A serious concern that is always on guest room attendant's mind is the threat of another mass shooting like October 1.

Culinary Union hears constantly from guest room attendants, union and non-union, about this issue and we must do everything to prevent another October 1, which includes ensuring that rooms aren't locked up for days.

GLADIS BLANCO GUEST ROOM ATTENDANT

"Daily room cleaning is a safety issue. When it's been three or four days since I've been assigned to clean a room and someone has been staying there all week, I'm never sure what I'm going to find behind that door."

I worry that there could be a body, a totally trashed room, or I'm worried I'll find a stash of guns like what was in the hotel room on October 1.

As guest room attendants on the casino floors, we also see a lot of guests who get mad and they ask us why we haven't cleaned their room.

Often, the guests want their rooms cleaned or new towels, but if the company hasn't assigned this room to be cleaned, the guest has to look for us on the floors to get more toilet paper. Oppose SB441!"





NVLEG MUST SUPPORT NEIGHBORHOOD STABILITY



NEIGHBORHOOD STABILITY(SB426) PROTECTS WORKING FAMILIES

Neighborhood Stability (SB426):

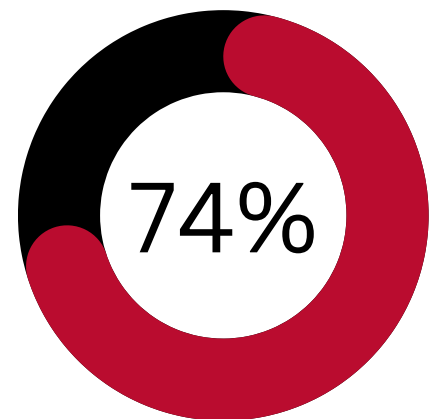
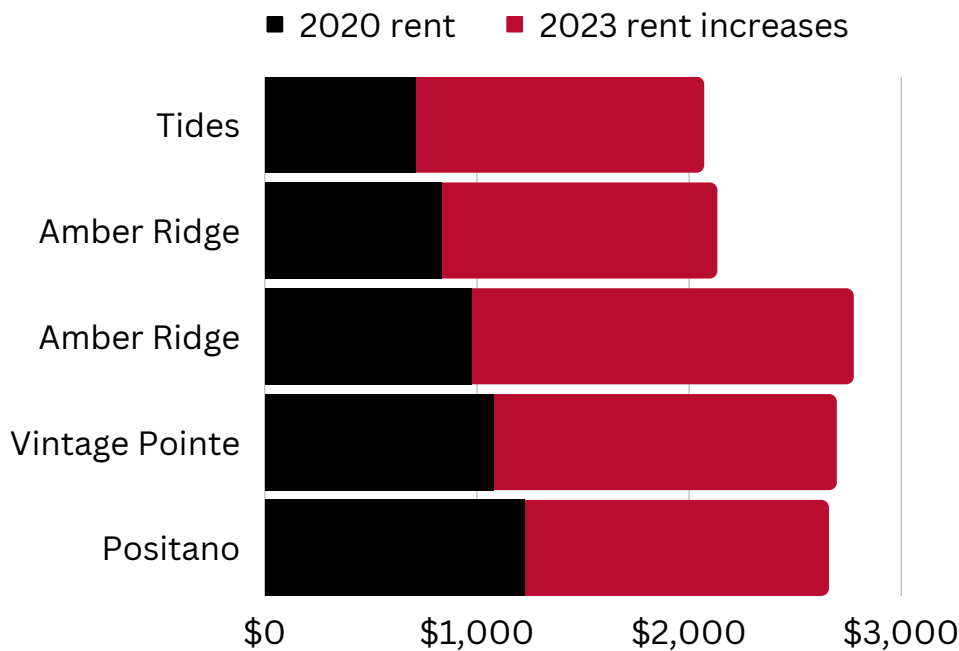
- *Prohibits rent increases for the first year of tenancy.
- *Would tie rent increases to the cost of living with a 5% cap, exempting small business mom/pop and new construction.
- *Includes commonsense exemptions for units built in the last 15 years and for mom/pop landlords who only own 1 unit or live in a multi-unit building.
- *The bill would also require a 90-day notice for rent increases given to existing tenants.
- *This bill is not rent control because it only applies during a tenancy and allows for reasonable rent increases.
- *It would be administered by the Nevada Housing Division and enforced through the Nevada Courts.
- *A provision allows landlords to apply for a hardship exemption when their costs increase.
- *Landlords who violate the law will be liable for 3-months rent (plus actual damages suffered by the tenant).

The Nevada Legislature must stand up for Nevadans and against corporate Wall Street landlords who are price-gouging working families. Neighborhood Stability is the solution and we urge political leaders in Nevada to support and champion SB426.





THERE IS NOT A SINGLE STATE, METRO AREA, OR COUNTY IN THE USA WHERE A TYPICAL MINIMUM WAGE WORKER CAN AFFORD A 2-BEDROOM RENTAL



In a March 2023 poll, 74% of Nevadans said that they support Neighborhood Stability.



**KIMBERLY IRELAND
BELL DESK DISPATCHER**

"I currently pay \$3,000 for a 3-bedroom house. I've been only living here for one month and now they want to increase the rent already. I can't afford that. I can't even afford what I'm currently paying right now.

Is that what rental properties are going to be like now? Only short term leases and constant rent increases until we are homeless?

Las Vegas is my home and I'd like to continue to live and raise my family here, but right now the rent is just too damn high.

We need Neighborhood Stability!"

**NEIGHBORHOOD
STABILITY IS
ESSENTIAL TO
PROTECT
WORKING
FAMILIES IN NV**

- *Long-time residents are being pushed out of their homes.
- *Senior citizens (whose rent increases exceed monthly Social Security payments) are forced to rely on taxpayer-funded assistance or are evicted.
- *Saving up for a down-payment can be an impossible hurdle for first-time homebuyers when their rents go up faster than the cost of living.
- *The loss of stable families in a community results in student turnover in our public schools and increased pressure on a student's mental health.
- *Local business suffer when customers need to move or cut back on spending when rent goes up.

**CARLOS PADILLA
BAKER**

"I'm paying \$1,800 in rent every month. The high rent has tremendously affected me financially. Now, I'm budgeting between rent, food on the table, and other necessities.

I would love to own a home one day, but with the way things are going I won't be able to save up for one.

Affordable housing should be for everyone who wants to own, but rental prices and fees are making it almost impossible these days.

Working people cannot be pushed out of Las Vegas and we need to do something now.

Pass Neighborhood Stability!"



See more stories at NeighborhoodStability.org



NVLEG MUST FUND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH



NV MUST INVEST IN YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH & EDUCATION BY PASSING AJR5

Nevada's mental health system has been underfunded for decades and has been the worst in the nation for years. It is particularly bad for Nevada's children.

While there were already concerns about youth mental health prior to the pandemic, the past two years have exposed children and adolescents to unprecedented events and a general sense of unpredictability in their lives.

Nevada needs sustainable, long-term funding to establish, educate, continue and expand programs to train, recruit, and retain mental health professionals, and to fill considerable gaps in Nevada's mental and behavioral health services system.

Nevada has an opportunity to create a longterm funding source directed towards mental health capacity building, without increasing taxes on Nevada residents or businesses, through a State Lottery.





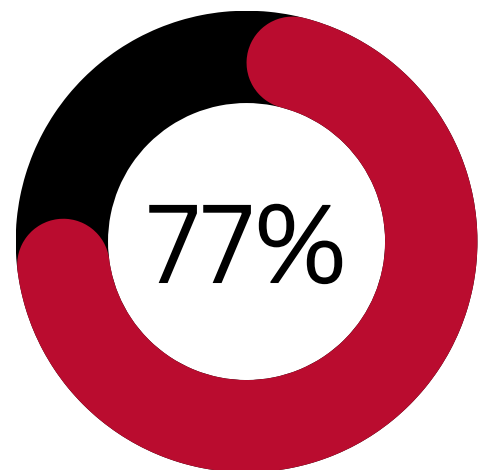
NEVADA IS ONLY 1 OF 5 STATES WITHOUT A STATE LOTTERY - THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE

Enacting a State Lottery is a dependable source of revenue for nearly every state in the country and in a state where gaming is the cornerstone of the economy, there is no public policy rationale to continue the ban on a State Lottery that is present in the Nevada Constitution.

Nevada is the regulatory gold standard of gaming and it knows how to properly administer gaming in a way that does not negatively impact citizens.

Sustainable investment in youth mental health is good public policy that is long overdue and implementing a State Lottery would allow Nevada to address an ongoing and urgent public health crisis.

As one of the largest organizations of parents in Nevada, the Culinary Union believes it is imperative that Nevada lawmakers address our mental health care system and urges the Nevada Legislature to invest in working families by supporting and passing AJR5, an amendment to the Nevada Constitution to establish a State Lottery.



In a March 2023 poll, 77% of Nevadans said that they would support a proposal for Nevada to have its own State Lottery with all proceeds going to the education, wellbeing, and mental health of Nevada's children and teenagers.



SUSTAINABLE FUNDING IS NEEDED FOR YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH & EDUCATION

Youth mental health is now parents' biggest concern and 40% said in a recent national poll that they are extremely or very worried that their kids struggle with anxiety or depression.

In Nevada, the numbers are stark. Nevada public schools are the most poorly funded in the U.S., according to a 2022 study by the Education Law Center. Nevada funds its students \$4,370 less per pupil than the national average of \$15,446, the study found, giving it a ranking of 47th in funding level.

In 2021 and 2022, Mental Health America ranked Nevada as the worst in the nation for overall mental health based on the prevalence of mental illness and access to care.

Nevada received a D+ on the Children's Mental Health Report Card and Fs for access to mental/behavioral care, adolescent substance use disorders, emotional disturbance, and juvenile justice.

IVAN LOPEZ NEVADA YOUTH

"I struggled with my mental health growing up and found it challenging to access the care I needed when I needed it and the pandemic put more stress on families like mine. We need more therapists and more locations for Nevada's youth to be able to access mental health support. We also need more resources in schools for children who lack access."

"I support a Nevada State Lottery to fund access and improvements of Nevada's mental and behavioral health services system. Funding youth mental health and education is an investment in the future of our society."

"I ask Nevada lawmakers to address the youth mental health crisis and make Nevada a better place for everyone."





CULINARY UNION ADVOCATES TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE & PROTECT ALL NEVADANS

The Culinary Union is proud of its decades-long history of advocating for and winning health care legislation that protects the entire State and all Nevadans.

The Culinary Union, through the Culinary Health Fund, is one of the largest health care consumers in the state. The Culinary Health Fund is sponsored by the Culinary Union and Las Vegas-area employers. It provides health insurance coverage for over 135,000 Nevadans, the Culinary Union's members and their dependents.

Culinary Union and the Culinary Health Fund are leaders in the health care policy space in Nevada and we continue to advocate for strengthening patient protections, lowering health care costs, and increasing transparency.

Federal prescription drugs and health plan protection: 2021-TODAY
Advocated with the federal delegation to pass Medicare price negotiation and subsidized coverage through COBRA for all workers losing coverage due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently working federally on expanding Medicare price negotiations to all health plans.

CULINARY UNION ADVOCATES TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE & PROTECT ALL NEVADANS

YEAR	BILL	NEVADA IMPACT
2021	AB278	Reporting of physician ownership, and annual ownership trending report to monitor private equity and consolidation of physician practices.
2021	AB348	Restructures the Governor's Patient Protect Commission to reduce industry representation and expand patient/nonprofit focus.
2021	SB420	Supports the intent of the public option to cover the uninsured against all health care entities.
2021	SB380	Builds on asthma and diabetes price transparency reporting to track price escalation to all drugs over \$40 with a price increase of 10% or more.
2021	SB329	Ends hospital contracts that prohibit competition with all-or-nothing contracting, requires reporting of hospital mergers and acquisitions. Nationally and in Nevada there has been significant consolidation in the health care industry. Studies repeatedly show that hospital and physician consolidation reduces competition and results in higher prices without improvements in quality. Nevada Hospital association is currently suing in the supreme court against this bill.
2021	SB262	Builds on the insulin bill, expanding pharmaceutical industry pricing transparency to essential asthma medications.
2019	AB317	Requires comprehensive assessments of need to determine trauma care shortage areas in the state and ensures trauma system expansion meets community need, not hospital ability to profit.
2019	AB469	Ends surprise bills in Nevada, taking patients out of the middle for emergency and doctor bills out of network, requiring they pay only the copays owed to a network provider. This bill was led by Culinary Union and passed by the legislature two previous times, with hospital and doctor opposition, and finally signed by a Democratic Governor. Saved Nevada patients \$1 million in medical bills and debt in 2022.
2019	SB276	Study concerning the Costs of Prescription Drugs, resulting in 5 bills introduced during session: Licensing PBMs, Purchasing Coalitions, Cost Share Options, Licensing Pharmaceutical Reps, Drug Price Transparency.
2019	SB544	Championed proposal for what became the Governor's Patient Protection Commission, intended to give patients a voice in the state.
2017	SB539 & SB265	First in nation pharmaceutical industry pricing transparency reporting for essential diabetes medications. Sued by PHRMA and BIO up to Supreme Court regarding trade secrets.
2017	AB382	Passed surprise medical bills – vetoed by Republican Governor.
2015		Prevents for profit hospitals from redirecting federal disproportionate share income from the public hospital to the for-profit hospitals.
2009		Mandates hospitals inform a patient about a facility acquired infection.
2007	AB232	First prescription drug transparency bill requiring pharmacy board to post drug prices.
2007	AB410	Creation of state immunization tracking program which became WEBIZ.
2005		Employers must provide health insurance coverage for reduced tax.
2005	AB353	Increases and mandate amount hospitals have to discount bills for the uninsured. Prevent attempts by hospitals to eliminate requirements to provide .6% of charity care.
2005	AB342	Mandates hospitals report sentinel events.
2003-2005		Protection of Public Hospital funding – avoid diverting public dollars to for profit hospitals. Help create funding structure to protect the state Children's Health Program, funding for Medicaid.
2003	SB133	Dental Reciprocity - changes dental licensing laws to allow dental reciprocity in NV, moving Nevada from 49th to 28th in country for dentists.



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