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Room Tax Petition Passes out of Assembly with Overwhelming Bipartisan Support *Measure Now Headed to Senate*

It is with great pleasure we bring you the news that the Room Tax Initiative Petition (IP 1) passed out of the State Assembly today with overwhelming bipartisan support. The committee of the whole met this morning to hear testimony provided by Legislative Counsel and fiscal staff, as well as, from NSEA President Lynn Warne. The body discussed IP 1 and held a vote for the measure of which 35 were in support and 7 in opposition.

"We are very pleased with the vote," said NSEA President Lynn Warne. "This state's budget crisis needs to be addressed and having turned down this revenue-generating measure would have been irresponsible. Further, we thank all the lawmakers who voted in support of IP 1. Their constituents will be proud their lawmakers followed the will of their vote."

More than 130,000 signatures were collected in support of the room tax hike which would generate approximately \$230 million for education—paid for solely by tourists. Nevada's gaming leaders joined NSEA in the efforts to circulate the petition and gather the required signatures that brought it before the Legislature.

"The teachers of Nevada are grateful for the overwhelming support this measure has received and are hopeful the State Senate will act in the same fashion and support the increase that will help fill the existing funding gap," added Warne. "This is not the end of the struggle but with the Senate's support it can be the beginning of the end. We believe this funding will reverse the destructive downward spiral of underfunding our schools."

ACTION NEEDED

—Contact the Assemblypersons who voted in favor of IP 1. Go to www.nsea-nv.org/LAC.htm for a list of lawmakers you should thank for voting in favor of IP 1.

—Contact the members of the Senate and urge them to hear IP 1 expeditiously. Go to www.nsea-nv.org/LAC.htm and contact the Senate today! You will also be able to access a list of talking points for your message.

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