

May 11, 2021

*Re: AB 286 Neutral Testimony*

Greetings Chair Scheible and Members of the Committee:

My name is Athar Haseebullah and I serve as Executive Director of the ACLU of Nevada. While we stand in a neutral position regarding AB 286 as is currently presented, this bill previously contained a provision, removed via amendment, that would have required gaming establishments to call law enforcement on civilians in lawful possession of a firearm without any verbal warning. Should that language return, ACLU of Nevada will oppose this bill.

Constitutionality aside, and there are constitutional issues to be explored within that provision should it ever return, that provision posed numerous practical problems. That provision would have entrusted both casinos and law enforcement to simply be unbiased in enforcement. That provision would have increased dangerous, and potentially deadly, interactions between civilians, especially people of color, and law enforcement. That provision also would have created a pipeline for law enforcement to engage in stop-and-frisk in a state that permits CCWs.

When this body declared "racism a public health crisis" in response to nationwide and statewide protests against racial injustice in the summer of 2020, it was presumably done in part to prevent constant and dangerous interactions between law enforcement and communities of color. Creating new pipelines for these interactions undercuts that message. We are closely following this bill to ensure the aforementioned provision does not return.

Best,



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