



- Aliante Casino + Hotel + Spa
- ARIA Resort and Casino
- Bally's Las Vegas
- Bellagio Las Vegas
- Boulder Station Hotel & Casino
- Buffalo Bill's Resort & Casino
- Caesars Palace Las Vegas
- California Hotel & Casino Las Vegas
- Cannery Casino Hotel
- Delano Las Vegas
- Eastside Cannery Casino Hotel
- Encore Las Vegas
- Excalibur Hotel Casino Las Vegas
- Fiesta Henderson
- Fiesta Rancho
- Flamingo Las Vegas
- Fremont Hotel & Casino
- Gold Coast Hotel & Casino Las Vegas
- Green Valley Ranch Resort Casino & Spa
- Harrah's Las Vegas
- Harrah's Laughlin
- Luxor Las Vegas
- Main Street Station Casino Brewery Hotel
- Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino Las Vegas
- MGM Grand
- Mirage Las Vegas
- New York-New York Hotel & Casino
- Palace Station Hotel & Casino
- Palms Casino Resort Spa
- Paris Las Vegas
- Park MGM Las Vegas
- Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino Las Vegas
- Plaza Hotel & Casino
- Primm Valley Resort & Casino
- Red Rock Casino Resort Spa
- Resorts World Las Vegas
- SAHARA Las Vegas
- Sam's Town Hotel & Gambling Hall
- Santa Fe Station Hotel Casino
- Silver Sevens Hotel & Casino
- Silverton Casino Hotel Las Vegas
- South Point Hotel Casino & Spa
- Suncoast Hotel & Casino
- Sunset Station Hotel Casino
- Texas Station Gambling Hall & Hotel
- The Cromwell Las Vegas
- The D Las Vegas Casino & Hotel
- The Drew Las Vegas
- The LINQ Promenade + Experience
- The M Resort Spa Casino Las Vegas
- The Orleans Hotel & Casino
- The Palazzo Las Vegas
- The Venetian Las Vegas
- Tropicana Las Vegas
- Vdara Hotel & Spa
- Whiskey Pete's Hotel & Casino
- Wild Wild West Gambling Hall & Hotel
- Wynn Las Vegas
- Atlantis Casino Resort Spa
- Circus Circus Hotel Casino Reno
- Club Cal Neva Casino Downtown Reno
- Eldorado Resort Casino Reno
- Grand Sierra Resort and Casino Reno
- Harrah's Lake Tahoe
- Harrah's Reno
- Harveys Lake Tahoe
- Nugget Casino Resort
- Peppermill Resort Spa Casino Reno
- Sands Regency Casino Hotel
- Silver Legacy Resort Casino Reno

March 20, 2020

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jacky Rosen
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dina Titus
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark Amodei
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susie Lee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steven Horsford
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Cortez Masto, Senator Rosen, Representative Titus,
Representative Amodei, Representative Lee and Representative Horsford:

On behalf of all Nevadans, we thank you for your commitment and leadership during these unprecedented times. We appreciate that Congress is focusing its efforts concurrently on the two essential parallel tracks required to see us through this crisis: Protecting the nation's health and stabilizing our especially fragile economy.

As is the case for all industries and companies, the health and safety of our employees and guests has been our priority, and we have been doing all we can to safeguard our constituencies. Today, we write in regard to the severe economic crisis Nevada is already experiencing and continues to worsen each day due to the virus' effect on travel and tourism.

No other state in America depends on travel and tourism at the magnitude Nevada does. Nevada depends more on tourism than Alaska does on oil; Wyoming does on coal mining; or, New York City does on the financial sector. Las Vegas, the state's largest economic center, is more dependent on tourism than Detroit is on auto manufacturing; Seattle is on aerospace; or, Nashville is on music and entertainment. Each year, we welcome nearly 57 million visitors from around the world. As the state's No. 1 industry, we are the largest employer, the largest taxpayer and the economic foundation the state thrives upon.

Briefly, Nevada's tourism industry is responsible for:

- **40% of Nevada's General Fund revenue**
- **Supporting more than 450,000 jobs (one in three jobs in Nevada)**
- **\$20 Billion in wages and salaries annually**
- **\$1.8 Billion in industry-specific fees and taxes**
- **\$75 Billion in annual economic output (45 percent of the state's aggregate output).**

While various segments within the travel industry have been active on Capitol Hill sharing the impact to their respective industries, we want to alert you to the undisputable fact that **Nevada is the crossroads where all the segments of the travel industry meet – making us the national epicenter of economic devastation caused by COVID-19.**

The significant economic loss to Nevada's economy began in January when the outbreak in China affected visitation to Las Vegas for Chinese New Year and battered three of our largest Las Vegas-based companies with operations in Macau: MGM Resorts, Wynn Resorts and Las Vegas Sands Corp. In February, the cascading effect of cancellations in our meetings and convention business was relentless due to fears of the virus, resulting in the loss of hundreds of thousands of room nights and millions of dollars in visitor spending. **We estimate the impact of March and April meetings and convention cancellations is already approaching \$2 billion in lost economic activity** and subsequent events are generating losses multiple times this amount in the coming weeks. Las Vegas' meetings and convention industry alone supports more than 67,000 jobs and accounts for almost \$11 billion in economic impact.

Next, leisure travel plummeted as more people chose to stay home, resulting in never before seen low levels of occupancy. Finally, on March 17, 2020, to help stop the spread of COVID-19, Nevada's Governor ordered all casinos closed for at least 30 days. This necessary public safety initiative has immediately put **approximately three out of every four positions in Nevada's tourism industry at risk.**

The Nevada Resort Association has engaged an economic research and analysis firm to assess the economic impact of COVID-19 on Nevada. **Their analysis has determined that 320,000 employees relying on \$1.3 billion in wages and salary payments each month are at immediate risk. These numbers are nearly twice those reported during the Great Recession.** The near-term impacts of COVID-19 are devastating, not only for the industry, but the state as a whole.

At present, these impacts are being held at bay by companies' ability to maintain payrolls and employee health benefits while their businesses are effectively shut down. This condition is not sustainable; and, should those efforts subside, **Nevada could quickly see its unemployment rate increase above 30 percent and its state output fall by a similar**

factor. The ensuing strain on state and local governments and other service providers, which are disproportionately reliant on tourism-related tax revenues and will quickly deplete unemployment insurance funds and reserves, would be catastrophic.

While the length or severity of this public health emergency is not yet known, a model was created to estimate the impact on Nevada throughout the 18-month impact and recovery period based on what we know as of March 18. **The report concludes that if Nevada's tourism industry is shuttered for 30 to 90 days, recovery will require 12-18 months and the impacts are devastating for Nevada's economy, putting at risk:**

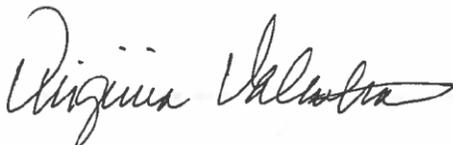
- **Nearly 160,000 jobs (in addition to the 320,000 mentioned above)**
- **\$7.7 Billion in wages and salaries (in addition to the \$1.3 Billion mentioned above)**
- **\$39 Billion in total economic output**
- **More than \$1 Billion in lost tax revenue (half of which would be expected to benefit the state's General Fund).**

This is an unprecedented economic situation that will have catastrophic financial ramifications for individuals, families, businesses and state and local budgets across the state. With each passing day Nevada's tourism-based economy is shuttered, the more difficult it is for Nevada to recover and for the state's largest employers to continue assisting their workers during these uncertain times.

As you can see, unequivocally, **Nevada is being hit hardest by the economic fallout caused by COVID-19, and we respectfully urge Congress to consider providing immediate economic relief and recovery to the lifeblood of Nevada's economy** – the hospitality, tourism and meeting and convention industry and its vast workforce – for the security of Nevada families today and for the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to share a snapshot of this continually evolving economic situation with you. Please contact me should you need more information or have questions. Godspeed in your efforts.

Sincerely,



Virginia Valentine
President & CEO
Nevada Resort Association