

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 21, 2020

Contact:
Bryan Wachter, Retail Association of Nevada: 775-771-8969
Paul Enos, Nevada Trucking Association: 775-843-7580
Randi Thompson, National Federation of Independent Business: 775-830-8407
Andy MacKay, Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association: 775-331-6884

Nevada Business Organizations Applaud Judicial Ruling to Require Two-Thirds Majority of Legislature to Raise Taxes

The Retail Association of Nevada, Nevada Trucking Association, Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association, and the National Federation of Independent Businesses issued statements Monday in response to Carson City District Court Judge James Russell's ruling on the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of SB551 and SB542 passed during the 2019 Legislative Session.

"We applaud the ruling by Judge Russell, confirming the intent of the voters to require a two-thirds majority to raise taxes in Nevada," said Bryan Wachter, Senior Vice President of the Retail Association of Nevada. "Legislative leaders irresponsibly gambled with education dollars and put our students' education at risk."

"Judge Russell confirmed that the Constitution is not a document that should be open to the partisan interpretation by the party in the majority," said Paul Enos, CEO of the Nevada Trucking Association. "This ruling clearly sends the message we have been saying all along that lawmakers should not have clearly disregarded the voters' intent when it comes to the Constitution."

"This ruling is a significant victory for Nevada's smallest businesses," according to Randi Thompson of the National Federation of Independent Business. "The burden of these unconstitutional taxes during the COVID-19 pandemic have added an additional hurdle to Nevada businesses that are struggling to keep their doors open, and this ruling will provide even the smallest relief."

Andy MacKay, Executive Director of the Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association shared, "Nevada's auto dealers, as well as our partners, have consistently supported the modified business tax as a reasonable and easy to understand method of taxation; however, we do not support taxation that defies the long-held practice of requiring a two-thirds majority vote for any legislation regarding taxation."

###