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Important Dates

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Senate Passes IP1

This afternoon, after two days of drawn out testimony the Nevada Senate finally passed IP 1 by a vote of 16 to 5. In an effort to shore up its declining budget, the Senate moved forward and agreed to the \$230 million room tax initiative. Aimed to increase student achievement and salaries, NSEA, and ultimately, our members were successful in getting this initiative passed by both Houses in the Nevada Legislature.

IP 1, the initiative which will raise the room tax on hotel rooms in both Clark and Washoe County, was borne out of an agreement with several major casinos in order to improve public education across the state of Nevada. Signed by over 130,000 Nevada residents and approved by over 400,000 voters on last November's ballot, IP 1 has finally made it to the Governor's desk. Once signed into law, the initiative will begin adding to Nevada's treasury as soon as July 1st and much needed revenue will go towards the critical services demanded by Nevada residents.

The NSEA, and indeed the whole state of Nevada are indebted to those NSEA members who took the time to help with the initiative. After several thousand emails, phone calls and volunteer hours, this organization stepped up to the plate and our voice was heard. The passing of IP 1 is a historic moment for the Nevada State Education and it certainly would not have been possible without you, our local leaders and members, who took so much time to ensure the passage of this important bill.

One final task is in order, and that is to get the Governor to sign IP 1 into law as soon as possible. In one last call to task, we encourage every member to contact the Governor's office to request a speedy signature that will guarantee Nevada's educators a better future. If you would like more information on IP 1, please visit the www.nsea-nv.org/LAC where you can also receive contact information for the Governor.

The passing of IP 1 was just the first step in an overall tax overhaul for the state of Nevada. Your NSEA Lobby Team will continue to work hard on your behalf. It is going to take a lot of work, time and effort to begin changing the inadequate tax system our state has depended on. The boom and bust cycle must end and with your continued support, the NSEA will be a leader in this effort.