

An Open Letter To The Public

As you may be aware, I have recently filed for reelection as State Assemblyman in District 7. I would like to take this opportunity to discuss my plans for the next Legislative Session. I am strongly aware of what the economic indicators signify for the voters of my district and believe my effectiveness in the Legislature has been enhanced by my service as Past-Chairman of the powerful Health and Welfare Committee, Chairman of the Clark County Delegation (1979 Session), past member of the Commerce Committee, Election Committee, and the Taxation Committee.

During my four-session tenure, I have supported legislation for the Senior Citizen Complex, Mental Health Community Programs, Disclosure of Generic Names for Prescription Drugs, expanded Medicare, repeal of sales tax on food and job programs for youth. I sponsored the sex education legislation which was the basis for the much needed course in the public schools.

I feel it is important to advocate for programming which will have a positive impact on the voters of District No. 7 during the immediate future. I support expanded Health and Medicare Programming and fully recognize the adverse impact of impending economic cutbacks and restrictions imposed by a severe economic depression.

My focus is on the future, and my District 7 constituents will understand my philosophy of "pre-planning for self-preservation" when I say, only the strong will survive the economic crisis which promises to bring a disproportionate amount of economic pressure upon the ordinary working man during the "80's."

I plan to seek avenues to diversify the economic structure of the area that will attract clean industries such as light manufacturing, warehousing, etc. This type of economic restructuring will bring more good paying jobs to the voters of District 7 as well as other Nevadans.

I also recognize the need to broaden the means of educating the public in regards to preventive medicine as a way of health preservation rather than the crisis-intervention type method to which we have become accustomed. Respecting the fact that health care costs are increasing rapidly, we can help ourselves and protect our health without spending additional dollars if reasonable preventive medicine programming includes such factors as pre-natal care, parenting, expanded first-aid facilities, personal hygiene, etc., much of which can become part of the public school curriculum without costly expansion of teaching staff.

I plan to support the expansion of restitution-not prison, as a reasonable and effective solution of controlling crime. Prisons in their present state, do not reform, they make people worse and often the prison experience delays and intensifies the threat to the public when a criminal is released... We need to turn to new solutions rather than warehousing as many criminals as possible.

The present prison system is costing the taxpayer at the rate of \$15,000 per year... per inmate, plus welfare support for many of the prisoners' families, multiplied by the dead-end, semi-existence which is the projected lifestyle of an ex-con who can never repay the victim of his crime and can never pay his way back into an unforgiving society.

When re-elected, I will pursue the avenues which are discussed here to bring about a better life to the people of District 7 and Nevada.

From Lonie Chaney
State Assemblyman
District 7

NEVADA'S LARGEST AND
MOST COMPLETE BLACK
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

JACOB

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inappropriate as the foundation for a national urban policy. The cities are in trouble not because of inadequate communication among local leadership but because of national

economic changes and policies.

Beginning with the massive federal effort that built highways and backed mortgages in suburbia, federal policies have helped drain cities of their tax base and weakened their economic foundations. Industrial decline,

along with insensitive federal policies that hurt urban economies have accelerated the problems of the cities.

So the federal government, as a partial maker of the urban dilemma, has an inescapable responsibility to be a full partner in stabilizing urban economies and in

restoring the cities.

And Washington can't tell the cities to look to their state governments for help. Besides being strapped for funds and victimized by federal policies themselves, it is state neglect that forced city governments to go to Washington for aid

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