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Campaign launches to Legalize prostitution in Reno and 5 other Nevada Cities/Counties

Las Vegas - A non-partisan PAC, A Safer Nevada, has launched a campaign to legalize prostitution in Reno (Washoe County) and 3 other Nevada counties: Douglas, Churchill and Lincoln, and in 2 Nevada cities: West Wendover (Elko County) and Carson City (the state's capital and its own independent city/county) for the 2024 Nevada general election.

Nevada is unique in that it is the only state in the USA to allow legalized prostitution in the form of brothels. Legal brothels are limited to counties with less than 700,000 residents. Even then, those counties can choose to ban prostitution, which is the case in Washoe, Lincoln, Douglas and Carson City. Lincoln County is particularly interesting because it once had legal brothels in Coyote Springs. However, in 1978, a vote, led by a reformist DA was held two years after a vote to keep brothels legal and voters voted to outlaw prostitution in the sparsely populated county. 10 out of 17 Counties in Nevada allow legal brothels. Many of the counties that allow legal prostitution have strict regulations, as seen in Churchill County, which kept brothels legal after a 2004 vote. The Churchill County Commissioners in 2005, however, made zoning for brothels next to impossible to operate. The 2024 ballot initiative for Churchill County seeks to change the zoning ordinances by allowing brothels in the county's largest town, Fallon.

"The time has come for Nevada to come full circle and legalize prostitution in every county. The legislature refuses, so ASN is taking the issue to the people," says Russell Greer, director of A Safer Nevada. "To do a statewide legalization initiative would cost around 2 million dollars. Unfortunately, established mega-donors aren't looking to expand prostitution legalization in Nevada. So our solution is we do these smaller initiatives and win in Reno and smaller counties, build up our credibility and thus inspire mega donors to back us in a 2026 statewide legalization effort, which would by default legalize prostitution in Vegas and anywhere else that isn't legal by then." The reason A Safer Nevada can't do a ballot initiative to legalize prostitution in Clark County (Vegas) is because of the state law banning prostitution in counties with more than 700,000. "To legalize prostitution in Vegas, the law, NRS 244.345, needs to change," Greer adds.



www.asafernevada.org



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A Safer Nevada is composed of two males and two sex workers. The organization also has partnerships with several volunteer organizations. For the rest of 2023 and early 2024, the group will be fundraising, with the ballot initiatives going out by April 2024. Donations can be made on their website at www.asafernevada.org/donate and are made through ActBlue.