Adopted Resolution: ****

**Pledging to Support Commerce Tax Repeal and Petition Drive**

**Adopted at the NvFRW Spring Board of Directors Meeting**

**Las Vegas, Nevada**

**April 16, 2016**

**WHEREAS,** In 2014, Nevada voters rejected Question #3, a gross receipts tax on company revenues, by 80 percent; and

**WHEREAS,** In 2015 Governor Sandoval nevertheless proposed and the Legislature passed into law a modified version of the margin tax (naming it the commerce tax) that applies to any business having gross annual revenues of more than $4 million in Nevada, whether the business makes a profit or not; and imposes 26 different tax rates depending on the industry; and

**WHEREAS,** A coalition led by Nevada Controller Ron Knecht is circulating a petition to place a referendum on the November 2016 ballot to either approve or repeal the commerce tax, which is estimated to raise $121 million a year as part of Gov. Sandoval’s $1.5 billion package of new and increased taxes (the largest tax increase in Nevada’s history); and

**WHEREAS,** The constitutionality of the referendum petition has been upheld at the District Court level, and is expected to be upheld by the Nevada Supreme Court as well; and

**WHEREAS,** A “YES” vote on the referendum will keep the commerce tax, but prevent it from ever being changed in any way without a vote of the people; and

**WHEREAS,** A “NO” vote on the referendum will cause the commerce tax to be repealed; and

**WHEREAS,** A “NO” vote will not cause the budget to be unbalanced, because commerce tax revenues will already have been collected for the 2015-2016 biennium, and the 2017-18 budget will reflect the results of the vote on the referendum; and

**WHEREAS,** Signing the petition only indicates that you want voters to decide in November whether to approve or disapprove the commerce tax and does not indicate whether you want to approve or disapprove the commerce tax

**RESOLVED**, That the Nevada Federation of Republican Women pledges to actively support the petition drive to gather 80,000 signatures to ensure the 55,234 valid signatures needed to place the referendum on the November ballot, including at least 13,809 in each of Nevada’s four congressional districts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Nevada Federation of Republican Women pledges to actively support the repeal of the commerce tax in November 2016; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Nevada Federation of Republican Women urges each member club to organize petition drives to gather signatures in favor of placing the referendum on the ballot; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Nevada Federation of Republican Women urges each member club to support the repeal of the commerce tax in November 2016.

*Adopted by the Nevada Federation of Republican Women on this, the 16th day of April, 2016.*