

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 14, 2019

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Nevada GOED Partners with Business Leaders to Create New Economic Task Force to Strengthen State's Trade with India

LAS VEGAS – The Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) in an effort to strengthen the cooperation with one of the state's leading trading partners has created the Nevada-India Economic Development and Business Task Force.

The new task force will meet tonight for the first time at a dinner at the Mint Indian Bistro, 4246 S. Durango Dr, at 6 p.m. Ambassador Sanjay Panda, India's Consul General for the West Coast, will attend the dinner. GOED partnered with the Las Vegas India Chamber of Commerce to develop the task force to increase Nevada businesses' exports to India.

"India is a very important trading partner with our state and I believe this newly created task force will help increase exports from Nevada to India and grow our economy," Gov. Steve Sisolak said. "The Nevada-India Economic Development and Business Task Force will create opportunities for small businesses to expand into the Indian market."

Nevada businesses exported more than \$1.8 billion in products, goods and services to India in 2017 making the country the second largest trading partner behind Switzerland, which made up nearly 30 percent of the state's exports with \$4.7 billion.

"Partnerships like this task force will help all Nevada businesses grow by providing insight into India's market and access to Nevada businesses that already export to the country," said GOED Executive Director Paul Anderson. "I expect we will see the amount of exports to India grow as a result of this new partnership."

The task force is comprised of Nevada business owners who export to India, members of the state's Indian community and local educational and health care industry officials. The purpose of the group is to attract direct investment in Nevada, strive to expand the amount of exports and support collaboration with higher education and training opportunities.

"I am excited about the opportunity to help Nevada businesses expand into India and what a growing economy means for every Nevadan," said, Rita Vaswani, president of the Las Vegas India Chamber of Commerce and a member of Gov. Sisolak's transition committee.

Nevada also imported more than \$400 million in goods from India in 2017. Nevada's economy continues to see growth in international trade. In addition to Switzerland and India, Nevada companies exported \$1.1 billion in goods to Canada, \$804 million in goods to China and \$607 million in goods to Mexico in 2017.

For more information about the Nevada GOED's International Trade programs, visit diversifynevada.com.

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About the Governor's Office of Economic Development

Created during the 2011 session of the Nevada Legislature, the [Governor's Office of Economic Development](#) is the result of a collaborative effort between the Nevada Legislature and the Governor's Office to restructure economic development in the state. GOED's role is to promote a robust, diversified and prosperous economy in Nevada, to stimulate business expansion and retention, encourage entrepreneurial enterprise, attract new businesses and facilitate community development. More information on the Governor's Office of Economic Development can be viewed at diversifynevada.com.