

LAS VEGASSUN

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People stand in the shade while waiting to take a picture at the “Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas” sign July 8, 2024, in Las Vegas. On Tuesday, Las Vegas tourism officials predicted a 5% drop in room tax receipts, caused in part by the Trump tariffs and the White House’s hostility toward Canada and Mexico.

WADE VANDERVORT FILE (2024)

THE ECONOMY

Las Vegas tourism feeling the strain of Trump’s tariffs and traveler anxiety

Editor’s note: Este artículo está traducido al español en la página 8.

BY KYLE CHOUINARD
A version of this story was posted on lasvegassun.com.

The Las Vegas Visitors and Convention Authority is projecting a 5% decline in room tax revenue for its upcoming budget, LVCVA President Steve Hill said at Tuesday morning’s board meeting.

The authority budgeted \$360 million from room taxes for the fiscal year ending June 30. A 5% decrease would result in an \$18 million drop.

This downturn comes in the wake of President Donald Trump’s trade policy decisions last week to institute a universal 10% tariff and additional targeted tariffs on countries that have high trade deficits with the United States — actions economists warn could trigger a global trade war.

Trump has also ignited tensions between the United States and its two neighbors, hitting Mexico and Canada with tariffs. He also threatened to annex Canada.

Last year, 2.6 million people from the two countries traveled to Las Vegas, making up half of international travel.

Late last month, Canada, along with some European countries, also issued



WADE VANDERVORT FILE (2023)

Steve Hill, president of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, speaks during a ceremonial groundbreaking for a renovation project in May 2023 at the Las Vegas Convention Center. Speaking Tuesday about a projected decrease in room tax receipts, Hill said, “I’ve said repeatedly that one month does not make a trend, although we do expect that this is the start of a decline in international visitation. At some level, the conversation around the tariffs has also alienated some of our potential visitors.”

travel advisories for the United States as the new administration cracks down on immigration.

Hill called the projected decrease a “conservative approach ... in recognition that there’s some uproar.” The full budget will be presented at next month’s LVCVA meeting.

Travel via Air Canada and Aeromexico to Harry Reid International Airport both fell in February compared with the year before — 5% and 15.8%, respectively —

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Q+A

Alien Enemies Act spurs legal firestorm

ACLU vows to fight deportation order

**BY JAY WEAVER
AND SYRA ORTIZ BLANES**
Miami Herald (TNS)

In mid-March, the Trump administration sent more than 200 alleged members of a Venezuelan gang to El Salvador, using an archaic wartime law to deport many of them without any legal review or due process.

A federal judge in Washington, D.C., temporarily blocked President Donald Trump’s order to send the Venezuelan nationals to a mega prison in El Salvador. But the Justice Department asked the U.S. Supreme Court to lift the judge’s stay in a lawsuit brought in Washington by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of five Venezuelans detained in Texas.

On Monday, in a 5-4 vote, the Supreme Court overturned U.S. District Judge James Boasberg’s stay and allowed the Trump administration to resume the deportation flights to El Salvador. However, all nine justices said that the Venezuelan immigrants targeted for removal under the 1798 Alien Enemies Act can challenge their deportations in federal court — but they have to do it in Texas.

What does the ruling mean, and what may come next in the high-stakes legal battle? Here are answers to the key questions.

What is the Alien Enemies Act?

The Alien Enemies Act is a 1798 law that allows the president to arrest, detain and deport immigrants from countries at war with the United States. All citizens of that country in the U.S. who are over age 14 are “liable to be apprehended, restrained, secured, and removed, as alien enemies.”

In mid-March, Trump issued a proclamation.

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EL SALVADOR PRESIDENTIAL PRESS OFFICE VIA AP

A prison guard transfers deportees, alleged to be Venezuelan gang members, from the United States to the Terrorism Confinement Center in Tecoluca, El Salvador, on March 16.

EDUCATION

State school board weighs options for superintendent post



STEVE MARCUS (2022)

The selection of the next superintendent of public instruction for the Nevada Board of Education will ultimately be made by Gov. Joe Lombardo, pictured in 2022 at Resorts World Las Vegas.

Editor’s note: Este artículo está traducido al español en la página 8.

BY HILLARY DAVIS
A version of this story was posted on lasvegassun.com.

Nevada could face political uncertainty in its search for a new state education chief as the clock winds down on Gov. Joe Lombardo’s first term in office.

The Nevada State Board of Education is preparing to initiate the recommendation process to replace outgoing Superintendent Jhone Ebert, who will lead the Clark County School District as its superintendent.

While the state board has expressed urgency in beginning its search, the process may not proceed as swiftly as some inter-

ested parties hope.

The situation highlights a key difference in governance structures: unlike the Clark County School Board, which directly controls superintendent hiring decisions, the state board only offers advice on the appointment.

Under Nevada law, the governor appoints the state superintendent, maintaining the authority to select candidates regardless of the state board’s recommendations.

That makes the position susceptible to politics with just over a year and a half remaining in Lombardo’s four-year term, said Tim Hughes, the state board’s vice president.

At last week’s state board meeting, the first since CCSD named Ebert as its next leader,

Hughes reasoned that if her permanent replacement began work this summer and needed a learning curve of six to eight months, the hire would only be up to speed for another few months before the November 2026 election.

If Lombardo loses his bid for a second term, his appointee might exit office with him, Hughes suggested. (Lombardo, though, a Republican, did keep Ebert, whom Democratic Gov. Steve Sisolak appointed in 2019).

“I think because this is such a political process ... it would not be the worst thing for us to take a very thoughtful approach in terms of timeline,” Hughes said at the meeting Thursday.

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