

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 19, 2026

Adam Silver
Commissioner
National Basketball Association (NBA)
645 5th Ave.
New York, NY 10022

Commissioner Silver,

We write as the Nevada Congressional delegation to reaffirm Las Vegas' strong partnership with the National Basketball Association (NBA) and to underscore Las Vegas' commitment to supporting the league's continued presence and success in Nevada. For over 20 years, Las Vegas has hosted the NBA Summer League, growing significantly since its inception.¹ From this success, a strong basketball legacy, and serving as the host for the mid-season NBA Cup championships, we firmly believe that Las Vegas is an ideal home for NBA expansion. **As you consider the future of the NBA, we strongly urge you to build on the League's local momentum by selecting Las Vegas as a site for a future league franchise.**

Las Vegas has rapidly become a premier sporting destination, hosting Super Bowl LVIII, multiple Formula 1 Las Vegas Grand Prix, the National Finals Rodeo, WrestleMania 41 and 42, and home to the Ultimate Fighting Championship. In the coming years, we're also scheduled to host the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) College Football Playoff Championship in 2027 and the 2028 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four. In addition, we have added the National Football League's Las Vegas Raiders to our community and in 2016, the National Hockey League expanded to Las Vegas, where the Vegas Golden Knights have had significant support and success, including multiple Stanley Cup Finals and a championship in 2023.

Specific to the sport of basketball, we are also very proud that since coming to Nevada in 2018, the WNBA's Las Vegas Aces have garnered support from all over the country, making a name for themselves the moment they stepped onto the scene.² In the years since, the Aces are one of the most successful teams in the history of the WNBA, winning three of the last four league championships (one shy of tying the overall league record) and being the first team in the over 25 years since the league's establishment to sell out every home game.³

¹ Aschburner, Steve, and Archive. "From LeBron to Wembanyama, How Summer League Has Evolved over Past 20 Years." NBA, 10 July 2023, www.nba.com/news/how-nba-summer-league-has-evolved-las-vegas.

² Sampson, Amber. "Winning Ways: Las Vegas Aces' Success and Popularity Emblematic of the Growth of Women's Sports." Las Vegas Weekly, Las Vegas Weekly, 30 Oct. 2025, lasvegasweekly.com/news/2025/oct/30/winning-ways-las-vegas-aces-success-and-popularity/.

³ "Aces Become First WNBA Team to Sell out Entirety of Regular Season Home Schedule." *The Official Website of the Las Vegas Aces*, 20 June 2024, aces.wnba.com/news/aces-become-first-wnba-team-to-sell-out-entirety-of-regular-season-home-schedule.

We are also very proud to claim not only the Aces, but also the rich basketball history in the state. This history stems from the 1913 men's basketball program establishment at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), and the 1958 basketball program establishment at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). These programs have represented Nevada well, competed hard, and resulted in UNR tallying 23 conference championships and two NCAA tournament Sweet Sixteens, and UNLV achieving 12 conference titles and four NCAA tournament Final Fours, including the legendary 1990 national championship filled with NBA talent.

With unmatched hospitality infrastructure, world-class venues, and a deeply rooted, ever-growing basketball fan base, Las Vegas is uniquely positioned to host a new NBA franchise. Expanding the NBA to Las Vegas would further strengthen the league's standing not only in the United States, but internationally, serving as a meaningful step towards increasing NBA reach into global markets. As one of the world's premier destination cities, Las Vegas already attracts millions of domestic and international visitors each year, offering the league a built-in global audience and unparalleled international exposure through our millions of visitors from around the globe.

We appreciate the relationship Nevada already has with the NBA and look forward to expanding it further. Please continue to give our community the strong consideration it deserves. We stand ready to work together to ensure any new franchise's success. Please share this support with all those within the league discussions who will be involved in the league's decision on expansion.

Sincerely,



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senate



Jacky Rosen
United States Senate



Dina Titus
United States House of Representatives



Mark Amodei
United States House of Representatives



Susie Lee
United States House of Representatives



Steven Horsford
United States House of Representatives