

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

An electronic publication of the Nevada Taxpayers Association ♦ Serving the citizens of Nevada since 1922

ISSUE 19-7

Through March 1, 2019

March 5, 2019

This issue of Legislative Report contains a summary of bills, which directly or indirectly will have an impact on our members or be of interest to our members. It does not include industry specific bills.

Notes:

- ♦ Page numbers continue in sequence from the last issue.
- ♦ To access the full text of the bills reported in this issue, use the link which appears at the end of the bill summary.
- ♦ Unless otherwise shown, the effective date of bills reported is July 1, 2019. (The Legislative default date is October 1.)
- ♦ Some bills have a fiscal note, which is not indicated in the summary, as specific fiscal information is not currently provided.
- ♦ To review all bills introduced to date or the BDR list, click [here](#) or go to www.leg.state.nv.us and click on "Session Information – 80th (2019) Session."

TAXES: Administration

SB 238 – Nevada Tax Commission Members

Introduced by Senator Cancela and referred to Committee on Revenue and Economic Development. (BDR 32-133)

Requires one member of the Nevada Tax Commission have at least 5 years experience in the field of legalized marijuana. Creates the Responsible Use of Marijuana Public Education Committee.

Effective: Upon passage and approval for regulations and administrative tasks. January 2, 2020 for all other purposes.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6403/Text>

MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

SB 222 – Provides Hearing Aids to Children – Not Previously Reported

Introduced by Senator Hardy and referred to Committee on Health and Human Services (BDR 38-74)

Creates a program for children, who reside in a home at or below 205 percent of the federal poverty level, to obtain a hearing aid at no charge. Using current surcharges imposed on access lines of telephone company customers, the Aging and Disability Services Division, in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, shall annually designate the amount of money necessary to cover the costs of the program for a calendar year.

Fiscal Impact: The Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services estimates costs to administer the program in FY2019-20 at \$2,226,325; FY2020-21 at \$4,061,368; and \$8,122,736 effect on future biennia.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6367/Text>

FEES, FINES & PENALTIES

(See Issue 19-1, page 5, NTA's position on fees.)

AB 233 – Waterbasin Fees

Introduced by Assemblymen Kramer, Hardy, et al. Joint Sponsors Senators Goicoechea, Parks, et al and referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining. (BDR 48-45)

Authorizes county to pay salaries and other administrative fees out of general fund if money available from license fees is insufficient and the cost of levying an assessment is less than the cost of collecting that assessment.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6409/Text>

BUSINESS ISSUES

SB 243 – Prevailing Wage Regions

Introduced by Senator Hardy and referred to Committee on Government Affairs. (BDR 28-768)

Authorizes Labor Commissioner to split Nevada into no more than four regions for the purposes of determining the prevailing wage for each craft or type of work in those areas.

Effective: Sections 1, 4, and 7 upon passage and approval. July 1, 2019 for all other purposes.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6411/Text>

GOVERNMENT: State and Local**SB 245 – Tort Actions**

Introduced by Senators Ohrenschall, Cannizzaro, et al. Referred to Committee on Judiciary. (BDR 3-965)

Increases the monetary ceiling for tort actions from \$100,000 to \$250,000 and to \$1 million for an act of gross negligence against a governmental entity or employee.

Effective: For actions filed on or after July 1, 2019.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6416/Text>

GOVERNMENT: State**AB 220 – Lake Tahoe Basin Bonds – Not Previously Reported.**

Introduced by Committee on Ways and Means on behalf of the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System and referred to Committee on Government Affairs. (BDR S-435)

Requires the issuance of not more than \$8 million of the \$100 million in general obligation bonds authorized in 2009 to carry out the Environmental Improvement Program for the Lake Tahoe Basin established in 1997.

NTA Comment: October 1997 Nevada entered into an agreement between the Federal Interagency Partnership on the Lake Tahoe Ecosystem, the States of Nevada and California, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, and interested local governments agreeing to financially support the management and protection of resources within the Lake Tahoe Basin.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL//80th2019/Bill/6383/Text>

GOVERNMENT: Local**SB 237 – Election Security Audit**

Introduced by Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections on behalf of the Secretary of State. (BDR 24-970)

Requires Secretary of State to establish a pilot program to conduct risk-limiting audits of the 2020 general election. Requires County Clerks to conduct a risk-limiting audit of election results prior to their certification. Establishes that the signature provided on a voter registration application is confidential.

Effective: Section 6 on January 1, 2022. July 1, 2019 for all other purposes.

NTA Comment: This bill contains an unfunded mandate not requested by affected local government. It provides the statutory provision (NRS 354.599) that prohibits unfunded mandates to local government does not apply to this bill.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6401/Text>

STATE BUDGET: Appropriations NOT in Executive Budget**AB 229 – Historic Preservation Technical Advisory Program**

Introduced by Assemblywomen Swank, Carlton, et al and referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining. (BDR 33-299)

Appropriates from the State General Fund \$20,000 to establish a technical advisory program for the protection and preservation of buildings and structures in Nevada that are at least 50 years old. Provides for the qualifications of persons eligible to serve as technical advisors. Establishes timelines in which the appropriation must be spent or revert back to the State General Fund.

NTA Comment: The face of this bill does not contain the language “Contains an Appropriation Not Included in the Executive Budget.” It appears that NRS 281.D 4015 either requires that statement or the indication that the bill may have a fiscal impact but does not provide for both.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6399/Text>

GENERAL INTEREST

AB 226 – Permanent Identification Marker – Not Previously Reported.

Introduced by Assemblyman Daly and referred to Committee on Judiciary. (BDR 15-25)

Makes it a felony for an officer or employee of Nevada to require a person to undergo the implementation of a microchip or other permanent identification marker.

Effective: October 1, 2019

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL//80th2019/Bill/6394/Text>

SB 246 – Abolishes the Death Penalty

Introduced by Senator Ohrensball. Joint Sponsor Assemblyman Fumo. Referred to Committee on Judiciary. (BDR 15-963)

Abolishes the death penalty for murder in the first degree.

Effective: Upon passage and approval.

NTA Comment: See AB 149, Issue 19-5 page 6.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/6417/Text>



Thom Sheets is sworn in as NTA Chairman of the Board
by Nevada Supreme Court Justice James Hardesty
February 21, 2019 – Carson City, Nevada

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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