

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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

ISSUE 21-5

Through February 19, 2021

February 23, 2021

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, 2021. (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 – 81st (2021) Session."

TAXES

(See Issue 21-1, Page 1, NTA's Policy for Evaluating Taxes.)

TAXES: Fuel and Vehicle

AB 123 – Vegas Golden Knights License Plates. Requires 2/3s Majority

Introduced by Assemblymen Jauregui and Yeager and referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure. (BDR 43-797)

Imposes additional fees of \$10 for the initial issuance of the special license plates and \$10 for renewal for deposit with the State Treasurer for credit to the State General Fund. Requires State Treasurer to distribute additional fees on a quarterly basis to the Vegas Golden Knights Foundation to support nonprofit charitable organizations.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7444/Overview>

FEES, FINES & PENALTIES

(See Issue 21-1, Page 4, NTA's Policy for Evaluating Fees.)

AB 155 – Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board: Fees. Requires 2/3s Majority

Introduced by Assemblywoman Gorelow, Nguyen, et al (2) and referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor. (BDR 54-603)

Increases the maximum fee the Board may impose for the application fee, initial and renewal license fee, reinstatement fee and fee for obtaining license information.

Fiscal Impact: The Board projects an increase of \$17,235 in licensing fee revenue beginning January 2022.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7499/Overview>

SB 18 – Public Utilities: Fines (Issue 1, page 5)

NTA Position Added: Oppose if not amended. This legislation needs to be amended to provide for a tiered system of fines by establishing criteria for the fines levied. An increase of 100 times in the fine to be levied cannot fit every situation for levying a fine by the PUC.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7193/Overview>

SB 125 – Falconry License: Golden Eagles. Requires 2/3s Majority

Introduced by Senator Settlemeyer and referred to Committee on Natural Resources. (BDR 45-158)

Requires any person who wishes to transport, possess, or use a golden eagle for use in falconry to obtain a falconry license from the Department of Wildlife. Applicant must provide documentation to show compliance with applicable federal law.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7482/Overview>

BUSINESS ISSUES**AB 120 – State Business Licenses**

Introduced by Assemblymen Black, Ellison, et al (5) and referred to Committee on Revenue. (BDR 7-594)

Exempts a business from the requirement to obtain a state business license and pay the annual fee if during preceding taxable year, gross revenue of the business was less than the greater of \$400,000 or an amount equal to 10 percent of the amount of Nevada gross revenue which would cause the business to pay the commerce tax.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7441/Overview>

AB 124 – Employment Discrimination

Introduced by Assemblymen Duran, Watts, et al (15) and referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor. (BDR 53-169)

Prohibits employers from discriminating against employees on the basis of sex from limiting employment opportunities to not paying comparable wages for comparable jobs, to taking actions relating to the employment opportunities of an employee.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7445/Overview>

GOVERNMENT: State and Local**AB 126 – Presidential Primary Election**

Introduced by Assemblymen Frierson, Benitez-Thompson, et al (1) and referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. (BDR 24-99)

Creates a presidential primary system in Nevada on the Tuesday immediately preceding the last Tuesday in January of each presidential election year.

Effective: Upon passage and approval for regulations and administrative tasks and January 1, 2022 for all other purposes.

NTA Note: See also SB 130 GOVERNMENT: State and Local this issue.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7448/Overview>

AB 134 – Mail and Absentee Ballots

Introduced by Assemblymen Matthews, Dickman, et al (13). Joint Sponsors Senators Buck and Hammond. Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. (BDR 24-801)

Resets procedures for absentee and mail ballots to those existing prior to emergency procedures for the 2020 general election.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7458/Overview>

AB 153 – Performance Contracts

Introduced by Assemblywoman Bilbray-Axelrod. Joint Sponsor Senator Brooks. Referred to Committee on Government Affairs. (BDR 27-708)

Expands without limitation the use of any savings realized by local Government under a performance contract to include any finance changes and reinvestment of any savings after required payments are made. Declares the legislative intent for a state agency using performance contracts to reduce costs related to energy, water, the disposal of waste, or related labor costs.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7497/Overview>

SB 121 – “Blanket” Primary Elections

Introduced by Senator Kieckhefer and referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. (BDR 24-125)

Changes the nominating process for partisan offices to create a modified nonpartisan “blanket” primary system in which the names of all candidates appear on the primary election ballot and any registered voter may vote for any candidate, regardless of affiliation with a political party.

Effective: Vary from upon passage and approval for administrative purposes and adopting regulations and January 1, 2022 for all other purposes.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7459/Overview>

SB 130 – Presidential Primary Election

Introduced by Senators Pickard, Hardy, et al (6). Joint Sponsor Assemblyman Ellison. Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations. (BDR 24-37)

Creates a presidential primary system in Nevada in conjunction with the statewide primary election that is held on the second Tuesday in June.

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

NTA Note: See also AB 126 GOVERNMENT: State and Local this issue.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7492/Overview>

SB 131 – Grant Procurement Office

Introduced by Senators Pickard, Buck, et al (6) and referred to Committee on Government Affairs. (BDR 18-100)

Revises the powers and duties of the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management in the Department of Administration. Expands the duties of the office to assist local agencies and tribal governments that have entered into an agreement to receive the services provided by the Office.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7493/Overview>

GOVERNMENT: State**SB 128 – State Treasurer: NSHE Publicly Funded Scholarship and Grant Programs**

Introduced by Senators Denis, Kieckhefer, et al (2). Joint Sponsors Assemblymen Bilbray-Axelrod, Flores, et al (4). Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. (BDR S-535)

Directs the State Treasurer to contract with qualified independent consultants to conduct a study concerning the effectiveness of publicly funded scholarship and grant programs at NSHE, including the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program, the Nevada Promise Scholarship Program, and the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program. The study is conducted in consultation with NSHE.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7490/Overview>

GOVERNMENT: Local**AB 139 – Transfer of Enterprise Funds**

Introduced by Assemblymen Yeager and Gorelow. Joint Sponsor Senator Scheible. Referred to Committee on Government Affairs. (BDR 31-524)

Authorizes a county or city to transfer money from certain enterprise funds to pay the costs for constructing one or more fire stations. Establishes conditions for the use of the funds. Any remaining balance on January 1, 2024 reverts to the enterprise fund.

Effective: Upon passage and approval. Expires by limitation June 30, 2024.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7467/Overview>

AB 147 – Creates the Office of County Counsel

Introduced by Assemblywoman Nguyen and referred to Committee on Government Affairs. (BDR 20-119)

Authorizes a board of county commissioners to create the office of county counsel to perform the noncriminal duties otherwise assigned to the district attorney.

Effective: Vary from upon passage and approval to July 1, 2021.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7476/Overview>

STATE BUDGET: Appropriations NOT in Executive Budget**SB 132 – Juvenile Justice Assessment Centers**

Introduced by Senators Pickard, Settelmeyer, et al (6) and referred to Committee on Finance. (BDR S-553)

Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Fund to the Eighth Judicial District for the funding of support services provided by a juvenile justice assessment center. Any remaining balance on September 15, 2023 reverts to the general fund.

Effective: Upon passage and approval.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7494/Overview>

EDUCATION: K-12**SB 126 – Public School Libraries**

Introduced by Senators Dondero Loop and Lange and referred to Committee on Education. (BDR 34-76)

Requires each public school in a school district located in a county whose population is 100,000 or more and each large charter school located in such a county (currently Clark and Washoe Counties) to establish and maintain a school library that provides library services to the pupils, teachers, and administrators of the school.

Effective: Upon passage and approval for regulations and administrative tasks and July 1, 2021 for all other purposes.

NTA Comment: This bill contains an unfunded mandate not requested by the 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/81st2021/Bill/7484/Overview>

EDUCATION: NSHE**SB 128 – State Treasurer: NSHE Publicly Funded Scholarship and Grant Programs**

Introduced by Senators Denis, Kieckhefer, et al (2). Joint Sponsors Assemblymen Bilbray-Axelrod, Flores, et al (4). Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. (BDR S-535)

Refer to GOVERNMENT: State this issue for summary.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7490/Overview>

ELECTIONS**AB 129 – Campaign Finance**

Introduced by Assemblyman Roberts and referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. (BDR 24-508)

Changes thresholds for a PAC to open and maintain a separate account in a financial institution and report contributions and expenditures. Applies to every report for contributions and expenditures that is required to be filed by a PAC after January 15, 2022.

Effective: Upon passage and approval for administrative tasks and January 1, 2022 for all other purposes.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7451/Overview>

STUDY & ADVISORY COMMITTEES**SB 128 – State Treasurer: NSHE Publicly Funded Scholarship and Grant Programs**

Introduced by Senators Denis, Kieckhefer, et al (2). Joint Sponsors Assemblymen Bilbray-Axelrod, Flores, et al (4). Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. (BDR S-535)

Refer to GOVERNMENT: State this issue for summary.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7490/Overview>

GENERAL INTEREST**AB 123 – Vegas Golden Knights License Plates. Requires 2/3s Majority**

Introduced by Assemblymen Jauregui and Yeager and referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure. (BDR 43-797)

See TAXES: Fuel and Vehicle this issue for summary.

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/Bill/7444/Overview>

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