

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 170—ASSEMBLYMAN NOLAN

FEBRUARY 9, 1999

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Authorizes use of supplemental allowance provided for legislators to pay costs of additional housing during legislative session under certain circumstances. (BDR 17-60)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~for omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the legislature; authorizing the use of the supplemental allowance provided for legislators to pay the costs of additional housing during a regular legislative session under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE
AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** NRS 218.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 218.220 1. The per diem expense allowance and the travel and
3 telephone expenses of senators and assemblymen elected or appointed and
4 in attendance at any session or presession orientation conference of the
5 legislature must be allowed in the manner set forth in this section.
6 2. For initial travel from his home to Carson City, Nevada, to attend a
7 session or presession orientation conference of the legislature, and for
8 return travel from Carson City, Nevada, to his home upon adjournment sine
9 die of a session or termination of a presession orientation conference of the
10 legislature, each senator and assemblyman is entitled to receive:
11 (a) A per diem expense allowance, not to exceed the maximum rate
12 established by the Federal Government for the Carson City Area, for one
13 day's travel to and one day's travel from the session or conference.
14 (b) Travel expenses.
15 3. In addition to the per diem and travel expenses authorized by
16 subsection 2, each senator and assemblyman is entitled to receive a
17 supplemental allowance which must not exceed:

1 (a) A total of \$6,800 during each regular session of the legislature for:

2 (1) His actual expenses in moving to and from Carson City for the
3 session;

4 (2) Travel to and from his home or temporary residence or for
5 traveling to and from legislative committee and subcommittee meetings or
6 hearings or for individual travel within the state which relates to legislative
7 business; ~~and~~

8 (3) If he rents furniture for his temporary residence rather than
9 moving similar furniture from his home, the cost of renting that furniture
10 not to exceed the amount that it would have cost to move the furniture to
11 and from his home; and

12 (4) If:

13 (I) *His home is more than 50 miles from Carson City; and*
14 (II) *He maintains temporary quarters in or near Carson City for*
15 *which he has entered into a lease or other agreement for occupancy*
16 *during a regular legislative session,*
17 *the cost of such additional housing, paid at the end of each month during*
18 *the legislative session, beginning the month of the first day of the*
19 *legislative session and ending the month of the adjournment sine die of*
20 *the legislative session, in an amount that is the fair market rent for a one*
21 *bedroom unit in Carson City as published by the United States*
22 *Department of Housing and Urban Development prorated for the*
23 *number of days of the month that he actually maintained the temporary*
24 *quarters in or near Carson City. For the purposes of this subparagraph,*
25 *any day before the first day of the legislative session or after the day of*
26 *the adjournment sine die of the legislative session may not be counted as*
27 *a day for which he actually maintained such temporary quarters; and*

28 (b) A total of \$1,000 during each special session of the legislature for
29 travel to and from his home or temporary residence or for traveling to and
30 from legislative committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings or for
31 individual travel within the state which relates to legislative business.

32 4. Each senator and assemblyman is entitled to receive a per diem
33 expense allowance, not to exceed the maximum rate established by the
34 Federal Government for the Carson City area, for each day that the
35 legislature is in session or in a presession orientation conference and for
36 each day that he attends a meeting of a standing committee of which he is a
37 member when the legislature has adjourned for more than 4 days.

38 5. Each senator and assemblyman who maintains temporary quarters in
39 or near Carson City for which he has entered into a lease or other
40 agreement for continuous occupancy for the duration of a legislative
41 session is entitled to receive a lodging allowance equal to that portion of
42 the expense allowance which the legislative commission designates by rule

1 as being allocated to lodging, for not more than 14 days in each period in
2 which:

3 (a) The legislature has adjourned until a time certain; and

4 (b) The senator or assemblyman is not entitled to a per diem expense
5 allowance pursuant to subsection 4.

6 6. In addition to the per diem expense allowance authorized by
7 subsection 4 and the lodging allowance authorized by subsection 5, each
8 senator and assemblyman who maintains temporary quarters in or near
9 Carson City for which he has entered into a lease or other agreement for
10 continuous occupancy for the duration of a legislative session is entitled to
11 receive a lodging allowance equal to that portion of the expense allowance
12 which the legislative commission designates by rule as being allocated to
13 lodging, for not more than 17 days in each period in which:

14 (a) The legislature has adjourned for more than 4 days; and

15 (b) The senator or assemblyman must obtain temporary lodging in a
16 location that a standing committee of which he is a member is meeting.

17 7. Each senator and assemblyman is entitled to receive a lodging
18 allowance equal to that portion of the expense allowance which the
19 legislative commission designates by rule as being allocated to lodging, for
20 not more than 6 days in each period in which:

21 (a) The legislature has adjourned for more than 4 days; and

22 (b) The senator or assemblyman must obtain temporary lodging in a
23 location that a standing committee of which he is a member is meeting,
24 if the senator or assemblyman is not entitled to the per diem expense
25 allowance authorized by subsection 4 or the lodging allowances authorized
26 by subsections 5 and 6.

27 8. Each senator and assemblyman is entitled to receive a telephone
28 allowance of not more than \$2,800 for the payment of tolls and charges
29 incurred by him in the performance of official business during each regular
30 session of the legislature and not more than \$300 during each special
31 session of the legislature.

32 9. An employee of the legislature assigned to serve a standing
33 committee is entitled to receive the travel expenses and per diem expense
34 allowance provided by law for state employees generally if he is required to
35 attend a hearing of the committee outside Carson City.

36 10. Claims for expenses made under the provisions of this section must
37 be paid from the legislative fund. Claims for per diem expense allowances
38 authorized by subsection 4 and lodging allowances authorized by
39 subsections 5, 6 and 7 must be paid once each week during a legislative
40 session and upon completion of a presession orientation conference.

41 11. A claim for travel expenses authorized by subsection 2 or 3 must
42 not be paid unless the senator or assemblyman submits a signed statement
43 affirming:

- 1 (a) The date of the travel; and
- 2 (b) The places of departure and arrival and, if the travel is by private
- 3 conveyance, the actual miles traveled. If the travel is not by private
- 4 conveyance, the claim must include a receipt or other evidence of the
- 5 expenditure.
- 6 12. Travel expenses authorized by subsections 2 and 3 are limited to:
- 7 (a) If the travel is by private conveyance, a rate equal to the standard
- 8 mileage reimbursement rate for which a deduction is allowed for the
- 9 purposes of federal income tax. If two or more legislators travel in the same
- 10 private conveyance, the legislator who provided or arranged for providing
- 11 the transportation is presumed entitled to reimbursement.
- 12 (b) If the travel is not by private conveyance, the actual amount
- 13 expended.
- 14 Transportation must be by the most economical means, considering total
- 15 cost, time spent in transit and the availability of state-owned automobiles.

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