
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 481—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE
AND MINING

MARCH 11, 1999

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,
Agriculture and Mining

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to bees and apiaries. (BDR 49-1652)

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

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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 agriculture; eliminating the requirement for the registration of apiaries; eliminating the annual fee for colonies of bees; eliminating the requirement for a permit issued by the division of agriculture of the department of business and industry to transport apiaries, bees, hives, combs or other used apiary supplies in this state; eliminating the requirement for a permit issued by the division to import into this state certain bees, used beehives, honeycombs or appliances; eliminating the requirement for the inspection of certain apiaries of queen bees; 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 552.085 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 552.085 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires,
3 the words and terms defined in NRS 552.08505 to ~~552.0863,~~ **552.0862,**
4 inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
5 **Sec. 2.** NRS 552.0858 is hereby amended to read as follows:
6 552.0858 “Disease” means any condition adversely affecting bees, or
7 their brood, which may become epidemic, including ~~American foulbrood,~~
8 ~~mites of both the Acarapis woodi and the Varroa jacobsoni species,~~,
9 **without limitation, bacteria, viruses or invertebrate pests** and the presence
10 of undesirable genetic characteristics including those associated with Apis
11 mellifera scutellata or hybrids of this subspecies.

1 **Sec. 3.** NRS 552.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 552.160 1. The division may order the inspection of any or all
3 apiaries and all buildings used in connection with ~~{such}~~ *those* apiaries in
4 any district or districts of the state annually, or ~~{oftener}~~ *more often* if
5 deemed necessary, or upon report to it that there is reason to believe that
6 any apiary ~~{or apiaries}~~ may be infected with any disease, or that any
7 honey, honeycombs or beeswax are exposed to robber bees.

8 2. If ~~{such}~~ *the* inspection discloses any disease, the division may:

9 (a) Order the owner or any person in possession of the apiary to destroy
10 the diseased bees, hives and appliances *in a manner prescribed by the*
11 *division and* at the expense of the owner;

12 (b) Order the owner or any person in possession of the apiary to treat
13 the hives and appliances *in a manner prescribed by the division and* at the
14 expense of the owner ~~{}~~ if, in the opinion of the inspector, the nuisance
15 can be abated by treatment rather than destruction; or

16 (c) Proclaim a quarantine in accordance with chapter 554 of NRS.

17 3. ~~{If inspection discloses the existence of American foulbrood, the}~~
18 *The* order for destruction or treatment must require compliance within ~~{not~~
19 ~~less than 24 hours nor more than 72 hours. Any other order must specify}~~ a
20 reasonable time with reference to the nature of the disease.

21 4. If ~~{such}~~ *the* inspection discloses honey, honeycombs or beeswax
22 exposed to robber bees, the division may order the abatement of ~~{such}~~ *the*
23 nuisance in a manner appropriate to the circumstances.

24 5. The order must be served upon the owner or person in possession of
25 the apiary personally or by registered or certified mail, or, if ~~{such}~~ *that*
26 person cannot be located, by posting the order in a conspicuous place at the
27 apiary.

28 **Sec. 4.** NRS 552.212 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 552.212 1. A person shall not ship or transport into this state any
30 queens or other bees in screened cages without comb unless the shipment
31 is accompanied by a certificate of an authorized officer of the state of
32 origin certifying that all bees intended for shipment:

33 (a) Were inspected within 60 days before the date of shipment; and

34 (b) Were found to be free from disease and pests.

35 2. The division ~~{shall}~~ *may* hold a shipment which is not accompanied
36 by the certificate of inspection and notify the person who owns or controls
37 the bees that they will be destroyed after 48 hours ~~{from}~~ *after* the time of
38 the notice unless a proper certificate of inspection is supplied. If the
39 certificate is not supplied within that time, the bees may be destroyed.

40 **Sec. 5.** NRS 552.215 is hereby amended to read as follows:

41 552.215 When an inspection is requested by any person ~~{for the~~
42 ~~purpose of obtaining a certificate of inspection for bees or appliances, the~~
43 ~~applicant for such certificate}~~ *to determine the presence of disease or*

1 *colony strength, the person who requests the inspection* shall pay a
2 reasonable fee as prescribed by the division to pay the expenses of the
3 inspection.

4 **Sec. 6.** NRS 552.255 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 552.255 The following ~~are hereby~~ *may be* declared to be public
6 nuisances and are subject to abatement under the provisions of this chapter:

7 1. Diseased bees and any apiary in which they are found.

8 2. Honey, honeycombs and beeswax containing honey which are
9 exposed to robber bees.

10 **Sec. 7.** NRS 561.055 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 561.055 1. Three members of the board must be actively engaged in
12 range or semirange cattle production, one in dairying, one in general
13 farming, *one in general agriculture*, one in growing crops which are
14 planted in rows spaced to permit mechanical cultivation, one ~~in~~
15 ~~beekeeping, one~~ in the control of pests, one in the petroleum industry and
16 one in raising nursery stock.

17 2. ~~[No]~~ *Not* more than two members may be residents of the same
18 county, and the range or semirange cattle production members must be
19 residents of different counties.

20 **Sec. 8.** NRS 552.0857, 552.0863, 552.155, 552.157, 552.200,
21 552.210, 552.214, 552.220 and 552.270 are hereby repealed.

LEADLINES OF REPEALED SECTIONS

552.0857 “Destroy” defined.

552.0863 “Treat” defined.

552.155 Registration of apiaries; fees.

552.157 Annual fee for each colony in excess of 10.

552.200 Restrictions on transportation of apiaries, bees, hives,
combs or other supplies; permits for transportation; quarantine of
apiaries.

552.210 Importation of bees, beehives, honeycombs or appliances:
Restrictions; issuance of permits; diseased bees; entry in violation of
chapter.

552.214 Importation of bees for pollination: Acceptance of
certificate of inspection from point of origin; inspection upon arrival.

552.220 Limitation on transportation of queen bees.

552.270 Inspection of queen-rearing apiaries.