
SENATE BILL NO. 274—SENATORS NEAL AND COFFIN

MARCH 1, 1999

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYWOMAN GIUNCHIGLIANI

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Amends charter of City of Las Vegas to create six wards. (BDR S-1064)

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 the charter of the City of Las Vegas; amending the charter to create six wards in the City of Las Vegas; 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.** Section 1.130 of the charter of the City of Las Vegas, being
2 chapter 517, Statutes of Nevada 1983, as amended by chapter 526, Statutes
3 of Nevada 1997, at page 2514, is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 Sec. 1.130 Wards: Creation; boundaries.

5 1. The city ~~{may}~~ ***must*** be divided into ~~{as many wards as the~~
6 ~~city council determines are necessary. The wards}~~ ***six wards, which***
7 must be as nearly equal in population as can conveniently be
8 provided, and the territory which compromises each ward must be
9 contiguous.

10 2. The boundaries of the wards must be established and
11 changed by ordinance. The boundaries of the wards must be
12 changed whenever the population, as determined by the last
13 preceding national census of the Bureau of the Census of the United
14 States Department of Commerce, in any ward exceeds the
15 population in any other ward by more than 5 percent. The
16 boundaries of the wards may be changed to include territory which

1 has been annexed and whenever the population in any ward exceeds
2 the population in any other ward by more than 5 percent by any
3 measure which is found reliable by the city council.

4 **Sec. 2.** Section 2.010 of the charter of the City of Las Vegas, being
5 chapter 517, Statutes of Nevada 1983, at page 1394, is hereby amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 2.010 General provisions.

8 1. The municipal government and the legislative power of the
9 city is vested in a city council which consists of a mayor and ~~four~~
10 **six** councilmen.

11 2. Members of the city council may vote on any lease, contract
12 or other agreement which extends beyond their respective terms of
13 office.

14 **Sec. 3.** Section 5.010 of the charter of the City of Las Vegas, being
15 chapter 517, Statutes of Nevada 1983, as last amended by chapter 570,
16 Statutes of Nevada 1997, at page 2790, is hereby amended to read as
17 follows:

18 Sec. 5.010 Primary municipal elections.

19 1. On the Tuesday after the ~~1st~~ **first** Monday in May ~~1985,~~
20 **2001**, and at each successive interval of 4 years, a primary
21 municipal election must be held in the city at which time candidates
22 for ~~two~~ **three** offices of councilman and for municipal judge,
23 department 2, must be nominated.

24 2. On the Tuesday after the ~~1st~~ **first** Monday in May ~~1987,~~
25 **2003**, and at each successive interval of 4 years, a primary
26 municipal election must be held in the city at which time candidates
27 for mayor, for ~~two~~ **three** offices of councilman and for municipal
28 judge, department 1, must be nominated.

29 3. The candidates for councilman who are to be nominated as
30 provided in subsections 1 and 2 must be nominated and voted for
31 separately according to the respective wards. The candidates from
32 wards 2 ~~and 4~~ , **4 and 6** must be nominated as provided in
33 subsection 1, and the candidates from wards 1 ~~and 3~~ , **3 and 5**
34 must be nominated as provided in subsection 2.

35 4. If the city council has established an additional department
36 or departments of the municipal court pursuant to section 4.010 of
37 this charter, and, as a result, more than one office of municipal
38 judge is to be filled at any election, the candidates for those offices
39 must be nominated and voted upon separately according to the
40 respective departments.

41 5. Each candidate for the municipal offices which are provided
42 for in subsections 1, 2 and 4 must file a declaration of candidacy
43 with the city clerk. The city clerk shall collect from each candidate,

1 at the time of filing that candidate's declaration of candidacy, the
2 filing fee which is prescribed by ordinance for that office. All of the
3 filing fees which are collected by the city clerk must be paid into the
4 city treasury.

5 6. If, at 5 p.m. on the last day for filing a declaration of
6 candidacy, there is only one candidate for nomination for any
7 office, that candidate must be declared elected for the term which
8 commences on the day of the first regular meeting of the city
9 council next succeeding the meeting at which the canvass of the
10 returns is made, and no primary or general election need be held for
11 that office.

12 7. If, in the primary election, regardless of the number of
13 candidates for an office, one candidate receives a majority of votes
14 which are cast in that election for the office for which he is a
15 candidate, he must be declared elected for the term which
16 commences on the day of the first regular meeting of the city
17 council next succeeding the meeting at which the canvass of the
18 returns is made, and no general election need be held for that office.
19 If, in the primary election, no candidate receives a majority of votes
20 which are cast in that election for the office for which he is a
21 candidate, the names of the two candidates who receive the highest
22 number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general
23 election.

24 **Sec. 4.** On or before January 1, 2000, the city council shall:

25 1. Establish the boundaries of the wards added pursuant to the
26 amendatory provisions of section 1 of this act and designate these wards as
27 wards 5 and 6.

28 2. Appoint one person to each office of councilman added pursuant to
29 the amendatory provisions of section 1 of this act. The successor to the
30 office of councilman from ward 6 who is elected at the municipal election
31 in 2001 serves for a term of 4 years. Notwithstanding the provisions of
32 subsection 2 of section 1.140 of the charter of the City of Las Vegas, the
33 successor to the office of councilman from ward 5 who is elected at the
34 municipal election in 2001 serves for a term of 2 years. His successor who
35 is elected at the municipal election in 2003 and each subsequent successor
36 to that office serves for a term of 4 years.

37 **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 1999.