

SENATE BILL NO. 311—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

(ON BEHALF OF WASHOE COUNTY)

MARCH 4, 1999

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Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Allows adjustment of boundaries of county commissioner election districts in certain counties to equalize population within those districts. (BDR 20-567)

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.

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AN ACT relating to county commissioners; allowing the adjustment of the boundaries of county commissioner election districts in certain counties to equalize the population within those districts; 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 244.014 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2    244.014 In each county whose population is 100,000 or more but less  
3    than 400,000:  
4    1. At the general election in 1976, and every 4 years thereafter, two  
5    county commissioners must be elected respectively from two of the county  
6    commissioner election districts established pursuant to this chapter.  
7    2. At the general election in 1978, and every 4 years thereafter, three  
8    county commissioners must be elected respectively from three of the county  
9    commissioner election districts established pursuant to this chapter.  
10   3. The board of county commissioners shall establish five county  
11   commissioner election districts which must be as nearly equal in population  
12   as practicable. Each such district must be composed of entirely contiguous  
13   territory and be as compact as possible.  
14   ***4. As soon as possible after the data from each decennial census***  
15   ***taken by the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of***

1 *Commerce is made available to the county, the board of county*  
2 *commissioners shall revise the five county commissioner election districts*  
3 *by establishing new county commissioner election districts or adjusting*  
4 *the boundaries of the existing county commissioner election districts to*  
5 *the extent necessary to ensure the five county commissioner election*  
6 *districts are as nearly equal in population as practicable. During each*  
7 *odd-numbered year, the board of county commissioners may adjust the*  
8 *boundaries of the existing county commissioner election districts if the*  
9 *population in any district exceeds the population in any other district by*  
10 *more than 5 percent by any measure of population found reliable by the*  
11 *board of county commissioners, including, without limitation, a special*  
12 *census conducted pursuant to NRS 244.183. Any county commissioner*  
13 *election district established or adjusted pursuant to this subsection must*  
14 *be composed of entirely contiguous territory and be as compact as*  
15 *possible.*

16 **Sec. 2.** NRS 244.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 244.018 1. If new or changed county commissioner election districts  
18 must be established because of changes in population ~~for~~ *as determined*  
19 *from the data from the decennial census taken by the Bureau of the*  
20 *Census of the United States Department of Commerce, pursuant to*  
21 *subsection 4 of NRS 244.014 or because of changes in* applicable law, the  
22 board of county commissioners shall establish *or adjust the boundaries of*  
23 those districts by ordinance and provide for the election from specified  
24 districts of the proper numbers of county commissioners for 4-year and 2-  
25 year terms respectively so that the numbers of county commissioners to be  
26 elected at each general election thereafter will be as nearly equal as  
27 possible.

28 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 244.011, if at the time a  
29 general election is to be conducted for the election of county  
30 commissioners from new districts there is incumbent any county  
31 commissioner, elected at large or from a validly established election  
32 district, whose term extends beyond the first Monday of January of the  
33 following year, he is entitled to serve out his term and shall be deemed to  
34 represent the new district in which he resides.