

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 177—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
AGRICULTURE, AND MINING

(ON BEHALF OF TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY (SCR 16))

FEBRUARY 19, 2001

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Authorizes issuance of general obligation bonds to carry out Environmental Improvement Program in Lake Tahoe Basin. (BDR S-701)

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

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

AN ACT relating to the Lake Tahoe Basin; authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds to carry out the Environmental Improvement Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

1 WHEREAS, In October 1997, Governor Bob Miller, on behalf of the
2 State of Nevada, signed a Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal
3 Interagency Partnership on the Lake Tahoe Ecosystem, the States of
4 Nevada and California, the Washoe Tribe, the Tahoe Regional Planning
5 Agency and interested local governments, in which the parties affirmed
6 their commitment to the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact, to the sound
7 management and protection of the resources within the Lake Tahoe Basin
8 and the support of a healthy, sustainable economy and to achieve
9 environmental thresholds for Lake Tahoe, and agreed to cooperate to carry
10 out, including, without limitation, providing financial support for, the
11 Environmental Improvement Program; and

12 WHEREAS, The costs of carrying out the Environmental Improvement
13 Program have been apportioned among the Federal Government, the States
14 of Nevada and California, local governments and owners of private
15 property within both states; and

16 WHEREAS, The cost of carrying out the Environmental Improvement
17 Program that is apportioned to the State of Nevada and its political
18 subdivisions is \$82,000,000 for the 10-year period that ends in fiscal year
19 2006-07; and

20 WHEREAS, The State of Nevada and its political subdivisions have
21 already provided \$28,800,000 to meet their apportioned commitment,
22 which includes:



1 1. General obligation bonds issued in the face amount of \$20,000,000
2 pursuant to chapter 361, Statutes of Nevada 1995, at page 907, and
3 approved by the voters of this state at the general election held in 1996, to
4 carry out projects for the control of erosion and the restoration of natural
5 watercourses in the Lake Tahoe Basin; and

6 2. General obligation bonds issued in the face amount of \$3,200,000
7 pursuant to chapter 514, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 2626; and

8 WHEREAS, Chapter 514, Statutes of Nevada 1999, created the fund to
9 protect the Lake Tahoe Basin in the state general fund, directed the
10 Administrator of the Division of State Lands of the State Department of
11 Conservation and Natural Resources to administer that fund and directed
12 the Administrator, in cooperation with other state agencies, to coordinate
13 the development and carrying out of a program of environmental
14 improvement projects, for the Lake Tahoe Basin; and

15 WHEREAS, Chapter 514, Statutes of Nevada 1999, provided that money
16 in an amount not to exceed \$53,200,000 would be made available to carry
17 out the program of environmental improvement projects during the period
18 between the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2001, and the fiscal year
19 ending on June 30, 2007, by the issuance of general obligation bonds and
20 legislative appropriation; and

21 WHEREAS, The general obligation bonds authorized by chapter 514,
22 Statutes of Nevada 1999, may only be issued with the prior approval of the
23 Legislature or the Interim Finance Committee and pursuant to a schedule
24 established by the Administrator of the Division of State Lands; now,
25 therefore,

26
27 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
28 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
29

30 **Section 1.** The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the issuance
31 of securities and the incurrence of indebtedness pursuant to this act:

32 1. Are necessary for the protection and preservation of the natural
33 resources of this state and for the purpose of obtaining the benefits thereof;
34 and

35 2. Constitute an exercise of the authority conferred by the second
36 paragraph of section 3 of article 9 of the Constitution of the State of
37 Nevada.

38 **Sec. 2.** Money to carry out the program of environmental
39 improvement projects for the Lake Tahoe Basin established pursuant to
40 section 1 of chapter 514, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 2627, in an
41 amount not to exceed \$16,200,000 must be provided for the period
42 between the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2001, and the fiscal year
43 ending on June 30, 2003, by the issuance by the State Board of Finance of
44 general obligation bonds of the State of Nevada in a total face amount of
45 not more than \$16,200,000 pursuant to NRS 349.150 to 349.364, inclusive.
46 The proceeds of the bonds issued pursuant to this section must be deposited
47 in the fund to protect the Lake Tahoe Basin created pursuant to section 2 of
48 chapter 514, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 2628, and, except as
49 otherwise provided in this section, must be used as follows:



* A B 1 7 7 *

- 1 1. Projects of the Environmental Improvement Program to be carried
2 out by the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources:
- 3 (a) Forest Restoration Phase II \$1,450,000
4 (b) East Shore Access Erosion Control 150,000
5 (c) Riparian Wildlife Habitat Enhancement 168,000
6 (d) Water Diversion Survey to Maintain Stream Flows 25,000
7 (e) East Shore Fur Bearer Study 40,000
8 (f) Van Sickle State Park Phase I 400,000
9 (g) Sand Harbor BMP Retrofit 80,000
10 (h) Spooner Lake Visitor Center (Planning/Design) 200,000
11 (i) Shorezone/Stream Restoration Project 500,000
12 (j) Land Coverage Restoration 2,000,000
- 13 2. Water Quality, Erosion Control and Stream
14 Restoration/Enhancement Projects of the Environmental
15 Improvement Program to be carried out pursuant to grants and
16 project agreements..... \$9,300,000
- 17 3. Contingency money to carry out projects set forth in subsections 1
18 and 2 \$1,887,000
- 19 If an amount authorized pursuant to this section is insufficient to allow the
20 completion of the project for which it is authorized, including, without
21 limitation, any monitoring necessary to ensure the continued effectiveness
22 of the project, the Interim Finance Committee, upon the request of the
23 Division of State Lands of the State Department of Conservation and
24 Natural Resources, may increase the amount authorized for the project and
25 offset the increase by reducing the amount authorized for another project or
26 projects pursuant to this section by the amount of the increase. The
27 Division of State Lands may use money authorized pursuant to this section
28 for a project other than a project listed in this section if the Interim Finance
29 Committee approves such a use in writing before the Division of State
30 Lands engages in the project. The Division of State Lands may allocate the
31 money for project contingencies pursuant to subsection 3 without the prior
32 approval of the Interim Finance Committee.
- 33 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2001.

