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#### ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 19-COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

#### Prefiled January 17, 2001

# (ON BEHALF OF THE TASK FORCE FOR LONG-TERM FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND PLANNING)

# Referred to Concurrent Committees on Government Affairs and Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Creates forecast council and related technical advisory committees to produce long-term forecasts of state revenues and expenditures and estimates of impacts of proposed programs. (BDR 31-203)

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 state financial administration; providing in skeleton form for the creation of the forecast council and related technical advisory committees to produce long-term forecasts of state revenues and expenditures and estimates of impacts of proposed programs; establishing the projections and forecasts of the forecast council as the official long-term forecasts of this state for budgetary purposes; expanding the duties of the office of financial analysis and planning of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau to support the forecast council and related technical advisory committees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 353 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 2. 1. The forecast council is hereby created. The forecast council consists of seven members, as follows:

(a) The governor or an employee of the executive department designated by the governor;

(b) The speaker of the assembly or a member of the assembly designated by the speaker;

(c) The majority leader of the senate or a senator designated by the majority leader;



- (d) An employee of the executive department, designated by the governor, who is:
- (1) An expert with demonstrated ability in the field of economics, taxation or other discipline necessary to economic forecasting; and
- (2) Able to bring knowledge and professional judgment to the deliberations of the forecast council; and

(e) Three persons, appointed by the governor, each of whom is:

- (1) An expert with demonstrated ability in the field of economics, taxation, demography, urban planning, accounting, finance or other discipline necessary to economic planning or forecasting;
- (2) Able to bring knowledge and professional judgment to the deliberations of the forecast council; and
- (3) Not an elected officer, state officer or employee of this state or any political subdivision of this state unless he is an officer or employee at an institution of higher education.
- 2. The governor shall appoint the members of the forecast council required pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 1 not later than the date of the expiration of the term of the members previously appointed pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 1. If a vacancy occurs before the expiration of the term of such a member, the governor shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. The governor shall notify the director of the legislative counsel bureau of the name of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection or paragraph (e) of subsection 1 not later than 15 days after the appointment occurs.
- 26 3. A member of the forecast council appointed pursuant to 27 paragraph (e) of subsection 1:
  - (a) Serves for a term of 4 years; and
  - (b) May be reappointed.

- 4. If designated pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (d), inclusive, of subsection 1, a member of the forecast council serves at the pleasure of the officer or legislator empowered to designate that member.
  - 5. The forecast council shall:
- (a) Hold at least one meeting after September 1 but not later than October 31 of each odd-numbered year;
  - (b) At its first meeting after September 1 of each odd-numbered year:
- (1) Elect a chairman from among its members appointed pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 1; and
  - (2) Elect a vice chairman from among its members;
- (c) Adopt such rules governing the conduct of the forecast council as it deems necessary; and
- (d) Hold meetings as necessary to accomplish the tasks assigned to it in the time allotted.
- 6. The director of the legislative counsel bureau and the director of the department of administration shall jointly provide the forecast council with:
  - (a) Meeting rooms;
  - (b) Staff;
- (c) Data processing services; and



(d) Clerical assistance.

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- A majority of the members of the forecast council constitutes a quorum, and a majority of those present must concur in any decision.
- 8. While engaged in the business of the forecast council, a member described in paragraph (e) of subsection 1, other than a member who is an officer or employee of this state at an institution of higher education, is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally. In addition, such a member is entitled to receive for each meeting of the forecast council:
- (a) Eighty dollars for 1 day of preparation for that meeting; and (b) Eighty dollars for each day or part of a day during which the meeting lasts.
- 9. A member of the forecast council described in paragraph (a) or (d) of subsection 1, and a member described in paragraph (e) of subsection 1 who is an officer or employee of this state at an institution of higher education, must be relieved from his duties without loss of his regular compensation so that he may prepare for and attend meetings of the forecast council and perform any work necessary to accomplish the tasks assigned to the forecast council in the most timely manner practicable. A state agency shall not require such a member of the forecast council to make up the time he is absent from work to fulfill his obligations as a member and shall not require the member to take annual vacation or compensatory time for the absence. Such a member shall serve on the forecast council without additional compensation, except that while he is engaged in the business of the forecast council, he is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, which must be paid by the state agency that employs him.

10. Each legislator who is a member of the forecast council pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subsection 1 is entitled to receive:

- (a) Except during a regular or special session of the legislature, the compensation provided for a majority of the members of the legislature during the first 60 days of the preceding regular session for each day or portion of a day during which he attends a meeting of the forecast council and for I day of preparation for that meeting; and
- (b) The per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally.
- 11. The compensation, per diem allowance and travel expenses provided in subsection 10 must be paid from the legislative fund.
  - Sec. 3. 1. The forecast council shall:
- (a) Make such projections for economic indicators as it deems necessary to ensure that forecasts are produced as required by paragraphs (b) and (c);
- 44 (b) Provide a forecast of the revenue that will be collected by this state 45 during the decennium that begins on July 1 of the year following the date 46 of the meeting required by paragraph (a) of subsection 5 of section 2 of 47 this act;



(c) Provide a forecast of the expenditures of this state during the decennium that begins on July 1 of the year following the date of the meeting required by paragraph (a) of subsection 5 of section 2 of this act;

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- (d) Request such technical assistance as the forecast council deems necessary from the revenue technical advisory committee, the expenditure technical advisory committee, and the office of financial analysis and planning of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau; and
- (e) On or before March 1 of each even-numbered year, prepare a written report of its projections and forecasts required by paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) and present the report to:
- (1) The governor, for distribution to the budget division of the department of administration and other appropriate agencies; and
- (2) The director of the legislative counsel bureau, for distribution to each legislator and appropriate employees of the legislative counsel bureau.
- 2. At any time, the chairman of the forecast council may call for a review of the projections and forecasts contained in the most recent report presented pursuant to this subsection or subsection 1. Upon a call for a review, the forecast council shall meet to consider revising the projections and forecasts. If the forecast council revises the projections and forecasts, the forecast council shall prepare a new report and present the new report to the governor and the director of the legislative counsel bureau as required pursuant to subsection 1.
- 3. A report prepared pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 must include, without limitation:
  - (a) Projections and forecasts for each year of the decennium;
- (b) A discussion of the changes from the projections and forecasts contained in the immediately preceding report;
- (c) Specific identification and discussion of the changes from the projections and forecasts contained in the immediately preceding report caused by actions of the legislature during the immediately preceding legislative session; and
- (d) A comparison of previous projections and forecasts with actual revenues, expenditures and related facts.
- 4. Before or during each regular session of the legislature, a person selected by the forecast council shall appear before:
- (a) The budget subcommittee of the legislative commission appointed pursuant to NRS 218.6824; or
- (b) The senate standing committee on finance and the assembly standing committee on ways and means,
- to discuss the projections and forecasts contained in the most recent report presented by the forecast council pursuant to subsection 1 or 2.
- 5. The forecast council may request information directly from any state agency. A state agency that receives a request for information from the forecast council shall comply with the request as soon as is practicable after receiving the request.



6. To carry out its duties pursuant to this section, the forecast council may consider any information received from the revenue technical advisory committee, the expenditure technical advisory committee, the office of financial analysis and planning, and any other information received from independent sources.

- 7. Copies of the reports presented pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 must be made available to the public by the director of the legislative counsel bureau for the cost of reproducing the reports.
- Sec. 4. The projections and forecasts contained in the most recent report presented pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 of section 3 of this act are the official long-term projections and forecasts of this state. Any difference between the official long-term projections and forecasts of this state and the projections and forecasts contained in or used for:
- 1. A budgetary request of a department, institution or agency of the executive department must be identified and explained in the budgetary request.
- 2. The proposed budget submitted by the governor pursuant to NRS 353.230 must be identified and explained in the proposed budget.
- Sec. 5. 1. The revenue technical advisory committee is hereby created. The committee consists of nine members, as follows:
- (a) The senate fiscal analyst or an employee of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau designated by the senate fiscal analyst:
- (b) The assembly fiscal analyst or an employee of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau designated by the assembly fiscal analyst;
- (c) The chief of the budget division of the department of administration or an employee of the budget division designated by the chief:
- (d) The chief of the research and analysis bureau of the division of information development and processing of the department of employment, training and rehabilitation or an employee of the bureau designated by the chief;
- (e) The vice chancellor for finance of the University and Community College System of Nevada or an employee of the University and Community College System of Nevada designated by the vice chancellor;
  - (f) The demographer employed pursuant to NRS 360.283; and
  - (g) Three persons, appointed by the governor, each of whom is:
- (1) An expert with demonstrated ability in the field of economics, taxation, demography, urban planning, accounting, finance or other discipline necessary to economic planning or forecasting;
- (2) Able to bring knowledge and professional judgment to the deliberations of the committee; and
- (3) Not an elected officer, state officer or employee of this state or any political subdivision of this state unless he is an officer or employee at an institution of higher education.
- 2. The governor shall appoint the members of the revenue technical advisory committee required pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1 not later than the date of the expiration of the term of the members



previously appointed pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1. If a vacancy occurs before the expiration of the term of such a member, the governor shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. The governor shall notify the director of the legislative counsel bureau of the name of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection or paragraph (g) of subsection 1 not later than 15 days after the appointment occurs.

- 3. A member of the revenue technical advisory committee appointed pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1:
  - (a) Serves for a term of 4 years; and
  - (b) May be reappointed.

- 4. If designated pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (e), inclusive, of subsection 1, a member of the revenue technical advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the officer empowered to designate that member.
  - 5. The revenue technical advisory committee shall:
  - (a) At its first meeting after September 1 of each odd-numbered year:
- (1) Elect a chairman from among its members appointed pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1; and
  - (2) Elect a vice chairman from among its members;
- (b) Adopt such rules governing the conduct of the committee as it deems necessary;
- (c) Hold meetings as necessary to carry out the requests made by the forecast council pursuant to section 3 of this act in the most timely manner practicable;
- (d) Provide all assistance requested by the forecast council pursuant to section 3 of this act;
- (e) After receiving a request pursuant to section 7 of this act for an estimate of the effect of a proposal:
- (1) Prepare a written estimate of the effect, with regard to revenues, of the proposal upon the official long-term projections and forecasts of this state;
- (2) Present the written estimate prepared pursuant to subparagraph (1) to:
- 35 (I) The forecast council;
  - (II) The governor, for distribution to the budget division of the department of administration and other appropriate agencies; and
  - (III) The director of the legislative counsel bureau, for distribution to each legislator and appropriate employees of the legislative counsel bureau; and
  - (3) Present the written estimate, as required by subparagraph (2), not later than:
  - (I) March 1 following the commencement of the regular legislative session if the proposal is contained in the proposed budget submitted by the governor pursuant to NRS 353.230; or
  - (II) Ninety days after the commencement of the regular legislative session if the proposal is contained in a legislative measure; and



- (f) Request such technical assistance as the committee deems necessary from the office of financial analysis and planning of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau.
- 6. A majority of the members of the revenue technical advisory committee constitutes a quorum, and a majority of those present must concur in any decision.
- 7. While engaged in the business of the revenue technical advisory committee, a member described in paragraph (g) of subsection 1, other than a member who is an officer or employee of this state at an institution of higher education, is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally. In addition, such a member is entitled to receive for each meeting of the committee:
  - (a) Eighty dollars for 1 day of preparation for that meeting; and
- (b) Eighty dollars for each day or part of a day during which the meeting lasts.
- 8. A member of the revenue technical advisory committee described in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive, of subsection 1, and a member described in paragraph (g) of subsection 1 who is an officer or employee of this state at an institution of higher education, must be relieved from his duties without loss of his regular compensation so that he may prepare for and attend meetings of the committee and perform any work necessary to accomplish the tasks assigned to the committee in the most timely manner practicable. A state agency shall not require such a member of the committee to make up the time he is absent from work to fulfill his obligations as a member and shall not require the member to take annual vacation or compensatory time for the absence. Such a member shall serve on the committee without additional compensation, except that while he is engaged in the business of the committee, he is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, which must be paid by the state agency that employs him.
- 9. The revenue technical advisory committee may request information from any state agency. A state agency that receives a request for information from the committee shall comply with the request as soon as is practicable after receiving the request.
- 10. The director of the legislative counsel bureau and the director of the department of administration shall jointly provide the revenue technical advisory committee with:
  - (a) Meeting rooms;
  - (b) Staff;

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- (c) Data processing services; and
- (d) Clerical assistance.
- Sec. 6. 1. The expenditure technical advisory committee is hereby created. The committee consists of 11 members, as follows:
- (a) The senate fiscal analyst or an employee of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau designated by the senate fiscal analyst;



(b) The assembly fiscal analyst or an employee of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau designated by the assembly fiscal analyst;

- (c) The chief of the budget division of the department of administration or an employee of the budget division designated by the chief;
- (d) The chief of the research and analysis bureau of the division of information development and processing of the department of employment, training and rehabilitation or an employee of the bureau designated by the chief;
- (e) The vice chancellor for finance of the University and Community College System of Nevada or an employee of the University and Community College System of Nevada designated by the vice chancellor;
- (f) The superintendent of public instruction or an employee of the department of education designated by the superintendent of public instruction who has expertise in the budget and expenditure programs of the department;
- (g) The director of the department of prisons or an employee of the department designated by the director who has expertise in the budget and expenditure programs of the department;
- (h) The director of the department of human resources or an employee of the department designated by the director who has expertise in the budget and expenditure programs of the department;
  - (i) The demographer employed pursuant to NRS 360.283;
- (j) A person, appointed by the governor, who is an officer or employee of a local government of this state; and
  - (k) A person, appointed by the governor, who is:
- (1) An expert with demonstrated ability in the field of economics, taxation, demography, urban planning, accounting, finance or other discipline necessary to economic planning or forecasting;
- (2) Able to bring knowledge and professional judgment to the deliberations of the committee; and
- (3) Not an elected officer, state officer or employee of this state or any political subdivision of this state unless he is an officer or employee at an institution of higher education.
- 2. The governor shall appoint the members of the expenditure technical advisory committee required pursuant to paragraphs (j) and (k) of subsection 1 not later than the date of the expiration of the term of the members previously appointed pursuant to paragraphs (j) and (k) of subsection 1. If a vacancy occurs before the expiration of the term of such a member, the governor shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. The governor shall notify the director of the legislative counsel bureau of the name of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection or paragraph (j) or (k) of subsection 1 not later than 15 days after the appointment occurs.



- 3. The member of the expenditure technical advisory committee appointed pursuant to paragraph (k) of subsection 1 shall serve as chairman of the committee. A member of the committee appointed pursuant to paragraph (j) or (k) of subsection 1:
  - (a) Serves for a term of 4 years; and
- (b) May be reappointed.

- 4. If designated pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (h), inclusive, of subsection 1, a member of the expenditure technical advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the officer empowered to designate that member.
  - 5. The expenditure technical advisory committee shall:
- (a) At its first meeting after September 1 of each odd-numbered year, elect a vice chairman from among its members;
- (b) Adopt such rules governing the conduct of the committee as it deems necessary;
- (c) Hold meetings as necessary to carry out the requests made by the forecast council pursuant to section 3 of this act in the most timely manner practicable;
- (d) Provide all assistance requested by the forecast council pursuant to section 3 of this act;
- (e) After receiving a request pursuant to section 7 of this act for an estimate of the effect of a proposal:
- (1) Prepare a written estimate of the effect, with regard to expenditures, of the proposal upon the official long-term projections and forecasts of this state;
- (2) Present the written estimate prepared pursuant to subparagraph (1) to:
- 26 (1) to: (I) The forecast council;
  - (II) The governor, for distribution to the budget division of the department of administration and other appropriate agencies; and
  - (III) The director of the legislative counsel bureau, for distribution to each legislator and appropriate employees of the legislative counsel bureau; and
  - (3) Present the written estimate, as required by subparagraph (2), not later than:
  - (I) March 1 following the commencement of the regular legislative session if the proposal is contained in the proposed budget submitted by the governor pursuant to NRS 353.230; or
  - (II) Ninety days after the commencement of the regular legislative session if the proposal is contained in a legislative measure; and
  - (f) Request such technical assistance as the committee deems necessary from the office of financial analysis and planning of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau.
  - 6. A majority of the members of the expenditure technical advisory committee constitutes a quorum, and a majority of those present must concur in any decision.
  - 7. While engaged in the business of the expenditure technical advisory committee, a member described in paragraph (k) of subsection 1, other than a member who is an officer or employee of this state at an



institution of higher education, is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally. In addition, such a member is entitled to receive for each meeting of the committee:

(a) Eighty dollars for 1 day of preparation for that meeting; and

(b) Eighty dollars for each day or part of a day during which the meeting lasts.

- 8. A member of the expenditure technical advisory committee described in paragraphs (a) to (j), inclusive, of subsection 1, and a member described in paragraph (k) of subsection 1 who is an officer or employee of this state at an institution of higher education, must be relieved from his duties without loss of his regular compensation so that he may prepare for and attend meetings of the committee and perform any work necessary to accomplish the tasks assigned to the committee in the most timely manner practicable. A state agency shall not require such a member of the committee to make up the time he is absent from work to fulfill his obligations as a member and shall not require the member to take annual vacation or compensatory time for the absence. Such a member shall serve on the committee without additional compensation, except that while he is engaged in the business of the committee, he is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, which must be paid by the state agency that employs him.
- 9. The expenditure technical advisory committee may request information from any state agency. A state agency that receives a request for information from the committee shall comply with the request as soon as is practicable after receiving the request.
- 10. The director of the legislative counsel bureau and the director of the department of administration shall jointly provide the expenditure technical advisory committee with:
  - (a) Meeting rooms;
  - (b) Staff;

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- (c) Data processing services; and
- (d) Clerical assistance.
- Sec. 7. 1. During each regular legislative session, the office of financial analysis and planning of the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau shall request from the revenue technical advisory committee, the expenditure technical advisory committee, or both, as appropriate, an estimate of the effect of a proposal contained in the proposed budget submitted by the governor pursuant to NRS 353.230 or in a legislative measure introduced not later than the 75th day of the session:
  - (a) Upon receipt of a request pursuant to subsection 2; or
- (b) If the proposal:
- (1) Modifies an existing revenue source or expenditure program or creates a new revenue source or expenditure program; and
- (2) Has a projected fiscal impact, during the first complete year the proposal would be in effect, equal to or greater than 2 percent of the estimated future state revenue for the second year of the immediately



succeeding biennium as estimated by the economic forum on or before 2 the immediately preceding December 1 pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 353.228.

- 2. During each regular legislative session, not later than the 75th day of the session:
  - (a) The governor may, not more than twice;

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- (b) The speaker of the assembly may, not more than once; and
- (c) The majority leader of the senate may, not more than once, request an estimate of the effect of a proposal contained in the proposed budget submitted by the governor pursuant to NRS 353.230 or in a legislative measure introduced not later than the 75th day of the session. A request pursuant to this subsection must be submitted to the office of financial analysis and planning.
  - 3. As used in this section, "projected fiscal impact" means:
- (a) If the proposal is contained in the proposed budget submitted by the governor pursuant to NRS 353.230, the estimate or projection of the fiscal impact of the proposal as stated in the proposed budget; and
- (b) If the proposal is contained in a legislative measure introduced not later than the 75th day of the session, the estimate or projection of the fiscal impact of the proposal as prepared by the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau.
  - Sec. 8. NRS 218.6865 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.6865 1. The office of financial analysis and planning is hereby created within the fiscal analysis division of the legislative counsel bureau. The senate fiscal analyst and the assembly fiscal analyst shall appoint such personnel as the fiscal analysts determine are necessary for the office to carry out the duties of the office.
- 2. The office of financial analysis and planning shall [assist]:
  (a) Assist the legislature in long-term financial analysis and planning, including, without limitation, long-term economic planning and forecasting of future state revenues | and expenditures;
  - (b) Provide all assistance requested by the:
    - (1) Forecast council pursuant to section 3 of this act;
- (2) Revenue technical advisory committee pursuant to section 5 of this act; and
- (3) Expenditure technical advisory committee pursuant to section 6 of this act; and
- (c) Prepare and present to the forecast council on or before March 1 of each even-numbered year a report that, if accepted by the forecast council, would fulfill the requirements set forth in paragraph (e) of subsection 1 and subsection 3 of section 3 of this act.
- 3. The office of financial analysis and planning may request information from any state agency. A state agency that receives a request for information from the office of financial analysis and planning shall comply with the request as soon as is practicable after receiving the request.



**Sec. 9.** On or before September 1, 2001, the governor shall appoint:

- 1. Three members to the forecast council pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 1 of section 2 of this act to an initial term that begins on September 1, 2001, and expires on August 31, 2005.
- 2. Three members to the revenue technical advisory committee pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1 of section 5 of this act to an initial term that begins on September 1, 2001, and expires on August 31, 2005.
- 3. Two members to the expenditure technical advisory committee pursuant to paragraphs (j) and (k) of subsection 1 of section 6 of this act to an initial term that begins on September 1, 2001, and expires on August 31, 2005.
- **Sec. 10.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 3 of section 3 of this act, the report required pursuant to subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to be prepared and presented on or before March 1, 2002, must not include the discussions, specific identifications and comparisons required pursuant to paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subsection 3 of section 3 of this act.
- **Sec. 11.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and 20 approval.
- 2. Sections 1, 2, 5, 6 and 9 of this act become effective upon passage 22 and approval for the purpose of appointing members to the forecast 23 council, revenue technical advisory committee and expenditure technical 24 advisory committee and on September 1, 2001, for all other purposes.
- 25 3. Sections 3, 4, 7, 8 and 10 of this act become effective on 26 September 1, 2001.



