

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31—COMMITTEE ON
ELECTIONS, PROCEDURES, AND ETHICS

MAY 4, 2001

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Commission to conduct interim study of issues related to Internet commerce. (BDR R-1530)

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

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of issues related to the expansion of Internet commerce in Nevada.

- 1 WHEREAS, The manufacturing economy of the 20th century has been
2 replaced by the knowledge-based economy of the 21st century; and
3 WHEREAS, There is a renewed globalization taking hold that has
4 reduced or eliminated market restrictions between borders, and
5 telecommunication and transportation networks are enabling jobs to flow
6 anywhere in the world; and
7 WHEREAS, The explosive growth of the Internet in the past decade has
8 opened doors to new ways of transacting public and private business, has
9 expanded access to educational opportunities for all the residents of
10 Nevada and has provided social and economic benefits to its residents,
11 governmental entities and businesses; and
12 WHEREAS, Nevada is known nationally and beyond for its highly
13 attractive business and tax laws; and
14 WHEREAS, The two major arteries for electronic communications that
15 span from the West Coast to the East Coast extend from the Silicon Valley
16 through Reno and from Los Angeles and San Diego through Las Vegas;
17 and
18 WHEREAS, If the position of Nevada with respect to its favorable
19 business climate and its location on the Internet superhighway is viewed
20 together, the outlook for Nevada is one of great promise to become the
21 premier state for Internet commerce; and
22 WHEREAS, Nevada has not yet begun to tap into its full potential within
23 the information technology sphere, and indeed, Nevada lags behind in what
24 is known as the “New Economy,” with national studies ranking the state
25 39th in technological innovation and 29th in the transformation toward a
26 digital economy; and



1 WHEREAS, Some steps toward solving this problem have been taken by
2 state government officials which include Governor Kenny Guinn's creative
3 move in exchanging right-of-way access for \$5 million worth of fiber optic
4 cable, and the efforts of Lieutenant Governor Lorraine Hunt and Bob
5 Shriver, Executive Director of the Commission on Economic
6 Development, in spearheading the Battelle Commission, which reviewed
7 Nevada's technological resources and strongly recommended that Nevada
8 increase its economic development efforts on technology-based
9 opportunities; and

10 WHEREAS, Some steps toward solving this problem have been taken by
11 the private sector, with native technology companies banding together in
12 collaborative organizations such as the Internet Business Alliance of
13 Nevada in Southern Nevada and the TechAlliance in Northern Nevada,
14 encouraging entrepreneurs and marketing the advantages of moving
15 technology-based businesses to Nevada; and

16 WHEREAS, While the steps taken toward the evolution of Nevada's
17 economy into one that is based in technology are laudable, the time has
18 come to bring together the top leaders from government and industry to
19 work in a collaborative spirit to identify the legal, economic and
20 technological logjams that inhibit Nevada from becoming an Internet-
21 commerce magnet, and then to develop an overarching strategy to
22 transform Nevada into a truly digital economy; and

23 WHEREAS, On-line consumer privacy is of paramount importance to the
24 growth of Internet commerce and must be protected; and

25 WHEREAS, It is also essential to ensure that along with the growth of
26 Internet commerce in the state there will also continue to be the provision
27 of social and economic benefits to its residents, governmental entities and
28 businesses; now, therefore, be it

29 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE
30 CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is hereby directed to
31 appoint a committee consisting of an equal number of representatives from
32 the Assembly and the Senate to conduct an interim study of the issues
33 related to the expansion of Internet commerce in this state; and be it further

34 RESOLVED, That the committee so appointed is authorized to appoint a
35 technical advisory group of not more than seven members to assist the
36 committee with the interim study; and be it further

37 RESOLVED, That the technical advisory group must consist of members
38 selected for their extensive academic or professional experience in the
39 areas of advanced technology, telecommunication and economic
40 development as they relate to Internet commerce; and be it further

41 RESOLVED, That each member of the technical advisory group shall
42 serve without compensation, except that while he is engaged in the
43 business of the interim study committee he is entitled to receive the travel
44 expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, which must
45 be paid from the legislative fund; and be it further

46 RESOLVED, That the study must include, without limitation:

47 1. An assessment of the current technological infrastructure in Nevada
48 and recommendations for enhancement of that infrastructure in such a



1 manner as will provide for greater facilitation of commerce through the
2 Internet in Nevada;

3 2. An examination of legislation across the country that has been
4 designed to simplify and unify sales and use tax systems and allow states to
5 collect existing taxes on Internet commerce and mail order sales;

6 3. A review of the most recent methods of improving the privacy and
7 protection of customers participating in Internet commerce;

8 4. An evaluation of the current state of electronic security and
9 encryption technology; and

10 5. An analysis of the sufficiency of the statutory provisions in Nevada
11 concerning the regulation of unsolicited electronic mail; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That any recommended legislation proposed by the
13 committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the Senate
14 and a majority of the members of the Assembly appointed to the
15 committee; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall submit a report of
17 the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation to the
18 72nd session of the Nevada Legislature.

