Senate Bill No. 139–Committee on Finance

CHAPTER..........

AN ACT relating to the administration of the courts; revising the manner in which administrative assessments are distributed to the office of the court administrator; requiring the reduction of appropriations made to the supreme court from the state general fund upon the receipt of certain money from those assessments; 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. NRS 176.059 is hereby amended to read as follows:

176.059 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, when a defendant pleads guilty or guilty but mentally ill or is found guilty of a misdemeanor, including the violation of any municipal ordinance, the justice or judge shall include in the sentence the sum prescribed by the following schedule as an administrative assessment and render a judgment against the defendant for the assessment:

Fine	Assessment
$5 to $49	$15
50 to 59	30
60 to 69	35
70 to 79	40
80 to 89	45
90 to 99	50
100 to 199	60
200 to 299	70
300 to 399	80
400 to 499	90
500 to 1,000	105

2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to:

(a) An ordinance regulating metered parking; or

(b) An ordinance which is specifically designated as imposing a civil penalty or liability pursuant to NRS 244.3575 or 268.019.

3. The money collected for an administrative assessment must not be deducted from the fine imposed by the justice or judge but must be taxed against the defendant in addition to the fine. The money collected for an administrative assessment must be stated separately on the court's docket and must be included in the amount posted for bail. If the defendant is found not guilty or the charges are dismissed, the money deposited with the court must be returned to the defendant. If the justice or judge cancels a fine because the fine has been determined to be uncollectible, any balance of the fine and the administrative assessment remaining unpaid shall be deemed to be uncollectible and the defendant is not required to pay it. If a fine is determined to be uncollectible, the defendant is not entitled to a refund of the fine or administrative assessment he has paid and the justice or judge shall not recalculate the administrative assessment.

4. If the justice or judge permits the fine and administrative assessment to be paid in installments, the payments must be first applied to the unpaid

balance of the administrative assessment. The city treasurer shall distribute partially collected administrative assessments in accordance with the requirements of subsection 5. The county treasurer shall distribute partially collected administrative assessments in accordance with the requirements of subsection 6.

5. The money collected for administrative assessments in municipal court must be paid by the clerk of the court to the city treasurer on or before the fifth day of each month for the preceding month. The city treasurer shall distribute, on or before the 15th day of that month, the money received in the following amounts for each assessment received:

(a) Two dollars to the county treasurer for credit to a special account in the county general fund for the use of the county's juvenile court or for services to juvenile offenders. Any money remaining in the special account after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the county general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The county treasurer shall provide, upon request by a juvenile court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special account.

(b) Seven dollars for credit to a special revenue fund for the use of the municipal courts. Any money remaining in the special revenue fund after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the municipal general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The city treasurer shall provide, upon request by a municipal court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special revenue fund.

(c) The remainder of each assessment to the state treasurer for credit to a special account in the state general fund.

6. The money collected for administrative assessments in justices' courts must be paid by the clerk of the court to the county treasurer on or before the fifth day of each month for the preceding month. The county treasurer shall distribute, on or before the 15th day of that month, the money received in the following amounts for each assessment received:

(a) Two dollars for credit to a special account in the county general fund for the use of the county's juvenile court or for services to juvenile offenders. Any money remaining in the special account after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the county general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The county treasurer shall provide, upon request by a juvenile court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special account.

(b) Seven dollars for credit to a special revenue fund for the use of the justices' courts. Any money remaining in the special revenue fund after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the county general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The county treasurer shall provide, upon request by a justice's court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special revenue fund.

(c) The remainder of each assessment to the state treasurer for credit to a special account in the state general fund.

7. The money apportioned to a juvenile court, a justice's court or a municipal court pursuant to this section must be used, in addition to providing services to juvenile offenders in the juvenile court, to improve the operations of the court, or to acquire appropriate advanced technology

or the use of such technology, or both. Money used to improve the operations of the court may include expenditures for:

(a) Training and education of personnel;

(b) Acquisition of capital goods;

(c) Management and operational studies; or

(d) Audits.

8. Of the total amount deposited in the state general fund pursuant to subsections 5 and 6, the state controller shall distribute the money received ~~[, to the extent of legislative authorization,]~~ to the following public agencies in the following manner:

(a) Not less than 51 percent ~~[must be distributed]~~ to the office of the court administrator for allocation as follows:

(1) Eighteen and one-half percent of the amount distributed to the office of the court administrator for the administration of the courts.

(2) Nine percent of the amount distributed to the office of the court administrator for the development of a uniform system for judicial records.

(3) Nine percent of the amount distributed to the office of the court administrator for continuing judicial education.

(4) Sixty percent of the amount distributed to the office of the court administrator for the supreme court.

(5) Three and one-half percent of the amount distributed to the office of the court administrator for the payment for the services of retired justices and retired district judges.

(b) Not more than 49 percent must be used to the extent of legislative authorization for the support of:

(1) The central repository for Nevada records of criminal history;

(2) The peace officers' standards and training commission;

(3) The operation by the Nevada highway patrol of a computerized switching system for information related to law enforcement;

(4) The fund for the compensation of victims of crime; and

(5) The advisory council for prosecuting attorneys.

9. As used in this section, "juvenile court" means:

(a) In any judicial district that includes a county whose population is 100,000 or more, the family division of the district court; or

(b) In any other judicial district, the juvenile division of the district court.

Sec. 2. Chapter 2 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Any amount appropriated by the legislature from the state general fund for the support or operation of the supreme court during a fiscal year must be reduced to the extent that the amount of any administrative assessments distributed to the office of the court administrator for allocation to the supreme court pursuant to NRS 176.059 exceeds the amount which is authorized by the legislature for expenditure from those assessments for that fiscal year.

2. The supreme court shall reserve for reversion each fiscal year the amount by which an appropriation from the state general fund must be reduced pursuant to subsection 1, and that amount reverts to the state general fund upon the close of that fiscal year by the state controller.

Sec. 3. 1. This section and section 2 of this act become effective on July 1, 2001.

2. Section 1 of this act becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2001.

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