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Proposed Amendment to AB 131

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

Section 1. Chapter 383 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. *The Administrator shall, by regulation, establish a stewardship program to:*
 - (a) *Protect cultural resources in this state;*
 - (b) *Increase public awareness of the significance and value of cultural resources and the damage done to cultural resources by vandalism;*
 - (c) *Discourage vandalism of cultural resources and the sale and trade of artifacts, including, without limitation, archaeological and paleontological materials;*
 - (d) *Support and encourage high standards for the investigation of cultural resources throughout this state;*
 - (e) *Promote cooperation among agencies, organizations, Native American tribes and natural persons who are concerned about the protection of cultural resources;*
and
 - (f) *Add to the inventory of cultural resources maintained pursuant to NRS 383.021.*
2. *The Administrator shall select, train and certify volunteers to serve in the stewardship program based upon policy, criteria and procedures established by the Administrator.*
3. *The stewardship program may:*
 - (a) *In cooperation with agencies, organizations, Native American tribes and natural persons who are concerned about the protection of cultural resources, create a list of significant cultural resources of Native American tribal lands of State lands and, with the consent of the landowners, private lands in this state for monitoring for the purpose of preventing vandalism and similar activities that may damage those cultural resources;*
 - (b) *Establish activities for periodic monitoring by volunteers of cultural resources on the list created pursuant to paragraph (a);*
 - (c) *Establish requirements for reporting vandalism, threats of vandalism and similar activities that may damage those cultural resources;*
 - (d) *Establish programs for educating the public concerning the significance and value of cultural resources and the loss to the public resulting from vandalism and similar damage to cultural resources.*
4. *The Administrator shall coordinate the cooperation of federal authorities, Native American tribes and state and local government agencies, as necessary, to carry out the stewardship program.*
5. *The Administrator and the Office shall provide administrative support to the stewardship program.*
6. *Volunteers selected for the stewardship program serve without compensation and are not entitled to receive a per diem allowance or travel expenses.*

7. *The Administrator may accept gifts and grants to assist in the operation of the stewardship program.*

Sec. 2. NRS 383.011 is hereby amended to read as follows:

383.011 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Office.
2. "Advisory Board" means the Board of Museums and History.
3. *"Cultural resources" means objects, sites or information of historic, prehistoric, archaeological, architectural or paleontological significance.*
4. "Director" means the Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs.
5. "Office" means the Office of Historic Preservation and the Department of Cultural Affairs.

Sec. 3. NRS 383.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:

383.021 1. The Office of Historic Preservation is hereby created.

2. The Office shall:

(a) Encourage, plan and coordinate historic preservation and archaeological activities within the State, including programs to survey, record, study and preserve or salvage *cultural resources.*

(b) Compile and maintain an inventory of cultural resources in Nevada deemed significant by the Administrator.

(c) Designate repositories for the materials that comprise the inventory.

3. The Comstock Historic District Commission is within the Office.

Sec. 4. The act becomes effective on July 1, 2003