

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to fire protection; increasing the maximum balance allowed in the district fire emergency fund of certain fire protection districts; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes a board of county commissioners to create fire protection districts. (NRS 474.460) Taxes are assessed within the district boundaries to fund operating expenses and unforeseen emergencies. The tax revenue collected to defray the expenses of the district is deposited in an operating fund. The tax revenue collected to meet unforeseen emergencies is deposited in an emergency fund to be used solely for emergencies. Existing law provides that the balance in the emergency fund of a fire protection district must not exceed \$250,000. Any interest earned on the money in the fund that causes the balance to exceed \$250,000 must be credited to the operating fund. (NRS 474.510)

This bill increases the maximum balance that may remain in the emergency fund of a fire protection district from \$250,000 to \$1 million. Any interest earned on the money in the emergency fund that causes the balance to exceed \$1 million must be credited to the operating fund.

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

Section 1. NRS 474.510 is hereby amended to read as follows:

474.510 1. The board of fire commissioners shall prepare a budget for each district organized in accordance with NRS 474.460, estimating the amount of money which will be needed to defray the expenses of the district and to meet unforeseen fire emergencies, and to determine the amount of a fire protection tax sufficient, together with the revenue which will result from application of the rate to the net proceeds of minerals, to raise such sums.

2. At the time of making the levy of county taxes for the year, the board of county commissioners shall levy the tax provided by subsection 1, upon all property, both real and personal, subject to taxation within the boundaries of the district. Any tax levied on interstate or intercounty telephone lines, power lines and other public utility lines as authorized in this section must be based upon valuations established by the Nevada Tax Commission pursuant to the provisions of NRS 361.315 to 361.330, inclusive.

3. The amount of tax to be collected for the purposes of this section must not exceed, in any 1 year, 1 percent of the value of the property described in subsection 2 and any net proceeds of minerals derived from within the boundaries of the district.

4. If levied, the tax must be entered upon the assessment roll and collected in the same manner as state and county taxes. Taxes may be paid in four approximately equal installments at the times

specified in NRS 361.483 and the same penalties as specified in NRS 361.483 must be added for failure to pay the taxes.

5. For the purposes of NRS 474.460 to 474.550, inclusive, the county treasurer shall keep two separate funds for each district, one to be known as the district fire protection operating fund and one to be known as the district fire emergency fund. The sums collected to defray the expenses of any district organized pursuant to NRS 474.460 must be deposited in the district fire protection operating fund, and the sums collected to meet unforeseen emergencies must be deposited in the district fire emergency fund. The district fire emergency fund must be used solely for emergencies and must not be used for regular operating expenses. The money deposited in the district fire emergency fund must not exceed the sum of ~~[\$250,000.]~~ **\$1,000,000.** Any interest earned on the money in the district fire emergency fund that causes the balance in that fund to exceed ~~[\$250,000.]~~ **\$1,000,000** must be credited to the district fire protection operating fund.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.