
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 149—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

(ON BEHALF OF CLARK COUNTY)

FEBRUARY 28, 2005

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Makes various changes concerning redistricting of county commissioner election districts in larger counties. (BDR 20-334)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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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 counties; requiring the boards of county commissioners of larger counties to redistrict the county commissioner election districts of the county after each national decennial census; allowing such boards to redistrict the county commissioner election districts one additional time during each period between national decennial censuses under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law provides that in a county whose population is 400,000 or more
2 (currently Clark County), the board of county commissioners must establish seven
3 county commissioner election districts, each of which must be as compact as
4 possible, composed entirely of contiguous territory and as nearly equal in
5 population as practicable. (NRS 244.016) Existing law requires a board of county
6 commissioners to establish such new or changed county commissioner election
7 districts as may be required by changes in population or applicable law. (NRS
8 244.018) Existing law prohibits political subdivisions of this State (including
9 counties) from creating, altering or abolishing an election district after the first day
10 of filing by candidates during any year in which a general election is held for that
11 election district. (NRS 293.209)

12 This bill requires the board of county commissioners of such a county, as soon
13 as possible after each national decennial census, to revise the seven county
14 commissioner election districts to the extent necessary to ensure that the districts
15 are as nearly equal in population as practicable.



This bill also allows the board of county commissioners of such a county to revise the seven county commissioner election districts one additional time during each 10-year period between national decennial censuses in certain circumstances to the extent necessary to ensure that the districts are as nearly equal in population as practicable.

This bill further provides that county commissioner election districts established or adjusted pursuant to either required or optional redistricting must be as compact as possible and composed entirely of contiguous territory.

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

Section 1. NRS 244.016 is hereby amended to read as follows:

244.016 1. In each county whose population is 400,000 or more, the board of county commissioners consists of seven members. Each member must be a resident of, and elected by the registered voters of, a county commissioner election district established pursuant to this chapter.

2. The board of county commissioners shall establish seven county commissioner election districts which must be as nearly equal in population as practicable, and each of which must be composed entirely of contiguous territory and be as compact as possible.

3. *Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.209:*

(a) As soon as possible after the data from each decennial census taken by the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of Commerce is made available to the county, the board of county commissioners shall revise the seven county commissioner election districts by establishing new county commissioner election districts or adjusting the boundaries of the existing county commissioner election districts to the extent necessary to ensure that the seven county commissioner election districts are as nearly equal in population as practicable.

(b) In addition to the revision of election districts required by paragraph (a), if the population in any county commissioner election district exceeds the population in any other county commissioner election district by more than 5 percent by any measure of population found reliable by the board of county commissioners, the board of county commissioners may revise the seven county commissioner election districts one time during each period between national decennial censuses by establishing new county commissioner election districts or adjusting the boundaries of the existing county commissioner election districts to the extent necessary to ensure that the seven county commissioner election districts are as nearly equal in population as practicable.



1 **4. Any county commissioner election district established or**
2 **adjusted pursuant to subsection 3 must be composed of entirely**
3 **contiguous territory and be as compact as possible.**

4 **Sec. 2.** NRS 244.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 244.018 1. If new or changed county commissioner election
6 districts must be established ~~because~~ :

7 **(a) Because** of changes in population ~~for~~ **as determined from**
8 **the data from the decennial census taken by the Bureau of the**
9 **Census of the United States Department of Commerce;**

10 **(b) Pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 244.016; or**

11 **(c) Because of changes in** applicable law,

12 ↪ the board of county commissioners shall establish **or adjust the**
13 **boundaries of** those districts by ordinance and provide for the
14 election from specified districts of the proper numbers of county
15 commissioners for 4-year and 2-year terms respectively so that the
16 numbers of county commissioners to be elected at each general
17 election thereafter will be as nearly equal as possible.

18 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 244.011, if at the time
19 a general election is to be conducted for the election of county
20 commissioners from new districts there is incumbent any county
21 commissioner, elected at large or from a validly established election
22 district, whose term extends beyond the first Monday of January of
23 the following year, he is entitled to serve out his term and shall be
24 deemed to represent the new district in which he resides.

25 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.



