

SENATE BILL NO. 148—SENATOR LEE

MARCH 1, 2005

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Amends Charter of City of North Las Vegas to increase number of members on City Council. (BDR S-1150)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
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 the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas; increasing the number of members on the City Council; requiring the City Council to divide the City into six wards; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides that the North Las Vegas City Council consists of the Mayor and four Councilmen. These four Councilmen each represent a ward and serve 4-year terms. The terms are staggered so that two Councilmen are elected every 2 years. (North Las Vegas City Charter §§ 1.045, 1.050, 5.010)

This bill increases the number of Councilmen to six Councilmen in addition to the Mayor. This bill also increases the number of wards from four to six. The City Council will appoint the two new Councilmen to initial terms that are staggered. As a result, three Councilmen, instead of two, will be elected every 2 years.

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

Section 1. Section 1.045 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas, being chapter 344, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 1413, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1.045 Wards: Creation; Boundaries.

1. The City must be divided into ~~four~~ *six* wards which must be as nearly equal in population as practicable, and each of which must be composed entirely of contiguous territory.



2. The boundaries of the wards must be established and changed by ordinance. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the boundaries of the wards must be changed whenever the population, as determined by the last preceding national census of the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of Commerce, in any ward exceeds the population in any other ward by more than 5 percent.

3. The boundaries of the wards must not be changed, except to accommodate an annexation of territory to the City, during the period beginning 30 days immediately preceding the last day for filing a declaration of candidacy for a municipal election and ending on the date of the election.

Sec. 2. Section 1.050 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas, being chapter 573, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as amended by chapter 215, Statutes of Nevada 1997, at page 747, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1.050 Elective offices.

1. The elective officers of the City consist of:

(a) A Mayor.

(b) ~~Four~~ Six Councilmen.

(c) One or more Municipal Judges, as determined pursuant to section 4.005 of this Charter.

2. Such officers must be elected as provided by this Charter.

Sec. 3. Section 2.010 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas, being chapter 573, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as last amended by chapter 344, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 1413, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2.010 City Council: Qualifications; election; term of office; salary.

1. The legislative power of the City is vested in a City Council consisting of ~~four~~ six Councilmen and a Mayor.

2. The Mayor must be:

(a) A bona fide resident of the City for at least 6 months immediately preceding his election.

(b) A qualified elector within the City.

3. Each Councilman:

(a) Must be a qualified elector who has resided in the ward which he represents for at least 30 days immediately preceding the last day for filing a declaration of candidacy for his office.

(b) Must continue to live in the ward he represents, except that changes in ward boundaries made pursuant to section 1.045 of this Charter will not affect the right of any elected



Councilman to continue in office for the term for which he was elected.

4. At the time of filing, if so required by an ordinance duly enacted, candidates for the office of Mayor and Councilman shall produce evidence in satisfaction of any or all of the qualifications provided in subsection 2 or 3, whichever is applicable.

5. All Councilmen, including the Mayor, must be voted upon by the registered voters of the City at large, and their terms of office are 4 years.

6. The Mayor and Councilmen are entitled to receive a salary in an amount fixed by the City Council.

Sec. 4. Section 5.010 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas, being chapter 573, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as last amended by chapter 73, Statutes of Nevada 2003, at page 485, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.010 General municipal elections.

1. On the Tuesday after the first Monday in June 1977, and at each successive interval of 4 years thereafter, there ~~{shall}~~ **must** be elected by the qualified voters of the City, at a general election to be held for that purpose, a Mayor and ~~{two}~~ **three** Councilmen, who shall hold office for a period of 4 years and until their successors have been elected and qualified.

2. On the Tuesday after the first Monday in June 1975, and at each successive interval of 4 years thereafter, there ~~{shall}~~ **must** be elected by the qualified voters of the City, at a general election to be held for that purpose, ~~{two}~~ **three** Councilmen, who shall hold office for a period of 4 years and until their successors have been elected and qualified.

Sec. 5. Section 5.020 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas, being chapter 573, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as last amended by chapter 637, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 3566, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.020 Primary municipal elections; declaration of candidacy.

1. The City Council shall provide by ordinance for candidates for elective office to declare their candidacy and file the necessary documents. The seats for City Councilmen must be designated by the numbers one through ~~{four}~~ **six**, which numbers must correspond with the wards the candidates for City Councilmen will seek to represent. A candidate for the office of City Councilman shall include in his declaration of candidacy the number of the ward which he seeks to represent. Each candidate for City Council must be



1 designated as a candidate for the City Council seat that
2 corresponds with the ward that he seeks to represent.

3 2. If for any general municipal election there are three or
4 more candidates for the offices of Mayor or Municipal Judge,
5 or for a particular City Council seat, a primary election for
6 any such office must be held on the Tuesday following the
7 first Monday in April preceding the general election.

8 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, after
9 the primary election, the names of the two candidates for
10 Mayor, Municipal Judge and each City Council seat who
11 receive the highest number of votes must be placed on the
12 ballot for the general election.

13 4. If one of the candidates for Mayor, Municipal Judge
14 or a City Council seat receives a majority of the total votes
15 cast for that office in the primary election, he ~~shall~~ **must** be
16 declared elected to office and his name must not appear on
17 the ballot for the general election.

18 **Sec. 6.** 1. The City Council of the City of North Las Vegas
19 shall, as soon as practicable, take such actions as are necessary to
20 carry out the amendatory provisions of sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of
21 this act, including, without limitation, the establishing of new wards
22 and the changing of the boundaries of existing wards pursuant to
23 section 1.045 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas, and the
24 appointment of Councilmen to vacancies on the City Council.

25 2. The City Council shall fill the vacancies on the City Council
26 created by the amendatory provisions of this act in the manner
27 prescribed by subsection 1 of section 1.060 of the Charter of the
28 City of North Las Vegas.

29 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 2 of section
30 1.060 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas to the contrary:

31 (a) One Councilman appointed pursuant to subsection 2 of this
32 section to fill a vacancy on the City Council created by the
33 amendatory provisions of this act must be appointed to an initial
34 term that expires in the same manner and on the same date as the
35 terms of office of the Mayor and the two Councilmen elected
36 pursuant to the provisions of subsection 1 of section 5.010 of the
37 Charter of the City of North Las Vegas.

38 (b) The other Councilman appointed pursuant to subsection 2 of
39 this section to fill a vacancy on the City Council created by the
40 amendatory provisions of this act must be appointed to an initial
41 term that expires in the same manner and on the same date as the
42 terms of office of the two Councilmen elected pursuant to the
43 provisions of subsection 2 of section 5.010 of the Charter of the City
44 of North Las Vegas.



1 **Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.



