

SENATE BILL NO. 283—SENATOR HARDY

MARCH 23, 2005

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Creates Committee for the Economic Diversification of Nevada. (BDR S-801)

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

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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 economic diversification; creating the Committee for the Economic Diversification of Nevada; providing for its organization, powers and duties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** The Committee for the Economic Diversification of
2 Nevada, consisting of 10 members, is hereby created. The
3 Committee consists of:
4 1. One member of the Executive Committee of the Nevada
5 Development Authority, appointed by the Executive Committee.
6 2. One member of the Board of Trustees of the Economic
7 Development Authority of Western Nevada, appointed by the Board
8 of Trustees.
9 3. One member of the Commission on Economic Development
10 who represents a rural area of this State, appointed by the
11 Commission.
12 4. Three members appointed by the Governor, each of whom
13 represents one of the following industries in the private sector:
14 (a) Financial services.
15 (b) Medical or health care.
16 (c) Technology.
17 5. One member of the Board of Regents of the University of
18 Nevada, appointed by the Governor.



1 6. One member of the Senate, appointed by the Majority
2 Leader of the Senate as a nonvoting member of the Committee.

3 7. One member of the Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of
4 the Assembly as a nonvoting member of the Committee.

5 8. One member of the general public, appointed by the
6 Governor.

7 **Sec. 2.** 1. A vacancy in the membership of the Committee
8 must be filled in the same manner as the original member was
9 selected.

10 2. The Governor shall appoint one of the voting members of
11 the Committee to serve as Chairman of the Committee.

12 3. The Committee shall select one of the voting members of the
13 Committee to serve as Vice Chairman of the Committee.

14 4. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall
15 provide the necessary professional staff and a Secretary for the
16 Committee.

17 5. Five members of the Committee constitute a quorum to
18 transact all business and a majority of those present, physically or
19 via telecommunications, must concur on any decision.

20 6. For each day or portion of a day during which they attend a
21 meeting of the Committee or are otherwise engaged in the business
22 of the Committee:

23 (a) The members of the Committee who are Legislators are
24 entitled to receive the compensation provided for a majority of the
25 members of the Legislature during the first 60 days of the preceding
26 regular session plus the per diem allowance provided for state
27 officers and employees generally and the travel allowance provided
28 pursuant to NRS 218.2207.

29 (b) The member of the Committee who is a member of the
30 Board of Regents of the University of Nevada is entitled to receive a
31 per diem expense allowance and a travel allowance at the rates
32 established in NRS 396.070.

33 (c) The remaining members of the Committee are entitled to
34 receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for
35 state officers and employees generally.

36 **Sec. 3.** 1. The Committee shall develop a 20-year strategic
37 plan for the economic development and diversification of this State
38 that coordinates:

39 (a) The efforts of private enterprise, organizations for economic
40 development and the University and Community College System of
41 Nevada, particularly its research institutions, relating to economic
42 development and diversification; and

43 (b) The objectives of state, regional and local governmental
44 entities relating to economic development and diversification.

45 2. In developing the strategic plan, the Committee shall:



1 (a) Identify and evaluate the core competencies of the research
2 institutions and their alignment with the objectives of state, regional
3 and local governmental entities relating to the economic
4 development and diversification of this State.

5 (b) Identify methods by which the System may establish
6 programs that support economic development and diversification,
7 including, without limitation, research partnerships, industry-
8 specific education and training partnerships, technology incubator
9 services, technology transfer programs and similar programs based
10 upon the curriculum offered at the research institutions.

11 (c) Determine the manner in which programs within the System,
12 other than programs at the research institutions, may facilitate
13 efforts relating to the economic development and diversification of
14 this State.

15 (d) Evaluate the missions of the research institutions and the
16 System for their emphasis on encouraging and fostering economic
17 development and diversification in this State.

18 (e) Study the manner in which research institutions in other
19 states and countries are funded, including, without limitation, the
20 use of public and private endowments, and develop a plan for
21 the long-term funding and endowment of the research institutions of
22 the System.

23 (f) Review the current infrastructure for economic development
24 and the functions of the various public and private organizations for
25 economic development within this State at state, regional and local
26 levels to ensure efficiencies in operation and effectiveness in results.

27 (g) Analyze the financial benefits of economic development and
28 diversification to the State Government and local jurisdictions, and
29 recommend the structure and long-term funding of economic
30 development and diversification at a state, regional and local level.

31 (h) Study the policies and methodologies of other states that
32 have developed successful economic diversification programs, and
33 review economic diversification studies already completed within
34 this State.

35 (i) Outline the process for the execution of the strategic plan
36 cooperatively through the policies of the Legislature, the Governor,
37 the Lieutenant Governor and the System, and establish benchmarks
38 for the completion of specific items in the strategic plan.

39 3. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise
40 requires:

41 (a) "Research institutions" means the University of Nevada, Las
42 Vegas, the University of Nevada, Reno, and the Desert Research
43 Institute.

44 (b) "System" means the University and Community College
45 System of Nevada.



1 **Sec. 4.** The Committee may hold public hearings at such times
2 and places as it determines necessary to provide the general public
3 and representatives of governmental agencies and organizations
4 interested in economic development and diversification an
5 opportunity to present relevant information and recommendations.

6 **Sec. 5.** The Committee may employ such financial and other
7 consultants as it determines necessary to assist with the development
8 of the strategic plan.

9 **Sec. 6.** The Committee may accept and use all gifts and grants
10 that it receives to further its work.

11 **Sec. 7.** The Committee shall, on or before February 5, 2007,
12 submit to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Board of
13 Regents of the University of Nevada and the Director of the
14 Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature a
15 report concerning the 20-year strategic plan developed by the
16 Committee and the findings and recommendations of the
17 Committee, including, without limitation, any recommendations for
18 legislation that the Committee determines advisable.

19 **Sec. 8.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005, and expires
20 by limitation on February 5, 2007.

