

Senate Bill No. 477–Committee on Legislative
Operations and Elections

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to the Legislature; making various changes relating to the Legislature and the Legislative Counsel Bureau; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Section 1. NRS 218.2475 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.2475 1. On July 1 preceding each regular session of the Legislature, and each week thereafter until the adjournment of the Legislature sine die, the Legislative Counsel shall prepare a list of all requests received by him, for the preparation of measures to be submitted to the Legislature. The requests must be listed numerically by a unique serial number which must be assigned to the measures by the Legislative Counsel for the purposes of identification in the order that he received the requests. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 3 and 4, the list must only contain the name of each requester, the date and a brief summary of the request.

2. The Legislative Counsel Bureau shall make copies of the list available to the public for a reasonable sum fixed by the ~~Legislative Commission upon the recommendation of the~~ Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

3. In preparing the list, the Legislative Counsel shall:

(a) Not include the name of the Legislator who has requested the preparation of a measure until:

(1) The particular measure is introduced in the Legislature;
or

(2) The Legislator requests that his name be disclosed as the requester of the measure,

↳ whichever occurs first.

(b) If a standing or special committee of the Legislature requests a measure on behalf of a Legislator or organization, include the name of the standing or special committee and the name of the Legislator or organization on whose behalf the measure was originally requested.

4. Upon the request of a Legislator who has requested the preparation of a measure and requested that his name be disclosed pursuant to subsection 3, the Legislative Counsel shall add the name of one or more Legislators from either or both houses of the Legislature as joint requesters. The Legislative Counsel shall not add the name of a joint requester to the list until he has received

confirmation of the joint request from the primary requester of the measure and from the Legislator to be added as a joint requester. The Legislative Counsel shall remove the name of a joint requester upon receipt of a request to do so made by the primary requester or the joint requester. The names must appear on the list in the order in which the names were received by the Legislative Counsel beginning with the primary requester. The Legislative Counsel shall not act upon the direction of a joint requester to withdraw the requested measure or modify its substance until the Legislative Counsel has received confirmation of the withdrawal or modification from the primary requester. For the purposes of all limitations on the number of legislative measures that may be requested by a Legislator, a legislative measure with joint requesters must only be counted as a request of the primary requester.

Sec. 2. NRS 218.5382 is hereby amended to read as follows:
218.5382 1. If:

(a) The Legislature, by concurrent resolution, during a regular legislative session; or

(b) The Interim Finance Committee, by resolution, while the Legislature is not in regular session,

↪ determines that the performance of a fundamental review of the base budget of a particular agency is necessary, the ~~[Legislative Commission]~~ *Interim Finance Committee* shall create a legislative committee for the fundamental review of the base budgets of state agencies. The ~~[Legislative Commission]~~ *Interim Finance Committee* may create more than one such committee if the number of agencies designated for review warrants additional committees. If more than one such committee is created, the ~~[Legislative Commission]~~ *Interim Finance Committee* shall determine which agencies are to be reviewed by the respective committees.

2. Each such committee must consist of an equal number of members of the Senate and the Assembly. The ~~[Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly]~~ *Interim Finance Committee* shall appoint the members of a committee. At least a majority of the members of a committee must be members of the Interim Finance Committee. The ~~[Legislative Commission]~~ *Interim Finance Committee* shall designate the chairman of a committee.

3. Any member of a committee who is not a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection continues to serve until the next session of the Legislature is convened.

4. Vacancies on a committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

5. A majority of the members appointed to a committee constitutes a quorum.

6. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall assign employees of the Legislative Counsel Bureau to provide such

technical, clerical and operational assistance to a committee as the functions and operations of the committee may require.

Sec. 3. NRS 218.5384 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.5384 1. A committee shall, during the legislative interim, perform a fundamental review of the base budget of each state agency assigned to it for review.

2. A committee may request the state agency under review and any other agency to submit information, analyses and reports which are pertinent to the reviews conducted pursuant to this section. Each agency of the State shall cooperate fully and provide the material requested within the period specified by a committee.

3. A committee shall, before the convening of the next regular session of the Legislature, transmit a report of each review conducted pursuant to this section, and any related recommendations, to the *Interim Finance Committee and the Legislative Commission*.

Sec. 4. NRS 218.620 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.620 1. There is hereby created the Legislative Counsel Bureau, which consists of a Legislative Commission, an Interim Finance Committee, a Director, an Audit Division, a Fiscal Analysis Division, a Legal Division, a Research Division, and an Administrative Division.

2. The Legislative Auditor is Chief of the Audit Division. The Legislative Counsel is Chief of the Legal Division. The Research Director is Chief of the Research Division. The Director shall designate from time to time one of the fiscal analysts to be responsible for the administration of the Fiscal Analysis Division.

3. The Legislative Commission shall ~~f~~

~~—(a) Appoint~~ *appoint* the Director.

~~[(b) Fix the compensation of the Director, each of the other division chiefs, and each fiscal analyst.~~

~~—4.]~~ The Director shall appoint the fiscal analysts and the Chiefs of the other Divisions with the approval of the Legislative Commission, and may serve as the chief of any division.

~~[5.]~~ 4. The Director may, with the consent of the Legislative Commission, designate one of the other division chiefs or an employee of the Legislative Counsel Bureau as Deputy Director, who shall serve as Deputy Director without additional compensation.

Sec. 5. NRS 218.645 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.645 The *Director of the* Legislative ~~[Commission]~~ *Counsel Bureau* may fix reasonable fees for the sale of studies, audit reports, bulletins and miscellaneous materials of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, and those fees must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Legislative Fund.

Sec. 6. NRS 218.646 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.646 With the approval of the Legislative Commission, the Legislative Counsel may compile and publish manuals or handbooks containing selected portions of Nevada Revised Statutes. Such manuals and handbooks ~~{shall}~~ **must** be sold at a price fixed by the ~~{Legislative Commission}~~ **Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau** and all ~~{moneys}~~ **money** received for the sale of such publications ~~{shall}~~ **must** be deposited in the Legislative Fund in the State Treasury.

Sec. 7. NRS 218.6827 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.6827 1. Except as otherwise provided in ~~{subsections 2 and 3}~~ **subsection 2**, the Interim Finance Committee may exercise the powers conferred upon it by law only when the Legislature is not in regular or special session.

2. During a regular **or special** session, the Interim Finance Committee may also perform the duties imposed on it by subsection 5 of NRS 284.115, subsection 2 of NRS 321.335, NRS 322.007, subsection 2 of NRS 323.020, NRS 323.050, subsection 1 of NRS 323.100, NRS 353.220, 353.224, 353.2705 to 353.2771, inclusive, and 353.335, paragraph (b) of subsection 4 of NRS 407.0762, NRS 428.375, 439.620 and 439.630, subsection 1 of NRS 422.2745 and NRS 445B.830 and 538.650. In performing those duties, the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and the Assembly Standing Committee on Ways and Means may meet separately and transmit the results of their respective votes to the Chairman of the Interim Finance Committee to determine the action of the Interim Finance Committee as a whole.

~~{3. During a regular or special session, the Interim Finance Committee may exercise the powers and duties conferred upon it pursuant to the provisions of NRS 353.2705 to 353.2771, inclusive.~~

~~—4. If the Interim Finance Committee determines that a fundamental review of the base budget of a state agency is necessary, it shall, by resolution, notify the Legislative Commission of that finding for assignment of the review to a legislative committee for the fundamental review of the base budgets of state agencies established pursuant to NRS 218.5382.]~~

Sec. 8. NRS 218.684 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.684 The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau may:

1. Upon the request of any person, government, governmental agency or political subdivision, conduct searches by computer of the text of the publications of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and any other information he deems appropriate which may be accessible by a computer operated by the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

2. Make any information described in subsection 1 available for access by computer to any person, government, governmental agency or political subdivision.

↪ The ~~[Legislative Commission]~~ *Director* shall prescribe a reasonable fee for these services.

Sec. 9. NRS 345.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

345.050 1. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau may sell the following publications:

- (a) Nevada Reports.
- (b) Statutes of Nevada.
- (c) Compilation of laws:

- (1) Compiled Laws of Nevada (1861—1873), by Bonnifield and Healy (two volumes).

- (2) General Statutes Nevada 1885 (1861—1885), by Bailly & Hammond.

- (3) Compiled Laws of Nevada 1861—1900, by Cutting.

- (4) Revised Laws of Nevada 1912, Volumes I and II (two volumes).

- (5) Revised Laws of Nevada 1919, Volume III.

- (6) Nevada Revised Statutes with annotations, including replacement and supplementary pages.

- (d) Miscellaneous publications:

- (1) Nevada Constitutional Debates & Proceedings 1864.

- (2) Nevada and Sawyer's Digest 1878.

- (3) Nevada Digest Annotated (1912), by Patrick.

- (4) Journals of the Assembly or Senate.

- (5) Appendices to journals of Senate and Assembly.

2. The ~~[Legislative Commission]~~ *Director* shall:

- (a) Set the prices for the publications sold pursuant to subsection 1.

- (b) Charge and collect a fee to cover the costs of postage and handling related to the sale of copies of Nevada Reports.

3. No volume may be sold or delivered until the purchase price for the volume and the fee for postage and handling have been paid.

4. Money received from the sale of Nevada Reports, excluding any money collected for postage and handling, must be deposited in the State General Fund. Money received from the sale of all other publications enumerated in subsection 1 and any money collected for postage and handling related to the sale of Nevada Reports must be deposited in the Legislative Fund.

Sec. 10. NRS 353.226 is hereby amended to read as follows:

353.226 1. On or before ~~[February]~~ *July* 1 of each even-numbered year, the Governor shall impanel an Economic Forum.

2. The Governor shall appoint three members of his own selection and one member nominated by the Majority Floor Leader

of the Senate and one member nominated by the Speaker of the Assembly to serve on the Economic Forum for a term of 2 years.

3. On or before ~~January~~ *June* 15 of each even-numbered year, and within 30 days after the position of his nominee on the Economic Forum becomes vacant, each nominating authority set forth in subsection 2 shall submit to the Governor the name of his nominee to the Economic Forum.

4. If a nominating authority fails to submit a timely nomination of a person who is qualified pursuant to subsections 6 and 7 to the Governor pursuant to subsection 3, the Governor may appoint any qualified person to the position.

5. Each member appointed pursuant to subsection 2 or 4 may be removed by the Governor for good cause.

6. Each member must be an expert with demonstrated ability in the field of economics, taxation or other discipline necessary to economic forecasting and be able to bring knowledge and professional judgment to the deliberations of the Economic Forum.

7. No officer or employee of the State Government, including publicly supported institutions of higher education, may be a member of the Economic Forum.

8. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a person appointed to fill a vacancy must be nominated and appointed in the same manner as his predecessor in office.

Sec. 11. NRS 353.228 is hereby amended to read as follows:

353.228 1. The Economic Forum impaneled pursuant to NRS 353.226 shall:

(a) Make such projections for economic indicators as it deems necessary to ensure that an accurate estimate is produced pursuant to paragraph (b);

(b) Provide an accurate estimate of the revenue that will be collected by the State for general, unrestricted uses, and not for special purposes, during the biennium that begins on ~~the second~~ July 1 *of the year* following the date on which the Economic Forum was empaneled;

(c) Request such technical assistance as the Economic Forum deems necessary from the Technical Advisory Committee created by NRS 353.229;

(d) On or before December 1 of the year in which the Economic Forum was empaneled, prepare a written report of its projections of economic indicators and estimate of future state revenue required by paragraphs (a) and (b) and present the report to the Governor and the Legislature; and

(e) On or before May 1 of the year following the year in which the Economic Forum was empaneled, prepare a written report confirming or revising the projections of economic indicators and estimate of future state revenue contained in the report prepared

pursuant to paragraph (d) and present the report to the Governor and the Legislature.

2. The Economic Forum may make preliminary projections of economic indicators and estimates of future state revenue at any time. Any such projections and estimates must be made available to the various agencies of the State through the Chief.

3. The Economic Forum may request information directly from any state agency. A state agency that receives a reasonable request for information from the Economic Forum shall comply with the request as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving the request.

4. To carry out its duties pursuant to this section, the Economic Forum may consider any information received from the Technical Advisory Committee and any other information received from independent sources.

5. Copies of the projections and estimates made pursuant to this section must be made available to the public by the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for the cost of reproducing the material.

Sec. 12. NRS 218.115 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 13. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.

