

Senate Bill No. 4–Committee on Finance

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to the Commission for Cultural Affairs; authorizing the Commission to reimburse members for certain expenses; increasing the amount of financial assistance that the Commission may grant from the proceeds of certain bonds; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes the Commission for Cultural Affairs, which advises the Department of Cultural Affairs on matters relating to the preservation and promotion of Nevada's cultural resources. (NRS 233C.200) Commission members currently are not entitled to be paid a salary, a per diem allowance or travel expenses. (NRS 233C.200) The Commission may use the interest earned on money in the Fund for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Resources, which the Commission administers, to pay for administrative services required by the Commission. (NRS 233C.200, 233C.230)

This bill allows Commission members to receive the same per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally while those members are attending meetings of the Commission or engaging in other activities related to the duties of the Commission. The Commission may pay for those expenses from interest earned on money in the Fund.

As part of its duties under existing law, the Commission for Cultural Affairs awards financial assistance to governmental entities and nonprofit corporations that are conducting projects that preserve or protect historical buildings that will be used to develop a network of cultural centers and activities. (NRS 233C.220) This financial assistance is derived from the proceeds of general obligation bonds issued by the State and interest earned on the deposit or investment of the money in the Fund for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Resources. (NRS 233C.225, 233C.230)

This bill increases from \$2 million to \$3 million the maximum amount of such financial assistance that may be granted by the Commission each year and, correspondingly, increases from \$20 million to \$30 million the maximum amount of such financial assistance that the Commission may grant in a 10-year period.

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

Section 1. NRS 233C.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:

233C.200 1. The Commission for Cultural Affairs is hereby created. The Commission is advisory to the Department and consists of:

(a) The Chairman of the Nevada Humanities Committee or a member of the Committee designated by him;

(b) The Chairman of the Board or a member of the Board designated by him;

(c) The Chairman of the Board of Museums and History or a member of the Board *of Museums and History* designated by him;

(d) A member of the Board of Museums and History, to be appointed by the Governor;

(e) One representative of the general public who has a working knowledge of the promotion of tourism in Nevada, to be appointed by the Governor; and

(f) The Chairman of the State Council on Libraries and Literacy or a member of the Council designated by him.

2. The Commission shall:

(a) Elect from its membership a Chairman who shall serve for a term of 2 years. A vacancy occurring in this position must be filled by election of the members of the Commission for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) Prescribe rules for its own management and government.

(c) Meet biannually, or at more frequent times if it deems necessary, and may, within the limitations of its budget, hold special meetings at the call of its Chairman.

3. Three members of the Commission constitute a quorum, but a majority of the members of the Commission is necessary to consider the particular business before it and to exercise the power conferred on the Commission.

4. The members of the Commission are not entitled to be paid a salary ~~{or receive reimbursement for}~~ , *but are entitled, while engaged in the business of the Commission, to receive the* per diem ~~{or}~~ *allowance and* travel expenses ~~{}~~ *provided for state officers and employees generally.*

5. The Commission may use the money derived from interest earned on the money in the Fund for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Resources created pursuant to NRS 233C.230 to pay for:

(a) Any administrative services required by the Commission ~~{}~~ ;
and

(b) The per diem allowances and travel expenses of members of the Commission authorized pursuant to subsection 4.

Sec. 2. NRS 233C.225 is hereby amended to read as follows:

233C.225 1. The Commission shall determine annually the total amount of financial assistance it will grant from the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this section in that calendar year pursuant to NRS 233C.200 to 233C.230, inclusive. The Commission shall notify the State Board of Examiners and the State Board of Finance of that amount. In no case may the amount to be granted from the proceeds of such bonds exceed ~~[\$2,000,000]~~ *\$3,000,000* per year.

2. After receiving the notice given pursuant to subsection 1, the State Board of Finance shall issue general obligation bonds of the State of Nevada in the amount necessary to generate the amount to be granted by the Commission from the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this section and to pay the expenses related to the

issuance of the bonds. The expenses related to the issuance of bonds pursuant to this section must be paid from the proceeds of the bonds, and must not exceed 2 percent of the face amount of the bonds sold. No public debt is created, within the meaning of Section 3 of Article 9 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada, until the issuance of the bonds.

3. The proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized by this section, after deducting the expenses relating to the issuance of the bonds, must be deposited with the State Treasurer and credited to the Fund for the Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Resources.

4. The provisions of the State Securities Law, contained in chapter 349 of NRS, apply to the issuance of bonds pursuant to this section.

5. The amount of financial assistance granted from the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this section must not exceed ~~[\$20,000,000]~~ **\$30,000,000** in any 10-year period. The total face amount of the bonds issued pursuant to this section must not exceed the sum of:

(a) The amount of financial assistance granted pursuant to this section; and

(b) The amount necessary to pay the expenses related to the issuance of the bonds, which must not exceed 2 percent of the face amount of the bonds sold.

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

