

SENATE BILL NO. 393—SENATOR NOLAN

MARCH 19, 2007

Referred to Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security

SUMMARY—Makes various changes concerning transportation.
(BDR 58-109)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
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 transportation; requiring employees of the Nevada Transportation Authority to carry identification and wear specified clothing; requiring certain employees of the Authority to receive certain training; changing the name of the “Transportation Services Authority” to the “Nevada Transportation Authority”; requiring the Authority to appoint a Deputy Commissioner; providing the qualifications and duties of the Deputy Commissioner; prohibiting a member of the Authority from taking a position within a regulated industry or business for 1 year after service on the Authority; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Under existing law, the Transportation Services Authority regulates fully regulated carriers, operators of tow cars and brokers of regulated services as provided for in chapter 706 of NRS. (NRS 706.151) **Sections 11-13 and 16** of this bill change the name of the Transportation Services Authority to the Nevada Transportation Authority.

Section 5 of this bill requires employees of the Authority to carry proper identification and wear clothing specified by the Deputy Commissioner of the Authority. **Section 6** of this bill requires the Authority to adopt regulations specifying the training which its compliance enforcement officers must receive.

Existing law allows the Authority to appoint a Deputy and employ other persons as needed. (NRS 706.176) **Section 15** of this bill requires the Authority to appoint a Deputy Commissioner and sets forth the qualifications and duties for the position. **Section 15** also requires the Authority to employ compliance enforcement officers and sets forth the duties for those positions.

Existing law prohibits certain persons who have worked for certain agencies of the State from being employed in certain fields or businesses for 1 year after they



cease working for the State. (NRS 281.236) **Section 17** of this bill expands that prohibition to members of the Authority.

Existing law provides that an employee designated as an inspector or as Manager of Transportation by the Authority is a peace officer and has police powers. (NRS 289.320) **Section 18** of this bill amends this provision to apply only to inspectors.

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

Section 1. Chapter 706 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 2. *“Chairman” means the person designated as Chairman of the Authority by the Governor pursuant to NRS 706.1512.*

Sec. 3. *“Compliance enforcement officer” means a person employed pursuant to NRS 706.176 whose duties include enforcing certain state statutes and regulations pertaining to motor carriers.*

Sec. 4. *“Deputy Commissioner” means the person appointed as Deputy Commissioner of the Authority pursuant to NRS 706.176.*

Sec. 5. *An employee of the Authority who enforces any provision of this chapter or regulations adopted pursuant thereto while on duty shall carry on his person proper identification and wear clothing that identifies him as an employee of the Authority as determined by the Deputy Commissioner.*

Sec. 6. *The Authority shall adopt regulations setting forth the training which a compliance enforcement officer employed by the Authority pursuant to NRS 706.176 must complete, including, without limitation, training in commercial vehicle safety inspections provided by the Nevada Highway Patrol.*

Sec. 7. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 8. NRS 706.011 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.011 As used in NRS 706.011 to 706.791, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 706.013 to 706.146, inclusive, *and sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 9. NRS 706.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.018 “Authority” means the *Nevada* Transportation ~~[Services]~~ Authority created pursuant to NRS 706.1511.



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Sec. 10. NRS 706.151 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.151 1. It is hereby declared to be the purpose and policy of the Legislature in enacting this chapter:

(a) Except to the extent otherwise provided in NRS 706.881 to 706.885, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act*, to confer upon the Authority the power and to make it the duty of the Authority to regulate fully regulated carriers, operators of tow cars and brokers of regulated services to the extent provided in this chapter and to confer upon the Department of Motor Vehicles the power to license all motor carriers and to make it the duty of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Public Safety to enforce the provisions of this chapter and the regulations adopted by the Authority pursuant to it, to relieve the undue burdens on the highways arising by reason of the use of the highways by vehicles in a gainful occupation thereon.

(b) To provide for reasonable compensation for the use of the highways in gainful occupations, and enable the State of Nevada, by using license fees, to provide for the proper construction, maintenance and repair thereof, and thereby protect the safety and welfare of the traveling and shipping public in their use of the highways.

(c) To provide for fair and impartial regulation, to promote safe, adequate, economical and efficient service and to foster sound economic conditions in motor transportation.

(d) To encourage the establishment and maintenance of reasonable charges for:

(1) Intrastate transportation by fully regulated carriers; and

(2) Towing services performed without the prior consent of the owner of the vehicle or the person authorized by the owner to operate the vehicle,

↳ without unjust discriminations against or undue preferences or advantages being given to any motor carrier or applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

(e) To discourage any practices which would tend to increase or create competition that may be detrimental to the traveling and shipping public or the motor carrier business within this State.

2. All of the provisions of this chapter must be administered and enforced with a view to carrying out the declaration of policy contained in this section.

Sec. 11. NRS 706.1511 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.1511 1. The *Nevada* Transportation ~~[Services]~~ Authority is hereby created.

2. The Authority consists of three members appointed by the Governor. After the initial term each member shall serve a term of 4 years.



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3. The Governor shall appoint to the Authority members who have at least 2 years of experience in one or more of the following fields:

- (a) Accounting.
- (b) Business administration.
- (c) Economics.
- (d) Administrative law.
- (e) Transportation.
- (f) Professional engineering.

➔ At least one but not more than two of the members appointed must be residents of Clark County.

4. Not more than two of the members may be:

- (a) Members of the same political party.
- (b) From the same field of experience.

5. All of the members must be persons who are independent of the industries regulated by the Authority. No elected officer of this State or any political subdivision is eligible for appointment.

6. The members of the Authority shall give their entire time to the business of the Authority and shall not pursue any other business or vocation or hold any other office of profit.

7. Each member of the Authority serves at the pleasure of the Governor.

Sec. 12. NRS 706.1513 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.1513 The Authority may sue and be sued in the name of the **Nevada** Transportation **[Services]** Authority.

Sec. 13. NRS 706.1516 is hereby amended to read as follows:

706.1516 1. The **Nevada** Transportation **[Services]** Authority Regulatory Fund is hereby created as a special revenue fund. All money collected by the Authority pursuant to law must be deposited in the State Treasury for credit to the Fund.

2. Money in the Fund may be used only to defray the costs of:

(a) Maintaining staff and equipment needed to regulate adequately persons subject to the jurisdiction of the Authority.

(b) Participating in all proceedings relevant to the jurisdiction of the Authority.

(c) Audits, inspections, investigations, publication of notices, reports and retaining consultants connected with that maintenance and participation.

(d) The salaries, travel expenses and subsistence allowances of the members of the Authority.

3. All claims against the Fund must be paid as other claims against the State are paid.

4. The Authority must furnish upon request a statement showing the balance remaining in the Fund as of the close of the preceding fiscal year.



Sec. 14. NRS 706.1715 is hereby amended to read as follows:
706.1715 1. The Attorney General shall:

(a) Act as counsel and attorney for the Authority in all actions, proceedings and hearings.

(b) Prosecute in the name of the *Nevada* Transportation ~~[Services]~~ Authority all civil actions for the enforcement of this chapter and for the recovery of any penalty or forfeiture provided for therein.

(c) Generally aid the Authority in the performance of its duties and the enforcement of this chapter.

2. The Attorney General or any district attorney may prosecute any violation of this chapter or chapter 712 of NRS for which a criminal penalty is provided.

Sec. 15. NRS 706.176 is hereby amended to read as follows:
706.176 1. The Authority ~~[may:~~

~~1. Appoint a Deputy who serves in the unclassified service of the State.~~

~~2. Employ] shall appoint a Deputy Commissioner who:~~

(a) Must be knowledgeable and experienced in public administration and fiscal management;

(b) Must be knowledgeable in the areas of motor carrier regulation by the Authority; and

(c) Must be independent of and have no pecuniary interest in any entity regulated by the Authority.

2. The Deputy Commissioner shall:

(a) Serve as Chief Financial Officer for the Authority and is responsible for directing the daily operation of the Authority, including, without limitation:

(1) Budget preparation;

(2) Administration;

(3) Human resources;

(4) Purchases and acquisitions made by the Authority; and

(5) Contracts and leases entered into by the Authority;

(b) Develop and implement policies and procedures to ensure the efficient operation of the Authority;

(c) Oversee:

(1) The review of applications for certificates, permits and modifications of tariffs;

(2) The maintenance of a hearing calendar of all matters pending before the Authority; and

(3) Compliance with and enforcement of State statutes and regulations pertaining to motor carriers which are regulated by the Authority; and

(d) Authenticate documents and serve as custodian of all agency records.



1 **3. The Deputy Commissioner is in the unclassified service of**
2 **the State.**

3 **4. The Authority shall employ compliance enforcement**
4 **officers whose duties shall include, without limitation,**
5 **enforcement activities to ensure motor carriers are operating in**
6 **compliance with State statutes and regulations, conducting**
7 **operational inspections of motor carriers and investigating**
8 **complaints against motor carriers.**

9 **5. The Authority may employ** such other personnel as may be
10 necessary.

11 **Sec. 16.** NRS 232.510 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 232.510 1. The Department of Business and Industry is
13 hereby created.

14 2. The Department consists of a Director and the following:

15 (a) Consumer Affairs Division.

16 (b) Division of Financial Institutions.

17 (c) Housing Division.

18 (d) Manufactured Housing Division.

19 (e) Real Estate Division.

20 (f) Division of Insurance.

21 (g) Division of Industrial Relations.

22 (h) Office of Labor Commissioner.

23 (i) Taxicab Authority.

24 (j) Nevada Athletic Commission.

25 (k) Office of the Nevada Attorney for Injured Workers.

26 (l) **Nevada** Transportation ~~[Services]~~ Authority.

27 (m) Division of Mortgage Lending.

28 (n) Any other office, commission, board, agency or entity
29 created or placed within the Department pursuant to a specific
30 statute, the budget approved by the Legislature or an executive
31 order, or an entity whose budget or activities have been placed
32 within the control of the Department by a specific statute.

33 **Sec. 17.** NRS 281.236 is hereby amended to read as follows:

34 281.236 1. A public utility or parent organization or
35 subsidiary of a public utility shall not employ a former member of
36 the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada for 1 year after the
37 termination of his service on the Commission.

38 2. A person who holds a license issued pursuant to chapter 463
39 or 464 of NRS or who is required to register with the Nevada
40 Gaming Commission pursuant to chapter 463 of NRS shall not
41 employ a former member of the State Gaming Control Board or the
42 Nevada Gaming Commission for 1 year after the termination of the
43 member's service on the Board or Commission.

44 **3. A business or industry governed by chapter 706 or 712 of**
45 **NRS or regulations adopted pursuant thereto shall not employ a**



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1 *former member of the Nevada Transportation Authority,*
2 *appointed pursuant to NRS 706.1511, for 1 year after the*
3 *termination of the member's service on the Authority.*

4 4. In addition to the prohibitions set forth in subsections 1 and
5 2, a business or industry whose activities are governed by
6 regulations adopted by a department, division or other agency of the
7 Executive Branch of government shall not, except as otherwise
8 provided in subsection ~~4.1~~ 5, employ a former public officer or
9 employee of the agency, except a clerical employee, for 1 year after
10 the termination of his service or period of employment if:

11 (a) His principal duties included the formulation of policy
12 contained in the regulations governing the business or industry;

13 (b) During the immediately preceding year he directly
14 performed activities, or controlled or influenced an audit, decision,
15 investigation or other action, which significantly affected the
16 business or industry which might, but for this section, employ him;
17 or

18 (c) As a result of his governmental service or employment, he
19 possesses knowledge of the trade secrets of a direct business
20 competitor.

21 ~~4.1~~ 5. A public officer or employee may request the
22 Commission on Ethics to apply the relevant facts in his case to the
23 provisions of subsection ~~3.1~~ 4 and determine whether relief from
24 the strict application of the provisions is proper. If the Commission
25 on Ethics determines that relief from the strict application of the
26 provisions of subsection ~~3.1~~ 4 is not contrary to:

27 (a) The best interests of the public;

28 (b) The continued integrity of State Government; and

29 (c) The code of ethical standards prescribed in NRS 281.481,
30 ➔ it may issue an opinion to that effect and grant such relief. The
31 opinion of the Commission on Ethics in such a case is subject to
32 judicial review.

33 ~~5.1~~ 6. As used in this section, "regulation" has the meaning
34 ascribed to it in NRS 233B.038.

35 **Sec. 18.** NRS 289.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

36 289.320 An employee of the Nevada Transportation ~~Services~~
37 Authority whom it designates as an inspector ~~for as Manager of~~
38 ~~Transportation~~ is a peace officer and has police power for the
39 enforcement of the provisions of:

40 1. Chapters 706 and 712 of NRS and all regulations of the
41 Nevada Transportation ~~Services~~ Authority or the Department of
42 Motor Vehicles pertaining thereto; and

43 2. Chapter 482 of NRS and NRS 483.230, 483.350 and
44 483.530 to 483.620, inclusive, for the purposes of carrying out the
45 provisions of chapter 706 of NRS.



1 **Sec. 19.** On October 1, 2007, the State Controller shall transfer
2 all assets and liabilities from the Transportation Services Authority
3 Regulatory Fund to the Nevada Transportation Authority Regulatory
4 Fund created pursuant to section 11 of this act.

5 **Sec. 20.** The Legislative Counsel shall:

6 1. In preparing the reprint and supplements to the Nevada
7 Revised Statutes, appropriately change any references to an officer,
8 agency or other entity whose name is changed or whose
9 responsibilities are transferred pursuant to the provisions of this act
10 to refer to the appropriate officer, agency or other entity.

11 2. In preparing supplements to the Nevada Administrative
12 Code, appropriately change any references to an officer, agency or
13 other entity whose name is changed or whose responsibilities are
14 transferred pursuant to the provisions of this act to refer to the
15 appropriate officer, agency or other entity.

16 **Sec. 21.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval
17 for the purpose of adopting regulations and conducting any
18 preliminary activities necessary to ensure that the provisions of this
19 act are carried out in an orderly fashion and on October 1, 2007, for
20 all other purposes.

