

SENATE BILL NO. 418—SENATOR LEE

MARCH 19, 2007

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes a contingent appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to fund a program of agronomy, horticulture, landscape ecology, and design and plant sciences. (BDR 34-46)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in **bolded italics** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT making a contingent appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to fund a program of agronomy, horticulture, landscape ecology, and design and plant sciences, contingent upon the Board establishing such a program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 **Section 2** of this bill makes an appropriation to the Board of Regents of the
2 University of Nevada to fund a program of agronomy, horticulture, landscape
3 ecology, and design and plant sciences if such a program is established that meets
4 the requirements for the program which are set forth in **Section 1** of this bill.
5 **Section 3** of this bill requires that at least two of the five faculty positions be
6 assigned to the Community College of Southern Nevada.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:
3 ***1. If the Board of Regents establishes within the College of***
4 ***Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources of the***
5 ***University of Nevada, Reno, a program of agronomy, horticulture,***



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1 *landscape ecology, and design and plant sciences, the Board of*
2 *Regents shall ensure that the program:*

3 *(a) Offers a bachelor of science degree in the areas of*
4 *agronomy, horticulture, landscape ecology, and design and plant*
5 *sciences;*

6 *(b) In accordance with NRS 396.568, allows a student to apply*
7 *all credits earned toward an associate of applied science degree at*
8 *a community college within the System toward the course work*
9 *required for a major offered by the program; and*

10 *(c) Sets forth the course work necessary to earn a bachelor of*
11 *science degree in the areas of agronomy, horticulture, landscape*
12 *ecology, and design and plant sciences.*

13 *2. In addition to offering courses to students at the University*
14 *of Nevada, Reno, courses offered as part of the program of*
15 *agronomy, horticulture, landscape ecology, and design and plant*
16 *sciences may be offered at the Community College of Southern*
17 *Nevada, at other campuses within the System as determined*
18 *appropriate by the Board of Regents and through distance*
19 *education.*

20 *3. The program of agronomy, horticulture, landscape*
21 *ecology, and design and plant sciences must include at least five*
22 *faculty teaching and research positions and such other personnel*
23 *as determined appropriate by the Board of Regents.*

24 *4. The faculty appointed pursuant to subsection 3 must be*
25 *assigned to positions within the College of Agriculture,*
26 *Biotechnology, and Natural Resources of the University of*
27 *Nevada, Reno, the Community College of Southern Nevada and*
28 *the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station, as determined*
29 *appropriate by the Board of Regents.*

30 *5. The faculty appointed to positions in the Nevada*
31 *Agricultural Experiment Station pursuant to subsection 4, in*
32 *cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture, the*
33 *University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and agencies of the*
34 *Federal Government, including, without limitation, the Natural*
35 *Resources Conservation Service, the Forest Service and the*
36 *Agricultural Research Service, all within the United States*
37 *Department of Agriculture, and the Bureau of Land Management,*
38 *shall conduct research in the areas of horticultural and plant*
39 *sciences.*

40 *6. As used in this section, "distance education" means*
41 *instruction which is delivered by means of video, computer,*
42 *television, correspondence, or the Internet or other electronic*
43 *means of communication, or any combination thereof, in such a*
44 *manner that the person supervising or providing the instruction*
45 *and the person receiving the instruction are separated*



geographically during the time in which the instruction is delivered.

Sec. 2. 1. If the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada establishes a program of agronomy, horticulture, landscape ecology, and design and plant sciences pursuant to section 1 of this act:

(a) There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Board of Regents the following sums:

For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008..... \$600,000

For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009..... \$600,000

(b) The Board of Regents shall, in each fiscal year, distribute the money from the appropriation made by paragraph (a) to the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station for the support of the program of agronomy, horticulture, landscape ecology, and design and plant sciences.

2. The sums appropriated by paragraph (a) of subsection 1 are available for either fiscal year. Any remaining balance of those sums must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2009, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 18, 2009, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

Sec. 3. Of the five faculty positions appointed pursuant to section 1 of this act, two faculty members must be assigned to the Community College of Southern Nevada to provide information necessary for the development of the degree program in agronomy, horticulture, landscape ecology, and design and plant sciences, and to provide services to the horticulture industry in southern Nevada.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

