

SENATE BILL NO. 70—SENATORS CARE AND AMODEI

FEBRUARY 6, 2007

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Enacts the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act. (BDR 13-970)

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

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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 financial administration; enacting the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act; repealing the Uniform Management-of-Institutional-Funds Act; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law requires members of the governing body of a charitable institution  
2 to exercise ordinary care and prudence in the management and investment of funds  
3 held by the institution. Under existing law, the exercise of ordinary care and  
4 prudence requires the consideration of certain factors. (NRS 164.620) **Section 12** of  
5 this bill requires each person responsible for managing and investing the funds of a  
6 charitable institution to consider additional factors, including, without limitation,  
7 the role that the investment will play within the overall investment portfolio of the  
8 institution and an asset's special relationship to the purpose of the institution. In  
9 addition, **section 12** requires a charitable institution to make a decision concerning  
10 the suitability of retaining property contributed to the institution within a reasonable  
11 period of time after the institution receives the property. Also, a charitable  
12 institution must diversify its investments, absent special circumstances, must  
13 minimize the costs incurred in managing and investing the funds of the institution  
14 and must make a reasonable effort to verify the information relevant to the  
15 management and investment of the funds of the institution. Finally, a person who  
16 has special skills or expertise must use those traits in managing and investing the  
17 funds of a charitable institution.

18 Existing law permits the expenditure of appreciation of an endowment fund to  
19 the extent the fund has appreciated above the value of all contributions to the fund,  
20 valued at the time of the contribution. (NRS 164.580) Instead of using the value of  
21 contributions as a limitation, **section 13** of this bill applies a prudence standard to  
22 the process of making decisions about expenditures from an endowment fund,  
23 unless a donor specifically states a different intention. **Section 13** also creates a



rebuttable presumption of imprudence if a charitable institution appropriates for expenditure more than 7 percent of the fair market value of an endowment fund.

Existing law provides that if a donor is unable to consent to the release of a restriction on the use or investment of a fund, the district court may release the restriction if it finds that "the restriction is obsolete, inappropriate or impracticable." (NRS 164.630) Instead of allowing the district court to release restrictions, **section 15** of this bill allows a court to modify restrictions on the way an institution manages or administers a fund in a manner that furthers the probable intention of the donor. In addition, **section 15** allows a court to modify the purpose of a fund held by a charitable institution if the purpose has become unlawful, impracticable, impossible to achieve or wasteful. Finally, **section 15** allows a charitable institution to release or modify a restriction without court approval under certain circumstances.

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 164 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act.

**Sec. 2.** *Sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act may be cited as the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act.*

**Sec. 3.** *As used in sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 4 to 11, inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

**Sec. 4.** *"Charitable purpose" means the relief of poverty, the advancement of education or religion, the promotion of health, the promotion of a governmental purpose or any other purpose the achievement of which is beneficial to the community.*

**Sec. 5.** *"Endowment fund" means an institutional fund or part thereof that, under the terms of a gift instrument, is not wholly expendable by the institution on a current basis. The term does not include assets that an institution designates as an endowment fund for its own use.*

**Sec. 6.** *"Gift instrument" means a record or records, including, without limitation, an institutional solicitation, under which property is granted to, transferred to or held by an institution as an institutional fund.*

**Sec. 7.** *"Institution" means:*

*1. A person, other than an individual, organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes;*

*2. A government or governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality, to the extent that it holds funds exclusively for a charitable purpose; and*

*3. A trust that had both charitable and noncharitable interests, after all noncharitable interests have terminated.*



1     **Sec. 8.** *“Institutional fund” means a fund held by an*  
2 *institution exclusively for charitable purposes. The term does not*  
3 *include:*

4         1. *Program-related assets;*

5         2. *A fund held for an institution by a trustee that is not an*  
6 *institution; or*

7         3. *A fund in which a beneficiary that is not an institution has*  
8 *an interest, other than an interest that could arise upon violation*  
9 *or failure of the purposes of the fund.*

10     **Sec. 9.** *“Person” means an individual, corporation, business*  
11 *trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited-liability company,*  
12 *association, joint venture, public corporation, government or*  
13 *governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality, or any other*  
14 *legal or commercial entity.*

15     **Sec. 10.** *“Program-related asset” means an asset held by an*  
16 *institution primarily to accomplish a charitable purpose of the*  
17 *institution and not primarily for investment.*

18     **Sec. 11.** *“Record” means information which is inscribed on*  
19 *a tangible medium or which is stored in an electronic or other*  
20 *medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.*

21     **Sec. 12.** 1. *Subject to the intent of a donor expressed in a*  
22 *gift instrument, an institution, in managing and investing an*  
23 *institutional fund, shall consider the charitable purposes of the*  
24 *institution and the purposes of the institutional fund.*

25         2. *In addition to complying with the duty of loyalty imposed*  
26 *by law other than sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act, each*  
27 *person responsible for managing and investing an institutional*  
28 *fund shall manage and invest the fund in good faith and with the*  
29 *care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise*  
30 *under similar circumstances.*

31         3. *In managing and investing an institutional fund, an*  
32 *institution:*

33             (a) *May incur only costs that are appropriate and reasonable*  
34 *in relation to the assets, the purposes of the institution and the*  
35 *skills available to the institution; and*

36             (b) *Shall make a reasonable effort to verify facts relevant to*  
37 *the management and investment of the fund.*

38         4. *An institution may pool two or more institutional funds for*  
39 *purposes of management and investment.*

40         5. *Except as otherwise provided by a gift instrument, the*  
41 *following rules apply:*

42             (a) *In managing and investing an institutional fund, the*  
43 *following factors, if relevant, must be considered:*

44                 (1) *General economic conditions;*

45                 (2) *The possible effect of inflation or deflation;*



1       (3) *The expected tax consequences, if any, of investment*  
2 *decisions or strategies;*

3       (4) *The role that each investment or course of action plays*  
4 *within the overall investment portfolio of the fund;*

5       (5) *The expected total return from income and the*  
6 *appreciation of investments;*

7       (6) *Other resources of the institution;*

8       (7) *The needs of the institution and the fund to make*  
9 *distributions and to preserve capital; and*

10       (8) *An asset's special relationship or special value, if any,*  
11 *to the charitable purposes of the institution.*

12       (b) *Management and investment decisions about an individual*  
13 *asset must be made not in isolation but rather in the context of the*  
14 *institutional fund's portfolio of investments as a whole and as a*  
15 *part of an overall investment strategy having risk and return*  
16 *objectives reasonably suited to the fund and to the institution.*

17       (c) *Except as otherwise provided by law other than sections 2*  
18 *to 18, inclusive, of this act, an institution may invest in any kind of*  
19 *property or type of investment consistent with this section.*

20       (d) *An institution shall diversify the investments of an*  
21 *institutional fund unless the institution reasonably determines*  
22 *that, because of special circumstances, the purposes of the fund*  
23 *are better served without diversification.*

24       (e) *Within a reasonable time after receiving property, an*  
25 *institution shall make and carry out decisions concerning the*  
26 *retention or disposition of the property or to rebalance a portfolio,*  
27 *in order to bring the institutional fund into compliance with the*  
28 *purposes, terms and distribution requirements of the institution or*  
29 *necessary to meet other circumstances of the institution and the*  
30 *requirements of sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act.*

31       (f) *A person that has special skills or expertise, or is selected in*  
32 *reliance upon the person's representation that the person has*  
33 *special skills or expertise, has a duty to use those skills or that*  
34 *expertise in managing and investing institutional funds.*

35       **Sec. 13.** 1. *Subject to the intent of a donor expressed in the*  
36 *gift instrument and to subsection 4, an institution may appropriate*  
37 *for expenditure or accumulate so much of an endowment fund as*  
38 *the institution determines is prudent for the uses, benefits,*  
39 *purposes and duration for which the endowment fund is*  
40 *established. Unless stated otherwise in the gift instrument, the*  
41 *assets in an endowment fund are donor-restricted assets until*  
42 *appropriated for expenditure by the institution. In making a*  
43 *determination to appropriate or accumulate, the institution shall*  
44 *act in good faith, with the care that an ordinarily prudent person*



1 *in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and*  
2 *shall consider, if relevant, the following factors:*

- 3 (a) *The duration and preservation of the endowment fund;*
- 4 (b) *The purposes of the institution and the endowment fund;*
- 5 (c) *General economic conditions;*
- 6 (d) *The possible effect of inflation or deflation;*
- 7 (e) *The expected total return from income and the*  
8 *appreciation of investments;*
- 9 (f) *Other resources of the institution; and*
- 10 (g) *The investment policy of the institution.*

11 2. *To limit the authority to appropriate for expenditure or*  
12 *accumulate under subsection 1, a gift instrument must specifically*  
13 *state the limitation.*

14 3. *Terms in a gift instrument designating a gift as an*  
15 *endowment, or a direction or authorization in the gift instrument*  
16 *to use only "income," "interest," "dividends," or "rents, issues or*  
17 *profits," or "to preserve the principal intact," or words of similar*  
18 *import:*

19 (a) *Create an endowment fund of permanent duration unless*  
20 *other language in the gift instrument limits the duration or*  
21 *purpose of the fund; and*

22 (b) *Do not otherwise limit the authority to appropriate for*  
23 *expenditure or accumulate under subsection 1.*

24 4. *The appropriation for expenditure in any year of an*  
25 *amount greater than 7 percent of the fair market value of an*  
26 *endowment fund, calculated on the basis of market values*  
27 *determined at least quarterly and averaged over a period of not*  
28 *less than 3 years immediately preceding the year in which the*  
29 *appropriation for expenditure was made, creates a rebuttable*  
30 *presumption of imprudence. For an endowment fund in existence*  
31 *for less than 3 years, the fair market value of the endowment fund*  
32 *must be calculated for the period the endowment fund has been in*  
33 *existence. This subsection does not:*

34 (a) *Apply to an appropriation for expenditure permitted under*  
35 *law other than sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act or by the gift*  
36 *instrument; or*

37 (b) *Create a presumption of prudence for an appropriation for*  
38 *expenditure of an amount less than or equal to 7 percent of the*  
39 *fair market value of the endowment fund.*

40 **Sec. 14.** 1. *Subject to any specific limitation set forth in a*  
41 *gift instrument or in law other than sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of*  
42 *this act, an institution may delegate to an external agent the*  
43 *management and investment of an institutional fund to the extent*  
44 *that an institution could prudently delegate under the*  
45 *circumstances. An institution shall act in good faith, with the care*



1 *that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise*  
2 *under similar circumstances, in:*

3 (a) *Selecting an agent;*

4 (b) *Establishing the scope and terms of the delegation,*  
5 *consistent with the purposes of the institution and the institutional*  
6 *fund; and*

7 (c) *Periodically reviewing the agent's actions in order to*  
8 *monitor the agent's performance and compliance with the scope*  
9 *and terms of the delegation.*

10 2. *In performing a delegated function, an agent owes a duty*  
11 *to the institution to exercise reasonable care to comply with the*  
12 *scope and terms of the delegation.*

13 3. *An institution that complies with subsection 1 is not liable*  
14 *for the decisions or actions of an agent to which the function was*  
15 *delegated.*

16 4. *By accepting delegation of a management or investment*  
17 *function from an institution that is subject to the laws of this State,*  
18 *an agent submits to the jurisdiction of the courts of this State in all*  
19 *proceedings arising from or related to the delegation or the*  
20 *performance of the delegated function.*

21 5. *An institution may delegate management and investment*  
22 *functions to its committees, officers or employees as authorized by*  
23 *law of this State other than sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act.*

24 **Sec. 15.** 1. *If the donor consents in a record, an institution*  
25 *may release or modify, in whole or in part, a restriction contained*  
26 *in a gift instrument on the management, investment or purpose of*  
27 *an institutional fund. A release or modification may not allow a*  
28 *fund to be used for a purpose other than a charitable purpose of*  
29 *the institution.*

30 2. *The court, upon application of an institution, may modify a*  
31 *restriction contained in a gift instrument regarding the*  
32 *management or investment of an institutional fund if the*  
33 *restriction has become impracticable or wasteful, if it impairs*  
34 *the management or investment of the fund or if, because of*  
35 *circumstances not anticipated by the donor, a modification of a*  
36 *restriction will further the purposes of the fund. The institution*  
37 *shall notify the Attorney General of the application, and the*  
38 *Attorney General must be given an opportunity to be heard. To the*  
39 *extent practicable, any modification must be made in accordance*  
40 *with the donor's probable intention.*

41 3. *If a particular charitable purpose or a restriction contained*  
42 *in a gift instrument on the use of an institutional fund becomes*  
43 *unlawful, impracticable, impossible to achieve or wasteful, the*  
44 *court, upon application of an institution, may modify the purpose*  
45 *of the fund or the restriction on the use of the fund in a manner*



1 *consistent with the charitable purposes expressed in the gift*  
2 *instrument. The institution shall notify the Attorney General of the*  
3 *application, and the Attorney General must be given an*  
4 *opportunity to be heard.*

5 *4. If an institution determines that a restriction contained in*  
6 *a gift instrument on the management, investment or purpose of an*  
7 *institutional fund is unlawful, impracticable, impossible to achieve*  
8 *or wasteful, the institution, 60 days after notification to the*  
9 *Attorney General, may release or modify the restriction, in whole*  
10 *or part, if:*

11 *(a) The institutional fund subject to the restriction has a total*  
12 *value of less than \$25,000;*

13 *(b) More than 20 years have elapsed since the fund was*  
14 *established; and*

15 *(c) The institution uses the property in a manner*  
16 *consistent with the charitable purposes expressed in the gift*  
17 *instrument.*

18 **Sec. 16.** *Compliance with sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this*  
19 *act is determined in light of the facts and circumstances existing at*  
20 *the time a decision is made or action is taken, and not by*  
21 *hindsight.*

22 **Sec. 17.** *Sections 2 to 18, inclusive, of this act modify, limit*  
23 *and supersede the Electronic Signatures in Global and National*  
24 *Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 7001 et seq., but do not modify, limit*  
25 *or supersede Section 101 of that act, 15 U.S.C. § 7001(a), or*  
26 *authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in*  
27 *Section 103 of that act, 15 U.S.C. § 7003(b).*

28 **Sec. 18.** *In applying and construing the Uniform Prudent*  
29 *Management of Institutional Funds Act, consideration must be*  
30 *given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to*  
31 *its subject matter among states that enact it.*

32 **Sec. 19.** *NRS 164.500, 164.510, 164.520, 164.530, 164.540,*  
33 *164.550, 164.560, 164.570, 164.580, 164.590, 164.600, 164.610,*  
34 *164.620, and 164.630 are hereby repealed.*

35 **Sec. 20.** 1. The amendatory provisions of this act apply to  
36 institutional funds existing on or established after October 1, 2007.

37 2. As applied to institutional funds existing on October 1,  
38 2007, the amendatory provisions of this act govern only decisions  
39 made or actions taken on or after that date.



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## LEADLINES OF REPEALED SECTIONS

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- 164.500** Short title.
- 164.510** Definitions.
- 164.520** “Donative instrument” defined.
- 164.530** “Endowment fund” defined.
- 164.540** “Governing board” defined.
- 164.550** “Historical monetary value” defined.
- 164.560** “Institution” defined.
- 164.570** “Institutional fund” defined.
- 164.580** Governing board authorized to appropriate certain assets of endowment fund for expenditure under certain circumstances; conclusivity of determination of historical monetary value.
- 164.590** Exception to provision authorizing governing board to appropriate certain assets of endowment fund; applicability.
- 164.600** Additional investments.
- 164.610** Powers of governing board: Delegation of authority to invest institutional funds; employment of certain persons to provide advisory or managerial services.
- 164.620** Standard of care for exercise of certain powers by governing board; additional considerations.
- 164.630** Release by governing board of certain restrictions on use or investment of institutional fund: Requirements; limitations.

