
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 9—COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS,
PROCEDURES, ETHICS, AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION’S SUBCOMMITTEE
TO STUDY ISSUES RELATING TO SENIOR CITIZENS AND VETERANS)

PREFILED DECEMBER 2, 2008

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, Ethics,
and Constitutional Amendments

SUMMARY—Creates the Legislative Committee on Senior
Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs.
(BDR 17-97)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
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 legislative affairs; creating the Legislative
Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With
Special Needs; prescribing the powers and duties of the
Committee; and providing other matters properly relating
thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 **Section 3** of this bill creates the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens,
2 Veterans and Adults With Special Needs as a statutory committee and provides for
3 its membership. **Section 4** of this bill provides for the meetings of the Committee,
4 prescribes the manner in which meetings must be conducted and provides for the
5 compensation of the members of the Committee. **Section 5** of this bill authorizes
6 the Committee to study and comment upon issues relating to senior citizens,
7 veterans and adults with special needs and authorizes the Committee to conduct
8 investigations and hold hearings.
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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 218 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 2. *As used in sections 2 to 7, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, "Committee" means the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs.*

Sec. 3. 1. *The Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs, consisting of six members, is hereby created. The membership of the Committee consists of:*

(a) Three members of the Senate appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, at least one of whom must be a member of the minority political party; and

(b) Three members of the Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, at least one of whom must be a member of the minority political party.

2. *The Legislative Commission shall select the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee from among the members of the Committee. After the initial selection of those officers, each of those officers holds the position for a term of 2 years commencing on July 1 of each odd-numbered year. The chairmanship of the Committee must alternate each biennium between the houses of the Legislature. If a vacancy occurs in the chairmanship or vice chairmanship, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.*

3. *A member of the Committee who is not a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection continues to serve until the convening of the next regular session of the Legislature.*

4. *A vacancy on the Committee must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.*

Sec. 4. 1. *The members of the Committee shall meet at the times and places specified by a call of the Chairman or by a majority of the Committee.*

2. *The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau or his designee shall act as the nonvoting recording Secretary of the Committee.*

3. *Four members of the Committee constitute a quorum, and a quorum may exercise all the power and authority conferred on the Committee.*



1 4. Except during a regular or special session of the
2 Legislature, for each day or portion of a day during which a
3 member of the Committee attends a meeting of the Committee or is
4 otherwise engaged in the work of the Committee, the member is
5 entitled to receive the:

6 (a) Compensation provided for a majority of the members of
7 the Legislature during the first 60 days of the preceding regular
8 session;

9 (b) Per diem allowance provided for state officers and
10 employees generally; and

11 (c) Travel expenses provided pursuant to NRS 218.2207.

12 ↳ The compensation, per diem allowances and travel expenses of
13 the members of the Committee must be paid from the Legislative
14 Fund.

15 Sec. 5. 1. The Committee may review, study and comment
16 upon issues relating to senior citizens, veterans and adults with
17 special needs, including, without limitation:

18 (a) Initiatives to ensure the financial and physical wellness of
19 senior citizens, veterans and adults with special needs;

20 (b) The abuse, neglect, isolation and exploitation of senior
21 citizens and adults with special needs;

22 (c) Public outreach and advocacy;

23 (d) Programs for the provision of services to senior citizens,
24 veterans and adults with special needs in this State and methods to
25 enhance such programs to ensure that services are provided in the
26 most appropriate setting;

27 (e) Programs that provide services and care in the home which
28 allow senior citizens to remain at home and live independently
29 instead of in institutional care;

30 (f) The availability of useful information and data as needed
31 for the State of Nevada to effectively make decisions, plan budgets
32 and monitor costs and outcomes of services provided to senior
33 citizens, veterans and adults with special needs;

34 (g) Laws relating to the appointment of a guardian and the
35 improvement of laws for the protection of senior citizens and
36 adults with special needs who have been appointed a guardian,
37 including, without limitation, the improvement of investigations
38 relating to guardianships and systems for monitoring
39 guardianships; and

40 (h) The improvement of facilities for long-term care in this
41 State, including, without limitation:

42 (1) Reducing the number of persons placed in facilities for
43 long-term care located outside this State;



(2) Creating units for acute care and long-term care to treat persons suffering from dementia who exhibit behavioral problems;

(3) Developing alternatives to placement in facilities for long-term care, including, without limitation, units for long-term care located in other types of facilities, and ensuring that such alternatives are available throughout this State for the treatment of persons with psychological needs; and

(4) Creating a program to provide follow-up care and to track the ongoing progress of residents of facilities for long-term care.

2. The Committee may:

(a) Review, study and comment upon matters relating to senior citizens, veterans and adults with special needs;

(b) Conduct investigations and hold hearings in connection with its duties pursuant to this section;

(c) Request that the Legislative Counsel Bureau assist in the research, investigations, hearings and studies of the Committee; and

(d) Make recommendations to the Legislature concerning senior citizens, veterans and adults with special needs.

3. The Committee shall, on or before January 15 of each odd-numbered year, submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the next regular session of the Legislature a report concerning the study conducted pursuant to subsection 1.

4. As used in this section, "facility for long-term care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 427A.028.

Sec. 6. 1. If the Committee conducts investigations or holds hearings pursuant to section 5 of this act:

(a) The Secretary of the Committee or, in his absence, a member designated by the Committee may administer oaths.

(b) The Chairman of the Committee may cause the deposition of witnesses, residing within or outside this State, to be taken in the manner prescribed by rule of court for taking depositions in civil actions in the district courts.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers.

2. If a witness refuses to attend or testify or produce books or papers as required by the subpoena, the Chairman of the Committee may report to the district court by a petition which sets forth that:

(a) Due notice has been given of the time and place of attendance of the witness or the production of the books or papers;



1 (b) The witness has been subpoenaed by the Committee
2 pursuant to this section; and

3 (c) The witness has failed or refused to attend or produce the
4 books or papers required by the subpoena before the Committee
5 that is named in the subpoena, or has refused to answer questions
6 propounded to him.

7 ↪ The petition may request an order of the court compelling the
8 witness to attend and testify or produce the books and papers
9 before the Committee.

10 3. Upon such a petition, the court shall enter an order
11 directing the witness to appear before the court at a time and place
12 to be fixed by the court in its order, the time to be not more than
13 10 days after the date of the order, and to show cause why he has
14 not attended or testified or produced the books or papers before
15 the Committee. A certified copy of the order must be served upon
16 the witness.

17 4. If it appears to the court that the subpoena was regularly
18 issued by the Committee, the court shall enter an order that the
19 witness appear before the Committee at the time and place fixed in
20 the order and testify or produce the required books or papers.
21 Failure to obey the order constitutes contempt of court.

22 Sec. 7. Each witness who appears before the Committee by
23 its order, except a state officer or employee, is entitled to receive
24 for his attendance the fees and mileage provided for witnesses in
25 civil cases in the courts of record in this State. The fees and
26 mileage must be audited and paid upon the presentation of proper
27 claims sworn to by the witness and approved by the Secretary and
28 Chairman of the Committee.

29 Sec. 8. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2009.

