

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 332—ASSEMBLYMEN CONKLIN,
KIRKPATRICK; AND SMITH

MARCH 21, 2011

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to the Economic Forum. (BDR 31-307)

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 state financial administration; requiring the Economic Forum to hold at least one regular meeting during each calendar quarter; providing for a member of the Economic Forum to be considered present at a meeting of the Economic Forum if the member is participating in the meeting by telephone or video conference; amending certain reporting requirements of the Economic Forum; authorizing the Chair of the Economic Forum to limit certain deliberations of the Economic Forum; authorizing the Chair of the Economic Forum to request certain information and testimony; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Under existing law, the Economic Forum, a panel of economic and financial
2 experts appointed by the Governor, the Majority Floor Leader of the Senate and the
3 Speaker of the Assembly, provides revenue estimates and projections to the
4 Governor and the Legislature. (NRS 353.226, 353.228) This bill makes a number of
5 changes to the operations of the Economic Forum. **Section 1** of this bill requires the
6 Economic Forum to hold at least one meeting during each calendar quarter rather
7 than the current requirement of meeting as often as necessary to accomplish its
8 statutory duties. **Section 1** also requires the Chair of the Economic Forum to set the
9 agenda for the meetings and authorizes the Chair to consider a member present at a
10 meeting, for purposes of complying with the Open Meeting Law, if the member is
11 participating in the meeting by telephone or video conference. **Section 2** of this bill
12 requires certain reports of the Economic Forum that currently must be made,
13 respectively, on or before December 1 before each regular session of the
14 Legislature and on or before May 1 of the following year to instead be made on or



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15 before December 1 and May 1 of each year. **Section 2** also authorizes the Chair to
16 limit certain deliberations of the Economic Forum and to request testimony and
17 written information from any state agency, which then must provide the testimony
18 or information.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 353.227 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 353.227 1. The Economic Forum impaneled pursuant to NRS
3 353.226 shall:

4 (a) Elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members at its
5 first meeting;

6 (b) Adopt such rules governing the conduct of the Economic
7 Forum as it deems necessary; and

8 (c) Hold ~~{such number of}~~ :

9 ***(1) One meeting each calendar quarter; and***

10 ***(2) Such number of additional*** meetings as may be
11 necessary to accomplish the tasks assigned to it in the time allotted.

12 2. ***The Chair of the Economic Forum shall set the agenda for***
13 ***each meeting of the Economic Forum.***

14 3. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and Chief of
15 the Budget Division of the Department of Administration shall
16 jointly provide the Economic Forum with:

17 (a) Meeting rooms;

18 (b) Staff;

19 (c) Data processing services; and

20 (d) Clerical assistance.

21 ~~{3. —A}~~

22 4. ***Subject to the provisions of subsection 5, a*** majority of the
23 members constitutes a quorum and a majority of those present must
24 concur in any decision.

25 ~~{4.}~~ 5. ***For the purposes of complying with the provisions of***
26 ***chapter 241 of NRS, at the discretion of the Chair, a member is***
27 ***present at a meeting if the member is participating in the meeting***
28 ***by telephone or video conference.***

29 6. While engaged in the business of the Economic Forum, each
30 member is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel
31 expenses provided for state officers and employees generally.

32 ~~{5.}~~ 7. In addition to the per diem allowance and travel
33 expenses provided in subsection ~~{4.}~~ 6, each member of the
34 Economic Forum who is appointed by the Governor pursuant to
35 subsection 2 of NRS 353.226 is entitled to receive for each meeting
36 of the Economic Forum:

37 (a) Eighty dollars for 1 day of preparation for that meeting; and



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(b) Eighty dollars for each day or part of a day during which the meeting lasts.

Sec. 2. NRS 353.228 is hereby amended to read as follows:

353.228 1. The Economic Forum impaneled pursuant to NRS 353.226 shall:

(a) Make such projections for economic indicators as it deems necessary to ensure that an accurate estimate is produced pursuant to paragraph (b);

(b) Provide an accurate estimate of the revenue that will be collected by the State for general, unrestricted uses, and not for special purposes, during the biennium that begins on July 1 of the year following the date on which the Economic Forum was empaneled;

(c) Request such technical assistance as the Economic Forum deems necessary from the Technical Advisory Committee created by NRS 353.229;

(d) On or before December 1 of ~~the~~ *each* year, ~~in which the Economic Forum was empaneled,~~ prepare a written report of its projections of economic indicators and estimate of future state revenue required by paragraphs (a) and (b) and present the report to the Governor and the Legislature; and

(e) On or before May 1 of ~~the~~ *each* year, ~~following the year in which the Economic Forum was empaneled,~~ prepare a written report confirming or revising the projections of economic indicators and estimate of future state revenue contained in the report prepared pursuant to paragraph (d) and present the report to the Governor and the Legislature.

2. ~~The~~ *At the discretion of the Chair, the* Economic Forum may ~~make preliminary projections of economic indicators and estimates of future state revenue at any time. Any such projections and estimates must be made available to the various agencies of the State through the Chief.~~ *, for the reports prepared and presented pursuant to paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection 1:*

(a) Limit its deliberations regarding future state revenue to major sources of revenue; and

(b) Accept written estimates of other sources of revenue.

3. The ~~Economic Forum~~ *Chair* may request *, on behalf of the Economic Forum, written* information directly from any state agency ~~it~~ *, including, without limitation, the Nevada System of Higher Education.* A state agency *, including, without limitation, the Nevada System of Higher Education,* that receives a reasonable request for *written* information from the Economic Forum shall comply with the request as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving the request.



1 4. *The Chair may request direct testimony from any state*
2 *agency, including, without limitation, the Nevada System of*
3 *Higher Education, at a meeting of the Economic Forum or the*
4 *Technical Advisory Committee. The head, or a designee thereof, of*
5 *a state agency, including, without limitation, the Nevada System of*
6 *Higher Education, who receives a reasonable request for direct*
7 *testimony at a meeting of the Economic Forum or the Technical*
8 *Advisory Committee shall appear at the meeting and shall comply*
9 *with the request.*

10 5. To carry out its duties pursuant to this section, the Economic
11 Forum may ~~consider any~~ request information *and direct testimony*
12 *from the Technical Advisory Committee and from independent*
13 *sources and may consider any information* received from *and*
14 *direct testimony given by* the Technical Advisory Committee and
15 any other ~~information received from~~ independent sources.

16 ~~5.1~~ 6. Copies of the projections and estimates made pursuant
17 to this section must be made available to the public by the Director
18 of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for the cost of reproducing the
19 material.

20 Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2011.

