

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 257—ASSEMBLYMEN  
EDWARDS AND ELLIOT ANDERSON

MARCH 11, 2015

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Creates the Nevada Defense Support Committee within the Governor’s Office of Economic Development. (BDR 18-1051)

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 relating to economic development; establishing the Nevada Defense Support Committee within the Governor’s Office of Economic Development; setting forth the composition and duties of the Committee; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law establishes the Office of Economic Development within the Office of the Governor to carry out various economic development activities within this State. (Chapter 231 of NRS) **Section 3** of this bill creates the Nevada Defense Support Committee consisting of 13 members appointed by the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor as President of the Senate, the Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Assembly. **Section 4** of this bill provides that the Committee is advisory to the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development. In addition, **section 4** requires the Committee to: (1) make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations in this State; (2) support research and development opportunities related to military contracting activities within this State; (3) encourage programs and policies to improve the military-friendly environment of this State; (4) identify priorities of, share information with, increase collaboration with and form a sustained network for military communities located in this State; and (5) identify opportunities for economic development in this State related to military installations and military contracting. **Sections 8 and 9** of this bill make an appropriation of \$500,000 from the State General Fund to the Office of Economic Development to pay for the activities of the Committee.



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

1       **Section 1.** Chapter 231 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3, and 4 of this act.

3       **Sec. 2.** *“Committee” means the Nevada Defense Support*  
4 *Committee created by section 3 of this act.*

5       **Sec. 3. 1.** *The Nevada Defense Support Committee is*  
6 *hereby created. The Committee consists of 13 members appointed*  
7 *as follows:*

8       *(a) Seven members appointed by the Governor;*

9       *(b) Two members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, as*  
10 *the President of the Senate;*

11       *(c) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the*  
12 *Senate;*

13       *(d) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly;*  
14 *and*

15       *(e) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the*  
16 *Assembly.*

17       **2.** *In appointing members to the Committee pursuant to*  
18 *subsection 1, the appointing authorities shall, to the extent*  
19 *practicable, coordinate the appointments so that not less than six*  
20 *members appointed to the Committee are veterans of the Armed*  
21 *Forces of the United States and the members of the Committee*  
22 *represent the geographic and ethnic diversity of this State by*  
23 *including, without limitation, members who:*

24       *(a) Represent various communities within this State that host*  
25 *military installations;*

26       *(b) Are persons who are employed by or represent state*  
27 *agencies or organizations that support military installations in this*  
28 *State, including, without limitation, the Nevada National Guard,*  
29 *the Department of Veterans Services, the Nevada Joint Military*  
30 *Affairs Committee and the Southwest Defense Alliance.*

31       *(c) Are retired military leaders; and*

32       *(d) Represent private-sector defense industry contractors*  
33 *located in this State.*

34       **3.** *The Governor shall appoint a Chair from among the*  
35 *members appointed to the Committee pursuant to paragraph (a) of*  
36 *subsection 1.*

37       **4.** *After the initial terms, the term of each member of the*  
38 *Committee is 4 years. A vacancy on the Committee must be filled*  
39 *for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as*  
40 *the original appointment.*

41       **5.** *Each member of the Committee:*



(a) Serves without compensation, except that any member of the committee who is an officer or employee of this State or any agency thereof must receive his or her regular compensation while engaged in the business of the Committee; and

(b) While engaged in the business of the Committee, is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, to the extent that money for such expenses is available within the budget of the Office.

**Sec. 4. 1. The Committee shall advise the Executive Director and shall:**

(a) Make recommendations to preserve and protect military installations in this State;

(b) Support research and development opportunities arising out of, or related to, military contracting activities in this State;

(c) Encourage programs and policies to improve the military-friendly environment of this State for service members, military dependents, military retirees and businesses that bring military and military-related civilian jobs to this State;

(d) Identify the priorities of, share information with, increase collaboration with and form a sustained network for military communities within this State; and

(e) Identify opportunities for economic development in this State that are related to military installations and military contracting.

**2. The Executive Director shall:**

(a) Provide administrative and technical support to the Committee;

(b) Designate an employee of the Office to serve as the Secretary of the Committee; and

(c) Coordinate the activities of the Committee with the State Plan for Economic Development developed by the Executive Director pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 231.053 and the economic development activities of agencies of this State, local governments in this State, and local and regional organizations for economic development to avoid duplication of effort or conflicting efforts.

**Sec. 5.** NRS 231.002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

231.002 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 231.003 to 231.009, inclusive, **and section 2 of this act** have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

**Sec. 6.** NRS 231.055 is hereby amended to read as follows:

231.055 Under the direction of the Executive Director, the Office:



1 1. Shall provide administrative and technical support to the  
2 Board ~~H~~ and the Committee.

3 2. Shall support the efforts of the Board, the Committee, the  
4 regional development authorities designated by the Executive  
5 Director pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 231.053 and the private  
6 sector to encourage the creation and expansion of businesses in  
7 Nevada and the relocation of businesses to Nevada.

8 3. Shall coordinate and oversee all economic development  
9 programs in this State to ensure that such programs are consistent  
10 with the State Plan for Economic Development developed by the  
11 Executive Director pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 231.053,  
12 including, without limitation:

13 (a) Coordinating the economic development activities of  
14 agencies of this State, the Committee, local governments in this  
15 State and local and regional organizations for economic  
16 development to avoid duplication of effort or conflicting efforts;

17 (b) Working with local, state and federal authorities to  
18 streamline the process for obtaining abatements, financial  
19 incentives, grants, loans and all necessary permits and licenses for  
20 the creation or expansion of businesses in Nevada or the relocation  
21 of businesses to Nevada; and

22 (c) Reviewing, analyzing and making recommendations for the  
23 approval or disapproval of applications for abatements, financial  
24 incentives, development resources, and grants and loans of money  
25 provided by the Office.

26 4. May:

27 (a) Participate in any federal programs for economic  
28 development that are consistent with the State Plan for Economic  
29 Development developed by the Executive Director pursuant to  
30 subsection 2 of NRS 231.053; and

31 (b) When practicable and authorized by federal law, act as the  
32 agency of this State to administer such federal programs.

33 **Sec. 7.** NRS 231.064 is hereby amended to read as follows:

34 231.064 In addition to its other duties, the Office shall:

35 1. Investigate and study conditions affecting Nevada business,  
36 industry and commerce, and engage in technical studies, scientific  
37 investigations, statistical research and educational activities  
38 necessary or useful for the proper execution of the function of the  
39 Office in promoting and developing Nevada business, industry and  
40 commerce, both within and outside the State.

41 2. Conduct or encourage research designed to further new and  
42 more extensive uses of the natural and other resources of the State  
43 and designed to develop new products and industrial processes.

44 3. Serve as a center of public information for the State of  
45 Nevada by answering general inquiries concerning the resources and



economic advantages of this state and by furnishing information and data on these and related subjects.

4. Prepare, and disseminate in any medium, informational material designed to promote community, economic and industrial development in Nevada.

5. Plan and develop an effective service for business information, both for the direct assistance of business and industry of the State and for the encouragement of business and industry outside the State to use economic facilities within the State, including readily accessible information on state and local taxes, local zoning regulations and environmental standards, the availability and cost of real estate, labor, energy, transportation and occupational education and related subjects.

***6. With the assistance of the Committee, investigate and study opportunities for economic development relating to military installations and military contracting within this State.***

**Sec. 8.** There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Office of Economic Development of the Office of the Governor the sum of \$500,000 for the operation of the Nevada Defense Support Committee created pursuant to section 3 of this act. The money must be used exclusively for:

1. Staffing and administrative expenses of the Committee;

2. Expenses incurred pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 5 of section 3 of this act;

3. Hiring consultants and subject-matter experts to assist the Committee with carrying out the duties set forth in section 4 of this act; and

4. Any other expense that the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development determines is necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

**Sec. 9.** Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by section 8 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2017, 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 15, 2017, by either the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 15, 2017.

**Sec. 10.** On or before July 1, 2015, the members of the Nevada Defense Support Committee created by section 3 of this act must be appointed to initial terms commencing on July 1, 2015, as follows:

1. Four of the members described in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to initial terms of 4 years;



2. Three of the members described in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to initial terms of 2 years;

3. One of the members described in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to an initial term of 4 years;

4. One of the members described in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to an initial term of 2 years;

5. The member described in paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to an initial term of 4 years;

6. One of the members described in paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to an initial term of 4 years;

7. One of the members described in paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to an initial term of 2 years; and

8. The member described in paragraph (e) of subsection 1 of section 3 of this act to an initial term of 2 years.

**Sec. 11.** The appropriation made by section 8 of this act is not intended to finance ongoing expenditures of state agencies and the expenditures financed with that appropriation must not be included as base budget expenditures in the proposed budget for the Executive Branch of State Government for the 2017-2019 biennium.

**Sec. 12.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of performing and preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, and on July 1, 2015, for all other purposes.

