

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 485—COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION)

MARCH 23, 2015

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the duties and structure of the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology. (BDR 18-1155)

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 economic development; revising the duties of the Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology; transferring the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics from the Department of Education to the Office; reducing the membership of the Council; revising certain duties of the Council; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology in the Office of the Governor and sets forth the duties of the Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology. (NRS 223.600, 223.610) **Section 1** of this bill revises the duties of the Director to include, without limitation: (1) coordinating activities in the State relating to broadband service; (2) providing support to the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; and (3) administering such grants as are provided by legislative appropriation.

Existing law creates the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics within the Department of Education and provides for its membership and duties. The provisions of existing law which create the Advisory Council are also set to expire by limitation on June 30, 2017. (NRS 385.700, 385.705) **Section 2** of this bill transfers the Advisory Council to the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology and reduces the membership of the Advisory Council. **Section 4** of this bill makes the Advisory Council permanent.



Section 3 of this bill imposes certain duties upon the Council concerning surveys and recommendations and requires the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to consider certain plans developed by the Council.

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

Section 1. NRS 223.610 is hereby amended to read as follows:

223.610 The Director of the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology shall:

1. Advise the Governor and the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development on matters relating to science, innovation and technology.

2. Work in coordination with the Office of Economic Development to establish criteria and goals for economic development and diversification in this State in the areas of science, innovation and technology.

3. As directed by the Governor, ~~and the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development,~~ identify, recommend and carry out policies related to science, innovation and technology.

4. Report periodically to the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development concerning the administration of the policies and programs of the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology.

5. ~~Develop and coordinate efforts to attract biotechnological companies to~~ *Coordinate activities in* this State ~~relating to the planning, mapping and procurement of broadband service.~~

6. ~~Establish and maintain a clearinghouse of information regarding biotechnological business~~ *Provide support to the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and direct the implementation* in this State ~~of plans developed by the Council concerning, without limitation, workforce development, college preparedness and economic development.~~

7. In carrying out his or her duties pursuant to this section, consult with the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development and cooperate with the Executive Director in implementing the State Plan for Economic Development developed by the Executive Director pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 231.053.

8. Administer such grants as are provided by legislative appropriation.

Sec. 2. NRS 385.700 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.700 1. The Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics is hereby created within the



~~[Department of Education.]~~ *Office of Science, Innovation and Technology.* The Council consists of:

(a) The following ex officio members:

(1) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee;

(2) The Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education or his or her designee;

(3) The Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development or his or her designee; and

(4) The Director of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation or his or her designee;

(b) Three members appointed by the Governor pursuant to subsection 2;

(c) ~~[Four members]~~ *One member* appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate pursuant to ~~[subsections 2 and 3:]~~ *subsection 2;*

(d) ~~[Four members]~~ *One member* appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly pursuant to ~~[subsections 2 and 3:]~~ *subsection 2;*

(e) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate pursuant to subsection ~~[4:]~~ *2;* and

(f) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Assembly pursuant to subsection ~~[4:]~~ *subsection 2.*

2. The Governor, Majority Leader *and Minority Leader* of the Senate and Speaker *and Minority Leader* of the Assembly shall ~~each appoint:~~

~~—(a) One member who is a classroom teacher in the field of science, technology, engineering or mathematics;~~

~~—(b) One member who is an administrator of a public school or school district in this State with an education program relating to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and~~

~~—(c) One member who represents businesses that employ persons in careers which are enhanced by education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, including, without limitation, careers relating to manufacturing, information technology, aerospace engineering, health sciences and mining.~~

~~—3. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint one additional member from among the persons described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 2.~~

~~—4. The Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Assembly shall each appoint one member from among the persons described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 2.~~

~~—5.]~~ *coordinate their respective appointments of members to the Council:*

(a) On a geographic basis to ensure statewide representation;

(b) To ensure representation from:



(1) Classroom teachers in the field of science, technology, engineering or mathematics;

(2) Higher education in the field of science, technology, engineering or mathematics; and

(3) Businesses operating in the sectors relating to science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

3. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Council must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.

~~{6. The Council shall hold its first regular meeting as soon as practicable on or after July 1, 2013, at the call of the Governor. At the first regular meeting of the Council, the members of the Council shall elect a Chair by majority vote.~~

~~—7.}~~ 4. The Council shall meet not more than four times each year at the call of the Chair.

~~{8.}~~ 5. A majority of the members of the Council constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of those members present at any meeting is sufficient for any official action taken by the Council.

~~{9.}~~ 6. The Chair may appoint such subcommittees of the Council as the Chair determines necessary to carry out the duties of the Council.

~~{10.}~~ 7. The members of the Council serve without compensation.

Sec. 3. NRS 385.705 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.705 1. The Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics created by NRS 385.700 shall:

(a) Develop a strategic plan for the development of educational resources in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to serve as a foundation for workforce development, college preparedness and economic development in this State;

(b) Develop a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to pupils in this State who demonstrate exemplary achievement in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(c) Develop a plan for identifying and awarding recognition to not more than 15 schools in this State that demonstrate exemplary performance in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(d) Conduct a survey of education programs and proposed programs relating to the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in this State and in other states to identify recommendations for the implementation of such programs by public schools *and institutions of higher education* in this State and report the information gathered by the survey to the State Board of



Education ~~§~~ and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada;

(e) Apply for grants on behalf of the State of Nevada relating to the development and expansion of education programs in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics;

(f) Identify a nonprofit corporation to assist in the implementation of the plans developed pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c); ~~and~~

(g) Prepare a written report which includes, without limitation, recommendations based on the survey conducted pursuant to paragraph (d) and any other recommendations concerning the instruction and curriculum in courses of study in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in public schools in this State and, on or before January 31 of each odd-numbered year, submit a copy of the report to the State Board of Education, *the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada*, the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature ~~§~~; and

(h) Conduct surveys for and make recommendations as deemed necessary to the Office of Economic Development and the Governor's Workforce Investment Board.

2. The Council or a subcommittee of the Council may seek the input, advice and assistance of persons and organizations that have knowledge, interest or expertise relevant to the duties of the Council.

3. The State Board of Education *and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada* shall consider the plans developed by the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 1 and the written report submitted pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 1. ~~and~~ *The State Board of Education shall* adopt such regulations as the State Board deems necessary to carry out the recommendations in the written report.

Sec. 4. Section 4 of chapter 235, Statutes of Nevada 2013, at page 1011, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013. ~~§ and expires by limitation on June 30, 2017.~~

Sec. 5. 1. The terms of the current members of the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics appointed pursuant to paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.700 expire on July 1, 2015.

2. The Speaker of the Assembly shall reappoint one of the members whose term expired on July 1, 2015, or shall appoint a new member of the Advisory Council pursuant to paragraph (d) of



1 subsection 1 of NRS 385.700, as amended by section 2 of this act, to
2 a term ending June 30, 2016.

3 3. The Majority Leader of the Senate shall reappoint one of the
4 members whose term expired on July 1, 2015, or shall appoint a
5 new member of the Advisory Council pursuant to paragraph (c) of
6 subsection 1 of NRS 385.700, as amended by section 2 of this act, to
7 a term ending June 30, 2017.

8 **Sec. 6.** 1. This section and section 4 of this act become
9 effective upon passage and approval.

10 2. Sections 1, 2, 3, and 5 of this act become effective:

11 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purposes of adopting
12 regulations, appointing members to the Advisory Council on
13 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and performing
14 any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry
15 out the provisions of this act; and

16 (b) On July 1, 2015, for all other purposes.

