

SENATE BILL NO. 344—SENATORS SMITH, WOODHOUSE, DENIS,
KIHUEN, PARKS; ATKINSON, FORD, MANENDO AND SPEARMAN

MARCH 16, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN ARAUJO, CARRILLO,
JOINER, MUNFORD, SPIEGEL AND SPRINKLE

Referred to Committee on Revenue and
Economic Development

SUMMARY—Establishes an entrepreneur-in-residence program.
(BDR 18-142)

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; establishing a pilot
entrepreneur-in-residence program within the Office of
Economic Development; and providing other matters
properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 **Section 5** of this bill creates a pilot entrepreneur-in-residence program within
- 2 the Office of Economic Development. **Section 6** of this bill authorizes the
- 3 Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development to appoint up to 10
- 4 entrepreneurs-in-residence to be placed within various state agencies and prescribes
- 5 the qualifications of the entrepreneurs-in-residence. In addition, **section 6** provides
- 6 that an entrepreneur-in-residence must be a full-time, unclassified employee of the
- 7 agency to which he or she is assigned and serve in that capacity for not more than 2
- 8 years. **Section 7** of this bill establishes the duties of an entrepreneur-in-residence.
- 9 **Section 9** of this bill provides that the pilot program expires on June 30, 2017.



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

Section 1. Chapter 231 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, the words and terms defined in sections 3 and 4 of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

Sec. 3. *“Agency” means an agency, bureau, board, commission, department, division or any other unit of the Executive Department of the State Government.*

Sec. 4. *“Entrepreneur-in-residence” means a natural person appointed pursuant to section 6 of this act.*

Sec. 5. 1. *There is hereby created an entrepreneur-in-residence program within the Office of Economic Development.*

2. *The purposes of the entrepreneur-in-residence program are to:*

(a) Provide for better communication and understanding between the State Government and private sector enterprises within this State.

(b) Strengthen coordination and interaction between State Government and private sector enterprises on issues relevant to small business entities and entrepreneurs in this State.

(c) Make state government programs simpler, easier to access, more efficient and more responsive to the needs of small business entities and entrepreneurs in this State.

3. *The Executive Director may establish an informal working group of entrepreneurs-in-residence to discuss best practices, experiences, obstacles, opportunities and recommendations.*

Sec. 6. 1. *The Executive Director shall appoint at least 1, but not more than 10, entrepreneurs-in-residence in accordance with the provisions of this section during each fiscal year.*

2. *To qualify as an entrepreneur-in-residence, a person must have:*

(a) Demonstrated success in his or her field of expertise;

(b) Demonstrated success in working with small business entities and entrepreneurs; and

(c) Successfully developed, invented or created a new product and brought the product to the marketplace.

3. *In appointing entrepreneurs-in-residence, the Executive Director shall:*

(a) Give priority to placing entrepreneurs-in-residence in multiple agencies; and



(b) *To the extent possible, not appoint more than two entrepreneurs-in-residence to positions within the same agency during the same fiscal year.*

4. *An entrepreneur-in-residence:*

(a) *Must be a full-time, unclassified employee of the agency to which he or she is appointed;*

(b) *May not serve as an entrepreneur-in-residence for a period of more than 2 years; and*

(c) *Is entitled to compensation at a rate to be fixed by the Executive Director, which must be, insofar as is practicable, a rate that is comparable to the rate paid to state employees performing similar tasks with similar experience, and may be increased on the basis of merit after 1 year of appointed service.*

Sec. 7. *An entrepreneur-in-residence shall:*

1. *Report directly to the administrative head of the agency to which he or she is appointed;*

2. *Assist the Office and the agency to which he or she is appointed in improving outreach to small business entities and entrepreneurs;*

3. *Provide recommendations to the Office and the agency to which he or she is appointed, regarding:*

(a) *Inefficient or duplicative programs;*

(b) *Methods to improve efficiency; and*

(c) *New programs or initiatives to assist small business entities and entrepreneurs;*

4. *Facilitate:*

(a) *Meetings and forums to educate small business entities and entrepreneurs on programs and initiatives of the Office and the agency to which he or she is appointed; and*

(b) *The education and training of employees of the Office and the agency to which he or she is appointed on issues of concern to small business entities and entrepreneurs relevant to the work of the Office or agency; and*

5. *Provide technical assistance or mentorship to small business entities and entrepreneurs in accessing programs of the Office and the agency to which he or she is appointed.*

Sec. 8. 1. A person may not be appointed as an entrepreneur-in-residence pursuant to section 6 of this act after September 30, 2016.

2. The term of service of any person appointed as an entrepreneur-in-residence pursuant to section 6 of this act expires on June 30, 2017.

3. As used in this section, "entrepreneur-in-residence" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 4 of this act.



1 **Sec. 9.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015, and expires
2 by limitation on June 30, 2017.

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