

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 407—ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIAZ

MARCH 20, 2017

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to cooperative extension programs. (BDR 49-1162)

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 cooperative extension programs; establishing geographical regions of the State for the purposes of such programs; placing the operation of the programs in the respective regions under the control of the Presidents of the University of Nevada, Reno, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, or their designees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law provides for certain educational, research, outreach and service
2 programs pertaining to agriculture, community development, health and nutrition,
3 horticulture, personal and family development, and natural resources in this State,
4 conducted in accordance with cooperative agreements between the boards of
5 county commissioners of participating counties and the Director of the Agricultural
6 Extension Department of the Public Service Division of the Nevada System of
7 Higher Education. The money for such programs is provided, in part, by property
8 taxes levied in each participating county and legislative appropriations. (NRS
9 549.010, 549.020, 549.040) This bill establishes Northern and Southern Regions of
10 this State and provides that the budgets and expenditures of those programs must be
11 approved and directed in the respective regions of this State by the President, or a
12 person designated by the President, of the University of Nevada, Reno, in the
13 Northern region of the State, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in the
14 Southern region of the State.



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

Section 1. Chapter 549 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Except as prohibited by federal law, the proceeds of the tax collected pursuant to NRS 549.020 in each participating county in the relevant region of this State, any money appropriated pursuant to NRS 549.020 and any other money available from any source to carry out the provisions of this chapter must be expended as directed for the relevant region of this State in accordance with subsection 2 or 3, as applicable.

2. For any cooperative extension work performed in a participating county in the Northern Region of this State, consisting of Carson City, Churchill County, Douglas County, Elko County, Esmeralda County, Eureka County, Humboldt County, Lander County, Lyon County, Mineral County, Pershing County, Storey County, Washoe County and White Pine County, the money described in subsection 1 must be expended as directed by the President of the University of Nevada, Reno, or a person designated by the President.

3. For any cooperative extension work performed in a participating county in the Southern Region of this State, consisting of Clark County, Lincoln County and Nye County, the money described in subsection 1 must be expended as directed by the President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, or a person designated by the President.

Sec. 2. NRS 549.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

549.010 To provide for continued educational, research, outreach and service programs pertaining to agriculture, community development, health and nutrition, horticulture, personal and family development, and natural resources in the rural and urban communities in the State of Nevada, the Director of the Agricultural Extension Department of the Public Service Division of the Nevada System of Higher Education and the boards of county commissioners of any or all of the respective counties of the State of Nevada may enter into cooperative agreements and activities subject to the provisions of this chapter. *Any such agreement must be approved by the President, or a person designated by the President, of the University of Nevada, Reno, or the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for the applicable region of this State as described in section 1 of this act.*

Sec. 3. NRS 549.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

549.020 1. The Director of the Agricultural Extension Department of the Public Service Division of the Nevada System of



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1 Higher Education shall prepare and submit to the board of county
2 commissioners, for each county participating, an annual financial
3 budget ~~covering~~ :

4 *(a) Approved by the President, or a person designated by the*
5 *President, of the University of Nevada, Reno, or the University of*
6 *Nevada, Las Vegas, for the applicable region of this State as*
7 *described in section 1 of this act.*

8 *(b) Covering* the county, state and federal funds cooperating in
9 the cost of educational, research, outreach and service programs
10 pertaining to agriculture, community development, health and
11 nutrition, horticulture, personal and family development, and natural
12 resources in the rural and urban communities in the State of
13 Nevada.

14 2. The budget must be adopted by the board of county
15 commissioners and certified as a part of the annual county budget,
16 and the county tax levy provided for agricultural extension work in
17 the annual county budget must include a levy of not less than 1 cent
18 on each \$100 of taxable property. If the proceeds of the county tax
19 levy of 1 cent are insufficient to meet the county's share of the
20 cooperative agricultural extension work, as provided in the
21 combined annual financial budget, the board of county
22 commissioners may, by unanimous vote, levy an additional tax so
23 that the total in no instance exceeds 5 cents on each \$100 of the
24 county tax rate.

25 3. The proceeds of such a tax must be placed in the agricultural
26 extension fund in each county treasury and must be paid out on
27 claims drawn by the agricultural extension agent of the county as
28 ~~designated by the Director of the Agricultural Extension~~
29 ~~Department of the Public Service Division of the Nevada System of~~
30 ~~Higher Education, when approved by the Director and~~ *directed by*
31 *the President, or a person designated by the President, of the*
32 *University of Nevada, Reno, or the University of Nevada, Las*
33 *Vegas, for the applicable region of this State as described in*
34 *section 1 of this act, and* countersigned by the Treasurer of the
35 Nevada System of Higher Education.

36 4. A record of all such claims approved and paid, segregated by
37 counties, must be kept by the Treasurer of the Nevada System of
38 Higher Education. The cost of maintaining the record must be paid
39 from state funds provided for by this chapter.

40 5. The State's cooperative share of the cost of such agricultural
41 extension work, as entered in the budget described in this section,
42 must not be more than a sum equal to the proceeds of 1 cent of such
43 county tax rate; but when the proceeds of a 1-cent tax rate are
44 insufficient to carry out the provisions of the budget previously
45 adopted, the Director of the Agricultural Extension Department of



1 the Public Service Division of the Nevada System of Higher
2 Education is authorized to supplement the State's cooperative share
3 from the funds as may be made available in the Public Service
4 Division Fund of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

5 **Sec. 4.** NRS 549.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 549.030 1. ~~1.A~~ *Within 10 days after its approval by the*
7 *board of county commissioners, a* certified copy of the county
8 extension work budget as adopted and approved pursuant to NRS
9 549.020 must be filed with ~~the~~ :

10 (a) *The President, or a person designated by the President, of*
11 *the University of Nevada, Reno, or the University of Nevada, Las*
12 *Vegas, for the applicable region of this State as described in*
13 *section 1 of this act; and*

14 (b) *The* Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education .
15 ~~within 10 days after its approval by the board of county~~
16 ~~commissioners.~~

17 2. Necessary modifications thereof, involving county and state
18 funds, resulting from leaves of absence without pay, resignations,
19 changes in salary, dismissals or employment of any cooperative
20 agent, variations in expense accounts or otherwise, not involving an
21 increase in the total expenditures provided to be paid from the funds
22 and consistent with the purposes of this chapter, may be made by
23 filing with ~~the~~ :

24 (a) *The President, or a person designated by the President, of*
25 *the University of Nevada, Reno, or the University of Nevada, Las*
26 *Vegas, for the applicable region of this State as described in*
27 *section 1 of this act;*

28 (b) *The* Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education ;
29 and ~~the~~

30 (c) *The* board of county commissioners ,
31 ~~a revised budget, approved by the~~ ~~Director of the Agricultural~~
32 ~~Extension Department of the Public Service Division of the Nevada~~
33 ~~System of Higher Education~~ *President, or a person designated by*
34 *the President, of the University of Nevada, Reno, or the University*
35 *of Nevada, Las Vegas, for the applicable region of this State as*
36 *described in section 1 of this act,* and countersigned by the
37 Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

38 **Sec. 5.** NRS 549.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 549.050 All moneys appropriated pursuant to NRS 549.040
40 must be expended ~~under the direction of the Director of the~~
41 ~~Agricultural Extension Department of the Public Service Division of~~
42 ~~the Nevada System of Higher Education~~ *as provided in section 1 of*
43 *this act* to the extent of the financial budget for cooperation between
44 the State and the respective counties provided for in NRS 549.020.



1 **Sec. 6.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.

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