## Assembly Bill No. 423–Assemblywomen Miller and Carlton

Joint Sponsors: Senators Cannizzaro, Farley, Ford, Harris, Ratti, Segerblom and Woodhouse

## CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to gender equality; requiring the Secretary of State to conduct a survey of certain businesses to collect data and information related to issues of gender equality in the workplace; requiring the Secretary of State to make certain information relating to the survey available on the Internet and to submit an annual report regarding the survey to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau; requiring the Nevada Commission for Women to assist the Secretary of State in developing the survey; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

## **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Section 3.4 of this bill requires the Secretary of State to design and conduct a survey of certain businesses which are applying for or renewing a state business license in this State to collect data and information related to issues of gender equality in the workplace. Section 3.4 provides that a response to the survey is voluntary but requires that if responses are provided, the survey be signed under the penalty of perjury. Section 3.6 of this bill requires the Secretary of State to make available on the Internet website of the Office of the Secretary of State: (1) the responses to the survey; and (2) aggregate data relating to the survey. Section 3.6 also requires the Secretary of State to submit an annual report on the survey to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

**Section 4.5** of this bill requires the Nevada Commission for Women to assist the Secretary of State in developing the survey.

EXPLANATION - Matter in **bolded italics** is new; matter between brackets [fomitted material] is material to be omitted.

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 75A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 3.8, inclusive, of this act.

Secs. 2 and 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 3.2. As used in sections 3.2 to 3.8, inclusive, of this act, "business" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 76.020.

Sec. 3.4. 1. The Secretary of State shall design and conduct an annual survey of businesses in this State for the purpose of



collecting data and information related to issues of gender equality in the workplace.

- 2. The Secretary of State shall work in consultation with the Nevada Commission for Women created by NRS 2331.020 regarding the content of the survey.
- 3. The Secretary of State shall cause the survey to be offered through the state business portal to each business with operations and employees in this State at the time the business submits to the Secretary of State an online application for a state business license pursuant to NRS 76.100 or an online renewal of a state business license pursuant to NRS 76.130.
- 4. A business is not required to respond to the survey, and neither the Secretary of State nor the Nevada Commission for Women may penalize or otherwise take any adverse action against a business that does not respond to the survey.
- 5. If a business responds to the survey, the response must be signed under penalty of perjury by, as applicable:
  - (a) The owner of a business that is owned by a natural person;
  - (b) A member or partner of an association or partnership;
  - (c) A general partner of a limited partnership;
  - (d) A managing partner of a limited-liability partnership;
- (e) A manager or managing member of a limited-liability company; or
  - (f) An officer of a corporation.
- Sec. 3.6. 1. The Secretary of State shall make available on the Internet website of the Office of the Secretary of State:
- (a) The responses to the survey conducted pursuant to section 3.4 of this act in such a manner that the responses may be searched electronically by the name of the business that submitted the response; and
- (b) Aggregate data relating to the survey conducted pursuant to section 3.4 of this act.
- 2. The Secretary of State shall annually compile the responses to the survey received during the immediately preceding year into a report and submit the report to the Governor and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature, or if the Legislature is not in session, to the Legislative Commission.
- Sec. 3.8. The Secretary of State may adopt such regulations as he or she determines to be necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of sections 3.4 and 3.6 of this act.
  - **Sec. 4.** (Deleted by amendment.)



- **Sec. 4.5.** NRS 233I.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 233I.060 1. The Commission shall study the changing and developing roles of women in society, including the recognition of socioeconomic factors that influence the status of women, and recommend proposed legislation.
- 2. The Commission may collect and disseminate information on activities, programs and essential services available to women in Nevada.
- 3. The Commission shall assist the Secretary of State in developing the survey of businesses in this State described in section 3.4 of this act.
  - **Sec. 5.** NRS 233I.080 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 233I.080 1. The Director of the Department of Administration shall provide staff assistance to the Commission *in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the Commission*, as the Governor deems appropriate.
- 2. The Commission may engage the services of volunteer workers and consultants without salary as is necessary from time to time.
- **Sec. 5.5.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Administration for the costs of employing a Management Analyst to assist the Nevada Commission for Women pursuant to NRS 233I.080, as amended by section 5 of this act the following sums:

For the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 \$71,306 For the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 \$87,828

- 2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal years 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 21, 2018, and September 20, 2019, respectively, 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 21, 2018, and September 20, 2019, respectively.
- **Sec. 6.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.



**Sec. 6.5.** The Secretary of State shall design and begin conducting the initial survey required by section 3.4 of this act before January 1, 2018.

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Sec. 7. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017, and expires by limitation on December 31, 2022.

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