

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 160—ASSEMBLYWOMEN
COHEN, SWANK; AND SPIEGEL

FEBRUARY 15, 2019

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS SPEARMAN; AND SCHEIBLE

Referred to Committee on Taxation

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the Commission on
Tourism. (BDR 18-24)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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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 the Commission on Tourism; revising the
composition of the Commission on Tourism to include
two members who represent ecotourism; and providing
other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law creates the Commission on Tourism as a division of the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs. (NRS 231.167) Existing law provides that the Commission consists of eleven members, eight of which are appointed by the Governor. These eight appointed members must be informed on and have experience in travel and tourism. (NRS 231.170) **Section 3** of this bill: (1) decreases from eight to six the number of appointed members of the Commission who must be informed on and have experience in travel and tourism; and (2) requires two members, who are appointed by the Governor, to be informed on and have experience in ecotourism. Existing law requires four of the eight appointed members who must be informed on and have experience in travel and tourism to be residents of any county in this State and four to be residents of particular-sized counties in this State. (NRS 231.170) **Section 3:** (1) decreases from four to two the number of appointed members who may be residents of any county in this State; and (2) provides that the two appointed members who must be informed on and have experience in ecotourism may be residents of any county in this State.



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 a new section to read as follows:

“Ecotourism” means visiting or otherwise experiencing the natural and cultural resources of this State while ensuring the protection of those natural and cultural resources and generating economic activity which directly benefits the residents of this State without compromising those natural and cultural resources for future generations.

Sec. 2. NRS 231.161 is hereby amended to read as follows:

231.161 As used in NRS 231.161 to 231.360, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 231.163 and 231.165 *and section 1 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 3. NRS 231.170 is hereby amended to read as follows:

231.170 1. The Commission on Tourism is composed of:

(a) Eleven voting members as follows:

(1) The Lieutenant Governor, who is its Chair;

(2) ~~Eight~~ *Six* members, appointed by the Governor, who are informed on and have experience in travel and tourism, including the business of gaming;

(3) *Two members, appointed by the Governor, who are informed on and have experience in ecotourism;* and

~~(3)~~ (4) The chief administrative officers of the county fair and recreation boards or, if there is no county fair and recreation board in the county, the chair of the board of county commissioners, of the two counties that paid the largest amount of the proceeds from the taxes imposed on the revenue from the rental of transient lodging to the Department of Taxation for deposit with the State Treasurer for credit to the Fund for the Promotion of Tourism created by NRS 231.250 for the previous fiscal year.

(b) The following ex officio, nonvoting members:

(1) The Chair of the Board of Museums and History;

(2) The Chair of the Nevada Indian Commission; and

(3) The Chair of the Board of the Nevada Arts Council.

2. A change in any member of the Commission who serves pursuant to subparagraph ~~(3)~~ (4) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 that is required because of a change in the amount of the proceeds paid to the Department of Taxation by each county must be effective on January 1 of the calendar year immediately following the fiscal year in which the proceeds were paid to the Department of Taxation.

3. Of the members appointed by the Governor pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1:



1 (a) At least one member must be a resident of a county whose
2 population is 700,000 or more.

3 (b) At least one member must be a resident of a county whose
4 population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000.

5 (c) At least two members must be residents of counties whose
6 population is less than 100,000.

7 (d) ~~Four~~ *Two* members may be residents of any county in this
8 State.

9 *4. The two members appointed by the Governor pursuant to*
10 *subparagraph (3) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 may be*
11 *residents of any county in this State.*

12 **Sec. 4.** On or before July 1, 2019, the Governor shall appoint
13 two members to the Commission on Tourism pursuant to the
14 provisions of subparagraph (3) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of
15 NRS 231.170, as amended by section 3 of this act, to a term
16 beginning on July 1, 2019, to replace the two members appointed
17 pursuant to the provisions of subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) of
18 subsection 1 of NRS 231.170, as amended by section 3 of this act,
19 whose terms expire on June 30, 2019.

20 **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

