

Amendment No. 824

Assembly Amendment to Senate Bill No. 480 First Reprint	(BDR 1-978)
<b>Proposed by:</b> Assembly Committee on Judiciary	
<b>Amends:</b> Summary: No Title: No Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes	

ASSEMBLY ACTION			Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION			Initial and Date		
Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Adopted	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Concurred In	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	Receded	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of green bold underlining is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.

WBD/BJE



Date: 5/20/2019

S.B. No. 480—Revises provisions relating to the number of justices of the peace in each township. (BDR 1-978)





SENATE BILL NO. 480—SENATORS  
GOICOECHEA AND SETTELMAYER

MARCH 25, 2019

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYMAN ELLISON

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the number of justices of the peace in each township. (BDR 1-978)

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

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to courts; revising provisions relating to the number of justices of the peace in each township; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law sets forth a schedule for determining how many elected justices of the peace a township is required to have based upon the population of the township. If the schedule requires an additional justice of the peace due to an increased population of the township, existing law provides that if a majority of the justices of the peace in the township submit to the Legislature and the board of county commissioners an opinion stating that the caseload of the court does not warrant an additional judge, the number of justices of the peace in that township is prohibited from being increased while the Legislature considers the opinion. (NRS 4.020) ~~This~~ **Section 1 of this** bill revises this process by requiring the justices of the peace to consult with the board of county commissioners in reaching an opinion as to whether the caseload of the court ~~(and the availability of funding warrant)~~ **warrants** an additional judge.

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

**Section 1.** NRS 4.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4.020 1. There must be one justice court in each of the townships of the State, for which there must be elected by the qualified electors of the township at least one justice of the peace. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the number of justices of the peace in a township must be increased according to the population of the township, as certified by the Governor in even-numbered years pursuant to NRS 360.285, in accordance with and not to exceed the following schedule:

1 (a) In a county whose population is 700,000 or more:

2 (1) In a township whose population is less than 1,100,000, one justice of  
3 the peace for each 100,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof, until the  
4 township has four justices of the peace, and thereafter, one justice of the peace for  
5 each 125,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof, over a population of  
6 300,000; and

7 (2) In a township whose population is 1,100,000 or more, one justice of the  
8 peace for each 100,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof, up to a  
9 population of 1,100,000, and thereafter, one justice of the peace for each 125,000  
10 population of the township, or fraction thereof, over a population of 1,100,000.

11 (b) In a county whose population is 100,000 or more and less than 700,000,  
12 one justice of the peace for each 50,000 population of the township, or fraction  
13 thereof.

14 (c) In a county whose population is less than 100,000, one justice of the peace  
15 for each ~~34,000~~ 50,000 population of the township, or fraction thereof.

16 (d) If a township includes a city created by the consolidation of a city and  
17 county into one municipal government, one justice of the peace for each 30,000  
18 population of the township, or fraction thereof.

19 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if the schedule set forth in  
20 subsection 1 provides for an increase in the number of justices of the peace in a  
21 township, the new justice or justices of the peace must be elected at the next  
22 ensuing biennial election.

23 3. If the schedule set forth in subsection 1 provides for an increase in the  
24 number of justices of the peace in a township and ~~[- in the opinion of]~~ a majority of  
25 the justices of the peace in that township, *in consultation with the board of county*  
26 *commissioners, determine that* the caseload ~~does~~ *and the availability of funding*  
27 ~~do~~ not warrant an additional justice of the peace, the justices of the peace shall  
28 notify the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and the board of county  
29 commissioners of their opinion on or before March 15 of the even-numbered year  
30 in which the population of the township provides for such an increase. The Director  
31 of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall submit the opinion to the next regular  
32 session of the Legislature for its consideration. If the justices of the peace transmit  
33 such a notice to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and the board of  
34 county commissioners, the number of justices must not be increased during that  
35 period unless the Legislature, by resolution, expressly approves the increase.

36 4. Justices of the peace shall receive certificates of election from the boards of  
37 county commissioners of their respective counties.

38 5. The clerk of the board of county commissioners shall, within 10 days after  
39 the election or appointment and qualification of any justice of the peace, certify  
40 under seal to the Secretary of State the election or appointment and qualification of  
41 the justice of the peace. The certificate must be filed in the Office of the Secretary  
42 of State as evidence of the official character of that officer.