

SENATE BILL NO. 108—SENATOR WOODHOUSE

PREFILED JANUARY 28, 2019

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

**SUMMARY**—Makes various changes relating to the Nevada Youth Legislature. (BDR 17-62)

**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 Nevada Youth Legislature; revising provisions governing vacancies on, meetings of and holding certain positions on the Nevada Youth Legislature; revising the qualifications for appointment to the Board of Directors for the corporation for public benefit that administers the Nevada Youth Legislature; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law provides for the creation, membership, powers and duties of the Nevada Youth Legislature. (NRS 219A.010-219A.310) Under current law, members of the Nevada Youth Legislature serve a term of 2 years and may be reappointed to one successive 2-year term. (NRS 219A.130) **Section 1** of this bill increases the number of unexcused absences from meetings, activities or event days a member may take before he or she may be removed from the Youth Legislature from two to three.

Under existing law, the Youth Legislature elects a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members to serve for a term of 1 year. (NRS 219A.200) **Section 2** of this bill prohibits a member of the Youth Legislature who is elected to serve as Chair or Vice Chair of the Youth Legislature during the first year of his or her term from serving in either position during the second year. **Section 3** of this bill removes the requirement that the Youth Legislature comply with the Open Meeting Law, chapter 241 of NRS.

Existing law establishes a Board of Directors appointed by the Legislative Commission to govern the corporation for public benefit that administers the Youth Legislature. (NRS 219A.300) **Section 4** of this bill requires the Board to consist of at least one member of the Senate, one member of the Assembly, one member of the general public and, if practicable, one person who has previously served on the Youth Legislature.



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

**Section 1.** NRS 219A.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

219A.150 1. A position on the Youth Legislature becomes vacant upon:

(a) The death or resignation of a member.

(b) The absence of a member for any reason from:

(1) ~~Two~~ **Three** meetings of the Youth Legislature, including, without limitation, meetings conducted in person, meetings conducted by teleconference, meetings conducted by videoconference and meetings conducted by other electronic means;

(2) ~~Two~~ **Three** activities of the Youth Legislature;

(3) ~~Two~~ **Three** event days of the Youth Legislature; or

(4) Any combination of absences from meetings, activities or event days of the Youth Legislature, if the combination of absences therefrom equals ~~two~~ **three** or more,

↳ unless the absences are, as applicable, excused by the Chair or Vice Chair of the Board.

(c) A change of residency or a change of the school of enrollment of a member which renders that member ineligible under his or her original appointment.

2. In addition to the provisions of subsection 1, a position on the Youth Legislature becomes vacant if:

(a) A member of the Youth Legislature graduates from high school or otherwise ceases to attend public school or private school for any reason other than to become a homeschooled child or opt-in child; or

(b) A member of the Youth Legislature who is a homeschooled child or opt-in child completes an educational plan of instruction for grade 12 or otherwise ceases to be a homeschooled child or opt-in child for any reason other than to enroll in a public school or private school.

3. A vacancy on the Youth Legislature must be filled:

(a) For the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment, except that, if the remainder of the unexpired term is less than 1 year, the member of the Senate who made the original appointment may appoint a person who:

(1) Is enrolled in a public school or private school in this State in grade 12 or who is a homeschooled child or opt-in child who is otherwise eligible to enroll in a public school in this State in grade 12; and

(2) Satisfies the qualifications set forth in paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 219A.140.



(b) Insofar as is practicable, within 30 days after the date on which the vacancy occurs.

4. As used in this section, "event day" means any single calendar day on which an official, scheduled event of the Youth Legislature is held, including, without limitation, a course of instruction, a course of orientation, a meeting, a seminar or any other official, scheduled activity.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 219A.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:

219A.200 1. The Youth Legislature shall elect from among its members, to serve a term of 1 year beginning on June 1 of each year:

(a) A Chair, who shall conduct the meetings and, in cooperation with the Board, oversee the formation of committees as necessary to accomplish the business of the Youth Legislature; and

(b) A Vice Chair, who shall assist the Chair and conduct the meetings of the Youth Legislature if the Chair is absent or otherwise unable to perform his or her duties.

*2. A member who is elected to serve as Chair or Vice Chair pursuant to subsection 1 during the first year of his or her term may not be elected to serve in either office the second year of his or her term.*

**3.** The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau upon request of the Board:

(a) Shall provide meeting rooms and teleconference and videoconference facilities for the Youth Legislature.

(b) Shall, in the event of a vacancy on the Youth Legislature, notify the appropriate appointing authority of such vacancy.

(c) May accept gifts, grants and donations from any source for the support of the Youth Legislature in carrying out the provisions of this chapter. Any such gifts, grants and donations must be deposited in the Account.

**Sec. 3.** NRS 219A.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:

219A.210 1. The Youth Legislature shall:

(a) Hold at least two public hearings in this State each school year. The Youth Legislature may simultaneously teleconference or videoconference each public hearing to two or more prominent locations throughout this State.

(b) Evaluate, review and comment upon issues of importance to the youth in this State, including, without limitation:

(1) Education;

(2) Employment opportunities;

(3) Participation of youth in state and local government;

(4) A safe learning environment;

(5) The prevention of substance abuse;

(6) Emotional and physical well-being;



(7) Foster care; and

(8) Access to state and local services.

(c) Conduct a public awareness campaign to raise awareness about the Youth Legislature and to enhance outreach to the youth in this State.

2. During his or her term, each member of the Youth Legislature shall:

(a) Conduct at least one meeting to afford the youth of this State an opportunity to discuss issues of importance to the youth in this State.

(b) Complete such other activities as may be assigned to him or her by the Board as a member of the Youth Legislature.

3. The Youth Legislature may, within the limits of available money and if approved by the Board:

(a) During the period in which the Legislature is in a regular session, meet as often as necessary to conduct the business of the Youth Legislature and to advise the Legislature on proposed legislation relating to the youth in this State.

(b) Form committees, which may meet as often as necessary to assist with the business of the Youth Legislature.

(c) Conduct periodic seminars for its members regarding leadership, government and the legislative process.

4. ~~{Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Youth Legislature and its committees shall comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS. Any activities of the Youth Legislature which are conducted solely for purposes of training, including, without limitation, any orientation programs conducted for the Youth Legislature, are not subject to the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS. —5.}~~

On or before May 30 of each year, the Youth Legislature shall submit a written report to the Board and to the Governor describing the activities of the Youth Legislature during the immediately preceding school year and any recommendations for legislation. The Board shall transmit the written report to the Legislative Committee on Education and to the next regular session of the Legislature.

**Sec. 4.** NRS 219A.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

219A.300 1. The Youth Legislature must be administered by a corporation for public benefit, as that term is defined in NRS 82.021, which must include providing educational programs and opportunities as its primary organizational goal.

2. The corporation for public benefit must be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of seven members appointed by the Legislative Commission ~~{}~~ *consisting of at least:*

*(a) One member of the Senate;*

*(b) One member of the Assembly;*



1       (c) *One representative of the general public; and*  
2       (d) *If practicable, one person who previously served as a*  
3       *member of the Youth Legislature.*

4       3. A member of the Board serves a term of 2 years and until his  
5       or her successor is appointed. A member of the Board may be  
6       reappointed.

7       4. The members of the Board shall elect a Chair and a Vice  
8       Chair from among their number. The term of office of the Chair and  
9       the Vice Chair is 1 year.

10      5. The Board:

11      (a) Shall administer the provisions of this chapter.

12      (b) May provide to the Youth Legislature such administrative,  
13      financial and other support and guidance as the Board may  
14      determine to be necessary or appropriate.

15      (c) May employ one or more persons to provide administrative  
16      support for the Youth Legislature or pay the costs incurred by one or  
17      more volunteers to provide any required administrative support.

18      (d) Shall oversee the activities of the Youth Legislature.

19      (e) May solicit and accept gifts, grants and donations from any  
20      source to provide educational programs and opportunities and for  
21      the support of the Youth Legislature in carrying out the provisions  
22      of this chapter. Any such gifts, grants and donations must be  
23      deposited in the Account.

24      (f) May perform such other functions in whatever manner the  
25      Board determines will best serve the interests of this State and the  
26      Youth Legislature.

27      **Sec. 5.** NRS 241.016 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28      241.016 1. The meetings of a public body that are quasi-  
29      judicial in nature are subject to the provisions of this chapter.

30      2. The following are exempt from the requirements of this  
31      chapter:

32      (a) The Legislature of the State of Nevada.

33      (b) Judicial proceedings, including, without limitation,  
34      proceedings before the Commission on Judicial Selection and,  
35      except as otherwise provided in NRS 1.4687, the Commission on  
36      Judicial Discipline.

37      (c) Meetings of the State Board of Parole Commissioners when  
38      acting to grant, deny, continue or revoke the parole of a prisoner or  
39      to establish or modify the terms of the parole of a prisoner.

40      3. Any provision of law, including, without limitation, NRS  
41      91.270, ~~219A.210,~~ 228.495, 239C.140, 281A.350, 281A.690,  
42      281A.735, 281A.760, 284.3629, 286.150, 287.0415, 287.04345,  
43      287.338, 288.220, 289.387, 295.121, 360.247, 388.261, 388A.495,  
44      388C.150, 388G.710, 388G.730, 392.147, 392.467, 394.1699,  
45      396.3295, 433.534, 435.610, 463.110, 622.320, 622.340, 630.311,



630.336, 631.3635, 639.050, 642.518, 642.557, 686B.170,  
696B.550, 703.196 and 706.1725, which:

(a) Provides that any meeting, hearing or other proceeding is not  
subject to the provisions of this chapter; or

(b) Otherwise authorizes or requires a closed meeting, hearing  
or proceeding,

↳ prevails over the general provisions of this chapter.

4. The exceptions provided to this chapter, and electronic  
communication, must not be used to circumvent the spirit or letter of  
this chapter to deliberate or act, outside of an open and public  
meeting, upon a matter over which the public body has supervision,  
control, jurisdiction or advisory powers.

**Sec. 6.** Notwithstanding the amendatory provisions of section  
4 of this act, any person who, on the effective date of this act, is a  
member of the Board of Directors for the corporation for public  
benefit that administers the Nevada Youth Legislature may continue  
to serve in that capacity until a successor is appointed pursuant to  
NRS 219A.300, as amended by section 4 of this act.

**Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

