

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 140—ASSEMBLYWOMEN  
NGUYEN, MARZOLA; AND TORRES

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Enacts provisions relating to service of process on certain lessors of vehicles. (BDR 2-544)

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 civil actions; requiring certain lessors of vehicles to accept service of process under certain circumstances; requiring such lessors to transmit a copy of the service of process to certain lessees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law authorizes an alternative method of service of process in any  
2 action or proceeding where the operator of a motor vehicle that was involved in a  
3 crash on the roads, streets or certain other areas where motor vehicles are operated  
4 in this State is either a nonresident or a resident that has left or cannot be found in  
5 this State. Such process may be effectuated by serving the Director of the  
6 Department of Motor Vehicles and sending a copy of the process by registered or  
7 certified mail to the defendant at the address supplied by the defendant in the crash  
8 report, if any, and if not, at the best address available to the plaintiff. (NRS 14.070)  
9 This bill authorizes a plaintiff in an action arising from the operation of a vehicle  
10 which is leased for a period of 31 days or less, or by the day or trip, to a lessee who  
11 is not a resident of the United States and who purchased liability insurance in  
12 connection with the lease to serve process upon the lessor. This bill requires such a  
13 lessor to accept the service of process and to provide a copy of the process to the  
14 lessee by first-class mail, return receipt requested.



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

**Section 1.** Chapter 14 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

*1. When a short-term lessor enters into a lease with a short-term lessee who is not a resident of the United States and, as part of or associated with the lease, the short-term lessee purchases liability insurance from the short-term lessor in its capacity as an agent for an authorized insurer, the short-term lessor is authorized to accept and, if served, shall accept, service of a summons and complaint and any other required documents on behalf of the short-term lessee for any crash resulting from the operation of the vehicle within this State during the lease. If the short-term lessor has a registered agent for service of process on file with the Secretary of State, process must be served on the registered agent of the short-term lessor, either by first-class mail, return receipt requested, or by personal service.*

*2. Not later than 30 days after acceptance of service of process, the short-term lessor shall provide a copy of the summons and complaint and any other documents served on the short-term lessor to the short-term lessee by first-class mail, return receipt requested.*

*3. Notwithstanding the requirements of NRS 14.070, service of process in compliance with subsection 1 shall be deemed a valid and effective service.*

*4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, acceptance of service of process pursuant to subsection 1 does not create any duty, obligation or agency relationship other than that provided in subsection 1.*

*5. As used in this section:*

*(a) "Lease," "short-term lessee" and "short-term lessor" have the meanings ascribed to them in NRS 482.053.*

*(b) "Liability insurance" means insurance, including, without limitation, uninsured motorist coverage, whether offered separately or in combination with any other insurance, that provides coverage to a short-term lessee and any authorized driver pursuant to a lease and is nonduplicative of any standard liability coverage or self-insurance limits provided by the short-term lessor in its lease, for liability arising from the negligent operation of the vehicle during the lease.*

*(c) "Vehicle" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 482.135.*

