ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 88–ASSEMBLYMEN WATTS, NGUYEN, GONZÁLEZ, PETERS, TORRES; ANDERSON, BILBRAY-AXELROD AND FLORES

## **FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to governmental entities. (BDR 34-147)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to governmental entities; requiring the board of trustees of a school district, governing body of a charter school or governing body of a university school for profoundly gifted pupils to adopt a policy prohibiting the of certain racially discriminatory identifiers; authorizing the board of trustees of a school district, governing body of a charter school or governing body of a university school for profoundly gifted pupils to use an identifier associated with a federally recognized Indian tribe in certain circumstances; prohibiting a county, city or unincorporated town from sounding certain sirens, alarms or bells; requiring the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names to recommend changes to the names of geographic features or places that are racially discriminatory; requiring the Board to report annually to the Legislature or the Legislative Commission, as applicable, on any recommendations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:** 

**Section 1** of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district, governing body of each charter school and governing body of each university school for profoundly gifted pupils to change, and adopt a policy that prohibits the use of, any name, logo, mascot, song or other identifier that: (1) is racially discriminatory; or (2) contains racially discriminatory language or imagery. **Section 1** authorizes the board of trustees of a school district, governing body of a charter





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school or governing body of a university school for profoundly gifted pupils to use an identifier associated with a federally recognized Indian tribe if the board of trustees or governing body obtains permission for the use of the identifier from the Indian tribe.

**Section 2.3** of this bill prohibits a county in this State from sounding a siren, bell or alarm at a time during which the siren, bell or alarm was previously sounded on specific days or times in association with an ordinance enacted by the county which required persons of a particular race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin or color to leave the county or a city, town or township within the county by a certain time. **Sections 2.5 and 2.7** of this bill impose a similar prohibition on cities and unincorporated towns in this State, respectively.

Existing law creates the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names. (NRS 327.110) Under existing law, the Board makes official recommendations to the United States Board on Geographic Names on proposals for the names of geographic features and places in this State for use in maps and official documents. (NRS 327.140) Section 3 of this bill requires the Board to recommend changes to the name of any geographic feature or place that: (1) is racially discriminatory; or (2) contains racially discriminatory language or imagery. Section 3 also requires the Board to submit an annual report on any recommendations to change the name of a geographic feature or place 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.

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the board of trustees of each school district, governing body of each charter school and governing body of each university school for profoundly gifted pupils shall change, and adopt a policy prohibiting the use of, any name, logo, mascot, song or other identifier that is racially discriminatory or contains racially discriminatory language or imagery, including, without limitation, a name, logo, mascot, song or other identifier associated with the Confederate States of America or a federally recognized Indian tribe.
- 2. The board of trustees of a school district, governing body of a charter school or governing body of a university school for profoundly gifted pupils may use a name, logo, mascot, song or other identifier associated with a federally recognized Indian tribe if the board of trustees or governing body obtains approval from the Indian tribe to use the name, logo, mascot, song or other identifier.

Sec. 2. (Deleted by amendment.)





**Sec. 2.3.** Chapter 244 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A county in this State may not sound a siren, bell or alarm at a time during which the siren, bell or alarm was previously sounded on specific days or times in association with an ordinance enacted by the county which required persons of a particular race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin or color to leave the county or a city, town or township within the county by a specific time.

**Sec. 2.5.** Chapter 268 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A city in this State may not sound a siren, bell or alarm at a time during which the siren, bell or alarm was previously sounded on specific days or times in association with an ordinance enacted by the city which required persons of a particular race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin or color to leave the city by a specific time.

**Sec. 2.7.** Chapter 269 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

An unincorporated town in this State may not sound a siren, bell or alarm at a time during which the siren, bell or alarm was previously sounded on specific days or times in association with an ordinance enacted by the town which required persons of a particular race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin or color to leave the town by a specific time.

- **Sec. 3.** NRS 327.140 is hereby amended to read as follows: 327.140 1. The Board shall:
- (a) Receive and evaluate all proposals for changes in or additions to names of geographic features and places in the State to determine the most appropriate and acceptable names for use in maps and official documents of all levels of government.
- (b) Make official recommendations on behalf of the State with respect to each proposal.
- (c) Assist and cooperate with the United States Board on Geographic Names in matters relating to names of geographic features and places in Nevada.
- (d) Maintain a list of advisers who have special knowledge of or expertise in Nevada history, geography or culture and consult with those advisers on a regular basis in the course of its work.
- (e) Recommend to change the name of any geographic feature or place in this State that is racially discriminatory or contains racially discriminatory language or imagery.
- (f) Report annually on any recommendation to change the name of a geographic feature or place pursuant to paragraph (e) and submit the report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel



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Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature or, if the Legislature is not in session, to the Legislative Commission.

2. The Board may:

- (a) Adopt regulations to assist in carrying out the functions and duties assigned to it by law.
- (b) Initiate proposals for changes in or additions to geographic names in the State. Any proposal initiated by the Board must be evaluated in accordance with the same procedures prescribed for the consideration of other proposals.
- **Sec. 4.** The board of trustees of each school district, governing body of each charter school and governing body of each university school for profoundly gifted pupils shall adopt the policy required by section 1 of this act and change any applicable name, logo, mascot, song or other identifier on or before July 1, 2022.
- **Sec. 5.** 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.





