

SENATE BILL NO. 54—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

(ON BEHALF OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 18, 2020

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the State Board of Agriculture. (BDR 50-263)

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 ~~fornitted-material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to agriculture; revising the qualifications of the members of the State Board of Agriculture; increasing the membership of the Board; revising certain related provisions pertaining to the Board; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law creates the State Board of Agriculture, consisting of 11 members, and sets forth the qualifications of the members. (NRS 561.045, 561.055) **Sections 1 and 2** of this bill increase the membership of the Board to 13 members. **Section 3** of this bill makes a conforming change by increasing from six to seven the number of members of the Board that constitute a quorum. (NRS 561.095) **Section 2** also revises the membership of the Board by requiring that: (1) two members are actively engaged in range or semirange cattle production; (2) two members are actively engaged in growing crops, at least one of which is a specialty crop; (3) one member is working in the field of supplemental nutrition distribution; (4) one member is actively engaged in food manufacturing or animal processing; and (5) one member has veterinary experience in a mixed-animal or large-animal practice and is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this State. **Section 2** further removes the requirement that certain members be actively engaged in: (1) general farming; and (2) growing crops which are planted in rows. (NRS 561.055) **Section 4** of this bill: (1) provides that each member who is serving on the Board on June 30, 2022, continues to serve until the expiration of his or her term or until a vacancy occurs, whichever occurs first; and (2) requires the Governor to appoint the members representing supplemental nutrition distribution, food manufacturing or animal processing and mixed-animal or large-animal veterinary practice to terms commencing on July 1, 2022.



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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 561.045 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 561.045 There is hereby created in the Department a State
3 Board of Agriculture composed of ~~[[4]]~~ **13** members appointed by
4 the Governor.

5 **Sec. 2.** NRS 561.055 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 561.055 1. ~~{Three members}~~ **The membership** of the Board
7 ~~{must be}~~ **consists of:**

8 (a) **Two members who are** actively engaged in range or
9 semirange cattle production . ~~{, one}~~

10 (b) **One member who is actively engaged** in dairy production . ~~{,~~
11 ~~one}~~

12 (c) **One member who is actively engaged** in range or semirange
13 sheep production . ~~{, one in general farming, one}~~

14 (d) **One member who is actively engaged** in general agriculture
15 . ~~{, one in growing crops which are planted in rows spaced to permit~~
16 ~~mechanical cultivation, one}~~

17 (e) **Two members who are actively engaged in growing crops,**
18 **at least one of which is a specialty crop.**

19 (f) **One member who is actively engaged** in the control of pests .
20 ~~{, one}~~

21 (g) **One member who is actively engaged** in the petroleum
22 industry . ~~{and one}~~

23 (h) **One member who is actively engaged** in raising nursery
24 stock.

25 (i) **One member who is working in the field of supplemental**
26 **nutrition distribution.**

27 (j) **One member who is actively engaged in food**
28 **manufacturing or animal processing.**

29 (k) **One member who has veterinary experience in a mixed-**
30 **animal or large-animal practice and is licensed to practice**
31 **veterinary medicine pursuant to chapter 638 of NRS.**

32 2. Not more than two members may be residents of the same
33 county . ~~{, and the range or semirange cattle production members~~
34 ~~must be residents of different counties.}~~

35 **Sec. 3.** NRS 561.095 is hereby amended to read as follows:

36 561.095 1. The members of the Board may meet at such
37 times and at such places as may be specified by the call of the Chair
38 or a majority of the Board, and a meeting of the Board may be held
39 regularly at least once every 3 months. In case of an emergency,
40 special meetings may be called by the Chair or by the Director.

41 2. ~~{Six}~~ **Seven** members of the Board constitute a quorum. A
42 quorum may exercise all the authority conferred on the Board.



3. Minutes and audio recordings or transcripts of each meeting, regular or special, must be filed with the Department and, except as otherwise provided in NRS 241.035, are public records. A copy of the minutes or audio recordings must be made available to a member of the public upon request at no charge pursuant to NRS 241.035.

Sec. 4. The amendatory provisions of section 2 of this act do not affect the current term of any person who, on June 30, 2022, is a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and each such member continues to serve until the expiration of his or her current term or until a vacancy occurs, whichever occurs first. On or before July 1, 2022, the Governor shall appoint to the State Board of Agriculture:

1. One person who satisfies the qualifications set forth in paragraph (i) of subsection 1 of NRS 561.055, as amended by section 2 of this act, to a term commencing on July 1, 2022;

2. One person who satisfies the qualifications set forth in paragraph (j) of subsection 1 of NRS 561.055, as amended by section 2 of this act, to a term commencing on July 1, 2022; and

3. One person who satisfies the qualifications set forth in paragraph (k) of subsection 1 of NRS 561.055, as amended by section 2 of this act, to a term commencing on July 1, 2022.

Sec. 5. 1. This section and section 4 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act become effective on July 1, 2022.

