### SENATE BILL NO. 448-COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

# (ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF FINANCE IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR)

APRIL 3, 2023

## Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the distribution of the proceeds of certain administrative assessments. (BDR 14-1092)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Executive Budget.

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

AN ACT relating to administrative assessments; revising provisions governing the distribution of the proceeds of certain administrative assessments; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Under existing law, a person who pleads or is found guilty or guilty but mentally ill of a misdemeanor is required to pay an administrative assessment, in addition to any other penalty imposed by the court. A portion of those proceeds is required to be deposited in a special account in the State General Fund and distributed: (1) to the Office of Court Administrator to allocate for certain prescribed uses; and (2) for use in the support of certain state agencies and programs to the extent of legislative authorization. (NRS 176.059) Section 1 of this bill eliminates that special account and the requirements for the distribution and use of the money deposited into that account. Instead, section 1 requires the portion of the proceeds from administrative assessments for misdemeanors that is required under existing law to be deposited in a special account in the State General Fund for distribution and use in a certain prescribed manner to instead be deposited in the State General Fund without any specific requirements for the distribution or use of that money. Section 2 of this bill repeals provisions relating to the distribution of the proceeds from administrative assessments for misdemeanors in conformance with the changes made by section 1 which eliminate requirements for the distribution and use of certain portions of those proceeds.



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

**Section 1.** NRS 176.059 is hereby amended to read as follows: 176.059 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, when a defendant pleads guilty or guilty but mentally ill or is found guilty or guilty but mentally ill of a misdemeanor, including the violation of any municipal ordinance, the justice or judge shall include in the sentence the sum prescribed by the following schedule as an administrative assessment and render a judgment against the defendant for the assessment:

Fine	Assessment
\$5 to \$49	\$30
50 to 59	45
60 to 69	50
70 to 79	55
80 to 89	60
90 to 99	65
100 to 199	
200 to 299	85
300 to 399	95
400 to 499	105
500 to 1 000	120

If the justice or judge sentences the defendant to perform community service in lieu of a fine, the justice or judge shall include in the sentence the amount of the administrative assessment that corresponds with the fine for which the defendant would have been responsible as prescribed by the schedule in this subsection.

- 2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to:
- (a) An ordinance regulating metered parking; or
- (b) An ordinance which is specifically designated as imposing a civil penalty or liability pursuant to NRS 244.3575 or 268.019.
- 3. The money collected for an administrative assessment must not be deducted from the fine imposed by the justice or judge but must be taxed against the defendant in addition to the fine. The money collected for an administrative assessment must be stated separately on the court's docket and must be included in the amount posted for bail. If bail is forfeited, the administrative assessment included in the amount posted for bail pursuant to this subsection must be disbursed in the manner set forth in subsection 5 or 6. If the defendant is found not guilty or the charges are dismissed, the money deposited with the court must be returned to the defendant. If the justice or judge cancels a fine because the fine has been





determined to be uncollectible, any balance of the fine and the administrative assessment remaining unpaid shall be deemed to be uncollectible and the defendant is not required to pay it. If a fine is determined to be uncollectible, the defendant is not entitled to a refund of the fine or administrative assessment the defendant has paid and the justice or judge shall not recalculate the administrative assessment.

- 4. If the justice or judge permits the fine and administrative assessment to be paid in installments, the payments must be first applied to the unpaid balance of the administrative assessment. The city treasurer shall distribute partially collected administrative assessments in accordance with the requirements of subsection 5. The county treasurer shall distribute partially collected administrative assessments in accordance with the requirements of subsection 6.
- 5. The money collected for administrative assessments in municipal court must be paid by the clerk of the court to the city treasurer on or before the fifth day of each month for the preceding month. The city treasurer shall distribute, on or before the 15th day of that month, the money received in the following amounts for each assessment received:
- (a) Two dollars to the county treasurer for credit to a special account in the county general fund for the use of the county's juvenile court or for services to juvenile offenders. Any money remaining in the special account after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the county general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The county treasurer shall provide, upon request by a juvenile court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special account.
- (b) Seven dollars for credit to a special revenue fund for the use of the municipal courts. Any money remaining in the special revenue fund after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the municipal general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The city treasurer shall provide, upon request by a municipal court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special revenue fund.
- (c) [Five dollars] The remainder of each assessment to the State Controller for credit to the State General Fund.
- [(d) The remainder of each assessment to the State Controller for credit to a special account in the State General Fund for distribution as provided in subsection 8.]
- 6. The money collected for administrative assessments in justice courts must be paid by the clerk of the court to the county treasurer on or before the fifth day of each month for the preceding month. The county treasurer shall distribute, on or before the 15th





day of that month, the money received in the following amounts for each assessment received:

- (a) Two dollars for credit to a special account in the county general fund for the use of the county's juvenile court or for services to juvenile offenders. Any money remaining in the special account after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the county general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The county treasurer shall provide, upon request by a juvenile court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special account.
- (b) Seven dollars for credit to a special revenue fund for the use of the justice courts. Any money remaining in the special revenue fund after 2 fiscal years must be deposited in the county general fund if it has not been committed for expenditure. The county treasurer shall provide, upon request by a justice court, monthly reports of the revenue credited to and expenditures made from the special revenue fund.
- (c) [Five dollars] *The remainder of each assessment* to the State Controller for credit to the State General Fund.
- [(d) The remainder of each assessment to the State Controller for credit to a special account in the State General Fund for distribution as provided in subsection 8.]
- 7. The money apportioned to a juvenile court, a justice court or a municipal court pursuant to this section must be used, in addition to providing services to juvenile offenders in the juvenile court, to improve the operations of the court, or to acquire appropriate advanced technology or the use of such technology, or both. Money used to improve the operations of the court may include expenditures for:
  - (a) Training and education of personnel;
  - (b) Acquisition of capital goods;
  - (c) Management and operational studies; or
  - (d) Audits.

- 8. [Of the total amount deposited in the State General Fund pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 5 and paragraph (d) of subsection 6, the State Controller shall distribute the money received to the following public agencies in the following manner:
- (a) Not less than 51 percent to the Office of Court Administrator for allocation as follows:
- (1) Forty six and three quarters percent of the amount distributed to the Office of Court Administrator for:
  - (I) The administration of the courts;
- (II) The development of a uniform system for judicial records; and
  - (III) Continuing judicial education.





- (2) Thirty-seven and three-quarters percent of the amount distributed to the Office of Court Administrator for the Supreme Court.
- (3) Three and one-half percent of the amount distributed to the Office of Court Administrator for the payment for the services of retired justices, retired judges of the Court of Appeals and retired district judges.
- (4) Twelve percent of the amount distributed to the Office of Court Administrator for the provision of specialty court programs.
- (b) Not more than 49 percent must be used to the extent of legislative authorization for the support of:
- 12 (1) The Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal 13 History:
  - (2) The Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission;
- (3) The operation by the Department of Public Safety of a computerized interoperative system for information related to law 16 enforcement:
  - (4) The Fund for the Compensation of Victims of Crime;
  - (5) The Advisory Council for Prosecuting Attorneys; and
  - (6) Programs within the Office of the Attorney General related to victims of domestic violence.
  - 9. Any money deposited in the State General Fund pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 5 and paragraph (d) of subsection 6 that is not distributed or used pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 8 must be transferred to the uncommitted balance of the State General Fund.
- 27  $\frac{10.1}{10.1}$  As used in this section:

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- (a) "Juvenile court" has the meaning ascribed to it in 28 29 NRS 62A.180.
- (b) "Office of Court Administrator" means the Office of Court 30 Administrator created pursuant to NRS 1.320. 31
- 32 **Sec. 2.** NRS 2.185 and 353.359 hereby repealed.
- 33 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

#### TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

- Appropriation for support or operation of Court must be reduced based on administrative assessments to be allocated to Court; duty of Court.
- Any amount appropriated by the Legislature from the State General Fund for the support or operation of the Supreme Court during a fiscal year must be reduced to the extent that the amount of





any administrative assessments distributed to the Office of the Court Administrator for allocation to the Supreme Court pursuant to NRS 176.059 exceeds the amount which is authorized by the Legislature for expenditure from those assessments for that fiscal year.

2. The Supreme Court shall reserve for reversion each fiscal year the amount by which an appropriation from the State General Fund must be reduced pursuant to subsection 1, and that amount reverts to the State General Fund upon the close of that fiscal year by the State Controller.

353.359 Advance from State General Fund for budget account supported by administrative assessments; notification of Fiscal Analysis Division of Legislative Counsel Bureau of approved advances.

- 1. The State Controller shall draw his or her warrant, upon application by an agency responsible for the administration of an account which is wholly or partially supported by administrative assessments pursuant to NRS 176.059, for not more in the aggregate in any fiscal year than 1/12th of the portion of the total money received in the previous year which represents the share of administrative assessments presently allocated to the account.
- 2. An agency shall not apply for an advance pursuant to subsection 1 unless the application is first approved by the Director of the Office of Finance.
- 3. Any money which is advanced from the State General Fund to an account pursuant to subsection 1 must be repaid as soon as the money which the advance replaced is deposited in the account. If the money deposited in the account in any fiscal year is insufficient to pay back the money advanced, an amount equal to the shortfall is hereby contingently appropriated from the State General Fund to the account.
- 4. The Director of the Office of Finance shall notify the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau if:
  - (a) The Director approves an advance pursuant to subsection 2.
- (b) The money deposited in an account in any fiscal year is insufficient to pay back the money advanced pursuant to subsection 1.





