SENATE BILL NO. 91–SENATOR DOÑATE

PREFILED JANUARY 13, 2025

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYMEMBER GONZÁLEZ

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Establishes provisions relating to the use of diacritical marks in certain governmental records. (BDR 40-43)

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

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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 governmental records; authorizing records of the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, each county health officer and the Department of Motor Vehicles to include a diacritical mark used in the name of a person; authorizing licenses, identification cards and driver authorization cards issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles to display a diacritical mark used in the full legal name of a person; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law charges the State Registrar of Vital Statistics with maintaining and preserving and each county health officer with collecting certain vital statistics, which is defined as records of births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages, annulments, divorce and related information. (NRS 440.080, 440.110-440.260) **Section 1** of this bill authorizes the State Registrar and each county health officer to record a diacritical mark used in the name of a person in the vital statistics of the State Registrar and county health officer.

Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue: (1) licenses to operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle, including, without limitation, instruction permits, commercial driver's licenses and motorcycle driver's licenses; (2) identification cards; and (3) driver authorization cards upon application, which must include, among other requirements, the full legal name of the applicant. (NRS 483.2521, 483.270, 483.280, 483.290, 483.291, 483.340, 483.360, 483.375, 483.830, 483.850, 483.860, 483.8605, 483.908, 486.081) **Sections 2 and 5** of this

bill provide that if the full legal name of an applicant for such a license, identification card or driver authorization card includes a diacritical mark, the Department may record the diacritical mark in the records of the Department and display the mark on any license, identification card or driver authorization card issued by the Department.

Sections 1, 2 and 5 define "diacritical mark" as a mark in Latin script that is added or attached to a letter to indicate the pronunciation of the letter or word.

Section 3 of this bill provides that the provisions of **section 2** apply to commercial driver's licenses. **Sections 4 and 6** of this bill apply the existing definitions in existing law to the provisions of **sections 1, 2 and 5**.

Section 8 of this bill makes **sections 2-7.5** of this bill effective upon the date on which the United States Social Security Administration authorizes the recording and display of diacritical marks on documents of the Social Security Administration or upon the date on which the Director of the Department notifies the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau that the Department has sufficient funding to carry out the provisions of this bill, whichever is later. **Section 8** also makes the provisions of **section 1** effective 6 months after **sections 2-7.5** become effective.

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

Section 1. Chapter 440 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. If the name of a person includes a diacritical mark, the State Registrar and each county health officer may record the diacritical mark in the vital statistics of the State Registrar or county health officer, as applicable.

2. As used in this section, "diacritical mark" means a mark in Latin script that is added or attached to a letter to indicate the pronunciation of the letter or word. The term includes, without limitation, accents, tildes, graves, umlauts and cedillas.

Sec. 2. Chapter 483 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. If the full legal name of an applicant for a license, a commercial driver's license, an identification card or a driver authorization card includes a diacritical mark, the Department may record the diacritical mark in the records of the Department and display the mark on any license, identification card or driver authorization card issued by the Department.

2. As used in this section, "diacritical mark" means a mark in Latin script that is added or attached to a letter to indicate the pronunciation of the letter or word. The term includes, without limitation, accents, tildes, graves, umlauts and cedillas.

Sec. 3. NRS 483.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.015 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 483.330 ~~[,]~~ ***and section 2 of this act,*** the provisions of NRS 483.010 to 483.630,

inclusive, ***and section 2 of this act,*** apply only with respect to noncommercial drivers' licenses.

Sec. 4. NRS 483.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.020 As used in NRS 483.010 to 483.630, inclusive, ***and section 2 of this act,*** unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 483.030 to 483.190, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 5. Chapter 486 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. If the full legal name of an applicant for a motorcycle driver's license includes a diacritical mark, the Department may record the diacritical mark in the records of the Department and display the mark on any motorcycle driver's license issued by the Department.

2. As used in this section, "diacritical mark" means a mark in Latin script that is added or attached to a letter to indicate the pronunciation of the letter or word. The term includes, without limitation, accents, tildes, graves, umlauts and cedillas.

Sec. 6. NRS 486.011 is hereby amended to read as follows:

486.011 As used in NRS 486.011 to 486.381, inclusive, ***and section 5 of this act,*** unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 486.015 to 486.057, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 7. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 7.5. As soon as practicable after determining that the Department of Motor Vehicles has sufficient resources to carry out the provisions of sections 2 and 5 of this act, the Director of the Department shall notify the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau of the fact and shall publish notice to the public of the fact on the Internet website of the Department.

Sec. 8. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 2 to 7.5, inclusive, of this act become effective on the later of:

(a) The date on which the United States Social Security Administration authorizes the recording and display of diacritical marks on documents of the Social Security Administration; or

(b) The date on which the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles notifies the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau that the Department has sufficient funding to carry out the provisions of sections 2 and 5 of this act.

3. Section 1 of this act becomes effective 6 months after the date on which sections 2 to 7.5, inclusive, of this act become effective pursuant to subsection 2.

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