
Assembly Committee on Education

This measure may be considered for action during today's work session.

ASSEMBLY BILL 328

Establishes the Commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice. (BDR S-619)

Sponsored By: Assemblymembers D'Silva and Jackson
Date Heard: March 20, 2025
Fiscal Notes: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

Assembly Bill 328 creates the Commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice for the purposes of studying issues and making recommendations to the Legislature relating to certain matters of racial discrimination in this State. The Commission must study the impacts of certain institutions relating to racial discrimination and discriminatory practices in Nevada and report its findings and recommendations by January 31, 2027, and present such findings and recommendations in person by the adjournment of the 84th Legislative Session. Additionally, the Commission may request support from the Division of State Library, Archives and Public Records of the Department of Administration in fulfillment of its duties. The bill requires the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to provide administrative support to the Commission and may accept gifts to fund the Commission.

Amendments:

Assemblymember D'Silva proposed the following amendments:

1. Add Senator Neal as a primary co-sponsor;
2. Rename the "Commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice" to "The Nevada Commission to Study and Develop Policy Recommendations for African Americans";
3. Establish the Commission as a subcommittee of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education during the 2025–2027 Interim with the Chair and Vice Chair, and membership of the Commission to be appointed by the Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education;
4. Ensure the Commission complies with all rules relating to subcommittees of joint interim standing committees;
5. Remove the provision prohibiting a Commission member from holding public office;
6. Provide for the appointment of nonlegislative Commission members from lists provided by the President of the University of Nevada, Reno, and the President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and provide for the appointment of certain legislative members by the Senate Majority Leader, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Senate Minority Leader, and the Assembly Minority Leader. The appointing authority is required to consider the member's policy and professional experience and their background in interrelated disciplines and subject matters, in addition to their experience in the fields of African American studies and reparatory justice; and
7. Require the Commission to develop specific policy recommendations to address concerns that may rise from the course of the Commission's study.



State of Nevada Assembly

AB 328 Conceptual Amendment

1. Switch housing of study commission from NSHE to LCB.
2. Remove or replace all bill language pertaining to NSHE.
3. Make sure study commission is compliant with all LCB rules and regulations regarding studies. (i.e. chair of study must be legislator, etc.)
4. Remove Sec. 1 sub. 3 ~~An elected official of any governmental entity is not eligible to be appointed to the Commission.~~
5. The study commission will be organized as a subcommittee of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education.
6. Sec 1 sub. 2 shall be amended as follows:

The Commission consists of the following **ten** members:

- (a) **Two** members appointed by the President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, or his or her designee;
- (b) **Two** members appointed by the President of the University of Nevada, Reno, or his or her designee;
- (c) **Two members of the Senate** appointed by the Senate Majority Leader; and
- (d) **Two members of the Assembly** appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.
- (e) **One member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader.**
- (f) **One member of the Assembly appointed by the Assembly Minority Leader.**

In making appointments to the Commission, the appointing authorities shall appoint members of the Commission on the basis of their education, training and experience in the fields of African American studies, ~~and~~ reparatory justice, **policy and professional experience, and all other interrelated disciplines**

and subject matter areas, and overall experience. The appointing authorities shall appoint members of the Commission on or before August 1, 2025.

7. The Title of the Commission shall be changed to “The Nevada Commission to Study and Develop Policy Recommendations for African Americans.”
8. ~~The President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the President of the University of Nevada, Reno, shall jointly appoint a Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission, who serve in such positions until the Commission expires by limitation.~~ The Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission will be appointed by the Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education.
9. Add the following to Sec. 2 sub. 2
(d) Develop specific policy recommendations to address concerns that may arise from the course of the Commission’s study.
10. Add Senator Dina Neal as a Primary Co-Sponsor