ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 8–COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

(ON BEHALF OF THE DIVISION OF HUMAN
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION)

PREFILED OCTOBER 28, 2026

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the Merit Award Board. (BDR 23-226)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.
Effect on the State Highway Fund: No.

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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 state employees; revising provisions governing the membership of the Merit Award Board; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides requirements and procedures for collective bargaining between the Executive Department of State Government and certain state employees, including a procedure for the designation of a labor organization as the exclusive representative of a bargaining unit of such state employees. (NRS 288.400-288.630) Existing law establishes the Merit Award Program to provide awards to certain state employees who propose suggestions that would reduce, eliminate or avoid state expenditures or improve the operation of the State Government (Chapter 285 of NRS). Under existing law, the controlling authority of the Program is the Merit Award Board. The Board is required to be composed of five members, including two persons who are members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees or its successor. (NRS 285.030) **Section 1** of this bill expands the qualifications for those two positions on the Board to include a member of any labor organization that is designated as the exclusive representative of a bargaining unit. **Section 1** requires the Administrator of the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration to appoint those members from a list of names submitted by such labor organizations that are designated as exclusive representatives of bargaining units.

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

Section 1. NRS 285.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

285.030 1. The controlling authority of the Merit Award Program is the Merit Award Board.

2. The Board must be composed of five members as follows:

(a) Two persons ~~[who are members]~~ ***, each of whom is a member*** of ~~[the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees or its successor, designated by the executive committee of that Federation or its successor.]~~ ***a labor organization designated as the exclusive representative of a bargaining unit pursuant to NRS 288.520, 288.525 or 288.530 appointed by the Administrator of the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration. The Administrator shall appoint each member from a list of names submitted by such labor organizations.***

(b) One member from the Budget Division of the Office of Finance appointed by the Chief of the Budget Division.

(c) One member from the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration appointed by the Administrator of the Division.

(d) One member appointed by and representing the Governor.

3. The member from either the Budget Division of the Office of Finance or the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration ~~[must]~~ ***shall*** serve as the Secretary of the Board.

4. The Board shall adopt regulations for transacting its business and carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

5. Within the limits of legislative appropriations, the Board may expend up to $5,000 per year on expenses relating to the operation of the Board.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2027.