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NEWS RELEASE

Legislative Commission's Committee to Study Powers Delegated to Local Governments
(Senate Bill 264, Chapter 462, *Statutes of Nevada 2009*)

Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2010
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: Grant Sawyer State Office Building
Room 4401
555 E. Washington Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada
Videoconference:
Legislative Building
Room 3138
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada

Contact: Michael J. Stewart, Supervising
Principal Research Analyst
Research Division
Legislative Counsel Bureau
Carson City, Nevada
(775) 684-6825
research@lcb.state.nv.us

**THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY POWERS DELEGATED TO
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO HOLD ITS FINAL MEETING AND
WORK SESSION IN LAS VEGAS**

Senator John J. Lee (D-Las Vegas) announced today that the Legislative Commission's Committee to Study Powers Delegated to Local Governments will hold its final meeting and work session on Wednesday, June 23, 2010, at 9 a.m. in Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building in Las Vegas. The meeting will be simultaneously videoconferenced to Room 3138 of the Legislative Building in Carson City. The agenda and "Work Session Document" is attached.

The Committee, which also held meetings in February and April of this year, is charged with examining the structure, formation, functions, and powers of local governments in the State of Nevada. "Our last two meetings set the stage for this final meeting and work session,"

noted Senator Lee, Chair of the Committee. **“While we have examined a great number of issues, the Committee will consider those recommendations that we think can get support from both the Legislature and local governments.”** On June 1, 2010, the Committee received a report and recommendations from the Interim Technical Advisory Committee for Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR), which was created at the same time as the interim legislative committee. The ACIR includes six local government representatives and three representatives of State agencies and has been examining a myriad of local government issues and powers.

Senator Lee explained that the meeting will begin with a formal presentation from representatives of the ACIR highlighting its recent activities and the recommendations covered in the report. This will be followed by a public comment period and the final work session, at which point, the Committee will vote on recommendations to transmit to the 2011 Session of the Nevada Legislature. **“All the recommendations from the ACIR are included in the ‘Work Session Document’,”** Lee explained. **“We appreciate the ACIR’s hard work and are looking forward to discussing these recommendations at the meeting.”**

Included in the “Work Session Document” is a recommendation to authorize counties to operate under a charter in a manner similar to a city charter as well as a recommendation authorizing local governments to adopt provisions for the sale of naming rights to public facilities. Another recommendation would specify that a county or city may perform acts or duties that are not prohibited or limited by statute in order to perform the powers conferred to the county or city. **“For many years, local governments have sought home rule for their general operations. This recommendation is a step in the right direction and might give local governments the flexibility to at least address some day-to-day operations without asking the Legislature for permission every two years,”** Lee said.

Finally, the “Work Session Document” includes a recommendation to establish a permanent ACIR for Nevada. **“A permanent intergovernmental relations committee consisting of local, State, and legislative representatives is long overdue,”** Senator Lee noted. **“Nevada needs a permanent body where the issues of local governments can be openly discussed, thoroughly vetted, and then taken to the Legislature for consideration. I believe this will help streamline government, save money, and help us determine which level of government can most efficiently and effectively provide services.”**

The other members of the Committee to Study the Powers Delegated to Local Governments are Assemblywoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Vice Chair (D-North Las Vegas), Senator Terry Care (D-Las Vegas), Senator Mike McGinness (R-Fallon), Assemblyman Pete Goicoechea (R-Eureka), and Assemblyman Tick Segerblom (D-Las Vegas).

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