

# COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION OF NEVADA

## NEVADA REVISED STATUTES [NRS] [538.051](#)

### CHAPTER [538](#) ("INTERSTATE WATERS, COMPACTS AND COMMISSIONS") OF NRS

#### Background

- 1935—[Assembly Substitute for Assembly Bill 220](#) (Chapter 71, *Statutes of Nevada*) created the Colorado River Commission of Nevada to consist of five members, four governor-appointed members and the governor serving as chair. Additionally, no more than three members were to be from the same political party. Duties of the Commission included collecting and arranging all data and information connected with the Colorado River and representing the State of Nevada in matters related to power generation and distribution, conservation, and interstate agreements regarding the river. The 1935 legislation subsequently appeared in *Nevada Compiled Laws 1931–41 Supplement* (1941) § 1443.01.
- 1963—[Assembly Bill 508](#) (Chapter 397, *Statutes of Nevada*) revised the Commission's membership composition by replacing the governor with the director of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). The bill provided for the Commission to elect a chair.
- 1967—[Assembly Bill 272](#) (Chapter 216, *Statutes of Nevada*) revised the Commission's membership composition by removing the director of DCNR as a member and provided for the governor to appoint a fifth member. The bill also revised provisions regarding appointments and term lengths.
- 1973—[Assembly Bill 342](#) (Chapter 763, *Statutes of Nevada*) changed the name of the Commission to the Colorado River Advisory Commission and transferred the functions of the Commission to DCNR. The bill provided that the Commission advise the administrator of the Division of Colorado River Resources within DCNR on legislation and administration affecting the Colorado River and its tributaries. The bill also revised the residency requirements of members and stipulated the Commission meet at least quarterly. Additionally, AB 342 provided each current term expire on January 6, 1975, and revised provisions regarding term lengths.
- 1974—NRS 538.050 was subsequently replaced by [NRS 538.051](#) with no modifications.
- 1977—[Assembly Bill 278](#) (Chapter 530, *Statutes of Nevada*) modernized the legislative language. No modifications were made to the composition of the Commission. Further, [Senate Bill 153](#) (Chapter 529, *Statutes of Nevada*), created the Department of Energy (DOE) and transferred the Division of Colorado River Resources from DCNR to DOE.
- 1981—[Senate Bill 508](#) (Chapter 641, *Statutes of Nevada*) revised the name of the Commission to the Colorado River Commission and added a requirement that one member represent the state at large and be a resident of a county not receiving electrical power from the Colorado River or its tributaries. The bill also abolished the Division of Colorado River Resources within the DOE and transferred its function to the Commission. It provided for the Commission to appoint a director to serve in an unclassified full-time position of the state to administer and carry out the policies and administrative activities of the Commission.
- 1993—[Assembly Bill 692](#) (Chapter 347, *Statutes of Nevada*) increased the size of the Commission from five to seven members, with four members appointed by the governor and three members appointed by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) board of directors. The bill revised membership requirements such that governor-appointed members must simply be residents of the state and SNWA appointees must be members of the SNWA board of directors. The bill also removed the political affiliation limitation clause.

- 2001—[Senate Bill 531](#) (Chapter 508, *Statutes of Nevada*) revised the name of the Commission to the Colorado River Commission of Nevada. The bill also revised the titles of certain officers of the Commission and some duties of the executive director and deputy executive director of the Commission.

### **Reviewed by the Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission**

The Sunset Subcommittee has never reviewed the Colorado River Commission of Nevada.

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