

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Bulletin 23-3	1
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Commerce and Labor	1
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	3
Abstract	5
Summary of Recommendations	7
Bulletin 25-4	11
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education	11
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	13
Abstract	15
Summary of Recommendations	17
Bulletin 25-5	27
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Government Affairs	27
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	29
Abstract	31
Summary of Recommendations	33
Bulletin 25-6	35
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure	35
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	37
Abstract	39
Summary of Recommendations	41
Bulletin 25-7	43
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services	43
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	45

Abstract	47
Summary of Recommendations	49
Bulletin 25-8	63
Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary	63
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	65
Abstract	67
Summary of Recommendations	69
Bulletin 25-9	74
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections	74
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	76
Abstract	78
Summary of Recommendations	80
Bulletin 25-10	84
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources and Subcommittee on Public Lands.....	84
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	86
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.510	88
Abstract	90
Summary of Recommendations	92
Bulletin 25-11	96
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Revenue	96
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.320	98
Abstract	100
Summary of Recommendations	102

Bulletin 25-12	104
Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System	104
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.555	106
Abstract	108
Summary of Recommendations	110
Bulletin 25-13	114
Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs	114
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 218E.750	116
Abstract	118
Summary of Recommendations	120
Bulletin 25-15	123
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum	123
<i>Nevada Revised Statutes</i> (NRS) 427A.320	125
Abstract	127
Summary of Recommendations	129

BULLETIN 23-3

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND LABOR

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.320

Members

Senator Pat Spearman, Chair
Assemblywoman Elaine Marzola, Vice Chair
Senator Roberta Lange
Senator Jeff Stone
Assemblywoman Shea Backus
Assemblywoman Heidi Kasama
Assemblyman Philip PK O'Neill
Assemblywoman Selena Torres

Alternate Members

Senator Lisa Krasner
Senator Julie Pazina
Assemblyman Max Carter
Assemblywoman Melissa Hardy
Assemblyman Steve Yeager

Staff Contacts

Research Division:
Cesar Melgarejo, Principal Policy Analyst
Davis Florence, Senior Policy Analyst
Crystal Rowe, Senior Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:
John Kucera, Principal Program Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:
Sam Quast, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND LABOR

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Commerce and Labor is a permanent committee of the Nevada Legislature whose authority and duties are set forth in [NRS 218E.320](#) through [218E.330](#). The Committee considers topics covering a wide range of issues affecting commerce and labor including banks, financial institutions, and similar entities; businesses, occupations, and professions; insurance matters; labor and industrial relations; manufactured housing; and trade practices and regulations.

The Committee held six meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim. At its work session on August 28, 2024, the Committee approved nine recommendations for bill draft requests (BDRs) to be considered by the Legislature in 2025. The BDRs concern:

1. Affordable and low-income housing;
2. Landlord duties and responsibilities;
3. Unlicensed contractors;
4. Certified registered nurse anesthetists;
5. Service contracts–home warranties;
6. Designation and disclosure of high fire risk zones;
7. Minority health and equity;
8. Legislative health notes; and
9. 340B Drug Pricing Program.

The Committee also approved two recommendations for letters relating to: (1) addressing 15-year “escape hatch” authorized under the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit ([26 U.S.C. § 42](#) [2024]) program; and (2) expressing support for the Division of Insurance, Department of Business and Industry, to conduct a feasibility study for the possible creation of a Fair Access to Insurance Requirements Plan or other reasonable recommendations to address the issues to property insurance due to wildfires.

The summaries of testimony and exhibits are available online at: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/InterimCommittee/REL/Interim2023/Committee/1979/Meetings>.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND LABOR

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Commerce and Labor at its meeting on August 28, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Affordable and Low-Income Housing

1. Propose legislation to:

- a. Require the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry (B&I) to annually calculate and publish on its Internet website the maximum cost of living increase, capped at 5 percent, based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers. Landlords who rent more than five dwellings would be prohibited from raising rent during the first year of tenancy and limit subsequent increases to the published cost-of-living index. However, landlords will be able to apply for an exemption to the limitation of increasing the rent to obtain a fair and reasonable rate of return on their property, under certain circumstances. This would be a redraft of [Senate Bill 426](#) in its first reprint from the 2023 Legislative Session, with an amendment that exempts from such requirements landlords who rent five or fewer dwellings; and
- b. Amend subsection 6(b) of [NRS 319.420](#) and Section 6 of [NRS 319.430](#) to increase from \$10,000 to \$100,000 the administrative fine the Housing Division may impose upon an owner who fails to provide a written notice to certain governing bodies, the Division, and each tenant affected before terminating or ending an affordability restriction, and increase from \$500 to \$5,000 the total amount from such fine the Division may use to cover the costs of collecting the fine. **(BDR –513)**

Landlord Duties and Responsibilities

2. Propose legislation to:

- a. Require the Housing Division to establish a statewide registry of certain landlords that consist of:
 - i. The name of the landlord;
 - ii. The state and county in which the landlord is domiciled;

- iii. The total number of dwelling units owned by the landlord in this State and the address of each dwelling unit;
- iv. The amount of periodic rent charged by the landlord for each dwelling unit in this State and the frequency with which the periodic rent is charged to the tenant; and
- v. Certain information relating to the property manager of the premises, if applicable.

This would be a redraft of [Assembly Bill 332](#) from the 2021 Legislative Session, including amendments that: (1) limit the requirement for registration to landlords who rent five or more dwellings; (2) require the Division to establish a mechanism for tenants to file a complaint concerning a landlord; (3) require the Division to post such complaints on its Internet website; and (4) impose an annual registration fee which the Division may use to address administrative costs associated with implementing these provisions; and

- b. Amend [Chapter 118A](#) of NRS, modeled after [Colorado Revised Statutes 38-12-503](#), to expand landlord and tenant responsibilities when a rental dwelling becomes uninhabitable due to a condition that materially interferes with the tenant's life, health, or safety, to include, but not be limited to:
 - i. Require a landlord to provide a comparable dwelling unit or hotel room for up to 60 days or until condition is remedied;
 - ii. Require a tenant to continue rent payments during temporary relocation; and
 - iii. If condition cannot be remedied within 60 days, authorize tenant to terminate rental agreement and require the full security deposit to be returned. **(BDR –514)**

Unlicensed Contractors

- 3. Propose legislation to revise the statute of limitations for a violation of [NRS 624.700](#), which prohibits a person who does not have an active contractor's license from engaging in the business of a contractor, acting in the capacity of a contractor or submitting a bid on a job, to, if the unlicensed activity resulted in harm to a person or the property of a person who is 60 years of age or older or who is a vulnerable person, provide that the period for commencing a prosecution of the offense begins on the date on which the offense was discovered by the victim. **(BDR –515)**

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

- 4. Propose legislation to amend [NRS 632.2397](#) to delete provisions that prohibit a certified registered nurse anesthetist from ordering or prescribing a controlled substance, poison, dangerous drug, or device outside of a critical access hospital. **(BDR –516)**

Service Contracts–Home Warranties

5. Propose legislation to:

- a. Codify the provisions of subsection 1(d) of [Nevada Administrative Code 690C.110](#) in [Chapter 690C](#) of NRS to require that a service contract include a statement that if the holder is not satisfied with the manner in which the provider is handling the claim on the contract, the holder may contact the Commissioner of Insurance. The statement must include the toll-free telephone number of the Division of Insurance, B&I, and be written in plain language and an appropriately sized font; and
- b. Require the Commissioner of Insurance to adopt regulations establishing a system for rating service contract providers doing business in Nevada based on compliance with the requirements in [Chapter 690C](#) of NRS and the number of consumer complaints filed with the Division. The Division shall post the final star rating assigned to the provider on its Internet website that is accessible to the public. **(BDR –517)**

Designation and Disclosure of High Fire Risk Zones

6. Propose legislation to:

- a. Require the State Forester Firewarden to adopt regulations designating zones of high fire risk;
- b. Require the governing body of a county or city to disclose to any person who wishes to construct a structure (residential and nonresidential) in an area of the county or city designated as a zone of high fire risk the fact that the structure will be located in such a zone; and
- c. Require the seller of a residence located in a zone of high fire risk to disclose to the purchaser of the residence the fact that the residence is located within such a zone. **(BDR –518)**

Minority Health and Equity

7. Propose legislation to amend [NRS 239B.026](#), [433.359](#), [439.259](#), and [439.261](#) to provide that the reports required by these statutes also be submitted to the Nevada’s Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE), Department of Health and Human Services. Further, NOMHE shall analyze and identify gaps in health and human services delivered to minority groups in this State. **(BDR –510)**

Legislative Health Notes

8. Propose legislation to require health notes for legislative measures explaining how measures could affect issues that strongly influence health and wellness, including education, employment, environment, food security, health care access, and housing. **(BDR –512)**

The 340B Drug Pricing Program

9. Propose legislation to prohibit contract pharmacy restrictions in Nevada and to establish a penalty for imposing restrictions to covered entities in this State. **(BDR –511)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

10. Send a letter to Nevada’s federal delegation recommending and expressing support for federal legislation to address the 15-year “escape hatch” authorized under the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit ([26 U.S.C. § 42](#) [2024]) (LIHTC) program, which authorizes an owner of a LIHTC property to leave the Program at the end of the qualified contract period, ending rent and income-use restrictions.
11. Send a letter to the Governor of the State of Nevada expressing support for the Division of Insurance, B&I, to conduct a feasibility study for the possible creation of a Fair Access to Insurance Requirements Plan or other reasonable recommendations to address the issues related to wildfire property insurance. Further, the letter shall support a Governor’s task force of State and local government and industry partners to study certain factors that influence the State’s wildfire risk (i.e., building code, infrastructure mitigation, and zoning and planning statutes and regulations).

BULLETIN 25-4

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

Members

Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod, Chair
Senator Roberta Lange, Vice Chair
Senator Carrie A. Buck
Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop
Assemblywoman Natha C. Anderson
Assemblyman Reuben D'Silva
Assemblywoman Alexis Hansen
Assemblywoman Melissa Hardy

Alternate Members

Senator Edgar Flores
Senator Robin L. Titus
Assemblyman Gregory Koenig
Assemblywoman Selena La Rue Hatch
Assemblywoman Selena Torres

Staff Contacts

Research Division:

Alex Drozdoff, Senior Policy Analyst
Jennifer Sturm-Gahner, Principal Policy Analyst
Crystal Rowe, Senior Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:

James Malone, Principal Program Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:

Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel
Cameron Newton, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education (COE) is a permanent interim committee of the Nevada Legislature whose authority and responsibilities are set forth in [NRS 218E.330](#) and [NRS 218E.615](#). During public meetings between the biennial sessions of the Legislature, the COE may evaluate, review, and comment upon issues related to education within Nevada, conduct investigations and hold hearings in connection with its duties, and make recommendations to the Legislature concerning the manner in which public education may be improved. Further, the COE has jurisdiction over issues that fall under the purview of the Senate and Assembly Standing Committees on Education from the preceding regular session of the Legislature.

The COE held seven meetings, including one work session, during the 2023–2024 Interim. The first five meetings were conducted through videoconference between meeting rooms in the Legislative Building in Carson City, Nevada, and the Grant Sawyer State Office Building in Las Vegas, Nevada. The final two meetings were conducted through videoconference between meeting rooms in the Legislative Building in Carson City and the Nevada Legislature Office Building in Las Vegas. Below are links to each meeting date:

- [February 5, 2024](#)
- [March 20, 2024](#)
- [April 18, 2024](#)
- [May 15, 2024](#)
- [June 20, 2024](#)
- [July 24, 2024](#)
- [August 22, 2024](#)

During these meetings, the COE reviewed several topics, including charter school and school district operations and achievement; state and national education trends; school funding; chronic absenteeism; early childhood education accessibility and effectiveness; pupil mental health and wellness; academic supports and trends in achievement and graduation rates; classroom ratios; restorative justice and school discipline; competency-based education; work-based learning; dual enrollment; career and technical education; educational personnel career pathways, retention, well-being, and workload; school accountability; and higher education campus safety, fee waivers, operations, and affordability.

Additionally, the COE completed several studies required by the 82nd Legislature. Pursuant to [Senate Bill 72](#) (2023), the COE studied: (1) the mental health and wellness of pupils; (2) the

workload of teachers; (3) requirements governing licensing and work authorization for teachers and administrators, including authorization requirements for a person who holds a J-1 visa; (4) achievement and graduation trends of high school students; (5) policies and strategies addressing the needs of pupil groups who may require additional resources; and (6) certain higher education fee waivers.

Finally, the COE heard testimony pursuant to the following legislation:

- [Assembly Bill 428](#) (2023), to expand awareness and remove barriers to scholarships for teachers and other educational personnel;
- [Senate Bill 98](#) (2023), on an overview of metrics of performance and accountability established for public schools; and
- [Senate Bill 71](#) (2023), [Senate Bill 425](#) (2023), and [Assembly Bill 245](#) (2023), concerning the work, findings, and recommendations of the Nevada State Teacher and Education Support Professional Recruitment and Retention Advisory Task Force, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, and the Task Force on Power-Based Violence at Institutions of Higher Education, respectively.

More information about the Committee’s activities—including minutes, recordings of meetings, and copies of presentations and other exhibits—may be accessed on the COE’s [meeting page](#) for the 2023–2024 Interim.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education (COE) at its meeting on August 22, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Higher Education

1. Propose legislation unifying the conditions and requirements of Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) fee waivers offered. Such unification would include:
 - a. Encouraging all waiver applicants to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as a condition of eligibility;
 - b. Standardizing the courses covered by such waivers to be courses that apply toward an undergraduate or graduate degree, excluding professional programs. For clarity, NSHE shall publish a list each semester of courses that will be covered;
 - c. If additional fee waiver programs are created, or if student participation in current programs is expanded beyond current capacity, encouraging the Senate Committee on Finance (FIN) and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means (WM) of the 2025 Legislative Session to consider State funding support to offset the fee waiver costs; and
 - d. Requiring that NSHE utilizes a standardized structure for all waivers so the full amount of registration, laboratory, and other mandatory fees assessed against an eligible student for the term are covered. **(BDR –)**

Data and Accountability

2. Propose legislation to require Nevada's Department of Education (NDE) to create, or utilize an existing system to house, a real-time attendance data dashboard. Further, require school districts to report attendance information daily to the dashboard. The dashboard should make publicly available any trends or rates related to absenteeism. Internally, school districts should monitor this dashboard, so school leaders may identify attendance issues early, specifically for pupils who are trending to miss more than 10 percent of the school year. **(BDR –)**

3. Propose legislation requiring NDE to convene and oversee a task force that will develop and update a new education rubric, which should include a variety of metrics and primarily be focused on assessing Nevada in comparison to other states with similar practices. (BDR –)
4. Propose legislation creating a due date for the reports submitted relating to [Assembly Bill 400](#) (2023) and [Senate Bill 98](#) (2023) associated with the academic progress of pupils. (BDR –)

Governance

5. Propose legislation making certain changes to the process by which a school may be closed. Specifically, amend [NRS 393.080](#) to:
 - a. Replace “kindergarten” with “pre-kindergarten” in Section 1(d);
 - b. In Section 2, include community members surrounding the school in those whom the board of trustees is required to provide the 30 days’ written notice;
 - c. The written notice must include:
 - i. The reason for the recommendation to close the school;
 - ii. Any documentation of costs associated with the school closure; and
 - iii. The scope of work necessitated to keep the school open.

Furthermore, clarify that under no circumstances may a school be recommended for closure if impacted by a fire or flood, or for any reason relating to enrollment.

Additionally, amend [NRS 393.085](#), in regard to a hearing for reconsideration by a board of trustees, to clarify that if no action is taken by the board of trustees, or if they vote not to close the school, the school must remain open. Finally, add that the decision of the board of trustees, after its reconsideration hearing, is subject to review by Nevada’s State Board of Education prior to judicial review. (BDR –)

6. Propose legislation altering the appointment timeline of Nevada’s State Board of Education members so appointment periods are staggered rather than having all members appointed at the same time. (BDR –)

Early Childhood

7. Propose legislation to create an interim Office of Early Childhood Services within the Office of the Governor. The Office shall include a cabinet position as well as sunset dates established for accountability purposes. If established, the Office shall take accountability for carrying out the below study and developing recommendations.

If such an Office is created, its duties should include, among others, conducting a study on early childhood concerns. This study should examine funding needs for early childhood

programs, including the implementation of a dedicated funding stream to support workforce needs, expansion efforts, and more. Furthermore, such a study should develop a process to review federal funding sources available and report on funding Nevada has received and not received. The study should also consider the use of a comprehensive data system across the various early childhood programs. **(BDR –)**

8. Propose legislation to remove homeowners association policies that limit the ability to operate a daycare out of a home. **(BDR –)**

Visas

9. Propose legislation outlining conditions for school districts and charter schools that employ J-1 visa and H-1B visa holders as teachers, including:
 - a. Requiring the school districts and charter schools to hold an orientation for visa holders to aid their transition to employment within the district and life within the community;
 - b. Prohibiting the school districts and charter schools from contracting or partnering with certain persons or entities who charge more than a certain amount of fees and costs related to the employment of certain visa holders;
 - c. Requiring the school districts and charter schools to offer a system of professional learning for educational personnel employed through certain visa programs, including offering quarterly meetings, networking opportunities, and considering arrival time for onboarding and professional learning programs and to ease the transition into the country;
 - d. Outlining standard operating procedures, including the timing of arrival and departure and housing and transportation costs, for school districts and charter schools that employ J-1 and H-1B visa holders as teachers;
 - e. Requiring school districts and charter schools to verify that the hiring of such visa holders would not impact job openings for current license holders; and
 - f. Requesting stipend funding to cover related agency and administrative fees. **(BDR –)**

Teachers and Administrators

10. Propose legislation to require each school district to administer the school staff climate survey and teacher exit/transfer survey within each school during the school year and submit a report containing a summary of answers to NDE, and require NDE to submit a summary report of all school district responses to the Legislature. **(BDR –)**

Pupil Well-Being and Supports

11. Propose legislation enacting the Interstate Compact for School Psychologists. **(BDR –)**

12. Propose legislation amending [NRS 388.055](#) to remove the phrasing, “to the extent that money is available for that purpose,” thus instead requiring each public school to employ a school counselor on a full-time basis and provide for a comprehensive program for school counseling. **(BDR –)**

School Operations

13. Propose legislation outlining the development of a study committee on artificial intelligence (AI) in education within NDE, in consultation with other organizations. This committee will be tasked with exploring the uses and applications of AI and considering the development of policies related to cyber-bullying, pupil data collection, curriculum development, and academic honesty. **(BDR –)**
14. Propose legislation making the following changes to work-based learning:
 - a. Directing NDE to create a comprehensive list of employers exempted from background check requirements, such as nurses, doctors, and lawyers who already require a background check to be employed;
 - b. Allowing for the reimbursement of costs associated with a background check;
 - c. Allowing an employer to sign a letter confirming its employees have cleared background checks;
 - d. Allowing background checks to be valid for greater than five years; and
 - e. Revising minimum age requirement to participate at 16 years of age rather than 18 years of age. **(BDR –)**
15. Propose legislation to require Nevada’s State Board of Education’s Holocaust and Other Genocides Subcommittee to report on its findings and recommendations to the Joint Interim Standing Committee of Education by August 1st of each even-numbered year, rather than by October 1st. **(BDR –)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education

16. Send a letter to the NSHE Chancellor encouraging the System to present identified safety recommendations to the Senate Committee on Education and Assembly Committee on Education of the 2025 Legislative Session.
17. If Ballot Question 1 passes, send a letter to the Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections and the Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections encouraging the consideration of the creation of a higher education standing committee or subcommittee of the Legislature.

18. Send a letter to the NSHE Chancellor and the Board of Regents Chair, the Governor, and FIN and WM of the 2025 Legislative Session encouraging funding to increase the number of school psychologist graduate education programs offered by NSHE institutions as well as to increase the size of the programs currently offered. Furthermore, encourage incentives for specialized instructional support personnel who remain employed in Nevada, and encourage the allocation of additional funding for scholarships to increase the number of qualified specialized instructional support personnel to ensure students have equitable access to qualified service providers.
19. Send a letter to the NSHE Chancellor and the Board of Regents Chair encouraging the Board of Regents to form a committee to study an overall strategy, goal, and trajectory of dual and concurrent enrollment programs in Nevada, including geographic service areas, mission differentiation, consideration of qualifications and stipends provided to those teaching such courses, consistency in counseling/advising, and a review of equity in experience with respect to available and relevant data.

Data and Accountability

20. Send a letter to Nevada's State Board of Education encouraging it to study accountability measures currently contained in the Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF) and make recommendations to the 2025–2026 COE to either replace or streamline the NEPF.
21. Send a letter to the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation requesting industries that employ pupils who have graduated from a related career and technical education (CTE) program to provide information to NDE and the COE related to the pupils' performance in that industry. This should include information on how the CTE program curriculum might adjust to better meet the needs of that industry.
22. Include a statement in the Committee's final report encouraging school districts and NDE to review certain changes and additions to current requirements, including:
 - a. Encouraging a review of school district and school-centered redundancies and inefficiencies;
 - b. Encouraging a review of any redundancies or outdated requirements in assessments, reporting, and data collection;
 - c. Encouraging reports related to funding, performance, and accountability to consider data collected while the previous education funding formula was in use, for comparison purposes. Such reporting should include clear benchmarks and conclusions about performance and accountability; and
 - d. Report any findings or recommendations to the 2025–2026 COE. Furthermore, report any findings related to Recommendation 22(c) to the Commission on School Funding.
23. Include a statement in the Committee's final report providing a brief history of Nevada's shift to the Pupil-Centered Funding Plan (PCFP) and largely away from categorical funding

to provide more flexibility to school districts. Specifically, the 2019 Legislative Session approved [Senate Bill 543](#), which revised the method the State uses to fund elementary and secondary education in its public schools by creating the PCFP. In generally moving away from categorical funding, school districts are empowered to utilize funds as determined by them to best address the specific needs and priorities for each.

24. Send a letter to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, NDE, encouraging NDE to amend Nevada's Every Student Succeeds Act Consolidated State Plan to allow for an alternative or additional metric to be used for the student engagement indicator, including a consideration of participation or enrollment in: (1) arts, music, and dance; (2) clubs; (3) athletics; (4) CTE; or (5) student government.

Early Childhood

25. Send a letter to Nevada's Congressional Delegation encouraging support for the Child Tax Credit.

Visas

26. Send a letter to Nevada's Congressional Delegation requesting federal support to increase the total cap of new status/visas allowed each year and to allow for increased periods of stay from three years to five years to allow teachers under these programs to vest in the Public Employees' Retirement System of Nevada.
27. Send a letter to the superintendent of each school district and the Executive Director of the State Public Charter School Authority encouraging each school district and charter school that employs J-1 visa holders to apply to become a designated sponsor to help minimize holders' agency fees. Further, encourage such districts and charter schools to investigate whether an H-1B visa program might better fit their needs and better support visa holders who enter the State to teach.
28. Send a letter to NDE encouraging it to consider becoming a designated sponsor for visa holders to help minimize agency fees. This consideration should also include whether NDE might be an appropriate sponsor for all school districts or specifically for school districts located in counties whose population is less than 100,000.

Teachers and Administrators

29. Send a letter to NDE concerning scholarships for teachers and other educational personnel encouraging NDE to develop an annual plan outlining the processes, procedures, requirements, and administrative timeline regarding scholarship opportunities for teachers and annually submit a report on the management of scholarship funds and experiences based on the plans, expectations, and benchmarks to the Legislature.
30. Send a letter to the Governor and FIN and WM of the 2025 Legislative Session encouraging the following to support Nevada's educational personnel:
 - a. Continuing support for the teacher advancement scholarships; and

- b. Providing State General Fund appropriations to supplement the current funding structure to support the Home Is Possible for Teachers program.
- 31. Send a letter to the superintendents of each school district requesting that they work with the school district boards of trustees to provide the following supports for educational personnel:
 - a. Providing salary incentives for those who stay in special education positions and other high-need areas;
 - b. Covering the costs associated with gaining an endorsement in a district- or State-designated critical shortage area;
 - c. Prioritizing the use of funds for targeted training of administrators in building systemic support for teacher efficacy and increasing job satisfaction; and
 - d. Providing for longevity pay.
- 32. Send a letter to the superintendents of each school district in order to raise awareness regarding programs that may assist in removing barriers for educational personnel. These include ongoing modernization efforts with the Nevada Criminal Justice Information System, which will streamline and shorten current licensure processes, like fingerprinting. Furthermore, such a letter should contain information about federal grants that may help to support rural schools and rural educational personnel.
- 33. Send a letter to the Superintendent of Public Instruction requesting the Commission on Professional Standards in Education evaluate approved competency tests for an applicant seeking a license to teach and study whether an alternative may demonstrate the required competency.
- 34. Send a letter to the Governor and FIN and WM of the 2025 Legislative Session encouraging increased funding for the Nevada Institute on Teaching and Educator Preparation (NITEP) in order to support NITEP's expansion efforts to community colleges in the State.
- 35. Send a letter to Nevada's Congressional Delegation urging the sponsorship of legislation to repeal the Social Security Windfall Elimination Provision.
- 36. Include a statement in the Committee's final report encouraging greater communication between the school districts and teachers explaining salary schedules and the processes for salary advancement.
- 37. Include a statement in the Committee's final report encouraging value and respect for teacher autonomy in lesson planning, design, and delivery. This statement should also represent the value the Committee places on teacher expertise and the time they put into their work.

Pupil Well-Being and Supports

38. Include a statement in the Committee’s final report encouraging school districts to utilize youth peer support specialists in programs focused on youth mental and behavioral health, as well as encouraging such programs to collect youth input.
39. Include a statement in the Committee’s final report expressing the Committee’s support for funding and programs that support youth mental and behavioral health in the State, including, but not limited to, the Nevada Teen Peer Support Text Line and the Virtual Crisis Care program.
40. Send a letter to the superintendent of each school district encouraging the district to calculate the number of specialized instructional support personnel—including school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers—needed to fulfill the ratios established by Nevada’s State Board of Education and to advertise for all open positions based on this calculation.
41. Include a statement in the Committee’s final report encouraging private educational institutions and establishments to participate in the biennial survey administered pursuant to the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States Department of Health and Human Services, as required of certain public schools pursuant to [NRS 392.422](#).
42. Include a statement in the Committee’s final report encouraging the school districts and the State Public Charter School Authority to ensure they are meeting the needs of students with disabilities, including incorporating teachers who can provide instruction in American Sign Language and Braille.
43. Send a letter to the Superintendent of Public Instruction encouraging NDE to review licensure requirements and propose alternative requirements for certain specialized instructional support personnel in rural areas of Nevada, including mentorship requirements.
44. Include a statement in the Committee’s final report encouraging the continued collaboration to improve the response time for reimbursements and maximizing the reimbursement rates from Medicaid for school-based health services.
45. Include a statement in the Committee’s final report emphasizing the importance of blending restorative practices with traditional disciplinary practices, establishing that such practices can inform, rather than oppose, each other.

School Operations

46. Include a statement in the Committee’s final report encouraging school districts to adopt high-quality, evidence-based curricula related to early literacy. The statement should also include encouragement for all kindergarten through grade 3 teachers and administrators to complete a school reading specialist endorsement and an emphasis on aligning teacher preparation programs and licensure tests to the science of reading.

47. Send a letter to the Governor and FIN and WM of the 2025 Legislative Session encouraging a consideration of funding to school districts and charter schools to access AI platforms to support daily work responsibilities for both teachers and administrators.
48. Include a statement in the Committee's final report supporting NDE's work in competency-based education through the Portrait of a Learner work. Additionally, outline support for district flexibility to determine internal accountability metrics and reporting.
49. Include a statement in the Committee's final report encouraging schools to provide career path diagnostics to all students to help guide students' coursework.
50. Include a statement in the Committee's final report encouraging schools and school districts to allow for a more flexible approach in how professional development is used.

BULLETIN 25-5

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

Members

Assemblywoman Selena Torres, Chair
Senator Edgar Flores, Vice Chair
Senator Skip Daly
Senator Ira Hansen
Assemblyman Max Carter
Assemblyman Reuben D'Silva
Assemblyman Gregory Koenig
Assemblyman Richard McArthur

Alternate Members

Senator Pete Goicoechea
Senator James Ohrenschall
Assemblyman Bert Gurr
Assemblywoman Angie Taylor
Assemblywoman Clara (Claire) Thomas

Staff Contacts

Research Division:

Jered McDonald, Deputy Research Director
Jennifer Ruedy, Research Director
Maria Velazquez, Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:

Karen Hoppe, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:

Heidi Chlarson, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Government Affairs is a permanent committee of the Legislature whose duties and responsibilities are set forth in [NRS 218E.320](#). The Committee has jurisdiction over a wide range of issues affecting the structure and activities of State and local government. In addition to other issues, the Committee reviews topics related to housing authorities; planning, zoning, and redevelopment; public officers and employees; and public works. The Committee also reviews issues related to government transparency, including laws regulating public records and the Open Meeting Law. Finally, the Committee retains authority over military and veterans' issues; homeland security; and emergency management.

The Committee held five meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim. The meetings addressed a variety of issues and programs relating to artificial intelligence, cyber security, emergency management, law enforcement, local government issues, public employees' benefits, public records, public works, vector control, and workers' compensation. Specific summaries for each meeting can be found below:

1. [January 25, 2024](#)—The first meeting focused on the implementation of language access related legislation approved during the 2021 and 2023 Legislative Sessions. Topics discussed during the meeting included: (1) review of language access laws in Nevada and other states; and (2) update from the Governor's Office for New Americans with an emphasis on the implementation of specific language access legislation.
2. [February 22, 2024](#)—Presentations at the second meeting provided an overview of: (1) public records laws in Nevada and other states; and (2) the activities of various law enforcement agencies, including the Henderson Police Department, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, North Las Vegas Police Department, and Washoe County Sheriff's Office.
3. [April 16, 2024](#)—The third meeting focused on issues related to State and local government. Topics presented included an overview of: (1) the management and activities of vector control entities; (2) the recent activities of the Nevada National Guard; (3) emergency management in Nevada; and (4) recent activities of the Nevada Indian Commission.
4. [May 30, 2024](#)—During the fourth meeting of the interim, the Committee received presentations related to: (1) the use of artificial intelligence in government settings; (2) recent activities and issues affecting county and city governments; (3) the Virginia & Truckee Railroad Company; (4) cyber security coordination efforts in State and local government; (5) public works; (6) State and local business licensing; and (7) language access plans.

5. [August 23, 2024](#)—At its final meeting, the Committee received a presentation on the utilization of Internet-based food delivery applications by fictitious restaurants to sell food under the identity of legitimate restaurants. The Committee also conducted a work session and approved ten bill draft requests related to: (1) the use of artificial intelligence in emergency management; (2) copper wire thefts; (3) cyber security; (4) local government; (5) the Nevada National Guard; (6) peace officer wellness; (7) public records; (8) prevailing wage; and (9) the Public Employees’ Retirement System of Nevada.

More information about the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Government Affairs activities including minutes, recordings of meetings, and copies of presentations and other exhibits may be accessed on the Legislature’s website for the [2023–2024 Interim](#).

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Government Affairs at its meeting on August 23, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Use of Artificial Intelligence in Emergency Management

1. Request the drafting of a bill to require a natural person to make decisions during emergency management situations regarding the allocation of resources and response planning. **(BDR –393)**

Copper Wire Thefts

2. Request the drafting of a bill to make it illegal to possess certain types of copper wire. **(BDR –394)**

Cyber Security

3. Request the drafting of a bill to: (1) make the Nevada Office of Cyber Defense Coordination (OCDC), Department of Public Safety, an independent agency; (2) set the minimum qualifications for the Executive Director; and (3) require reports of data incidents or security breaches for public entities, public utilities, infrastructure entities, and certain private entities to be submitted to the OCDC. **(BDR –395)**

Local Government

4. Request the drafting of a bill to appropriate \$5 million to the Governor’s Office for New Americans (ONA) to provide grants to local governments to implement language access plans. Of the \$5 million appropriation, no more than \$200,000 may be used by ONA to administer the grant program. **(BDR –396)**
5. Request the drafting of a bill to include the provisions of [Senate Bill 169](#) (2023), as approved by the Legislature, which requires certain local governments to include a heat mitigation element in master plans, including a plan to develop heat mitigation strategies such as cooling spaces, public drinking water, shade over paved surfaces, and urban tree canopies. **(BDR –397)**

Nevada National Guard

6. Request the drafting of a bill to make workers' compensation for injuries or death benefits for National Guard members, serving under State authority, equivalent to benefits provided while serving under federal authority. **(BDR –398)**

Peace Officer Wellness

7. Request the drafting of a bill to create a Blue-Ribbon Panel/Task Force on Peace Officer Wellness. The panel, composed of various stakeholders throughout the State, will study state-level policies to support officers and other positions within law enforcement regarding their personal wellness by looking at best practices across the country. Additional topics to study include, but are not limited to, mandatory mental wellness checks for officers and staff, and the use of peer support officers. **(BDR –399)**

Public Records

8. Request the drafting of a bill to create the Office of the Public Records Ombudsman in the Executive Branch to help resolve disputes arising from records requests made under Nevada's public records law ([Chapter 239](#) of NRS). **(BDR –400)**

Prevailing Wage

9. Request the drafting of a bill to: (1) create additional positions in the Office of the Labor Commissioner, Department of Business and Industry, to enforce wage and hour provisions of [Chapter 338](#) of NRS; and (2) revise [NRS 338.070](#) to provide that a public body awarding a contract is not required to conduct an investigation and is only required to report possible violations committed in the course of the execution of a contract to the Labor Commissioner to investigate. **(BDR –401)**

Public Employees' Retirement System

10. Request the drafting of a bill to include the provisions of [Assembly Bill 222](#) (2023), which provides for an employee of a school district, who is a member of the Public Employees' Retirement System, to receive a full year of service credit if the employee works at least 900 hours in a school year. **(BDR 23–402)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

11. Send a letter to the Governor to encourage the State to expedite the migration of public websites from .com to .gov for the purposes of improving security.
12. Send a letter to local governments in Clark County requesting them to consider creating a mosquito abatement district to improve coordination, and ensure there is a comprehensive approach to controlling mosquitos and other vectors.

BULLETIN 25-6

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.320

Members

Senator Dallas Harris, Chair
Assemblyman Howard Watts, Vice Chair
Senator Carrie A. Buck
Senator Skip Daly
Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May
Assemblyman Max Carter
Assemblywoman Jill Dickman
Assemblywoman Danielle Gallant

Alternate Members

Senator Ira Hansen
Senator Lisa Krasner*
Senator Julie Pazina
Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow*
Assemblywoman Heidi Kasama
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller
Assemblywoman Shondra Summers-Armstrong

*Senator Titus, Senate Minority Leader, designated Senator Krasner to serve as an alternate member for the meeting held on March 13, 2024, and Assemblyman Yeager, Speaker of the Assembly, designated Assemblywoman Gorelow to serve as an alternate member for the meeting held on August 29, 2024.

Staff Contacts

Research Division:
Kristin Rossiter, Senior Policy Analyst
Jann Stinnesbeck, Principal Policy Analyst
Julianne King, Assistant Manager of Research Policy Assistants
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:
Julie Waller, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:
Cameron Newton, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel
Jessica Dummer, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure is a permanent committee of the Legislature. The Committee considers topics related to transportation and energy, including highways, roads, and bridges; mass transit projects; motor carriers; motor vehicles, including motorcycles and off-highway vehicles; traffic safety and laws, including bicycles and pedestrian issues; energy policy; public utilities; and renewable energy policy and programs. The jurisdiction and members of the standing Senate and Assembly Committees on Growth and Infrastructure are reflected in the Committee.

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure held six meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim. Members attended meetings at the Legislative Building in Carson City, Nevada; the Grant Sawyer State Office Building in Las Vegas, Nevada; and virtually. The meetings were videoconferenced between the Carson City and Las Vegas locations. The final meeting of the interim was held at the new Nevada Legislature Office Building in Las Vegas with videoconferencing to Carson City, and some members attended virtually. The meetings addressed a variety of issues and programs relating to transportation, infrastructure, and energy, as follows:

1. [January 24, 2024](#)—Overview of the Committee and presentations related to utility regulation and energy concepts for urban and rural locations and clean energy initiatives, including the Solar for All program.
2. [March 13, 2024](#)—Presentations related to the Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV's) ongoing transformation efforts and issues, trends in traffic safety and automated traffic enforcement, and an overview of Nevada's Department of Transportation.
3. [April 17, 2024](#)—Overview of broadband infrastructure and electric vehicle infrastructure programs and presentations related to regional transportation commissions, agrivoltaics, clean energy supply chains, model benchmarking and performance standards in building, and the recycling of lithium batteries.
4. [May 29, 2024](#)—As required by [Senate Bill 451](#) (2023), a study of hydrogen was held at this meeting which included presentations on the hydrogen landscape in Nevada, considerations for policymaking related to hydrogen, research and initiatives undertaken by members of the Nevada System of Higher Education, opportunities related to hydrogen fuels and public transportation, as well as the potential impacts that hydrogen usage may have on the environment and climate.
5. [July 17, 2024](#)—A joint meeting was held with the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. Presentations were made relating to the intersection between infrastructure and human and community health, and the Committees were provided with overviews of the Complete Streets program, Healthy Homes Program, traffic and pedestrian safety, as well as extreme heat impacts and urban heat mitigation efforts.

6. [August 29, 2024](#)—Overview of sustainable highway funding, alternative transportation user fees, and DMV and third-party registration services partnership opportunities. The Committee also held its work session.

On March 13, 2024, the Chair requested that written recommendations be submitted to the Committee by July 31, 2024, in advance of the final Committee meeting. Recommendations were received and are available on the Committee webpage as a [Compilation of Recommendations](#). Recommendations considered by the Committee are included in the [Work Session Document](#) from the August 29, 2024, meeting.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Nevada Revised Statutes NRS 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure at its meeting on August 29, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Traffic Safety and Infrastructure

1. Request the drafting of a bill authorizing the usage of cameras to enforce school bus stop-arm traffic violations. **(BDR –421)**
2. Request the drafting of a bill on traffic safety infrastructure that creates safer streets for all users and focuses on high-impact areas as well as authorizes the installation and use of road safety camera systems. **(BDR –422)**
3. Request the drafting of a bill to improve traffic safety by revising provisions related to driving under the influence. **(BDR –423)**

Energy

4. Request the drafting of a bill establishing provisions related to recycling clean energy products, specifically lithium batteries and photovoltaic solar panels. **(BDR –424)**
5. Request the drafting of a bill revising provisions related to Nevada’s Green Building Tax Abatement Program to promote climate-resilient building construction and renovation, decrease energy demand, and establish a voluntary benchmarking program for buildings. **(BDR –425)**
6. Request the drafting of a bill to establish a definition of an “agrivoltaics” project and promote and support the development of agrivoltaics demonstration projects within the State, as well as to identify funding related to agrivoltaics projects. **(BDR –426)**
7. Request the drafting of a bill requiring large-scale solar generation facilities to purchase electric loads from local utilities in whose service territory the generator resides. **(BDR –427)**

Fuels and Utilities

8. Request the drafting of a bill to revise provisions concerning motor vehicle fuels. **(BDR –428)**

9. Request the drafting of a bill to direct the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) to require Nevada energy providers to report power disconnections, household demographics, and location to the PUCN. **(BDR –429)**

BULLETIN 25-7

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.320

Members

Senator Fabian Doñate, Chair
Assemblyman David Orentlicher, M.D., Vice Chair
Senator Rochelle T. Nguyen
Senator Robin L. Titus, M.D.
Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May
Assemblyman Ken Gray
Assemblyman Brian Hibbetts
Assemblyman Duy Nguyen

Alternate Members

Senator Pat Spearman
Senator Jeff Stone
Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow
Assemblywoman Gregory T. Hafen, II
Assemblywoman Sarah Peters

Staff Contacts

Research Division:
Patrick B. Ashton, Principal Policy Analyst
Davis Florence, Senior Policy Analyst
Sarah Baker, Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:
Kimbra Ellsworth, Senior Program Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:
Eric Robbins, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
Aaron McDonald, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
Jeff Koelemay, Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services (JISC HHS) is a permanent interim committee of the Nevada Legislature whose authority and responsibilities are set forth in [NRS 218E.330](#) and [NRS 439B.220](#) through [439B.227](#). The responsibilities include reviewing and evaluating the quality and effectiveness of programs for the prevention of illness and analyzing the overall system of medical care in Nevada. Additionally, the Committee may: (1) review health insurance issues and certain health care regulations; (2) examine hospital-related matters, medical malpractice issues, and the health education system; and (3) evaluate and review issues relating to child welfare. Finally, its jurisdiction includes issues that fall under the purview of the Senate and Assembly Standing Committees on Health and Human Services from the 2023 Legislative Session.

The JISC HHS held seven meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim, including a work session during its last meeting on [August 12, 2024](#). Throughout the interim, the JISC HHS considered topics relating to access to health care, behavioral and mental health, child welfare, health care workforce, and public health. Pursuant to [NRS 218D.160](#), the Committee may request the drafting of no more than 15 legislative measures on or before September 1, 2024, which relate to matters within the scope of the Committee. Five of the fifteen bill draft requests (BDRs) allocated to the Committee are limited to issues that address child welfare matters.

At the work session on [August 12, 2024](#), the JISC HHS approved recommendations for 14 BDRs to be considered by the 2025 Session of the Nevada Legislature. The BDRs concern:

1. Emergency medical services;
2. Silver State Health Insurance Exchange;
3. Tribal health care;
4. Health services provided to Medicaid-enrolled pupils;
5. Account for Public Health and public health data interoperability;
6. Medicaid reimbursement for community-based living arrangement services provided to adults with serious mental illness;
7. Health insurance coverage for the screening and assessment of certain disorders and disabilities;
8. Social work apprentices;
9. Health care workforce;
10. Priority review of health care license or certificate applications;

11. Categorical grants for adoption assistance programs;
12. Immunity for reporting child abuse or neglect;
13. Adoption of children and adults; and
14. Office of Children's Mental and Behavioral Health.

In addition, the JISC HHS approved a recommendation to include a statement in the Committee's final report that supports an updated Complete Streets Policy to promote cardiovascular health.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services (JISC HHS) at its meetings on August 12, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

1. Propose legislation to:

- a. Revise [Chapters 439](#) and [450B](#) of NRS to authorize the district board of health in a county whose population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000 to administer emergency medical services in the same manner as a county whose population is 700,000 or more;
- b. Remove the need to be licensed as an Ambulance Attendant for an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) trainee in order to participate in a “ride along” with ambulance services during his or her training if the trainee participating in the ride along is not caring for a patient being transported in the ambulance; and
- c. Authorize an individual between 16 and 18 years of age to become licensed as an Ambulance Attendant or as an EMT in Nevada. **(BDR 40–345)**

Silver State Health Insurance Exchange

2. Propose legislation to:

- a. Require the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange—in consultation with the Commissioner of Insurance, Division of Insurance, Department of Business and Industry, and the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)—to apply for a State Innovation Waiver under Section 1332 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) ([H.R.3590](#), 111th Congress) through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Specifically, the Exchange shall seek a waiver to Section 1312(f)(3) of the ACA to the extent it would otherwise require excluding certain Nevada residents from enrolling in qualified dental and health plans of the State’s Exchange Section;
- b. Require the Exchange to conduct an actuarial analysis for the waiver application to determine without limitation that the waiver meets the requirements of Section 1332(b)(1) of the ACA, which requires a waiver to:

- i. Provide coverage that is at least as comprehensive as the coverage provided without the waiver;
 - ii. Provide coverage and cost-sharing protections against excessive out-of-pocket spending that are at least as affordable as without the waiver;
 - iii. Provide coverage to at least a comparable number of residents as without the waiver; and
 - iv. Not increase the federal deficit;
- c. Make an appropriation totaling \$1,000,000 from the State General Fund to the Exchange over the 2025–2027 Biennium to conduct the actuarial analysis and any other administrative activities related to the waiver application and implementation;
- d. Require the Exchange to complete the analysis and apply for the waiver in such a manner that it can offer health insurance under the waiver starting on January 1, 2028; and
- e. Amend subsection 2 of [NRS 695I.300](#) by requiring the Senate Majority Leader and the Speaker of the Assembly to each appoint one additional voting member to the Board of Directors of the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange. **(BDR 57–346)**

Tribal Health Care

3. Propose legislation to:

- a. Create the Tribal Health Authority Council to:
 - i. Serve as the principal tribal health authority body to the Governor and DHHS on issues related to health and health care for American Indians and Alaska Natives;
 - ii. Adopt a tribal health advisory plan to increase access to care and address and eliminate any barriers. The plan may include, without limitation: (1) an assessment of Indian health and Indian health care in the State; and (2) development of specific recommendations for programs, projects, or activities to support advancement of health initiatives for American Indians and Alaska Natives in the State; and
 - iii. Address issues with tribal health implications that cannot be resolved at the State agency level;
- b. Establish the membership and terms of the Council as follows:
 - i. Voting members: one tribal health representative or designee of each Nevada tribe as defined in [NRS 233A.220](#), the director or designee of each urban tribal health organization, and the directors or designees of tribal health

programs, one person who is a member of a Native Hawaiian community in Nevada, one representative of the Office of the Governor, and one member each from the majority and minority caucuses of the Senate and the Assembly;

- ii. Nonvoting members: one representative or designee of the Indian Health Service Phoenix Area Office and Service Units and any tribal liaisons of State agencies involved in health care;
 - iii. Each member appointed to the Council serves for a term of four years. A vacancy on the Council must be filled consistent with voting and nonvoting membership criteria;
 - iv. A member may be reappointed to the Council without limitation of terms served;
 - v. The members of the Council shall elect—from tribal health representatives—a Chair and Vice Chair by majority vote. After the initial election, the Chair and Vice Chair shall hold office for a term of one year beginning on July 1 of each year. If the position of Chair or Vice Chair becomes vacant, the members of the Council shall elect a Chair or Vice Chair, as appropriate, from among its members for the remainder of the unexpired term; and
 - vi. The members of the Council serve without compensation;
- c. Require the Council to meet at least once every quarter and at the times and places specified by a call of the Chair or a majority of the members of the Council. A Council member who is a tribal health representative may designate in writing a person to represent him or her at a meeting of the Council if it is impractical for the Council member to attend the meeting. The designated representative shall be deemed to be a member of the Council for the purpose of tribal participation during the meeting and may vote on any matter that is voted on by the regular Council members at the meeting;
 - d. Require the Director of DHHS to request federal approval from CMS authorizing tribal health benefit coordinators to determine eligibility for the Medicaid program of any American Indian and Alaska Native in the State. Upon approval, DHHS shall collaborate with the Council and any tribal health clinic in the State for activities that will enable such coordinators to make Medicaid determinations, including without limitation: (1) providing necessary training; (2) coordinating information technology upgrades; (3) establishing interfaces to any Medicaid or welfare management software; and (4) any other necessary activities;
 - e. Create the Account for Tribal Health in the State General Fund. The Council may seek opportunities to apply for matching federal funds and may accept any gift, donation, bequest, grant, or other source of money to fulfill the purposes of the Council. Any money remaining in the Account at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the State General Fund, and the balance in the Account must be carried forward to the next fiscal year;

- f. Make an appropriation totaling \$224,000 from the State General Fund to Nevada's Department of Native American Affairs over the 2025–2027 Biennium for the personnel and operating costs of the Coordinator for the Council; and
- g. Direct the Director of DHHS to collaborate with the Council during the 2025–2026 Legislative Interim to:
 - i. Develop a proposal to seek the establishment of a tribal reinvestment program of savings that may be achieved from the enhanced Medicaid federal medical assistance percentage of 100 percent provided for certain health care services rendered to American Indians and Alaska Natives who are enrolled in Medicaid, which is similar to [Oregon House Bill 2286](#) (2023) or any pertinent legislation from other states; and
 - ii. Submit a report to and present the report at a meeting of the JISC HHS no later than June 30, 2026, that includes, without limitation, the developed proposals and any recommendations for legislation. **(BDR 40–347)**

Health Services Provided to Medicaid-Enrolled Pupils

4. Propose legislation to:

- a. Require the Director of DHHS to:
 - i. Take any action necessary to ensure that local and State educational agencies are able to receive reimbursement for health services covered by Medicaid when provided on the premises of a school and establish incentives for certain providers to enter into an agreement with a school district or charter school or Nevada's Department of Education (NDE) to provide school health services (SHS);
 - ii. Apply for any necessary federal authority to increase by at least 5 percent the rates of reimbursement for any SHS covered by Medicaid when provided on the premises of a school by an employee or independent contractor of: a school district or charter school; or NDE; and
 - iii. Apply for any necessary federal authority to simplify and streamline reimbursement methodology and increase by 10 percent any service provided by a school-based health center (SBHC) located on or near a school facility of a school district which provides primary and preventative medical services to Medicaid-eligible students;
- b. Establish the School Health Access Resource Center in the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP), DHHS, for the purpose of assisting persons and entities who wish to provide health services in schools to evaluate and utilize different methods of participating in and billing Medicaid;

- c. Make an appropriation totaling \$600,000 from the State General Fund to DHCFP over the 2025–2027 Biennium for vendor support to conceptualize and establish the Resource Center and all other related activities; and
- d. Make an appropriation totaling \$224,000 from the State General Fund to DHCFP over the 2025–2027 Biennium for the personnel and operating costs of the Resource Center created in the Division and make an additional appropriation of \$5,000 for equipment and office supplies for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025–2026. **(BDR 38–348)**

Account for Public Health and Public Health Data Interoperability

5. Propose legislation to:

- a. Create the Account for Public Health in the State General Fund. The Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), DHHS, shall administer the Account. The Account shall be funded with the first \$30 million per biennium of the Insurance Premium Tax collected by the Department of Taxation. The money in the Account must be expended to address the tribal, county, district, and State public health needs in Nevada;
- b. Define “health authority” as a county or district board of health pursuant to [Chapter 439](#) of NRS or each Nevada tribe as defined in [NRS 233A.220](#);
- c. Require DPBH on or before April 1 of an even-numbered year and upon approving proposals from each health authority to allocate the money in the Account to the following health authorities based on the following prescribed percentages of the total appropriated money:
 - i. To DPBH for distribution to each Nevada tribe as defined in [NRS 233A.220](#), 10 percent;
 - ii. To DPBH, 5 percent;
 - iii. To each county or district board of health in Nevada, 1 percent. A district board of health formed by more than one county shall receive 1 percent for each county within its jurisdiction;
 - iv. After this allocation, the remaining money in the Account shall be allocated to the county or district boards of health in proportion to their respective population. The population shall be based on the demographic projection of the current calendar year from the State Demographer;
 - v. Any balance of the sums allocated to a health authority remaining at the end of the following fiscal year must not be committed for expenditure and must be reverted to the Account. The Division of Public and Behavioral Health must use reverted sums for public health improvement efforts within the

health authority's jurisdiction that reverted these sums or to support any other statewide public health efforts; and

- vi. The Account may retain no more than 4 percent of the total appropriations received in the biennium as a reserve. The reserve can be used in a future biennium based on public health needs. Any reserve in excess of the 4 percent is considered excess reserve and must be reverted to the State General Fund by the end of the fiscal year. The portion of any money remaining in the Account at the end of a fiscal year from the sums allocated to a health authority that is reverted to the Account pursuant to item (v) is excluded for the purpose of calculating the reserve, does not revert to the State General Fund, and may be carried forward to the next fiscal year to be used for public health efforts. Any such money remaining by the end of the fiscal year to which the money was carried forward is included for the purpose of calculating the reserve and reverts to the State General Fund accordingly;

d. Require DPBH to:

- i. Provide each health authority with an estimate of allocations in the Account at the beginning of a fiscal year in an odd-numbered year;
- ii. Request from each health authority who may receive allocations from the Account a proposal that includes, without limitation, a list of public health priorities and associated spending plans; and
- iii. Review the priorities and process for alignment with requirements pursuant to section (e), approve or deny the proposals, and make biennial progress reports to the State Board of Health;

e. Require a health authority to include in its proposal to DPBH: (1) an evaluation of the public health needs of residents of the area under the jurisdiction of the authority; (2) a determination of the level of priority of the public health needs identified; and (3) a spending plan of the allocated money in accordance with the levels of priority. Areas of public health improvement that can be part of a proposal include:

- i. Control of communicable diseases and other notifiable conditions;
- ii. Chronic disease and injury prevention;
- iii. Environmental public health;
- iv. Maternal, child, and family health;
- v. Access to and linkage with medical, oral, and behavioral health services;
- vi. Vital records;
- vii. Assessing the health of populations;

- viii. Public health emergency planning;
 - ix. Communications;
 - x. Policy development and support;
 - xi. Community partnership development;
 - xii. Business competencies; and
 - xiii. Any other area as defined by DPBH;
- f. Require a health authority that received allocations from the Account to submit a report to DPBH in the format and on the timeline recommended by the Division no later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year. The report must include, without limitation:
- i. A description of the process used by the health authority pursuant to paragraph (e) to evaluate the public health needs of residents of the area under the jurisdiction of the health authority and the public health needs identified through that process;
 - ii. A description of each expenditure of the allocated money made by the health authority;
 - iii. The unexpended balance of the allocated money at the end of the fiscal year; and
 - iv. Reporting and metrics requested by the Division in the format and on the timeline prescribed by the Division;
- g. Revise [NRS 439.362](#) to add two additional members—one appointed by the Senate Majority Leader and one appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly—to any district board of health created in counties whose population is 700,000 or more;
- h. Revise [NRS 439.390](#) to add two additional members—one appointed by the Senate Majority Leader and one appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly—to any district board of health created in counties whose population is less than 700,000; and
- i. Require health authorities to establish a framework that includes standards on public health data interoperability and data exchange by 2030. The framework should use any public health reporting standards established on a federal level by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, or any other federal agency that establishes nationwide frameworks and standards, including, without limitation, the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement. For this purpose, all health authorities must use funding allocated from the Account for Public Health to establish the framework for their respective jurisdiction. **(BDR 40–349)**

Medicaid Reimbursement for Community-Based Living Arrangement Services Provided to Adults With Serious Mental Illness

6. Propose legislation to require DHCFP to coordinate with DPBH to establish a method of reimbursement for a therapeutic group home model of care for adults with serious mental illness who are recipients of Medicaid. “Therapeutic group home” means a provider certified by DPBH to provide community-based living arrangement services as defined in [NRS 449.0026](#) that supports independent, community-based living for individuals with serious mental illness. Additionally, the Director of DHHS shall seek all necessary federal authority under [Title XIX of the United States Social Security Act](#) (H.R.4366, 118th Congress) to provide Medicaid reimbursement for services provided in such group home settings by qualified providers. **(BDR 38–350)**

Health Insurance Coverage for the Screening and Assessment of Certain Disorders and Disabilities

7. Propose legislation to require private and public health insurers to provide coverage for individuals under 18 years of age or, if enrolled in high school, until the person reaches 22 years of age, for the screening and assessment of attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, intellectual disabilities, and specific learning disorders. **(BDR 57–351)**

Social Work Apprentices

8. Propose legislation to:
 - a. Require the Board of Examiners for Social Workers to promulgate regulations authorizing a social work student to perform social work functions as a social work apprentice. The regulations shall include, without limitation, the following conditions:
 - i. The social work student must be enrolled as a student in a social work program to pursue a baccalaureate degree or master’s degree in social work from a college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, or its successor organization, or which is a candidate for such accreditation;
 - ii. The social work student is employed at an apprenticeship site or facility as approved by the Board. An apprenticeship site or facility may include, without limitation, medical facilities, State or local agencies, public schools, or any other site as defined by the Board;
 - iii. The social work student is supervised by a licensed social worker, licensed master social worker, licensed independent social worker, or licensed clinical social worker or any other licensed behavioral health or health care professional as determined by the Board and depending on the social work program in which the social work student is enrolled;

- iv. The social work student presents to his or her employer satisfactory evidence from his or her school of social work the successful demonstration of his or her skills;
 - v. The Board must approve a list of tasks a social work student may perform at an approved apprenticeship site. The tasks' difficulties and complexities may increase on a social work student's progress in a social work program for a baccalaureate or master's degree;
 - vi. The apprenticeship site must: (1) evaluate a social work student as safe to perform those tasks; (2) identify the roles and responsibilities of the apprentice position of a social work student; (3) identify the tasks delegated to the social work student acting as a social work apprentice; (4) establish a formal procedure for the social work student to refuse to perform any task until he or she is comfortable with his or her ability to do so safely; and (5) require the social work student, acting as a social work apprentice, to identify himself or herself as such with clients of the apprenticeship site; and
 - vii. The social work student must demonstrate acquired skills to his or her employer and only perform tasks approved by the Board. Social work apprentices must adhere to the laws and regulations set forth for social workers in [Chapter 641B](#) of NRS and [Chapter 641B](#) *Nevada Administrative Code* (NAC);
- b. Establish the Social Work Apprentice program in DHHS. The Department shall oversee the program and may:
- i. Contract with any third party to administer the program and reimburse the third party for its services;
 - ii. Set up a process for facilities and sites approved by the Board to enroll in the program;
 - iii. Determine the amount of reimbursement of each social work apprentice's salary at an hourly rate that the facility may receive. The hourly rate shall progressively increase for social work apprentices enrolled as students in a baccalaureate degree or master's degree in social work;
 - iv. Determine the amount of reimbursement of a health care professional approved by the Board to supervise the social work apprentice;
 - v. Determine the amount of a retention or sign-on bonus—to the extent of available funding—for a facility or site who employs a social work apprentice upon successful graduation and licensure of the social work apprentice; and
 - vi. Determine the parameters to reimburse a social work apprentice for travel, per diem meals, and lodging to work at a remote-employing facility or site; and

- c. Make an appropriation totaling \$2,000,000 from the State General Fund to DHHS over the 2025–2027 Biennium to establish the Social Work Apprentice program and any other administrative activities related to the program. **(BDR –352)**

Health Care Occupational Licensing

9. Propose legislation to:

- a. Establish the State Office of Health Care Workforce and Licensing within DPBH;
- b. Move to the State Office of Health Care Workforce and Licensing from the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology, Office of the Governor, all funding, power, and responsibilities pertaining to the Graduate Medical Education Grant Program and the Advisory Council on Graduate Medical Education established in [Chapter 223](#) of NRS;
- c. Create under the State Office of Health Care Workforce and Licensing a Behavioral Health Board and advisory committees modeled after *Utah Code Section 58-60-102.5* and consolidate under the Behavioral Health Board the following boards established in NRS:
 - i. Board of Psychological Examiners ([NRS 641.030](#));
 - ii. Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors ([NRS 641A.090](#));
 - iii. Board of Examiners for Social Workers ([NRS 641B.100](#));
 - iv. Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors ([NRS 641C.150](#)); and
 - v. Board of Applied Behavior Analysis ([NRS 641D.200](#));
- d. Require the Behavioral Health Board to assume responsibility for administration of licensure, investigations, and complaint resolution for all behavioral health professionals currently licensed in Chapters [641](#), [641A](#), [641B](#), [641C](#), and [641D](#) of NRS;
- e. Redirect board fees and funds generated through licensure and other funding streams from boards established pursuant to Chapters [641](#), [641A](#), [641B](#), [641C](#) and [641D](#) of NRS to the Behavioral Health Board to support the activities of licensure administration, investigation, and regulatory oversight for behavioral health professionals;
- f. Require the Behavioral Health Board to make necessary regulatory changes to existing regulations in Chapters [641](#), [641A](#), [641B](#), [641C](#), and [641D](#) of NAC, and develop new regulations to comply with these legislative changes;

- g. Establish that any laws and regulations pertaining to disciplinary processes adopted by boards established pursuant to Chapters [641](#), [641A](#), [641B](#), [641C](#), and [641D](#) of NRS remain in effect and may be enforced by the Behavioral Health Board until the Behavioral Health Board adopts regulations to repeal or replace those regulations;
- h. Provide that contracts and agreements, disciplinary and administrative actions, and licenses issued by such boards remain in effect as if taken by the officer or entity to which the responsibility for the enforcement of such action has been transferred;
- i. Require DPBH to:
 - i. Develop a plan for transitioning from the existing licensing structure of the professions in Chapters [641](#), [641A](#), [641B](#), [641C](#), and [641D](#) of NRS to the Behavioral Health Board, so licensees and the public can follow and participate in the transition process. The plan must be presented at a meeting in compliance with the Open Meeting Law and adopted at a second meeting in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Provisions of [Chapter 233B](#) of NRS do not apply to this transition plan. The transitioning must be completed in such a manner that the Behavioral Health Board starts to conduct its business no later than January 1, 2027; and
 - ii. Develop and provide recommendations to the JISC HHS during the 2025–2026 Interim that outline the consolidation of all other health care licensing boards and other health care professions under the State Office of Health Care Workforce and Licensing. “Health care licensing board or profession” means a licensing authority as established in the following Chapters of NRS:
 - (1) Chapters [641](#), [641A](#), [641B](#), [641C](#), and [641D](#);
 - (2) [Chapter 630](#) (“Physicians, Physician Assistants, Medical Assistants, Perfusionists, Anesthesiologist Assistants and Practitioners of Respiratory Care”);
 - (3) [Chapter 630A](#) (“Homeopathic Physicians, Advanced Practitioners of Homeopathy and Homeopathic Assistants”);
 - (4) [Chapter 631](#) (“Dentistry, Dental Hygiene, Dental Therapy and Expanded Function Dental Assistance”);
 - (5) [Chapter 632](#) (“Nursing”);
 - (6) [Chapter 633](#) (“Osteopathic Medicine”);
 - (7) [Chapter 634](#) (“Chiropractic Physicians and Chiropractic Assistants”);
 - (8) [Chapter 634A](#) (“Doctors of Oriental Medicine”);

- (9) [Chapter 634B](#) (“Naprpaths”);
- (10) [Chapter 635](#) (“Podiatric Physicians and Podiatry Hygienists”);
- (11) [Chapter 636](#) (“Optometry”);
- (12) [Chapter 637](#) (“Dispensing Opticians”);
- (13) [Chapter 637B](#) (“Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologists and Hearing Aid Specialists”);
- (14) [Chapter 639](#) (“Pharmacists and Pharmacy”);
- (15) [Chapter 640](#) (“Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants and Physical Therapist Technicians”);
- (16) [Chapter 640A](#) (“Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants”);
- (17) [Chapter 640B](#) (“Athletic Trainers”);
- (18) [Chapter 640C](#) (“Massage Therapy”);
- (19) [Chapter 640D](#) (“Music Therapists”);
- (20) [Chapter 640E](#) (“Dietitians”);
- (21) [Chapter 652](#) (“Medical Laboratories”);
- (22) [Chapter 653](#) (“Radiation Therapy and Radiologic Imaging”); and
- (23) [Chapter 654](#) (“Administrators of Facilities for Long-Term Care”).
(BDR 40–353)

Priority Review of Health Care License or Certificate Applications

10. Propose legislation to require all entities that license or certify health care professions to develop a process to expedite the licensure or certification process by giving priority review status to the application of an applicant for a license or certificate who demonstrates that he or she intends to practice in an historically underserved community as defined in [NRS 704.78343](#). An applicant shall provide proper documentation, including, without limitation, a letter from an employer located in a historically underserved community indicating that the applicant has accepted employment and stating the start date. **(BDR –354)**

Categorical Grants for Adoption Assistance Programs

11. Propose legislation to:

- a. Revise subsection 1 of [NRS 432B.219](#) to stipulate that the amount allocated to a child welfare agency's adoption assistance program through a categorical grant shall also be determined based on the calculations prescribed under [42 U.S.C § 673\(a\)\(8\)\(A\)](#). This *U.S. Code* requires the State to calculate certain savings—if any—to all applicable children for a fiscal year using a methodology specified by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services or an alternate methodology proposed by the State and approved by the Secretary; and
- b. Revise subsection 4 of [NRS 432B.219](#) to allow any savings from categorical grants that have been awarded to a child welfare agency's adoption assistance program to be carried forward with that agency for two fiscal years instead of only one fiscal year. **(BDR 38–355)**

Adoption of Children and Adults

12. Propose legislation to:

- a. Codify [NAC 127.140](#) in [Chapter 127](#) of NRS to authorize the fingerprinting of an applicant for an initial license as a director of a private child-placing agency;
- b. Revise subsection 3 of [NRS 127.007](#) by authorizing the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), DHHS, to release information to relatives under extenuating circumstances as determined by the Division. The intent is to allow, for example, two siblings trying to locate each other who were adopted by different adoptive parents. Currently, this may only occur if the natural parent provided consent to the Division or if the siblings have a death certificate of the natural parent; and
- c. Revise [NRS 127.145](#) by authorizing prospective adoptive parents to attend a court hearing by videoconference or any other technological means available to the court in addition to attending a hearing by telephone. **(BDR 11–356)**

Immunity for Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect

13. Propose legislation to:

- a. Amend [NRS 432B.160](#) to clarify the provisions regarding the protection from criminal and civil liability for individuals who make a good faith report of suspected or known child abuse or neglect or who provide assistance, such as medical evaluations or consultations, in connection with such reports or investigations. Specifically, extend immunity from civil or criminal liability as set forth in Section 3 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018 ([S.2961](#), 115th Congress); and
- b. Provide that a mandatory reporter who prevailed as a defendant in a civil action may be awarded by the court costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the defendant. **(BDR –357)**

Office of Children's Mental and Behavioral Health

14. Propose legislation to:

- a. Create the Office of Children's Mental and Behavioral Health in the Director's Office of DHHS;
- b. Require the Director of DHHS to appoint a Director of the Office. The Director of the Office shall connect all State children's mental and behavioral health efforts in Nevada;
- c. Require the Director of the Office to ensure that the Office:
 - i. Develops a statewide child behavioral health plan;
 - ii. Disseminates statewide information, resources, and opportunities that will improve child behavioral health care;
 - iii. Provides expertise in and acts as a resource for certain matters related to children's mental and behavioral health solutions;
 - iv. Tracks, reviews, and analyzes the policies and programs of State agencies relating to child behavioral and mental health outcomes;
 - v. Engages in State and federal policy affecting children and adolescents with mental and behavioral health needs to improve access and delivery of services and resources; and
 - vi. Develops sustainable partnerships with community foundations and other nonprofit or private sector entities that serve children and adolescents with mental and behavioral health needs in this State;
- d. Require each agency, board, commission, department, officer, employee, or agent of a local government in Nevada to assist the Office; and
- e. Make an appropriation totaling \$1,113,364 from the State General Fund to DHHS over the 2025–2027 Biennium for the personnel and operating costs of the Office created in the Department and make an additional appropriation of \$15,000 for equipment and office supplies in FY 2025–2026. **(BDR –358)**

RECOMMENDATION FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

Cardiovascular Health

15. Include a statement of support in the Committee's final report that supports an updated Complete Streets Policy to promote cardiovascular health as developed through the Context Sensitive Design approach of Nevada's Department of Transportation.

BULLETIN 25-8

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.320

Members

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Chair
Senator Melanie Scheible, Vice Chair
Senator Dallas Harris
Senator Lisa Krasner
Assemblywoman Danielle Gallant
Assemblywoman Cecelia González
Assemblyman Ken Gray
Assemblywoman Elaine Marzola

Alternate Members

Senator Ira Hansen
Senator Rochelle T. Nguyen
Assemblywoman Lesley E. Cohen
Assemblywoman Selena La Rue Hatch
Assemblyman Toby Yurek

Staff Contacts

Research Division:

Diane Thornton, Deputy Research Director
Patrick Guinan, Chief Principal Policy Analyst
Jen Jacobsen, Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:

Nancy Morris, Program Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:

Karly O’Krent, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
Michael Viets, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Judiciary is a permanent committee of the Nevada Legislature whose authority and duties are set forth in [NRS 218E.320](#) through [218E.330](#). The wide-ranging jurisdiction of the Committee includes, but is not limited to, civil procedure, corrections, crimes and punishments, domestic relations, gaming, guardianships, human trafficking, juvenile justice, property rights, and wills and estates. This jurisdiction generally comprises of Titles 1 through 7, 9, 11 through 16, and 41 of NRS and Chapters 1, 2 through 7, 101 through 104A, 111 through 117, 119A, 120, 120A, 453A, 453D, 475, 719, and 721 of NRS, except measures affecting primarily State and local revenue.

During the 2023–2024 Interim, the Committee held six meetings, including a work session at its final meeting on [August 30, 2024](#). At each meeting, the Committee received formal presentations and expert testimony on a broad range of topics within the Committee’s jurisdiction. Issues considered include corrections, domestic violence, fines and fees, forensic laboratories, gaming, industrial programs, adult and minor guardianships, human trafficking, indigent defense services, juvenile justice, record sealing, and updates on the implementation of legislation passed during previous legislative sessions.

As required by statute, the Committee may request up to 15 bill drafts requests (BDRs), 5 of which must relate to matters relating to juvenile justice. At its final meeting and work session, the Committee adopted 14 recommendations for BDRs to be considered by the 2025 Nevada Legislature. The recommendations address the following topics:

- Criminal Justice;
- Corrections;
- Domestic violence;
- Juvenile justice;
- Human trafficking;
- Sentencing;
- State Public Defenders;
- Indigent defense; and
- Traffic citations.

More information about the Committee’s activities—including minutes, recordings of meetings, and copies of presentations and other exhibits—may be accessed on the Legislature’s website for the [2023–2024 Interim](#).

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary (JISC Judiciary) at its meeting on August 30, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Criminal Justice System

1. Authorize the use of certified facility dogs in certain proceedings and prescribe requirements relating to the use of such dogs. **(BDR –489)**

Corrections

2. Require the Director of Nevada’s Department of Corrections to discharge certain medical debt owed by an offender to the Department when an offender is released from prison ([NRS 209.511](#)). **(BDR –491)**

Domestic Violence

3. Amend the law to allow direct billing to the State, instead of the county, for forensic medical exams (strangulation) ([NRS 217.300](#) and [217.405](#)). **(BDR –498)**
4. Amend existing provisions to require the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 2 of [NRS 439.258](#) to include provisions requiring an organization that operates a batterer’s treatment program to ensure that the curriculum used in the program is evidence-based. **(BDR –488)**
5. Revise [NRS 179A.075](#) to require each agency of criminal justice and any other agency dealing with crime to submit the information required by the Department of Public Safety (DPS) in accordance with the policies, procedures, and definitions of the National Incident-Based Reporting System, rather than the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. **(BDR –499)**
6. Provide that a nurse who performs a strangulation exam or Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner exam in good faith and without malicious intent or gross negligence is immune from civil liability for any act or omission related to the examination. **(BDR –501)**

Juvenile Justice

7. Revise provisions in Title 5 (“Juvenile Justice”) of NRS to ensure consistent treatment of a delinquent child who is committed to a regional facility for the treatment and rehabilitation of children and a delinquent child who is committed to the custody of a State or local facility for the detention of children by: (1) providing that, before the juvenile court commits a delinquent child to a regional facility for the treatment and rehabilitation of children, the juvenile court must make the same findings as are required for committing a delinquent child to a State facility for the detention of children (see [NRS 62E.505](#)); and (2) revising the Juvenile Justice Bill of Rights ([NRS 62B.500](#) through [62B.530](#)) to provide a child who is committed to a regional facility for the treatment and rehabilitation of children with the same rights as a child who is detained in a detention facility. **(BDR –497)**
8. Prescribe the procedure for revoking the probation of a child. To the extent practicable, base this procedure on existing provisions relating to the suspension, modification, or revocation of the parole of a child. (See [NRS 63.770](#) [parole revocation].) **(BDR –493)**
9. Improve consistency throughout the [Chapter 62A](#) of NRS to provide that youth who are on either probation or parole are afforded the same due process. Amend [NRS 62E.710](#) to adopt the same procedures outlined in [NRS 63.770](#), thereby providing consistent application of the law. **(BDR –493)**
10. Amend [Chapter 62E](#) of NRS regarding setting probation term lengths for most delinquency cases. Remove the following language from subsection 3(a) of [NRS 62E.708](#), “for each unlawful act.” Revise NRS 62E.708 to add specific language clarifying that a term of probation can be terminated if a child owes restitution (the restitution order is not vacated). **(BDR –493)**
11. Require the superintendent or director of each institution of each facility to adopt a policy setting forth standards of conduct for unclothed searches of youth at local detention facilities, regional facilities for the treatment and rehabilitation of children, and State facilities for the detention of children. The policy adopted must be consistent with any other applicable laws or regulations and prohibit a youth program officer or member from conducting an inspection or search of a youth who is detained in the institution or facility and is in a state of undress in a private location, unless there are extraordinary circumstances; and an additional officer or member is present at the time of the inspection or search. The policy must require that the officer or member who inspects or searches the youth submit to the director of the institution or manager of the facility a written report within 72 hours after the inspection or search occurs concerning the inspection or search. **(BDR –496)**
12. Eliminate the requirement that the district attorney must give written approval for the placement of a child under informal supervision ([NRS 62C.200](#)). **(BDR –495)**
13. Amend [NRS 62B.335](#) to address the jurisdictional issue outlined in the *Zalyual v. State*, 520 P.3d 345 (2022) decision of the Nevada Supreme Court. **(BDR –494)**

Sentencing

14. Create a second look sentencing law allowing the courts or other sentencing review boards to reevaluate a person's sentence after a significant period of time in prison and determine whether that sentence is still necessary. **(BDR –500)**

State Public Defenders and Indigent Defense

15. Allow an alternate public defender (that may enter into contracts with attorneys to cover cases where the Nevada State Public Defender has a conflict), and a post-conviction attorney to handle post-convictions in-house, rather than by hourly appointed counsel. **(BDR –492)**
16. Allow a deputy State public defender employed by the State Public Defender to maintain a private workload by removing the prohibition in subsection 2 of [NRS 180.030](#). **(BDR –492)**

Traffic Citations

17. Remove language from [NRS 484B.830](#) and [484B.833](#), which set a defined time frame during which law enforcement officers are required to record and retain traffic stop information using the electronic traffic citation system. Revise the reporting requirements prescribed by NRS 484B.830(4) and 484B.833(4) to additionally require each law enforcement agency to annually report the information recorded for the previous calendar year to the JISC Judiciary. **(BDR –490)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Trafficking

18. Send a letter to the Governor and the Senate Committee on Finance (FIN) and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means (WM) of the 2025 Legislative Session to encourage support for funding data collection via a State Human Trafficking Management Information System.
19. Send a letter to the Governor and FIN and WM of the 2025 Legislative Session to encourage support for funding of the receiving centers created in [Senate Bill 274](#) (2021) to address critical shelter and housing needs for youth and adults.

Traffic Citations

20. Send a letter to the Governor and FIN and WM of the 2025 Legislative Session encouraging the support of additional sources of funding for traffic stop data analysis.
21. Send a letter to the Director of DPS, requesting DPS include in the standardized method, ([NRS 484B.830](#)), the collection of certain data, including:
 - a. Collection of arrest data. Nevada law currently requires collecting data on whether an arrest was made as a result of a traffic stop. However, this data is not always collected in the traffic data collection system. Uniformly collecting and reporting

whether each traffic stop leads to an arrest in the traffic stop system would improve data analysis. To do this, it is important to clarify whether an arrest occurred (yes/no) for all traffic stops; and if yes, what was the reason for the arrest (related to the traffic stop/incident to traffic stop, or NOT related to the traffic stop/not incident to traffic stop);

- b. Collection of whether a search was conducted. Nevada law currently requires collecting data on whether a search was conducted during a traffic stop and, if it was, the type of search conducted and whether anything was found as a result of the search. However, it is not always clear from the data whether a search was conducted. Asking whether a search was conducted (yes/no) for all traffic stops would enhance data analysis;
- c. Collection of whether the driver stopped is a Nevada resident. Determining whether a driver is a Nevada resident could help assess the Nevada driving population, ultimately helping in determining whether there are potential disparities in traffic stops. To assist with identifying drivers who are likely to be Nevada residents, data should determine whether a driver has a Nevada driver's license; and
- d. Collection of data on "traffic stops for which a written citation or warning is issued." It is not clear whether this requirement applies to all warnings or only written (but not verbal) warnings. Ensuring that data regarding both written and verbal warnings is collected will assist with data analysis. This may require clarifying which warnings are covered by this requirement.

BULLETIN 25-9

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

Members

Senator James Ohrenschall, Chair
Assemblywoman Erica Mosca, Vice Chair
Senator Skip Daly
Senator Heidi Seevers O’Gara
Assemblywoman Jill Dickman
Assemblywoman Cecelia González
Assemblyman Brian Hibbetts
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller

Alternate Members

Senator Lisa Krasner
Senator Roberta Lange
Assemblyman Rich DeLong
Assemblyman Reuben D’Silva
Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow
Assemblyman Gregory T. Hafen, II
Assemblyman Steve Yeager

Staff Contacts

Research Division:
Haley Proehl, Senior Policy Analyst/GIS Specialist
Jennifer Ruedy, Research Director
Seana McManus, Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:
Jaimarie Mangoba, Principal Program Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:
Heidi Chlarson, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel
Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections is a permanent committee of the Nevada Legislature whose authority and duties are set forth in [NRS 218E.320](#) through [218E.330](#). The Committee was established in 2021 by [Assembly Bill 443](#) and oversees a broad spectrum of issues related to legislative operations and elections in addition to issues related to governmental purchasing pursuant to AB 443.

The Committee held five meetings, including a work session, during the 2023–2024 Interim. Throughout the interim, the Committee considered topics relating to: the primary elections; election workers; the statewide voter registration database; automatic voter registration; voting for select groups of Nevadans, including tribal members, eligible people in Nevada’s detention facilities, unhoused persons, and limited English proficient minority groups; voting systems; ballot processing capacity; ethics in government; strategies for increasing public participation in the legislative process; the use of artificial intelligence by state legislatures; the interim structure of the Nevada Legislature; legislative modernization; the cost of voter suppression; and statewide ballot questions.

At its work session on August 16, 2024, the Committee approved proposals for six bill draft requests (BDRs) to be considered by the 2025 Session of the Nevada Legislature. The BDRs concern:

1. Election administration;
2. Candidate filing fees;
3. Election workers;
4. Language access in elections; and
5. The interim structure of the Legislature.

The summaries of testimony and exhibits are available online at: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/InterimCommittee/REL/Interim2023/Committee/1986/Meetings>.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections at its meeting on August 16, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Election Administration

1. Request the drafting of a bill to:
 - a. Allow a cured signature to become the voter's signature on file unless the voter affirmatively declines such action; and
 - b. Require the Secretary of State (SOS), rather than county clerks, to mail the notices required by [NRS 293.57693](#) to persons deemed registered voters after they complete an automatic voter registration transaction and their information is reviewed by the county clerk. **(BDR 24–360)**

Candidate Filing Fees

2. Request the drafting of a bill to establish a filing fee of \$1,000 for candidates at a presidential preference primary election. **(BDR 24–361)**

Election Workers

3. Request the drafting of a bill to:
 - a. Allow a person convicted of a felony involving theft or fraud to become a field registrar, which is currently prohibited by [NRS 293.5045](#); and
 - b. Allow poll workers to work as volunteer poll workers without pay. **(BDR 24–362)**
 - c. Request the drafting of a bill to authorize any county to create an office of registrar of voters. **(BDR 20–363)**

Language Access in Elections

4. Request the drafting of a bill to implement the provisions of vetoed [Assembly Bill 246](#) (2023), including:

- a. Requiring the SOS to provide voting materials in the language of a limited English proficient (LEP) minority group if such group has at least 20,000 qualified electors statewide and requiring individual counties to also provide such materials if there are at least 5,000 qualified electors of an LEP minority group in the county;
- b. Requiring the SOS and authorizing county clerks to establish a toll-free telephone number for election translation services;
- c. Creating the Language Access Advisory Committee within the Office of the SOS, which must identify language accessibility programs and services for elections that could be implemented in Nevada;
- d. Authorizing a person registering to vote to request a sample ballot in a language other than English; and
- e. Requiring county clerks to make good faith efforts to hire bilingual poll workers. **(BDR 24–364)**

The Interim Structure of the Legislature

- 5. Request the drafting of a bill to implement the provisions of vetoed [AB 243](#) (2023), which revises the interim committee structure of the Legislature as follows:
 - a. Clarify that in the vacancy of a Chair for a Joint Interim Standing Committee (JISC), the Vice Chair shall become acting Chair until the Chair is appointed;
 - b. Require an alternate JISC member attending in a member's place to be of the same political party;
 - c. Authorize JISCs to meet as early as September 1 after the adjournment of each regular session and require members to be appointed by August 31 following such adjournment;
 - d. Make the Sunset Subcommittee independent of the Legislative Commission; rename it the Sunset Committee of the Legislature; allocate five BDRs to the Committee; and align all other aspects of membership, organization, and operations with those of the JISCs;
 - e. Align the membership, organization, and operations of the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System and the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs with those of the JISCs;
 - f. Eliminate the Subcommittee on Public Lands; transfer its powers and duties to the JISC on Natural Resources, which is renamed the JISC on Natural Resources and Public Lands; and require the JISC to hold at least three meetings outside of Clark County, Washoe County, and Carson City;

- g. Change the JISC requirements for approving recommended legislation from a vote in favor by the majority of Senators and majority of Assembly Members on the Committee to a vote in favor by at least five members of the Committee;
- h. Transfer duties to evaluate and review issues relating to governmental purchasing from the JISC on Legislative Operations and Elections to the JISC on Government Affairs;
- i. Require the Commission to Study Governmental Purchasing to submit its biennial report to the JISC on Government Affairs rather than the JISC on Legislative Operations and Elections;
- j. Repeal the requirement for the JISC on Health and Human Services to review regulations related to health care;
- k. Revise the submission date for applications to serve on the Nevada State Teacher Recruitment and Retention Advisory Task Force from January 15 of an even-numbered year to December 1 of an odd-numbered year;
- l. Transfer certain duties that are fiscal in nature from the JISC on the Judiciary to the Interim Finance Committee;
- m. Require the Governor's Office of Finance and the Office of the Attorney General to submit certain reports to the JISC on the Judiciary;
- n. Change the submission date of the report submitted to the JISC on Education relating to instruction on genocides from October 1 to July 1 of each even-numbered year;
- o. Eliminate the requirement for hospitals to submit certain staffing committee reports to the JISC on Health and Human Services; and
- p. Clarify that Legislators and legislative staff are not prohibited from undertaking or attending legislative committee investigative meetings, events, or trips under the Nevada Lobbying Disclosure and Regulation Act. **(BDR 17-365)**

BULLETIN 25-10

**JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
AND
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS**

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.320 and 218E.510

Committee Members

Senator Julie Pazina, Chair
Assemblywoman Natha C. Anderson, Vice Chair
Senator Pete Goicoechea
Senator Melanie Scheible
Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod
Assemblyman Rich DeLong
Assemblyman Bert Gurr
Assemblywoman Selena La Rue Hatch

Alternate Committee Members

Senator Edgar Flores
Senator Ira Hansen
Assemblywoman Lesley E. Cohen
Assemblywoman Venicia Considine
Assemblywoman Alexis Hansen

Subcommittee Members

Senator Melanie Scheible, Chair
Assemblywoman Natha C. Anderson, Vice Chair
Senator Pete Goicoechea
Assemblyman Rich DeLong
Justin Jones, Clark County Commissioner
Marissa Weaselboy, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc.

Alternate Subcommittee Members

Senator Julie Pazina
Assemblywoman Alexis Hansen

Staff Contacts

Research Division:

Jann Stinnesbeck, Principal Policy Analyst
Becky Peratt, Senior Policy Analyst
Lisa Creamer, Senior Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Fiscal Analysis Division:

Adam Drost, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:

Erin Sturdivant, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
Jeffrey Chronister, Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.510

NRS 218E.510 Creation; membership; officers; terms; vacancies; alternates.

1. There is hereby created the Subcommittee on Public Lands of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources, consisting of members appointed by the Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources, who must include:

(a) Two members of the Senate who are members of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources;

(b) Two members of the Assembly who are members of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources;

(c) One elected officer representing the governing body of a local political subdivision, appointed with appropriate regard for his or her experience with and knowledge of matters relating to public lands; and

(d) One member representing tribal governments in Nevada who is recommended by the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., or its successor organization, appointed with appropriate regard for his or her experience with and knowledge of matters relating to public lands;

2. The members who are Legislators must be appointed to provide representation from the various geographical regions of the State.

3. The Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources shall appoint a Chair of the Subcommittee from one House and a Vice Chair of the Subcommittee from the other House. Each Chair and Vice Chair holds office for a term of 2 years commencing on July 1 of each odd-numbered year. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

4. Any member of the Subcommittee described in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection 1 who is not a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection continues to serve after the general election until the next regular or special session convenes.

5. Vacancies on the Subcommittee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

6. The Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources may appoint alternates for members of the Subcommittee. The Chair of the Subcommittee:

(a) May designate an alternate appointed by the Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources to serve in place of a regular member who is unable to attend a meeting; and

(b) Shall, for a member who is a Legislator, designate an alternate appointed by the Chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources who is a member of the same House and political party as the regular member to serve in place of the regular member if one is available.

(Added to NRS by [1979, 5](#); A [1981, 170](#); [1983, 209](#); [1985, 398, 1131](#); [1987, 1208](#); [1989, 426, 1217, 1222](#); [2009, 1151, 1561](#); [2011, 3225](#); [2019, 3125](#); [2021, 478, 2511](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320 and 218E.510

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources (JISCNR) is a permanent committee of the Nevada Legislature whose authority and duties are set forth in [NRS 218E.320](#) through [218E.330](#). Meeting between the biennial sessions of the Legislature, the Committee has jurisdiction over a wide range of issues concerning natural resources, such as agriculture, animals, environmental policies, historic preservation, and outdoor recreation.

The JISCNR also has a permanent subcommittee, the Subcommittee on Public Lands, whose authority and duties are set forth in [NRS 218E.500](#) through [218E.525](#). Meeting at various off-site locations throughout the State of Nevada, the Subcommittee provides a forum for discussion of policies and issues related to land owned or controlled by the federal government (public lands), which, in Nevada, accounts for over 85 percent of the State. The Subcommittee monitors and makes recommendations for action and legislation on a wide range of public lands issues, such as conservation, environmental quality, federal land management policies, grazing, military bases, mining, recreation, water, wilderness, wildfire, and wildlife.

The Committee held six meetings and the Subcommittee held three during the 2023–2024 Interim. The Subcommittee held its off-site meetings in Schurz and Eureka, Nevada. The meetings of the Committee and Subcommittee addressed a variety of issues surrounding agricultural practices, lithium mining, multiple use of public lands challenges, natural resources management, water conservation, and wildfire prevention.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320 and 218E.510

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources at its meetings on August 23, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Public Lands

1. Propose a resolution on land use planning to encourage: (1) locally led efforts; (2) coordination between federal, State, and local government; and (3) multiple use of public lands while providing for the sustainability of these lands economically, socially, and environmentally. **(BDR R–380)**
2. Propose a resolution declaring “Smart from the Start” solar development concepts and preference for placing solar development on certain sites as the State policy for Nevada. **(BDR –R388)**
3. Propose legislation to amend Title 26 (“Public Lands”) of NRS to add a policy statement related to public lands to add language that prioritizes “tribal expertise and knowledge” as local knowledge of public lands in Nevada. **(BDR 26–392)**

Water

4. Propose legislation that revises various provisions of water law that would encourage water conservation. This includes, but is not limited to: (1) revising [NRS 533.024](#) to include the encouragement of the efficient use of water as a matter of State policy; (2) adding language to NRS related to filing conservation plans with the State Engineer; (3) revising [NRS 533.0241](#) to require the State Engineer to treat water conserved under a conservation plan as appropriated water; and (4) excluding water conserved under a conservation plan from the abandonment provisions of [NRS 533.060](#) and [534.090](#). **(BDR 48–379)**
5. Propose legislation to: (1) remove the minimum charge and establish a maximum charge for a special assessment levied upon certain designated basins where groundwater use is predominately for agricultural purposes; (2) limit the use of the special assessments to activities that are directly related to the groundwater basin; (3) require annual reporting on the expenditures and activities funded by the special assessments; and (4) appropriate \$1 million to the Division of Water Resources of the State Department of Conservation and

Natural Resources (DCNR) to support the Nevada State Engineer and the Nevada Water Initiative. **(BDR 48–386)**

6. Propose legislation to authorize a board of county commissioners to establish a groundwater board for areas designated as a groundwater basin in need of further administration by the State Engineer pursuant to the provisions of [NRS 534.030](#). **(BDR 48–385)**
7. Propose legislation revising [NRS 533.0243](#) to extend the time limit of a temporary conversion of agricultural water rights for wildlife purposes or to improve the quality or flow of water from three to ten years. **(BDR 48–391)**
8. Propose legislation based on [Senate Bill 99](#) from the 2023 Session that appropriates \$600,000 per year for each year of the 2025-2027 Biennium from the State General Fund to the Desert Research Institute of the Nevada System of Higher Education to support the Nevada State Cloud Seeding Program. **(BDR S–389)**
9. Propose legislation that revises various provisions of water law. This includes, but is not limited to: (1) an addition to [Chapter 445A](#) of NRS to encourage and promote water reuse as a policy of the State; (2) an addition to [NRS 445A.520](#) related to standards of water quality that authorizes the State Environmental Commission to consider the establishment of a water quality standard variance, pursuant to federal law, which meets certain criteria; (3) defining “eligible property owner” in [Chapter 439](#) of NRS for purposes of a district board of health voluntary financial assistance program to pay for costs related to abandoning existing septic systems served by a municipal water system to connect to community sewerage; and (4) the establishment of the Account for Retiring Water Rights in the State General Fund and the Nevada Voluntary Water Rights Retirement Program, which would expire on June 30, 2035. **(BDR 48–383)**
10. Propose legislation based on the amended version of [Senate Bill 176](#) from the 2023 Legislative Session, excluding the sections creating the Account for Purchasing and Retiring Water Rights and the appropriation from the State General Fund to the Account. The bill would: (1) create the Nevada Conservation and Recreation Program, consisting of the Nevada Water Buy-Back Initiative and a grant program; and (2) establish an advisory committee for the Initiative. **(BDR 48–384)**

Agriculture

11. Propose legislation to create a Healthy Soils Initiative to support regenerative agricultural practices in Nevada. The Initiative includes the creation of a Soil Health Advisory Board, run through the Conservation Districts Program of DCNR, which would oversee educational programming as well as grants to agricultural producers as they transition to regenerative agricultural practices. **(BDR 49–387)**

Outdoor Recreation

12. Propose legislation to create the Transit-to-Trails Task Force that is charged with: (1) identifying and securing funding for public transit that runs to trailheads; and

- (2) identifying high-priority areas for a potential future transit to trails program. **(BDR 35–382)**

Wildfire

13. Propose legislation to authorize the Governor and Nevada’s Division of Forestry of DCNR to enter into certain fire compacts. **(BDR 47–381)**

Wildlife

14. Propose legislation that appropriates \$5 million from the State General Fund into the Wildlife Crossings Account to support the construction of new wildlife crossings in Nevada. **(BDR S–390)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

15. Send a letter to the United States Congress expressing support for congressional action, such as the [Historic Routes Preservation Act](#) (H.R.3270, 115th Congress), to provide clarity on a protocol to address *Revised Statute* 2477 rights-of-way.
16. Send a letter to the Bureau of Land Management expressing support for the Nevada Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan and its Conservation Credit System in managing greater sage-grouse in Nevada.
17. Send a letter to the Governor and the Director of the State Department of Agriculture expressing support for the Home Feeds Nevada Agriculture Food Purchase Program.
18. Send a letter to the U.S. Department of the Interior urging the Secretary of the Interior to enact an administrative withdrawal of public lands in the Amargosa Valley from new mining for a temporary period of 20 years.
19. Send a letter to the Governor encouraging a State General Fund appropriation to support the continued work of the Nevada Shared Stewardship Agreement.
20. Send a letter to the Governor encouraging appropriations to the Wildlife Crossings Account for the construction of new wildlife crossings and wildlife fencing in Nevada.

BULLETIN 25-11

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON REVENUE

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

Members

Assemblywoman Shea Backus, Chair
Senator Dina Neal, Vice Chair
Senator Fabian Doñate
Senator Heidi Seevers O’Gara
Assemblywoman Venicia Considine
Assemblyman Gregory T. Hafen, II
Assemblyman David Orentlicher
Assemblyman Toby Yurek

Alternate Members

Senator Carrie A. Buck
Senator Pat Spearman
Assemblywoman Natha C. Anderson
Assemblywoman Erica Mosca
Assemblyman Philip PK O'Neill

Staff Contacts

Fiscal Analysis Division:
Michael Nakamoto, Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Susanna Powers, Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Christian Thauer, Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Hayley Owens, Economist
Maria Montes, Committee Secretary
Carla Ulrych, Manager of Administrative Services
(775) 684-6821

Legal Division:
Bryan Fernley, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.320

NRS 218E.320 Creation; membership; officers; vacancies.

1. There are hereby created the following Joint Interim Standing Committees of the Legislature:

- (a) Commerce and Labor;
- (b) Education;
- (c) Government Affairs;
- (d) Growth and Infrastructure;
- (e) Health and Human Services;
- (f) Judiciary;
- (g) Legislative Operations and Elections;
- (h) Natural Resources; and
- (i) Revenue.

2. Each Joint Interim Standing Committee consists of eight regular members and five alternate members. As soon as is practicable after the adjournment of each regular session:

(a) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint three members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and two members of the Assembly as alternate members of each Committee.

(b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly shall appoint two members of the Assembly as regular members of each Committee and one member of the Assembly as an alternate member of each Committee.

(c) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint two Senators as regular members of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

(d) The Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one Senator as a regular member of each Committee and one Senator as an alternate member of each Committee.

3. Before making their respective appointments, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and Assembly shall consult so that, to the extent practicable:

(a) At least five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee served on the corresponding standing committee or committees during the preceding regular session.

(b) Not more than five of the regular members appointed to each Joint Interim Standing Committee are members of the same political party.

4. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of each Joint Interim Standing Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chair must be appointed from one House of the Legislature and the Vice Chair from the other House. The position of Chair must alternate each biennium between the Houses of the Legislature. Each of those officers holds the position until a successor is appointed after the next regular session. If a vacancy occurs in the position of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5. The membership of any member of a Joint Interim Standing Committee who does not become a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general election. The Speaker designate of the Assembly or the Majority Leader designate of the Senate, as the case may be, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

6. Vacancies on a Joint Interim Standing Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
(Added to NRS by [2021, 2505](#))

ABSTRACT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON REVENUE

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

The Joint Interim Standing Committee on Revenue, which was created by [Assembly Bill 443](#) (2021), is a permanent committee of the Legislature that is tasked with evaluating and reviewing issues within the jurisdiction of the Assembly Committee on Revenue and the Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development during the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature. In addition to other issues, the Committee reviews topics related to state and local revenues and taxation; economic development, tourism, and cultural affairs; workforce development; and foreign trade zones and trade districts.

The Committee held five meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim. The first four meetings were held on January 23, February 28, April 29, and June 20, 2024, at the Grant Sawyer Office Building in Las Vegas, with videoconferencing to the Legislative Building in Carson City. The fifth meeting on August 27, 2024, was held in the Nevada Legislature Office Building, 7230 Amigo Street, in Las Vegas, with videoconferencing to the Legislative Building in Carson City. All meetings held included a presentation on Fiscal Year 2024 year-to-date actual collections compared to the Economic Forum May 1, 2023, forecast, adjusted for legislative actions approved during the 2023 Session. In addition, the meetings addressed a variety of issues and updates relating to State and local tax and revenue policy as well as economic and workforce development.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON REVENUE

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Revenue at its meeting on August 27, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Workforce Development

1. Draft a bill to require the Governor’s Office of Workforce Innovation to pilot a career coaching program, in collaboration with other agencies, to support middle schools and high schools as students are exposed to, prepared for, and connected with career avenues within and beyond the classroom setting. **(BDR –418)**

Economic Development

2. Draft a bill to require that local government representatives (members of boards of county commissioners, city councils, and/or school district boards of trustees) and representatives from a community college located in that county, if one exists, are involved in the consideration of applications made to the Governor’s Office of Economic Development for incentives for certain projects to be located in a county whose population is less than 100,000 (all counties except for Clark and Washoe). **(BDR –419)**

Use of Artificial Intelligence by the Department of Taxation

3. Draft a bill to create an Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy specific to the Department of Taxation, which would require the Department to disclose when an individual interacts with any AI that is used by the Department. The bill would also prohibit the disclosure of any confidential taxpayer information by AI that is used by the Department. **(BDR –420)**

BULLETIN 25-12

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OF THE TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY AND THE MARLETTE LAKE WATER SYSTEM

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.555

Members

Senator Skip Daly, Chair
Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod, Vice Chair
Senator Melanie Scheible
Senator Robin L. Titus
Assemblyman Rich DeLong*
Assemblyman Ken Gray*
Assemblywoman Angie Taylor

*On February 29, 2024, the Chair of the Legislative Commission approved the designation of Assemblyman Gray as an alternate designee in advance of the meeting of the Committee on March 8, 2024. The Legislative Commission ratified the appointment on September 13, 2024.

Staff Contacts

Research Division:
Alysa M. Keller, Senior Principal Policy Analyst
Jered McDonald, Deputy Research Director
Christina Harper, Manager of Research Policy Assistants
(775) 684-6825

Legal Division:
Erin Sturdivant, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
Jeffrey Chronister, Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.555

NRS 218E.555 Creation; membership; budget; officers; terms; vacancies; reports.

1. There is hereby created the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System consisting of three members of the Senate and three members of the Assembly, appointed by the Legislative Commission with appropriate regard for their experience with and knowledge of matters relating to the management of natural resources. The members must be appointed to provide representation from the various geographical regions of the State.

2. The Legislative Commission shall review and approve the budget and work program for the Committee and any changes to the budget or work program.

3. The members of the Committee shall elect a Chair from one House and a Vice Chair from the other House. Each Chair and Vice Chair holds office for a term of 2 years commencing on July 1 of each odd-numbered year.

4. Any member of the Committee who is not a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection continues to serve after the general election until the next regular or special session convenes.

5. Vacancies on the Committee must be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

6. The Committee shall report annually to the Legislative Commission concerning its activities and any recommendations.

(Added to NRS by [2003, 2504](#); A [2009, 1152](#), [1562](#); [2011, 3227](#), [3734](#); [2013, 2367](#))

ABSTRACT

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OF THE TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY AND THE MARLETTE LAKE WATER SYSTEM

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.555

Nevada’s Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the Marlette Lake Water System (MLWS) is a permanent committee of the Nevada Legislature whose authorization and duties are set forth in [NRS 218E.550](#) through [218E.570](#). Created in 2003 with the enactment of [Senate Bill 216](#), the Committee provides oversight and review of the activities, budget, programs, and responsiveness of the TRPA and the MLWS.

The Committee held six meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim. The meetings addressed a variety of activities, issues, and programs pertaining specifically to the TRPA and MLWS and relating generally to the Lake Tahoe Basin. Issues specifically addressed during the meetings included environmental health, forest health, housing issues, transportation, water quality, and wildfires.

The Committee voted to forward eight recommendations for legislation to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature in 2025, addressing the following topics: (1) water safety; (2) funding; (3) housing; (4) transportation; (5) reporting requirements; and (6) environmental improvements in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

More information about the Committee’s activities—including minutes, recordings, and copies of presentations and other exhibits—may be accessed on the Committee’s meetings page for the 2023–2024 Interim.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OF THE TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY AND THE MARLETTE LAKE WATER SYSTEM

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.555

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the Marlette Lake Water System (MLWS) at its meeting on August 16, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

1. Request the drafting of a bill to prohibit the operation of any watercraft vessel at a speed in excess of 5 nautical miles per hour within 600 feet of the water line of Lake Tahoe. **(BDR 43–371)**
2. Request the drafting of a bill allowing cities and counties to form Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to provide funding for transportation, housing, and mitigation of visitor activities in the Lake Tahoe Basin. **(BDR 22–372)**
3. Request the drafting of a bill allowing local jurisdictions within the Lake Tahoe Basin to charge an impact fee to developers of housing units greater than 1,000 square feet. The fees collected are to be used to pay for utility hookup, impact, and/or mitigation fees for housing units that are less than 1,000 square feet and are deed restricted for sale or rent to occupants with certain income levels to qualify as affordable, moderate, or achievable units. **(BDR 22–373)**
4. Request the drafting of a bill to amend Article IX of the Bi-State Compact to:
 - a. Establish the Lake Tahoe Basin Scenic Byway Corridor Recreation Safety Zone and allow the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) and its contractors to issue parking tickets to illegally parked vehicles within the Safety Zone. The bill will provide that if the use of contractors is allowed, the writing of tickets will not be incentivized by basing contractor pay on the number of tickets written and will not become effective until additional elements of Lake Tahoe transportation planning are in place;
 - b. Clarify that the TTD or other local governments are allowed to charge a fee for public parking at certain paved rights-of-way and off-highway parking areas along the State Route 28 Scenic Corridor that are connected by improved paved paths. The fees collected will remain in the Lake Tahoe Basin to be used by the partnering federal, state, and local agencies to administer the parking management programs, operate and maintain the public parking lots, connecting trails, and associated facilities (i.e., sanitation, signage), as well as public transit that provides the public access to their public lands; and

- c. Impose a public transit surcharge on the per-night charge for rental of any transient lodging in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The proceeds of the surcharge are to be paid by the lodging operator to the applicable county for distribution to the TTD. In Nevada, the surcharge shall be \$4.25 per night. Of the \$4.25 surcharge, \$0.25 will be distributed by TTD to the Tahoe Science Advisory Council to support its activities. The remainder of the surcharge will be used to support transportation needs in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The Board of the TTD will have the authority to provide a waiver of the \$4 surcharge to entities that already have a comparable surcharge to support transportation in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

This bill will not become effective until the State of California enacts substantially similar legislation. **(BDR 22–374)**

5. Request the drafting of a bill amending or eliminating certain reporting requirements by the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, as follows:
 - a. Eliminating the requirement for annual reporting to the LCB regarding fire prevention and forest health in the Nevada portion of the Lake Tahoe Basin. The report is required by [NRS 528.150](#) and was established in 2009; and
 - b. Amending the reporting requirement to the State Board of Examiners regarding the Nevada Land Bank report on lands or interests in land transferred, sold, exchanged, or leased in the Lake Tahoe Basin from quarterly to annually. The report is required by [NRS 321.5954](#). **(BDR 26–375)**
6. Request the drafting of a bill authorizing the release of the next phase of general obligation bonds in an amount of \$19 million to continue to implement Nevada’s portion of the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) for the 2025–2027 Biennium and including authority for the expenditure on EIP projects of any interest accumulated on proceeds from bond issuances for the EIP. **(BDR S–376)**
7. Request the drafting of a bill to provide that a logging permit is not required for cutting operations conducted by a landowner unless the operations conducted qualify as a legally defined logging operation. **(BDR 47–377)**
8. Request the drafting of a bill granting Nevada’s Division of State Parks an exemption from the requirement that funds collected in a day exceeding \$10,000 be deposited no later than the next working day and instead allow up to ten working days for such deposits. **(BDR 31–378)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

9. Send a letter to the Governor, the Senate Committee on Finance (FIN), and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means (WM) expressing the Committee’s support for a State General Fund appropriation to maintain the State of Nevada’s one-third share of operating funding for the TRPA for the 2025–2027 Biennium. The historic funding ratio for the TRPA is one-third/two-thirds for Nevada and California, respectively.

10. Send a letter to the Governor, FIN, and WM expressing support for a State General Fund appropriation of \$2.5 million for each fiscal year of the 2025–2027 Biennium for Nevada’s portion of the funding strategy set forth in the Lake Tahoe Transportation Action Plan.
11. Send a letter to the TRPA requesting that the Agency provide the Committee with the status of its update of the environmental analysis conducted in the 2012 Regional Plan, TRPA’s Threshold Standards, and other environmental updates, prior to the start of the 2025 Legislative Session.
12. Send a letter to the TRPA encouraging the Agency to utilize the following priorities in its decision-making processes, work, and resources: (1) preservation, protection, and restoration of the Lake; (2) enhancing the visitor experience; (3) mitigating impacts on residents; and (4) economic considerations.
13. Send a letter to the TRPA encouraging the Agency to consider exempting local events (i.e., Douglas County, South Lake Tahoe, and El Dorado County) from the current restriction on the total number of events and activities that can take place at the Tahoe Blue Event Center per year. Request that the TRPA provide an update on the status of permit restrictions for local events prior to the start of the 2025 Legislative Session.

BULLETIN 25-13

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS,
VETERANS AND ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.750

Members

Senator Pat Spearman, Chair
Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May, Vice Chair
Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop
Senator Lisa Krasner
Assemblyman Reuben D'Silva
Assemblyman Ken Gray

Staff Contacts

Research Division:
Destini Cooper, Senior Policy Analyst
Jennifer Ruedy, Research Director
Terese Martinez, Research Policy Assistant
(775) 684-6825

Legal Division:
David Nauss, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel
Eric Robbins, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 218E.750

NRS 218E.750 Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs: Creation; membership; budget; officers; terms; vacancies.

1. The Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs, consisting of six members, is hereby created. The membership of the Committee consists of:

(a) Three members of the Senate appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, at least one of whom must be a member of the minority political party; and

(b) Three members of the Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, at least one of whom must be a member of the minority political party.

2. The Legislative Commission shall review and approve the budget and work program for the Committee and any changes to the budget or work program.

3. The Legislative Commission shall select the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee from among the members of the Committee. After the initial selection, each Chair and Vice Chair holds office for a term of 2 years commencing on July 1 of each odd-numbered year. The office of Chair of the Committee must alternate each biennium between the Houses. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Chair or Vice Chair, the vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original selection for the remainder of the unexpired term.

4. A member of the Committee who is not a candidate for reelection or who is defeated for reelection continues to serve after the general election until the next regular or special session convenes.

5. A vacancy on the Committee must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(Added to NRS by [2009, 2412](#); A [2011, 3235](#))

ABSTRACT

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS AND ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.750

The Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs, in compliance with [NRS 218E.745](#) through [218E.760](#), is authorized to review, study, and comment upon issues including, but not limited to: (1) initiatives to ensure the financial and physical wellness of senior citizens, veterans, and adults with special needs; (2) abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation, and abandonment of senior citizens and adults with special needs; (3) public outreach and advocacy; (4) programs for the provision of services to senior citizens, veterans, and adults with special needs in this State and methods to enhance such programs to ensure that services are provided in the most appropriate setting; (5) programs that provide services and care in the home; (6) the availability of useful information and data as needed for the State to make effective decisions, plan budgets, and monitor costs and outcomes of services; (7) laws relating to the appointment of a guardian, including the improvement of investigations relating to guardianships and systems for monitoring guardianships; and (8) the improvement of facilities for long-term care in Nevada.

Additional responsibilities for the Committee include a duty to review certain statutory reports pursuant to [NRS 333.3368](#) and [338.13846](#). The Purchasing Division and the State Public Works Division, respectively, of the Department of Administration, must report to the Committee on the number and dollar amount of State purchasing contracts and contracts awarded to local businesses that are owned by service-disabled veterans.

The Committee held four meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim and completed its work on August 26, 2024. Each meeting had a primary focus as follows:

- [February 14, 2024](#)—Senior quality of life issues, senior demographics, caregiver resources, and the status of dementia and Alzheimer’s patients in Nevada.
- [March 26, 2024](#)—Veterans reports, veteran-related housing disparities, and an overview of available programs and resources for the veteran community, including military spouses in Nevada.
- [April 30, 2024](#)—Accessibility for individuals with special needs, caregiver rights, and an update on improving access to State museums for persons with disabilities as required by [Assembly Bill 252](#) (2023).

During its work session on [August 26, 2024](#), the Committee approved recommendations for five bill draft requests (BDRs) for consideration by the 2025 Session of the Nevada Legislature. Topics for the BDRs focused on proposals to assist senior citizens with dementia and their caregivers, support of services for veterans, and proposals to assist vulnerable adults. Committee members also authorized the Chair to send letters to the Governor, State agencies, and the Director

of the Legislative Counsel Bureau in support of certain efforts considered by the Committee during the interim.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS AND ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.750

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs at its meetings on August 26, 2024. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

Proposals to Assist Senior Citizens With Dementia and Their Caregivers

1. Propose legislation to:
 - a. Require the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine; and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Medicine to establish a system of care for the diagnosis and care of Nevadans with dementia called the Nevada Memory Network; and
 - b. Require the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) of DHHS to establish and administer a program for dementia care specialists in the State. **(BDR –456)**
2. Propose legislation to:
 - a. Expand the ADSD Frail Elderly Waiver to permanently include nutrition and attendant care services offered in the Home and Community Based Services Waiver for Persons with Physical Disabilities; and
 - b. Create a caregiver portal for caregivers and recipients, which will connect recipients and caregivers to avoid caregiver deserts, confusion when trying to contact service providers, duplication of services, and caregiver poaching. **(BDR –457)**

Support of Services for Veterans

3. Propose legislation to:
 - a. Allow Nevada-based business preference and the veteran preference to be stacked; and
 - b. Remove the inverse preference from subsection (2)(a) of [NRS 333.3354](#). **(BDR –458)**

4. Propose legislation to create a State holiday recognizing National Women Veterans History Month. The holiday will occur in the month of March as declared by the United States Congress. **(BDR –459)**

Proposals to Assist Vulnerable Adults

5. Propose legislation to amend [Chapter 118](#) of NRS to include that landlords and real estate management companies must be willing to rent and sign residential leases with corporations if the business of the corporation is to assist people with disabilities to obtain community housing. If a corporation applies for an available rental property on behalf of an individual with a disability and is denied tenancy, a written explanation of denial must be submitted to the applying entity, ADSD, and the Office of the Ombudsman for Owners in Common-Interest Communities and Condominium Hotels of the Real Estate Division of the Department of Business and Industry (B&I) within seven days of the decision. Landlords must be subject to fines or additional penalties if a written denial is not filed within the set time frames. Landlords who are unwilling to rent to disabled individuals or to companies who support disabled individuals will be subject to all applicable legal penalties related to Chapter 118 of NRS and the federal Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. § 3601 [1968]). **(BDR –460)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

6. Send a letter to Nevada’s Department of Veterans Services and Nevada’s Housing Division of B&I to encourage housing units be dedicated specifically to veteran women for mental, physical, and emotional health purposes.
7. Send a letter to the Director of the LCB to encourage signage for accessibility for persons who fall under the American Disabilities Act, to acknowledge the efforts already being made by the LCB, and to encourage additional efforts and awareness on accessibility and following the State as a Model Employer guideline.
8. Send a letter to the Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities to encourage collaboration between the Legislative Branch and the Executive Branch to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities.

BULLETIN 25-15

NEVADA SILVER HAIRED LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Nevada Revised Statutes 427A.320

Members

Fran Almaraz, Forum President (Senate District 21)
Marilyn E. Jordan, Ed.D., Forum Vice President (Senate District 9)
Lucille Adin, Northern Facilitator (Senate District 13)
Vacant (Senate District 1)
Elizabeth Martinez (Senate District 2)
Valarie Woods (Senate District 3)
Margaret Batts (Senate District 4)
Fred Silberkraus (Senate District 5)
Fayyaz Raja (Senate District 6)
Bob Linden (Senate District 7)
Laura Leavitt (Senate District 8)
Joann M. Bongiorno (Senate District 10)
Frank B. Slaughter III (Senate District 11)
William Marchant, M.D. (Senate District 12)
Cher Daniels (Senate District 14)
Vacant (Senate District 15)
Vacant (Senate District 16)
Mary Fesenmaier (Senate District 17)
Rodger Troth (Senate District 18)
Vacant (Senate District 19)
Peggy Leavitt (Senate District 20)

Staff Contacts

Research Division:

Patrick Ashton, Principal Policy Analyst
Ashlee Kalina, Constituent Services Analyst
Destini Cooper, Senior Policy Analyst
Julianne King, Assistant Manager of Research Policy Assistants
(775) 684-6825

Legal Division:

Bryan Fernley, Legislative Counsel
(775) 684-6830

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS) 427A.320

NRS 427A.320 Creation.

The Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum is hereby created to identify and act upon issues of importance to aging persons.

(Added to NRS by [1997, 2724](#); A [2001, 3026](#))

ABSTRACT

NEVADA SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 427A.320

The Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum was created by the 1997 Nevada Legislature under [NRS 427A.320](#) to identify and act upon issues of importance to aging persons. Its membership, powers, and duties are codified in [NRS 427A.313](#) through [427A.400](#). Further, [NRS 218D.220](#) authorizes the Forum to submit one bill draft request (BDR) on or before September 1, preceding each regular legislative session.

The Forum is comprised of members equal to the number of State Senators (21) and who, among other qualifications, must have been registered voters for one year preceding their appointment in the senatorial district of the Senator who nominates them. As of August 2024, the Forum had 17 members. The Forum seats for Senate Districts 1, 15, 16, and 19 remained or became vacant during this interim.¹ Members of the National Silver Haired Congress from Nevada may serve as ex officio members of the Forum; however, Nevada appears to have no active Congress members.

The Forum held five meetings during the 2023–2024 Interim and completed its work on August 7, 2024. Throughout the interim, the Forum considered topics relating to: (1) unhoused senior citizens; (2) access to mental and physical health care and limited geriatric training of health care professionals; (3) food insecurity among seniors; (4) transportation programs and services for low-income seniors; and (5) unretirement and age discrimination of older persons. All meetings were open to the public and conducted through simultaneous videoconferences between legislative meeting rooms in Las Vegas and Carson City, Nevada. Forum members and presenters also attended remotely using an online videoconferencing platform.

During the work session on August 7, 2024, the Forum approved a recommendation to draft a BDR to be considered by the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature. The primary premise of the BDR was to increase legal protections for seniors in Nevada against physical and financial harm. Forum members also authorized the Forum President to send letters to the Governor, various legislative committees, and State and local government agencies in support of certain efforts that were considered by the Forum during the interim.

¹ Pursuant to [NRS 427A.330](#), a Senator shall nominate a person for appointment to the Forum. The Senators of Senate Districts 16 and 19 did not nominate a qualifying person for appointment to the Forum, and the members of Senate Districts 1 and 15 resigned during the interim, which explains why these Forum seats have been vacant as of August 2024.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

NEVADA SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 427A.320

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum at its meeting on August 7, 2024. The bill draft request (BDR) will be forwarded to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATION FOR LEGISLATION

Increased Protections for Seniors Against Physical and Financial Harm

1. Propose legislation to:
 - a. Increase the maximum term of imprisonment from 15 to 20 years as penalty for home invasion ([NRS 205.067](#)) that results in the injury or death of a Nevadan 60 years of age or older, which would be in addition to the enhancement prescribed in [NRS 193.167](#); and
 - b. Expand the categories of the list of crimes committed against persons 60 years of age or older punishable by law in [NRS 193.167](#) to include:
 - c. Theft;
 - d. General fraud; and
 - e. Violations of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act set forth in [Chapter 598](#) of NRS. (BDR 15–342)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

Addressing Food Insecurity Among Seniors

2. Send letters to the Governor, the Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Committees on Health and Human Services, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and the Director of the State Department of Agriculture (NDA) expressing the Forum's support of efforts to reduce food insecurity of senior citizens in Nevada by:
 - a. Encouraging the Director of DHHS to seek all federal authority to:
 - i. Reduce the number of verification requirements for Nevadans 60 years of age or older in certifying and recertifying eligibility to receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits;

- ii. Provide applicants 60 years of age or older with a simplified version of the SNAP application in large print; and
- iii. Allow telephone enrollment for SNAP benefits to applicants 60 years of age and older; and
- b. Urging legislation to revise the definition of “food bank” in subsection 7(b) of [NRS 561.515](#) to mean a food bank or other organization that is a member of the Feeding America network or any other nonprofit organization in Nevada providing food services to individuals in need, as determined by the Director of NDA, in an effort to give NDA greater flexibility in the number and types of organizations that may receive food distributions from the Home Feeds Nevada Agriculture Food Purchase Program.

Prevention of Age Discrimination in Hiring Process

- 3. Send letters to the Nevada Equal Rights Commission; the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation; and the Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Committees on Commerce and Labor expressing the Forum’s support for decreasing discrimination against Nevadans 60 years of age or older in the workplace. Specifically, the letter should encourage them to support efforts to remove questions about age or date of birth from employment applications. Additionally, the letter should highlight that at least six other states have enacted legislation in recent years which prevents employers from asking a prospective employee’s age or date of birth.

Increased Reimbursement Rate for Home-Delivered Meals

- 4. Send letters to the Director of DHHS, the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), DHHS; the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, DHHS; and the Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Committees on Health and Human Services to express the Forum’s appreciation and support of the recent implementation of a reimbursement rate increase for the home-delivered meals program through Home- and Community-Based Services and encourage these entities to bolster State efforts that reduce food insecurity for low-income seniors who are homebound.

Basic Geriatric Training for All Health Care Fields

- 5. Send letters to the Nevada System of Higher Education and the Sanford Center for Aging, University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, expressing the Forum’s support to include courses in basic geriatric care for all health care training programs in Nevada. The letter should explain there is a growing deficit in geriatricians providing care for older adults, and this deficit will only grow as the population continues to age. This means all clinicians, especially family medicine and general practitioners, will be providing the bulk of care for older adults. This letter will serve as a call to action to improve care for older adults in Nevada and our future selves, ensuring trainees are prepared to care and advocate for this diverse and often vulnerable population.

Improved Access to Secure and Stable Housing for Seniors in Nevada

6. Send letters to the Governor; Nevada's Housing Division, Department of Business and Industry; the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, DHHS; and the Nevada Association of Counties expressing the Forum's support of greater coordination of State agencies and consolidated efforts to address the growing need for safe, secure, and stable housing for Nevada seniors. The letter will also include a recommendation to establish a multiyear Rent Stabilization Fund.

Support for Recreational Programs for Seniors

7. Send letters to ADSD, DHHS; the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, DHHS; and Nevada's Division of Outdoor Recreation, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, expressing the Forum's support for greater collaboration in creating recreational programs for seniors, especially for those with neurodegenerative disorders. The letters should highlight that older adults reap many rewards from physical activity, including the ability to live independently longer, have a better quality of life, and require less medical care. The letters will also include a recommendation for efforts to create a resource listing of entities that offer such recreational programs for seniors.