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SENATE BILL NO. 110—SENATORS PARKS, WOODHOUSE, FORD,  
ATKINSON, RATTI; DENIS, MANENDO, SEGERBLOM AND SPEARMAN

PREFILED FEBRUARY 8, 2017

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JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN CARLTON, ARAUJO, FRIERSON,  
CARRILLO; SPIEGEL, SPRINKLE AND SWANK

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Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the process for a  
change of name. (BDR 3-142)

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

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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AN ACT relating to civil actions; exempting from the publication  
requirement a court-ordered change of name if the reason  
for the change is to conform the person’s name to his or  
her gender identity; and providing other matters properly  
relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law requires a natural person who files a petition for a court-ordered  
2 change of name to publish certain information once a week for 3 weeks. Existing law waives this  
3 requirement if the person demonstrates that such publication would place his or her  
4 personal safety at risk. (NRS 41.280) This bill additionally waives the publication  
5 requirement if the reason for the change of name is to conform the person’s name to  
6 his or her gender identity.  
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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 41.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 41.280 1. Except as otherwise provided in ~~subsection 2,~~  
3 *subsections 2 and 3*, upon the filing of the petition, the applicant  
4 shall make out and procure a notice that must:



1 (a) State the fact of the filing of the petition, its object, the  
2 applicant's present name and the name which the applicant desires  
3 to bear in the future; and

4 (b) Be published in some newspaper of general circulation in the  
5 county once a week for 3 successive weeks.

6 2. If the applicant submits proof satisfactory to the court that  
7 publication of the change of name would place the applicant's  
8 personal safety at risk, the court shall not require the applicant to  
9 comply with the provisions of subsection 1 and shall order the  
10 records concerning the petition and any proceedings concerning the  
11 petition to be sealed and to be opened for inspection only upon an  
12 order of the court for good cause shown or upon the request of the  
13 applicant.

14 ***3. If the petition filed by the applicant states that the reason  
15 for desiring the change is to conform the applicant's name to his  
16 or her gender identity, the court shall not require the applicant to  
17 comply with the provisions of subsection 1.***

18 **Sec. 2.** NRS 41.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 41.290 1. If, within 10 days after the last publication of the  
20 notice ~~†~~ ***or if, pursuant to subsection 2 or 3 of NRS 41.280, such  
21 publication is not required, within 10 days after filing of the  
22 petition,*** no written objection is filed with the clerk, upon proof of  
23 the filing of the petition and publication of notice ~~†as†~~, ***if*** required in  
24 NRS 41.280, and upon being satisfied by the statements in the  
25 petition, or by other evidence, that good reason exists therefor, the  
26 court shall make an order changing the name of the applicant as  
27 prayed for in the petition. If, within the period an objection is filed,  
28 the court shall appoint a day for hearing the proofs, respectively, of  
29 the applicant and the objection, upon reasonable notice. Upon that  
30 day, the court shall hear the proofs, and grant or refuse the prayer of  
31 the petitioner, according to whether the proofs show satisfactory  
32 reasons for making the change. Before issuing its order, the court  
33 shall specifically take into consideration the applicant's criminal  
34 record, if any, which is stated in the petition.

35 2. Upon the making of an order either granting or denying the  
36 prayer of the applicant, the order must be recorded as a judgment of  
37 the court. If the petition is granted, the name of the applicant must  
38 thereupon be as stated in the order and the clerk shall transmit a  
39 certified copy of the order to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics.

40 3. If an order grants a change of name to a person who has a  
41 criminal record, the clerk shall transmit a certified copy of the order  
42 to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History  
43 for inclusion in that person's record of criminal history.

44 4. Upon receiving uncontrovertible proof that an applicant in  
45 the petition falsely denied having been convicted of a felony, the



1 court shall rescind its order granting the change of name and the  
2 clerk shall transmit a certified copy of the order rescinding the  
3 previous order to:

4 (a) The State Registrar of Vital Statistics for inclusion in the  
5 State Registrar's records.

6 (b) The Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal  
7 History for inclusion in the applicant's record of criminal history.

8 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

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