AN ACT relating to labor relations in local government; increasing the size of the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board from three members to five members; increasing the number of members of the Board who may belong to the same political party from two members to three members; requiring that at least three members of the Board reside in southern Nevada; increasing the number of members that constitute a quorum of the Board from two members to three members; generally authorizing a majority of a quorum to exercise the powers of the Board; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:
Existing law establishes the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board, which oversees labor relations between local government employers and local government employees. The Board consists of three members appointed by the Governor. In addition to other qualifications and limitations, not more than two of the members may belong to the same political party. (NRS 288.080) Section 1 of this bill: (1) increases the membership of the Board to five members; (2) increases the number of members of the Board who may belong to the same political party to three members; and (3) requires that at least three members of the Board reside in southern Nevada. Section 2 of this bill increases from two to three the number of members that constitute a quorum and provides, with certain exceptions, that a majority of a quorum present at any meeting may exercise all the power and authority conferred on the Board. Section 2 further provides that a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board is required to take certain actions, including the appointment of the Commissioner of the Board, the adjustment of the fee charged to local government employers for the support of the Board and the adoption of any rule or regulation. Finally, whenever less than five members of the Board are present at a meeting, section 2 provides that not more than two of the members present may be members of the same political party.

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

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

Section 1. NRS 288.080 is hereby amended to read as follows: 288.080 1. The Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board is hereby created, consisting of five members, broadly representative of the public and not closely allied with any employee organization or local government employer, not more than three of whom may be members of the same
political party, and at least three of whom must reside in southern Nevada. The term of office of each member is 4 years.

2. The Governor shall appoint the members of the Board.

Sec. 2. NRS 288.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:

288.090 1. The members of the Board shall annually elect one of their number as Chair and one as Vice Chair. Any two except as otherwise provided in this section, any three members of the Board constitute a quorum, and a majority of a quorum present at any meeting may exercise all the power and authority conferred on the Board.

2. Except by a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board, the Board may not:

(a) Elect a Chair or Vice Chair;

(b) Appoint the Commissioner or Secretary of the Board, or terminate the employment of the Commissioner or Secretary;

(c) Adjust the fee charged to local government employers pursuant to NRS 288.105 or impose a civil penalty for failure to pay the fee;

(d) Make or adopt any rule or regulation; or

(e) Grant permission to a local government employer to withdraw recognition from an employee organization or order an election pursuant to NRS 288.160.

3. Whenever less than five members of the Board are present at any meeting, not more than two of the members present may be members of the same political party.

4. The Board may, within the limits of legislative appropriations and any other available money:

(a) Appoint a Commissioner and a Secretary, who are in the unclassified service of the State; and

(b) Employ such additional clerical personnel as may be necessary, who are in the classified service of the State.

Sec. 3. Notwithstanding the amendatory provisions of section 1 of this act, a member of the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board who was appointed before July 1, 2017, and is otherwise qualified to serve in that capacity, is entitled to serve the remainder of the term to which he or she was appointed.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.