
SENATE BILL NO. 538—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

(ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR)

MAY 7, 2019

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the provision of information and services to immigrants in this State. (BDR 18-1222)

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

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

AN ACT relating to governmental administration; creating the Office for New Americans in the Office of the Governor; establishing the duties of the Office; requiring state agencies and political subdivisions to provide certain assistance to the Office; requiring each regulatory body to create an online resource for immigrants that provides information about obtaining a license or similar authorization to practice certain occupations or professions; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 **Section 3** of this bill creates the Office for New Americans in the Office of the
2 Governor and requires the Governor to appoint a Director of the Office. **Section 3**
3 authorizes the Director to adopt regulations and to apply for grants and accept gifts,
4 grants and donations on behalf of the Office. **Sections 3 and 4** of this bill require
5 the Director to: (1) advise the Governor and each agency of the Executive
6 Department of the State Government on all matters relating to the formulation and
7 implementation of policies, programs and procedures affecting immigrants in this
8 State; and (2) ensure that the Office performs certain duties. **Section 5** of this bill
9 requires, under certain circumstances, each agency, board, commission,
10 department, officer, employee or agent of this State or a political subdivision of this
11 State to provide assistance to the Office.
12 **Section 6** of this bill requires each regulatory body to create an online resource
13 for immigrants that provides information on how to obtain a license to practice each
14 occupation or profession which the regulatory body regulates. Existing law defines



15 the term "license" to mean "any license, certificate, registration, permit or similar
16 type of authorization issued by a regulatory body." (NRS 622.030)

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 223 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, unless*
5 *the context otherwise requires, "state agency" means every public*
6 *agency, bureau, board, commission, department or division of the*
7 *Executive Department of the State Government.*

8 **Sec. 3. 1.** *The Office for New Americans is hereby created*
9 *in the Office of the Governor.*

10 **2.** *The Governor shall appoint a Director of the Office for*
11 *New Americans. The Director is in the unclassified service of the*
12 *State and serves at the pleasure of the Governor.*

13 **3.** *The Director shall advise the Governor and each state*
14 *agency on all matters relating to the formulation and*
15 *implementation of policies, programs and procedures affecting*
16 *immigrants in this State.*

17 **4.** *The Director may:*

18 *(a) Adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the*
19 *provisions of sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.*

20 *(b) Apply for any available grants and accept any gifts, grants*
21 *or donations for the support of the Office and its activities*
22 *pursuant to sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.*

23 **Sec. 4.** *The Director of the Office for New Americans created*
24 *by section 3 of this act shall ensure that the Office:*

25 **1.** *Serves as the coordinating office for each state agency that*
26 *is responsible for a program that provides services to immigrants*
27 *in this State, including, without limitation, a program that:*

28 *(a) Relates to professional licensing, registration, permitting or*
29 *similar types of authorization issued by a regulatory body;*

30 *(b) Connects immigrants to entrepreneurial and other business*
31 *resources and workforce development training and programs; and*

32 *(c) Assists immigrants in areas relating to quality of life,*
33 *including, without limitation, education, housing and health care.*

34 **2.** *Reviews and analyzes the policies and programs of state*
35 *agencies relating to immigrants and makes recommendations to*
36 *the Governor on such policies and programs, including, without*
37 *limitation, the elimination of duplication in existing state*
38 *programs.*



1 3. *Provides information and assistance relating to issues*
2 *affecting immigrants to state agencies, both directly and by serving*
3 *as a clearinghouse for information received from state agencies,*
4 *other departments of the State Government, political subdivisions*
5 *of this State, any other state or the Federal Government.*

6 4. *Engages in state and federal advocacy and makes*
7 *recommendations concerning law and policy affecting immigrants*
8 *to advance economic and population growth in this State.*

9 5. *Develops sustainable partnerships with community*
10 *foundations and other nonprofit and private sector entities that*
11 *serve immigrant communities in this State.*

12 6. *Coordinates with:*

13 (a) *Refugee resettlement agencies in this State to identify gaps*
14 *in programs provided by those agencies; and*

15 (b) *State agencies to assist in efforts to resettle, integrate and*
16 *assimilate refugees in this State.*

17 **Sec. 5.** *Each agency, board, commission, department, officer,*
18 *employee or agent of this State or a political subdivision of this*
19 *State shall provide the Office for New Americans created by*
20 *section 3 of this act or any representative of the Office such*
21 *assistance as the functions and operations of the Office may*
22 *require if that assistance is within the scope of duties of the person*
23 *or entity.*

24 **Sec. 6.** Chapter 622 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
25 thereto a new section to read as follows:

26 *Each regulatory body shall create an online resource for*
27 *immigrants that provides information on how to obtain a license*
28 *in this State to practice each occupation or profession which the*
29 *regulatory body regulates.*

30 **Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval
31 for the purposes of appointment, employment of staff, adopting
32 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
33 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, and on
34 January 1, 2020, for all other purposes.

