

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 299—ASSEMBLYMAN YEAGER

MARCH 14, 2023

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Creates the Nevada Medal of Distinction. (BDR 18-780)

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

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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 State Government; creating the Nevada Medal of Distinction and the Nevada Awards and Honors Board; setting forth the process for awarding the Nevada Medal of Distinction; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Section 3 of this bill creates the Nevada Medal of Distinction, which must be
2 awarded each year to: (1) one person who is living and has made a significant and
3 lasting contribution to the State of Nevada; and (2) one person who is deceased and
4 during his or her lifetime made a significant and lasting contribution to the State of
5 Nevada.

6 Section 4 of this bill creates the Nevada Awards and Honors Board, to be
7 composed of five members who are residents of this State and appointed by the
8 Governor. The Board is required to: (1) establish a suitable design for the Nevada
9 Medal of Distinction; (2) establish the requirements for determining whether a
10 person has made a significant and lasting contribution to the State; (3) procure the
11 manufacture of the Medal; and (4) take any other action necessary to carry out the
12 provisions of sections 3-6.

13 Section 5 of this bill requires, on or before January 1 of each year, a selection
14 committee to be established, consisting of nine members as follows: (1) three
15 members appointed by the Governor; (2) two members appointed by the Majority
16 Leader of the Senate; (3) two members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly;
17 and (4) two members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Section
18 5 also requires each member of selection committee to submit to the Board the
19 nomination of one person who is living and one person who is deceased to receive
20 the Nevada Medal of Honor for that year.

21 Section 6 of this bill requires the Board to hold a ceremony to announce the
22 recipients of the Nevada Medal of Distinction for that year, which must be held in:
23 (1) Carson City during each odd-numbered year on a date in which the Legislature
24 is in regular session; and (2) the City of Las Vegas during each even-numbered



25 year. **Section 6** further requires the selection committee to meet and select the
26 recipients of the Nevada Medal of Distinction for that year two days before the
27 ceremony.

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 6, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act, unless*
5 *the context otherwise requires, "Board" means the Nevada*
6 *Awards and Honors Board created by section 4 of this act.*

7 **Sec. 3. 1.** *There is hereby created an award to be known as*
8 *the Nevada Medal of Distinction.*

9 **2.** *Each year the Nevada Medal of Distinction must be*
10 *awarded to:*

11 *(a) One person who is living and has made a significant and*
12 *lasting contribution to the State of Nevada; and*

13 *(b) One person who is deceased and during his or her lifetime*
14 *made a significant and lasting contribution to the State of Nevada.*

15 **3.** *The Nevada Medal of Distinction may not be awarded to a*
16 *person more than once.*

17 **Sec. 4. 1.** *There is hereby created the Nevada Awards and*
18 *Honors Board.*

19 **2.** *The Board shall be composed of five members who are*
20 *residents of the State, appointed by the Governor. The members of*
21 *the Board serve for terms of 3 years and may be reappointed.*

22 **3.** *The Board shall:*

23 *(a) Establish a suitable design for the Nevada Medal of*
24 *Distinction such as a ribbon, badge or other insignia;*

25 *(b) Establish the requirements for determining whether a*
26 *person has made a significant and lasting contribution to the*
27 *State;*

28 *(c) Procure the manufacture of the Nevada Medal of*
29 *Distinction; and*

30 *(d) Take any other action necessary to carry out the*
31 *requirements of sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act.*

32 **4.** *The Office of the Governor shall provide administrative*
33 *support to the Board.*

34 **5.** *The Board may apply for and accept grants, gifts,*
35 *donations, bequests or devises on behalf of the Board which must*
36 *be used to carry out the functions of the Board.*

37 **Sec. 5. 1.** *On or before January 1 of each year, there must*
38 *be established a selection committee of nine members as follows:*



- 1 (a) *Three members appointed by the Governor;*
2 (b) *Two members appointed by the Majority Leader of the*
3 *Senate;*
4 (c) *Two members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly;*
5 *and*
6 (d) *Two members appointed by the Chief Justice of the*
7 *Supreme Court of Nevada.*

8 2. *The membership of the selection committee must be posted*
9 *on the Internet website of the Office of the Governor.*

10 3. *On or before the deadline established by the Board, each*
11 *member of the selection committee shall submit to the Board the*
12 *nomination of one person who is living and one person who is*
13 *deceased to receive the Nevada Medal of Honor for that year. The*
14 *Board must post the nominations that are received from each*
15 *member of the selection committee on the Internet website of the*
16 *Governor.*

17 **Sec. 6. 1.** *The Board shall hold a ceremony to announce*
18 *the recipients of the Nevada Medal of Distinction for that year.*
19 *The ceremony must be held:*

20 (a) *In Carson City during each odd-numbered year on a date*
21 *in which the Legislature is in regular session.*

22 (b) *In the City of Las Vegas during each even-numbered year.*

23 2. *Two days before the date on which the ceremony is held,*
24 *the selection committee must meet and select the recipients of the*
25 *Nevada Medal of Distinction for that year, one of whom must be*
26 *living and one of whom must be deceased.*

