

Bills of Interest for Washoe County from the 2021 Legislative Session

Presented: 2/23/2021

Staff Recommendation of Bills to take direction on No New Recommendations to the Board.

Staff Direction to Support

<u>AB1</u>	<p>Revises provisions relating to training for Legislators. Existing law requires newly elected Legislators to attend certain trainings before their first session. This would require that such training also include discussions of local governments to include the structure and authority of local governments, financial administration and services provided.</p> <p><i>Heard in Assembly Legislative Operations and Elections 2/18</i></p>	Support
<u>AB3</u>	<p>Revises provisions concerning the electronic transmission of certain maps and other documents relating to the approval of divisions of land. Would make changes to NRS to allow for certain maps and other documents used for the land use planning approval to be transmitted electronically and obtain the necessary approvals. This change would be permissive.</p> <p><i>Heard in Assembly Government Affairs 2/12</i></p>	Support
<u>AB33</u>	<p>Authorizes the establishment of paternity in proceedings concerning the protection of children. Makes changes to the process for determining paternity for children concerning the safety and protection of the child. Will mirror other judicial procedures and processes to help determine the paternity of the child and make the system more efficient.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Judiciary</i></p>	Support

Staff Direction to Oppose

<u>SB11</u>	<p>Authorizes certain incorporated cities to impose a supplemental government services tax. Allows for a city within Washoe County to be able to impose a supplemental governmental services tax of 1 cent on each \$1 valuation of a vehicle based within that city. This is allowed if the county has not imposed the supplemental government services tax. If a city within Washoe County does impose the supplemental government services tax then the county would be able to impose the tax only on residents where the tax has not been imposed.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Revenue and Economic Development</i></p>	Oppose
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New to Watch List for Commissioners

<u>AB126</u>	<p>Provides for Presidential Preference Primary Election. Establishes the requirement and procedures for conducting a presidential preference primary election rather than a caucus. <i>Referred to Assembly Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB127</u>	<p>Revises Provisions relating to the confidentiality of certain personal information of peace officers and retired Police Officers. Adds current and retired peace officers to the list of people who are allowed to obtain a court order informing the clerk and assessor to their personal information confidential. <i>Referred to Assembly Government Affairs</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB129</u>	<p>Revises provisions governing campaign finance. Existing law requires a committee for political action to open and maintain a separate account in a financial institution located in the United States for the deposit of any contributions received not later than 1 week after receiving contributions the sum of which, in the aggregate, is \$1,000 or more. This bill requires, instead, that a committee for political action must open and maintain such an account not later than 1 week after receiving contributions the sum of which, in the aggregate, is \$100 or more. <i>Referred to Assembly Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB134</u>	<p>Revises provisions relating to elections. Reverses changes to the election process passed under AB4 from the Special Session in 2020. This repeals that mail ballots be sent to all active registered voters, reverts the timeline for oversea military voters, restricts who can return absentee ballots on behalf of a voter, if assistance is offered to a voter that the person assisting sign an affidavit and creates stricter adherence to signature verification. <i>Referred to Assembly Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB146</u>	<p>Revises provisions relating to water. Authorizes the Director of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the State Environmental Commission to establish new measures over which counties must control the impact caused due to the injection of additional fluids into a water source. <i>Referred to Assembly Natural Resources</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB147</u>	<p>Authorizes a board of county commissioners to create the office of county counsel. Transfers some of the noncriminal jurisdiction of the District Attorney to a newly appointed County Counsel who would perform legal duties mainly encompassing advice to commissioners as well as drafting legal documents but also relating to civil matters involving child abuse or neglect. <i>Referred to Assembly Government Affairs</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB149</u>	<p>Enacts Provisions relating to cannabis independent testing laboratories. Establishes new guidelines to which a justice court can refer to in the case that a cannabis cultivation facility or production facility owes a debt to an independent Cannabis testing lab and the civil penalties levied against outstanding debts. <i>Referred to Assembly Judiciary</i></p>	Watch
<u>SB121</u>	<p>Revises provisions relating to elections. Makes revisions to the process of obtaining signatures to be included in the presidential primary election, the recall or impeachment of a public officer and submission with the Registrar of Voters and their submission to the Secretary of State. <i>Referred to Assembly Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	Watch
<u>SB122</u>	<p>Requires certain health and safety training for employees of cannabis establishments. Alters the requirements set for employees and supervisors working in a cannabis establishment to include a safety training that would additionally require the proof of their completion of the safety training in clear view of their patrons and included civil penalties for not complying. <i>Referred to Assembly Commerce and Labor</i></p>	Watch

Watch List for Commissioners

<u>AB5</u>	<p>Makes various changes to provisions relating to judicial review of orders and decisions of the State Engineer.</p> <p>Currently a review is conducted as an informal summary review of an appeal for those who feel aggrieved by an order or decision. This would limit the circumstances in which an aggrieved person may have an determination review by the court.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Natural Resources</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB6</u>	<p>Revises provisions governing an application for temporary change relating to appropriated water.</p> <p>Currently any request to temporarily change the place of diversion, manner or use of place of use of water already appropriated to apply to the State Engineer and to hold hearing for such requests. This would make the requirement for a hearing from the State Engineer to be discretionary.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Natural Resources</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB39</u>	<p>Revises provisions relating to public Records.</p> <p>Clarifies that internal notes and deliberative items are excluded from public records requests.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Government Affairs</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB54</u>	<p>Creates the Advisory Committee on Traffic Safety within the Department of Transportation.</p> <p>Creates the Advisory Committee on Traffic Safety and requires the Advisory Committee to review, study and make recommendations relating to traffic safety in Nevada and prepare an annual report of their activities. The committee would include 5 members who represent local government entities appointed by the Director of the Department of Transportation.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Growth and Infrastructure</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB63</u>	<p>Makes various changes relating to the financial administration of local governments.</p> <p>Adds emergencies to the eligible uses for a local government who has established a fund to stabilize the operations of a local government from the 2019 legislative session. Previously these funds could be used for natural disasters.</p> <p><i>Heard in Assembly Government Affairs 2/12</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB66</u>	<p>Revises provisions relating to the abatement of certain taxes.</p> <p>Makes changes to the timelines for consideration and implementation of abatement of partial abatement of certain taxes from the Office of Economic Development.</p> <p><i>Heard in Assembly Revenue on 2/2</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB83</u>	<p>Revises the date of the legal holiday for the observation of Nevada Day.</p> <p>Changes the date for when Nevada Day is observed as a state holiday to October 31. Unless it falls on a Sunday in which case the holiday is observed on the following Monday, or if it falls on a Saturday it observed on the preceding Friday.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Government Affairs</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB86</u>	<p>Makes various changes relating to the recovery of certain expenses and costs incurred in extinguishing wildfires.</p> <p>Expands ability for a local government to bring action to recover certain expenses related to the cause of a wildfire. Removes the requirement that lives have to have been threatened.</p> <p><i>Scheduled for a Hearing in Assembly Government Affairs on 2/22</i></p>	Watch
<u>AB88</u>	<p>Makes various changes relating to governmental entities.</p> <p>Requiring governing entity of a school to adopt policy prohibiting the use of racially discriminatory identifiers of imagery, language, or natural person against a natural person who has a history of discrimination. May use identifier of Indian tribe with approval from said tribe. Board may make recommendations towards changes or additions to names of geographic features and places.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Education</i></p>	Watch

<p><u>AB93</u></p>	<p>Revises provisions relating to states emergency or declarations of disaster proclaimed by the Governor. Expands the ability of the Legislature to terminate a declaration of emergency as declared by the Governor. Also requires that the Legislative Commission or Legislature approve any requirement or restriction placed on a business by the Governor under a declaration of emergency.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Government Affairs</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>
<p><u>AB98</u></p>	<p>Revises provisions governing legislative measures that may have requested for an earlier legislative session. Places a reduction on the number of BDR's that can be introduced from the Office of the Governor, Legislators and Legislative committees. Also reduces BDR's to be introduced by some local governments; NACO reduced by 1 to keep 4, Clark County by 1 to keep 3, as well as removing the larger tiered cities of over 500,000 population to be in alignment with those 150,000 or more.</p> <p><i>Referred to Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>
<p><u>AB103</u></p>	<p>Revises provisions governing the preservation of certain prehistoric sites. For any person attempting to excavate on prehistoric indian burial grounds or have private property that they know are prehistoric indian burial grounds, the individual must first obtain a permit from the musem director to do so. However, people may still excavate on private land without a permit that is not known to be prehistoric Indian burial grounds.</p> <p><i>Referred to Assembly Natural Resources</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>

Senate Bills

<p><u>SB4</u></p>	<p>Revises provision relating to the imposition of certain penalties by ordinance for certain violations relating to fireworks. Clarifies the penalties that may be imposed for violation of sale, use, storage or possession of fireworks. Creates the limits of \$50,000 for a single civil violation.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Government Affairs</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>
<p><u>SB10</u></p>	<p>Revises provisions relating to taxation. This would create an annual cap on increase of property taxes on single-family residents and residential rental property cannot be less than 3% or 8% for all other property.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Revenue and Economic Development</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>
<p><u>SB13</u></p>	<p>Revises provisions relating to collective bargaining by local government employers. Increases the ending fund balance from 16.67% to 25% which makes more money available to the county for budgeting.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Government Affairs</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>
<p><u>SB25</u></p>	<p>Revises provisions governing the determination of whether food for human consumption is subject to sale and use taxes. Currently prepared food for immediate consumption is subject to sales and use tax. How this is determined has been associated with where the food is sold. This would delete those sections of NRS and make all food for human consumption to be exempt from sale and use tax.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Revenue and Economic Development</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>
<p><u>SB49</u></p>	<p>Revises provisions relating to cannabis. Clarifies that any owner of a cannabis establishment, even those under 5%, must register with the state. Makes changes to the labeling requirement for cannabis products. Removes authority for the Cannabis Compliance Board to take testimony by deposition in hearings before the board.</p> <p><i>Heard in Senate Health and Human Services on 2/4</i></p>	<p>Watch</p>

SB63	<p>Revises provisions relating to hemp. Requires application for a grower, handler or producer to the State Department of Agriculture each year. Also creates authorization to deny an application submitted to the State. Would set further requirements for the sampling and testing of hemp. <i>Referred to Senate Natural Resources</i></p>	Watch
SB64	<p>Revises provisions relating to taxation. Property tax reforms including: 1) changing the rate of depreciation from 1.5% to 1.0% and capping the allowed amount of depreciation at 75% of replacement value; and 2) for commercial property - eliminating the secondary calculation on the cap on the property tax bill so that it is always 8%. <i>Referred to Senate Revenue and Economic Development</i></p>	Watch
SB73	<p>Allows the imposition of certain taxes or the reallocation of certain tax revenue to fund certain natural resources projects and services in the City of Reno based on the recommendations of a committee and voter approval. Would allow for the City of Reno to create a committee to work on a question to be added to the ballot to fund capital projects and ongoing operational costs for parks and recreational facilities, preservation of open space and protection of the Truckee River and other natural resources in the City of Reno. Taxes to be considered by that group include a tax on rental of transient lodging, supplemental governmental services tax, transfer of real property, sales tax, property tax or reallocation of taxes collected to fund the flood management authority. <i>Referred to Senate Revenue and Economic Development</i></p>	Watch
SB77	<p>Revises provisions relating to public bodies. Exempts public bodies from the Open Meeting Law requirements for purposed of deliberative meetings on impacts related to the National Environmental Policy Act. <i>Heard in Senate Government Affaris on 2/10</i></p>	Watch
SB84	<p>Increases the maximum number of voters in an election precinct. Currently the maximum number of voters in an election precinct is 3,000, this bill will increase that to 5,000. <i>Referred to Senate Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	Watch
SB85	<p>Revises provisions relating to elections. Creates an ability for write-in candidates in State and Federal general elections. <i>Referred to Senate Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	Watch
SB88	<p>Revises provisions relating to emergency management. Restricts the ability of the Governor to delcare a state of emergency for 30 days. For the state of emergency to continue beyond that time would require approval of the Legislature. <i>Referred to Senate Government Affairs</i></p>	Watch
SB97	<p>Provides that certain restrictions relating to public gathers do not apply to certain events at which a vaccine for COVID-19 is administered. Removes the limits on number of people who can gather whether inside or outside, if the gather is a result of an event where a COVID-19 vaccine is being administered. <i>Referred to Senate Government Affairs</i></p>	Watch
SB99	<p>Makes various changes to provisions relating to fiscal notes. Currently bills introduced into the legislature require on the publication of the bill if there is a fiscal impact to the state or local governments. This proposal would require that same notification if the bill create revenue to the state or local governments. <i>Referred to Senate Legislative Operations and Elections</i></p>	Watch

<u>SB106</u>	<p>Uniform Easement and Relocation Act. Creates a standard method to determine easements and any potential relocation of easements or utilities. Would require court approval for any action to go forward.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Judiciary</i></p>	Watch
<u>SB107</u>	<p>Makes various changes relating to the statute of limitations for certain causes of action. Adds wrongful termination to the 4 year statute of limitations in any civil case that is filed.</p> <p><i>Heard in Senate Judiciary on 2/18</i></p>	Watch
<u>SB109</u>	<p>Revises the provision relating to the collection of certain information by governmental agencies. For any county agency that already gathers demographic information such as race and ethnicity would be required to add on gender and sexual orientation. Same as the question of race or ethnicity, the questions of gender and sexual orientation will not be required to be filled out by any individual.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Government Affairs</i></p>	Watch
<u>SJR1</u>	<p>Proposed to amend the Nevada Constitution to provide that the Nevada Court of Appeals has original jurisdiction over certain cases relating to water. This senate joint resolution was introduced last session, meaning it will need to pass this session and then go onto the ballot for approval to be enacted. Currently a civil case brought challenging a final order or decision from the State Engineer would go to the Justice Court or District Court. If appealed those cases would then be heard by the Nevada Supreme Court or Nevada Court of Appeals. If passed any such civil case would have original jurisdiction with the Nevada Court of Appeals.</p> <p><i>Referred to Senate Judiciary</i></p>	Watch
Bills Removed from the List		
<u>AB106</u>	<p>Makes an appropriation to the Office of Economic Development for the provision of grants to certain entities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Provides an additional \$50,000,000 grant funds for operational support to small businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other similar entities impacted by COVID-19. This is in addition to the previous \$50,000,000 for a total grant funding of \$100,000,000.</p> <p><i>Approved by the Governor on Feb 16, 2021</i></p>	Watch