

Important Legislation Passed in the 2007 Nevada Legislative Session

Here are some of the most important bills to pass the Nevada Legislature in this session (and a few which didn't pass but are important to fight for again in 2009). I've listed the main sponsor of each piece of legislation or the committee which introduced it. Each of these sponsors and committees worked hard to craft good legislation, and each one deserves credit for his or her efforts.

Children

AB 147 Requires that child welfare agencies that take a child under the age of three into protective custody may not place the child into an institution unless a foster care home is not available, it is necessary to avoid separating siblings or the child has special needs. Assembly Health and Human Services Committee (Sheila Leslie)

Effective Date: January 1, 2008. Beginning January 1, 2009, the child protective provisions of this bill apply to children 6 years of age or younger.

AB 261 Requires an agency that provides child welfare services to release upon request certain information relating to a case of abuse or neglect that results in the death or near death of a child. Assembly Health and Human Services Committee (Barbara Buckley)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 263 Strengthens process for reviewing child deaths, requires the Division of Child and Family Services to evaluate and require corrective action against child welfare agencies that don't comply with state and federal law, and allows the interview of a sibling regarding the abuse or neglect of a child. Assembly Health and Human Services Committee (Sheila Leslie)

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

AB 629, Section 5 Makes an appropriation to the Legislative Fund for the Legislative Auditor to enter into a contract with a consultant to conduct a performance audit of agencies which provide child welfare services. Assembly Ways and Means Committee (Susan Gerhardt)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007

AB 299 Enables youth shelters to better help runaway and homeless youths when they are not able to reach a parent or guardian. This bill was requested by advocates for homeless and runaway youths. Marcus Conklin

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 410 Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a centralized immunization system to assist parents and medical providers in assuring young children receive immunizations on time. The bill also authorizes a study of the feasibility of allowing private entities to purchase immunizations through the Department to decrease costs and increase coverage. Sheila Leslie

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 507 Requires that workers who come in contact with children at all facilities where children are placed in protective custody receive certain levels of training and that any out-of-state facility used to house children in protective custody or detention be reviewed prior to the placement of children in their care. Assembly Health and Human Services Committee (Sheila Leslie)

Effective Date: June 2, 2007, for the purposes of adopting regulations, and October 1, 2007, for all other purposes.

SB 354 Allows school police to issue traffic citations around schools, prohibits the possession of firearms at daycare centers, requires the evaluation and drug testing of a child taken into custody for possession of a firearm at school, and puts new restrictions on group housing for sex offenders. Horsford/Kirkpatrick

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

SB 356 Requires Division of Child and Family Services to adopt reasonable and uniform standards for determining whether immediate action is needed to protect a child from injury, neglect or abuse. Horsford/Kirkpatrick

Effective Dates: Sections 4 and 5 on July 1, 2007; Section 2 on October 1, 2007

Consumer protection

AB 2 Requires a body shop or garage to perform repairs on a motor vehicle in accordance with any manufacturer's specifications and with the written estimate agreed upon by the shop or garage and the person who authorized the repairs. When it is determined that the cost of an authorized repair will exceed the written estimate by 20 percent or \$100, whichever is less, the body shop or garage must notify both the owner and insurer of the motor vehicle, unless a written waiver has been executed. The bill also applies the trade practices presently required of garages to body shops. Bernie Anderson

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 127 Provides an additional exception to the two-party consent rule to record telephone conversations by authorizing a person who receives a call from a collection agency regarding a debt owed by the person to record that telephone call. The person is required to make a statement immediately after the recording begins, notifying the collection agent that the call is being recorded. The bill also requires a collection agency, in order to verify a debt, to obtain documents related to the debt from the creditor and provide those documents to the debtor. The measure also requires a collection agency that is collecting a debt on behalf of a hospital to provide certain information related to the debt to a debtor not later than 5 days after the initial communication with the debtor. The bill also incorporates provisions of the federal Fair Debt Collection Act and has provisions regarding foreign debt collection agencies. Debbie Smith

Effective Date: The provisions that remove the exemption related to licensing by certain foreign collection agencies are effective on January 1, 2008. The measure is effective upon passage and approval (June 14, 2007) for all other purposes.

AB 279 Prohibits the issuer of a gift certificate from charging a fee on the basis of inactivity if the inactivity is for less than three continuous years and reverts a certain portion of the unredeemed value remaining on a gift certificate issued or sold in this State upon expiration, such funds to be used for education. This is the only bill this session that GENERATES new funding for education. Ruben Kihuen

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 329 Establishes regulations for nontraditional mortgage loans such as interest only and adjustable rate mortgages. David Parks

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing necessary administrative tasks (May 21, 2007), and on January 1, 2008, for all other purposes.

AB 375 Tightens the regulation of mortgage brokers to protect investors and the public. Provides various education and exam requirements for licensing as a mortgage broker or agent. Requires that every mortgage broker must ensure that mortgage includes a reasonable fee for servicing the loan. John Ocegüera

Effective Date: This bill is effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations, administering certain examinations, and approving courses of continuing education (June 1, 2007). Certain sections of the bill are effective on October 1, 2007, while others are effective on July 1, 2008.

AB 393 Makes certain provisions concerning deceptive trade practices applicable to garages and garagemen. The Commissioner of the Consumer Affairs Division may impose an administrative fine of not more than \$10,000 against a person who engages in a deceptive trade practice, may negotiate the recovery of losses by an aggrieved person, and may mediate disputes.

This bill also requires the Consumer Affairs Division to prepare an annual report for submission to the Legislature on the complaints and investigations related to garages and body shops, the progress on joint efforts with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), and the progress on enhancing electronic communications with the DMV. This measure also creates a \$7,500 revolving account for the Bureau of Consumer Protection within the Office of the Attorney General for expenses related to undercover investigations of persons allegedly engaging in a deceptive trade practice or a violation of the duties of a garageman. The Commissioner of Consumer Affairs or the Director of the DMV may request an undercover investigation, or the Bureau of Consumer Protection may conduct an investigation on its own motion. The bill also requires that a person selling a motor vehicle disclose to the buyer if the vehicle has been rebuilt or reconstructed and makes other changes regarding salvage vehicles, salvage titles, salvage pools, and wreckers. Barbara Buckley

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 404 Requires an insurer who takes adverse action against an applicant or policyholder based on his or her credit information to send a notice explaining the reasons in a form approved by the Commissioner of Insurance. Debbie Smith

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 428 Makes “pretexting a crime. Pretexting is the practice of identity thieves who fraudulently obtain personal information to later access personal records. David Parks

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 440 Prohibits a person from engaging in certain conduct with the intent to defraud a participant in a mortgage lending transaction. Nevada leads the country in home foreclosure and this legislation will criminalize deceptive mortgage lending practices. Marcus Conklin

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 478 Clamps down on high interest lenders who are charging outrageous interest rates for loans made for more than a year and puts new protections in the law for military personnel who are victimized by high interest lenders. Barbara Buckley

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

SB 302 Outlaws universal default charges on credit cards, prohibiting the credit card company from increasing the interest rate on an unpaid balance because the holder had been late on an unrelated payment. The cardholder is often not aware of the policy because it is buried in the fine print of the agreement. Dina Titus

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

Education

AB 131 Increases accountability for career and technical education and requires compacts for joint operation of career and technical education. Assembly Education Committee (Bonnie Parnell/Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 212 Initiates various reforms in our high schools. The bill requires a four year academic plan for high school students, establishes a school-within-a-school design to provide a small environment more conducive to student learning, requires a uniform grading scale, adopts policies for school counselors to enable them to counsel instead of spend all their time on administrative paperwork, and expands the compulsory attendance age from 17 years to 18 years. Assembly Education Committee (Bonnie Parnell/Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 334 Creates the Charter School District for State Board-Sponsored Charter Schools, and revises the eligibility requirement for charter school administrators. Debbie Smith

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 627, Section 19 Requires each school district to expend the revenue made available through AB 627, as well as other revenue from state, local and federal sources, in a manner which is designed to attain the goals of the Legislature regarding educational reform in this State, especially with regard to assisting pupils in need of remediation and pupils who are not proficient in the English language. Assembly Ways and Means Committee (Mo Denis)

This bill is effective on July 1, 2007.

AB 460 Requires administrators to spend a certain amount of time personally observing teachers in the classroom to strengthen the evaluation process. Bernie Anderson

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 563 Provides that the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) shall project the local school support tax revenues available for distribution through the State Distributive School Account by May 1, 2008. If the projected amount exceeds \$1,146,335,088, the Superintendent of Public Instruction must recalculate the basic support guarantee based on a salary increase of 4.375 percent instead of 4 percent. (Directs savings of LEED bill to teacher salaries). Assembly Education Committee (Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 627 Appropriates funding for a number of critical education programs, including career and technical education, incentives for hard-to-fill positions, teacher pay raises and full-day kindergarten in more schools. Assembly Ways and Means Committee (Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: Provisions of the bill concerning the calculation for basic support for FY 2008-2009 and for fund transfers to support the Class Size Reduction Program in FY 2008-2009 are effective on July 1, 2008. All other provisions are effective on July 1, 2007.

ACR 6 Urges the boards of trustees of school districts and the Nevada System of Higher Education to expand certain programs of career and technical education. Assembly Education Committee (Bonnie Parnell/Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: Upon passage (May 17, 2007).

AB 1 (Special Session) Establishes the Grant Fund for Incentives for Licensed Educational Personnel and requires the board of trustees of each school district to establish an incentive pay program, which must be designed to attract and retain teachers, school psychologists, school counselors, school librarians, and school administrators in at-risk schools. Teachers in certain subject specialties also are eligible for the program. In no event may such personnel receive an amount of incentive pay in one year which is greater than \$3,500. The measure directs the Superintendent of Public Instruction to compile a list of the incentive pay programs in the school districts and submit the list to the Interim Finance Committee for approval. The measure also repeals the existing incentive program that provides for the purchase of one fifth of a year of retirement credit for eligible teachers and other licensed personnel, although teachers currently receiving the credit may continue to do so. Finally, the measure revises the manner in which the

Superintendent of Public Instruction's biennial budget request is to be prepared.
Committee of the Whole (Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007. (Considered as AB 565 during the Regular Session.)

AB 2 (Special Session) Makes appropriations from the State General Fund for various programs including gifted and talented programs for allocation to the school districts; for pilot programs for alternative programs of education for disruptive pupils; to the school districts that establish pilot programs to teach the English language to limited English proficient pupils during the summer before they enroll in kindergarten; to the Communities in Schools of Southern Nevada, Inc., to coordinate the provision of student and family services to youth in Clark County; to the Greater Las Vegas After-School All-Stars, for the implementation and operation of an after-school program in certain at-risk schools in the Clark County School District; for allocation to Save the Children for in-school and after-school literacy programs; to provide signing bonuses to teachers of students who are deaf or hard of hearing who are newly hired by school districts; for training stipends to teachers of and interpreters for students who are deaf or hard of hearing who engaged in college or university course work related to the education of students who are deaf or hard of hearing; to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in May 2009 in Reno; and to establish a program to develop a magnet or regional elementary school pilot program for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The bill also appropriates money for a parental involvement coordinator in the Department of Education. Committee of the Whole (Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007. (Considered as AB 553 during the Regular Session.)

AB3 (Special Session) Establishes a pilot program for performance pay and enhanced compensation for the recruitment and retention of licensed teachers. The Clark County School District and the Washoe County School District must participate in the pilot. All other school districts may apply to the Nevada Department of Education to participate. Committee of the Whole (Debbie Smith)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007. (Considered as AB 280 during the Regular Session.)

SB 238 Provides for empowerment schools throughout Nevada. Senate Human Resources (Steven Horsford)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Elections/Ethics

AB 80 Requires Limited Liability Corporations (LLCs) and certain other business entities that do not publicly register their purpose and participants and that make campaign contributions to register that information with the Secretary of State prior to contributing to political campaigns. It also requires these entities to file reports of their expenditures and contributions. This information would be available to the public. Assembly Elections, Procedures and Ethics Committee (Marcus Conklin)

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

SB 425 Defines the term “legal defense fund” to mean an account established to defray attorney’s fees or other legal costs incurred by a candidate or public officer if that official becomes subject to any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding arising from a campaign, the electoral process or the performance of his or her official duties. The bill also requires a person administering a legal defense fund to report to the Secretary of State within five days the creation of such a fund, and to report any contributions to or expenditures from the fund. The bill also prohibits legislators, the Governor or Lt. Governor from raising money for the legal defense fund during the time prohibited for campaign fundraising. Dina Titus

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval (June 15, 2007).

Eminent Domain

AB 102 Prohibits the exercise of eminent domain to acquire property if the entity acquiring the property will transfer any interest in the property to a private person or entity. The entity acquiring the property now has the burden of proof that the property will be used for a public purpose. The owner of the property taken can reacquire the property for the price paid by the entity that took the property if the entity does not use the property for the stated purpose. William Horne

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

Environment/Energy

AB 7 Provides that certain public utilities have the burden of proving that costs sought to be recovered in deferred accounting proceedings were the result of reasonable and prudent practices and transactions. Barbara Buckley

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval (May 29, 2007).

AB 115 Requires the rewriting of mining regulations to protect workers exposed to mercury in mines and assess a fee on operators of mines to pay for two additional inspectors to make unannounced visits to Nevada mines as an added protection from excess mercury emissions. Sheila Leslie

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval (June 14, 2007).

AB 178 Raises the State net metering cap to 1 megawatt to allow larger-scale renewable energy projects to receive credit on their power bills for excess energy contributed to the grid. The bill also establishes a rebate program to encourage wind energy projects patterned after the successful “Solar Generations” incentive program. Also in this bill, Nevada will be the first state in the union to set an efficiency standard for light bulbs to promote energy conservation. David Bobzien

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval for purposes of adopting regulations and taking other necessary implementation steps (June 14, 2007), and on October 1, 2007, for all other purposes. The Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program Act expires by limitation on June 30, 2011.

AB . Increases the number of schools that may participate in the Solar Energy Systems Demonstration Program and the total kilowatt capacity of such school solar energy systems Marcus Conklin

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 217 Revises the membership of the State Environmental Commission to require that one member appointed by the Governor must have experience in advocating issues relating to conservation. David Bobzien

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

SB 422 Requires the establishment of a registry of greenhouse gas emissions and an inventory of greenhouse gases released in this State. Dina Titus

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Good Government

AB 94 Repeals restrictions in the Administrative Procedures Act that prevented public interest groups from intervening in contested administrative proceedings involving environmental issues. Leslie

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval (May 29, 2007).

AB 433 Limits the authority of the Tax Commission to hold closed meetings. Barbara Buckley

Effective July 1, 2007.

AB 186 Allows the Department of Taxation to audit businesses receiving tax abatements to determine if they are in compliance with the requirements for the abatement. Marcus Conklin

Effective July 1, 2007.

Health care/Prescription drugs

AB 128 Requires a pharmaceutical company that employs a person to sell or market a drug, medicine, chemical, device or appliance in this State to adopt a written marketing code of conduct. This bill also requires the company to adopt a training program and policies and procedures, identify a compliance officer, conduct an annual audit and submit an annual report certifying compliance with the marketing code of conduct. Marcus Conklin

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 146 Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a program and website to provide Nevadans information about the cost and quality of services provided by hospitals. Assembly Health and Human Services Committee (Sheila Leslie)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 158 Requires the Secretary of State to establish and maintain the Registry of Advance Directives for Health Care on his Internet website so that patients' end-of-life decisions will be housed in a secure location (lock box) and accessible to family and doctors in case of emergency. David Bobzien

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval for the purpose of developing regulations and performing any preparatory administrative tasks necessary to carry out the provisions of this measure (June 14, 2007), and on July 1, 2007, for all other purposes.

AB 247 Limits the interest and other fees that hospitals can charge patients, requires hospital debt collectors to abide by the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and reduces the Statute of Limitations on actions to collect hospital debt to four years. Barbara Buckley

Effective Date: This bill is effective for any debt accrued on or after October 1, 2007. The provision related to the Health Insurance Flexibility and Accountability Holding Account is effective upon passage and approval (June 4, 2007). All other provisions are effective on October 1, 2007.

AB 443 Ensures that people are appropriately tested for HIV, receive counseling if the result is positive, and that results are reported and maintained in accordance with state and federal regulations. David Parks

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 478 Clamps down on high interest lenders who are charging outrageous interest rates for loans made for more than a year and puts new protections in the law for military personnel who are victimized by high interest lenders. Barbara Buckley

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007

SB 409 Requires coverage by many insurance companies for the cervical cancer vaccine and prostate cancer screening. Dina Titus/Bob Coffin

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 232 Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a website to make available the cost of the most commonly prescribed prescription drugs at pharmacies throughout the state. Sheila Leslie/Valerie Wiener

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval for the purpose of determining whether sufficient money is available to fund one or more components of the programs and other duties of the Department relating to this measure (June 14, 2007), and on October 1, 2007, for all other purposes.

AB 235 Allows a consumer to request from his or her doctor, at the time a prescription is written, a “plain English” label to be placed on the bottle by the pharmacist indicating what condition the drug treats. David Bobzien

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 446 Requires a practitioner to obtain a patient utilization report concerning the patient from a computerized program before writing a prescription for a controlled substance, to ensure that the patient does not already have a prescription for that controlled substance. Mo Denis

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

SB 266 Requires health care providers to ensure pregnant women and newborns are tested for HIV. Horsford/Parks

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

Housing

AB 629, Section 2 Makes an appropriation to support local governments in their efforts to provide transitional housing and supportive services for persons who are homeless. Assembly Ways and Means Committee (Sheila Leslie)

Effective date: Upon passage and approval (June 13, 2007).

AB 629, Section 3 Appropriates from the State General Fund to the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry the sum of \$1,000,000 to provide grants to encourage the creation of employer-assisted housing programs. Assembly Ways and Means Committee (Barbara Buckley)

Effective Date: June 13, 2007

AB 439 Strengthens requirements that city and county governments must develop and show progress on a plan for affordable housing, redefined as housing affordable by a family whose income is 80 percent or less of their county median income. Marcus Conklin

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

Immigrants/Minorities

AB 383 Criminalizes human trafficking and targets the ‘coyotes’ who transport human beings as cargo for a profit. The bill also requires that the Department of Business and Industry website provide a link to the Social Security Administration website to help employers verify employment status. Lastly, this bill allows the Nevada Tax Commission to conduct a hearing after a federal finding that an employer has violated U.S. law by knowingly and unlawfully hiring an undocumented person, in violation of federal immigration law. The Tax Commission must assess fines for egregious violations. Marilyn Kirkpatrick

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 629, Sections 11 and 12 Creates the Office of Ombudsman of Consumer Affairs for Minorities, whose duties include outreach and education for members of minority groups regarding consumer fraud and assistance to members of minority groups who are victims of consumer fraud. Assembly Commerce and Labor Committee (Ruben Kihuen)

Effective: July 1, 2007 nad June 13, 2007

Public safety

AB 14 Allows law enforcement to better PREVENT costly and unsightly graffiti by giving them the authority to arrest someone who has a graffiti implement in certain places before the perpetrator actually commits the vandalism. The bill also enhances penalties for graffiti crimes. John Ocegüera

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 58 Expands the first degree murder qualifications to include murder committed in the perpetration or attempted perpetration of abuse of an older person or vulnerable person. John Ocegüera

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 91 Requires reporting of the theft or unusual sale of explosives that can be used to make explosive devices. Susan Gerhardt

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 92 Expands the crimes for which a convicted person is required to submit a biological specimen to apply to all felonies, rather than certain felonies. It also prohibits the sharing of biological specimens and certain information except under certain circumstances. Bernie Anderson

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 112 Provides that persons who violate a protection order cannot receive bail for a minimum of 12 hours after their arrest if they have previously violated a protection order, have a blood alcohol level of .08 or higher, or have a controlled substance in their blood. Bonnie Parnell

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 114 Requires creditors who solicit offers by mail to verify the identity of any person who accepts but has listed a different address than the mail was originally sent to. The creditors may do this by calling the person at their listed phone number or by receiving ID from the person. This also allows victims of identity fraud to bring civil suit for damages related to the crime against a public officer or employee. Peggy Pierce

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 137 Increases the penalty for engaging in acts of terrorism to imprisonment for a minimum term of two years and a maximum of twenty years. This bill also creates a new crime of delivering a "hoax substance," defined as any item that a reasonable person would believe is a weapon of mass destruction, biological agent, radioactive agent or other lethal agent, any toxin or any delivery system for use as a weapon. John Ocegüera

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 148 Prohibits the sale of over the counter drugs that are used to manufacture methamphetamine in places other than pharmacies, prohibits the disposition of chemical waste or debris from the manufacture of meth, and adds lithium metal and sodium metal to the list of prohibited chemicals. Assembly Health and Human Services (Bernie Anderson)

Effective Date: August 1, 2007

AB 194 Allows judges to order persons with extended protective orders against them to surrender their firearms where there is a showing that there is a danger of gun violence or threats. William Horne

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

AB 226 Creates a unit within the Office of the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute crimes of abuse, neglect, isolation, or exploitation of senior citizens and provides additional penalties for persons who commit certain crimes against older persons. Kathy McClain

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 313 Requires the Department of Education to establish a procedure for the notification, tracking, and monitoring of the status of criminals cases involving licensed teachers. John Ocegüera

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 344 Makes it a Class E felony to intentionally or knowingly make a false or misleading statement for the purpose of activating the Statewide Alert System for the Safe Return of Abducted Children (Amber alert system). John Ocegüera

Effective Date: Upon passage and approval (May 29, 2007).

AB 352 Prohibits the issuance of a work card to a person working in a senior apartment complex if that person has been convicted of certain crimes, including a Class A, B or C felony, sex offenses, or crimes against senior citizens. Gerhardt

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

AB 579 Requires all convicted sex offenders and offenders against children to register with local law enforcement agencies before their release from prison. If they were not imprisoned, they must register within three days of being sentenced for the offense. Also requires that the community be notified of the presence of a sex offender of all tiers. Assembly Select Committee on Corrections, Parole and Pardons (Dave Parks)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

SB 112 Restricts the sale and purchase of products that contain materials that can be used to manufacture methamphetamine and requires sellers of products that contain materials that can be used to manufacture methamphetamine to maintain a logbook. Dina Titus

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

SB 354 Allows school police to issue traffic citations around schools, prohibits the possession of firearms at daycare centers, requires the evaluation and drug testing of a child taken into custody for possession of a firearm at school, and puts new restrictions on group housing for sex offenders. Horsford/Kirkpatrick

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

SB 471 Strengthens Nevada's sex offender laws by prohibiting a Tier 3 sex offender from knowingly being within 500 feet of a place where children congregate or living within 1000 feet of a place where children congregate, increasing penalties for sex offenders who commit a crime against a child, electronic monitoring of certain sex offenders with the sex offender paying the cost, requiring a DNA sample at the time of registration, requiring sex offenders to register at the time of release from prison, Senate Committees on Judiciary and Finance (incorporates provisions advocated in earlier bills by Titus and Gibbons).

Effective Dates: parts upon passage and approval, July 1, and Oct 1; Sections 5 and 6 sunset on June 30, 2008.

Quality of life

AB 463 Requires local governments to create a registry of any residential facility that provides shelter to four or more persons. Counties or cities may adopt certain regulations regarding density of such establishments in a geographic area or, if it fails to do so, by operation of state law all such facilities must be 2,500-foot apart. Any applicant for a license to operate a "residential establishment" must provide evidence satisfactory to the Health Division that the establishment will be located and operated with those requirements. Marilyn Kirkpatrick

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

Seniors

AB 58 Expands the first degree murder qualifications to include murder committed in the perpetration or attempted perpetration of abuse of an older person or vulnerable person. John Ocegüera

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

AB 87 Requires bank tellers and other employees of financial institutions to receive training concerning the financial exploitation of older and vulnerable persons and to report the suspected or known exploitation to the appropriate authorities for investigation and possible prosecution. Sheila Leslie

Effective Date: October 1, 2007.

AB 226 Creates a unit within the Office of the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute crimes of abuse, neglect, isolation, or exploitation of senior citizens and provides additional penalties for persons who commit certain crimes against older persons. Kathy McClain

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

AB 352 Prohibits the issuance of a work card to a person working in a senior apartment complex if that person has been convicted of certain crimes, including a Class A, B or C felony, sex offenses, or crimes against senior citizens. Gerhardt

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

ACR 35 Directs the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of issues relating to senior citizens and veterans. Elections, Procedures and Ethics Committee (Kathy McClain)

Transportation

AB 595 Allocates \$20 million a year for road funding that will come from the convention authority room tax receipts, Clark and Washoe County governments (who will reallocate some tax revenue now spent on local capital improvement projects to the highway construction fund for use in the county of origin) and rental car companies (who will give the state a quarter of a car rental tax the companies currently keep for registration). This is estimated to raise \$65 million, which will be used to pay costs associated with a bond in the amount of \$1 billion for highway construction. Assembly Transportation Committee (Kelvin Atkinson)

Effective Date: Sections of the bill relating to the county fair and recreation board in Clark County are effective on July 1, 2007. Sections of the bill relating to the ad valorem tax on capital projects are effective on July 1, 2008. Sections of the bill concerning the wavier of damages and additional amount that may be charged for an additional driver of a rental car are effective upon passage and approval. All other sections of the bill are effective on October 1, 2007.

AJR 6 Urges Congress to repeal the REAL ID Act of 2005. Kelvin Atkinson

Effective Date: Upon passage (May 11, 2007).

Bills we are glad we tried to pass and will bring back

AB 142 Requires public officers and lobbyists to attend an ethics class within 1 year after election or appointment to office. It also requires people who lobby the executive branch to register and file reports of their expenditures and contributions. Assembly Elections, Procedures and Ethics Committee (Marcus Conklin)

AB 335 Requires local government officials to prepare public campaign finance statements with the Commission of Ethics (in the same manner as state officials) and require people who lobby local governments to register and file reports of their expenditures and contributions. Marcus Conklin

AB 79 Prohibits a public officer or employee from using governmental time, property, equipment or other facility for activities relating to political campaigns or the preparation of certain disclosures or reports. Ellen Koivisto

AJR 1 Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to provide for forfeiture of public office for three or more violations of ethical duties. Ellen Koivisto

AJR 5 Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to authorize the Legislature to provide for a statewide lottery for textbooks, computers and other educational media for classrooms. Assembly Elections, Ethics and Procedures and Constitutional Amendments Committee

SB 18 Makes the charging of unconscionable prices for essential services in time of emergency (price gouging) a deceptive trade practice. Titus amendment to Senate Commerce and Labor bill