ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 345-ASSEMBLYWOMAN NEAL

MARCH 16, 2015

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR FORD

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to certain government contracts. (BDR 27-398)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to government contracts; authorizing the State and local governments to accept certain alternate forms of security; providing circumstances under which an individual surety may provide such security; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, a person bidding on a contract with the State or a local government for the performance of a service to the State or local government or for a public work, a person entering into any such contract or a person protesting the award of any such contract may be required to post a bond as security for the bid or protest, for performance of the contract or for payment to third parties under the contract. (NRS 332.068, 332.105, 333.355, 333.360, 333.370, 338.142, 339.025, 408.337, 408.367) If a bond is provided, it must be issued by an insurer, commonly known as a "corporate surety," who is authorized under existing law regulating insurers to issue the bond. (NRS 100.065)

This bill provides for such a person to provide alternate forms of security. Sections 6, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 24, 34, 41, 43 and 45 of this bill authorize a person to, instead of a bond executed by a corporate surety, submit a bond executed by an individual surety or, with the approval of the entity awarding the contract, cash, a cash equivalent, a money order, a certified or cashier's check, a security interest in an asset, an irrevocable letter of credit or any other form of security approved by the entity awarding the contract. Section 33 of this bill defines the term "individual surety" as a natural person who is not an insurer authorized to transact surety insurance but who pledges his or her personal property or assets to guarantee the performance of a contract or payment pursuant to a contract.



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Under **sections 2, 11 and 30** of this bill, an individual surety may execute a bond only if: (1) the individual surety transacts business only through an insurance company licensed in this State; (2) the person on whose behalf the bond is executed submits to the entity awarding the contract an affidavit attesting to compliance with specified provisions of law; and (3) the individual surety pledges one or more of specified forms of assets, in an amount equal to or greater than the amount of the required security, and submits to the entity awarding the contract a specified form for each asset. Under **sections 3, 12 and 31** of this bill, an asset pledged as security by an individual surety may not be pledged for any other security or contract unless it is released by the entity awarding the contract. **Sections 4, 13 and 32** of this bill limit an individual surety to providing security only as provided in this bill.

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

- **Section 1.** Chapter 332 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.
- Sec. 2. A bond or other security required pursuant to NRS 332.068 or 332.105 may be executed by an individual surety only if:
- 1. The individual surety transacts business only through an insurance company that is licensed by the Division of Insurance of the Department of Business and Industry and approved to do business in this State.
- 2. The person on whose behalf the bond or security is executed provides with the bid, on a form approved by the governing body or its authorized representative, an affidavit from the individual surety attesting to compliance with the provisions of this chapter.
- 3. The individual surety submits to the governing body or its authorized representative a Uniform Commercial Code 1 (UCC1) form for each asset pledged pursuant to subsection 4.
- 4. Subject to the provisions of section 3 of this act, the individual surety pledges one or more of the following assets in an amount equal to or greater than the amount of the required security:
 - (a) Cash or a certificate of deposit;
- (b) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
- (c) Assets for which the individual surety can demonstrate a security interest, including, without limitation, an irrevocable trust receipt that is issued by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755, or by an independent trustee in the name of the





governing body, and that includes a payout clause in the event that any default by the individual surety cannot otherwise be remedied;

- (d) United States Government securities at market value;
- (e) Stocks and bonds that are:

- (1) Traded on a national securities exchange registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission;
- (2) Accompanied by certificates issued in the name of the individual surety; and
- (3) Pledged at an amount not more than 90 percent of the lowest price of the stocks and bonds during the 12-month period immediately preceding the execution of the security by the individual surety;
 - (f) Real property located in this State that:
- (1) Is owned by the bidder or contractor or the individual surety in fee simple or is owned by cotenants who have entered into a binding agreement to pledge the real property pursuant to this section; and
- (2) Is pledged by the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust on the real property located in this State, provided that:
- (I) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor or individual surety providing the mortgage or deed of trust; and
- (II) The mortgage or deed of trust must be recorded by the governing body or its authorized representative in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the real property is located; or
 - (g) An irrevocable letter of credit that:
- (1) Is issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 in the name of the local government; and
- (2) Includes a payout clause in the event that any default by the individual surety cannot otherwise be remedied.
- **Sec. 3.** An asset pledged pursuant to subsection 4 of section 2 of this act:
- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, may be pledged as security only for the purposes of section 2 of this act; and
- 2. May not be pledged for any other bond or security inside or outside this State unless and until it is released by the governing body.
- Sec. 4. The provisions of this section and sections 2 and 3 of this act authorize an individual surety to execute bonds and





otherwise provide security only pursuant to NRS 332.068 and 332.105 and sections 2 and 3 of this act.

- **Sec. 5.** NRS 332.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 332.025 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 1. "Authorized representative" means a person designated by the governing body to be responsible for the development, award and proper administration of all purchases and contracts for a local government or a department, division, agency, board or unit of a local government made pursuant to this chapter.
- 2. "Chief administrative officer" means the person directly responsible to the governing body for the administration of that particular entity.
- 3. "Evaluator" means an authorized representative, officer, employee, representative, agent, consultant or member of a governing body who has participated in:
 - (a) The evaluation of bids;

- (b) Negotiations concerning purchasing by a local government; or
- (c) The review or approval of the award, modification or extension of a contract.
- 4. "Governing body" means the board, council, commission or other body in which the general legislative and fiscal powers of the local government are vested.
- 5. "Individual surety" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 339.015.
 - **6.** "Proprietary information" means:
- (a) Any trade secret or confidential business information that is contained in a bid submitted to a governing body or its authorized representative on a particular contract; or
- (b) Any other trade secret or confidential business information submitted to a governing body or its authorized representative by a bidder and designated as proprietary by the governing body or its authorized representative.
- As used in this subsection, "confidential business information" means any information relating to the amount or source of any income, profits, losses or expenditures of a person, including data relating to cost, price, or the customers of a bidder which is submitted in support of a bid. The term does not include the amount of a bid submitted to a governing body or its authorized representative.
- [6.] 7. "Trade secret" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 600A.030.





- **Sec. 6.** NRS 332.068 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 332.068 1. A person who submits a bid on a contract that is required to be advertised pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 332.039 may, after the bids are opened and within the period specified by the governing body or its authorized representative, file with the governing body or its authorized representative a notice of protest regarding the awarding of the contract.
- 2. A notice of protest must include a written statement setting forth with specificity the reasons the person filing the notice believes the applicable provisions of law were violated.
- 3. A person filing a notice of protest may be required by the governing body or its authorized representative, at the time the notice of protest is filed, to [post a] provide security. A person required to provide security may provide any of the following:
- (a) A bond [with] executed by a good and solvent surety authorized to do business in this State [or submit other security, in a form]:
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the governing body or its authorized representative, [to the] and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the person:
 - (1) Cash;

- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;
- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
- (5) A security interest approved by the governing body or its authorized representative; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the governing body or its authorized representative.
- 4. The governing body or its authorized representative shall determine the value of any security furnished pursuant to this section.
- 5. The governing body or its authorized representative [who] shall hold the [bond or other] security until a determination is made on the protest. [A bond posted or other] The security submitted with a notice of protest must be in an amount equal to the lesser of:





- (a) Twenty-five percent of the total value of the bid submitted by the person filing the notice of protest; or
 - (b) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars.

- [4.] 6. A notice of protest filed in accordance with the provisions of this section operates as a stay of action in relation to the awarding of any contract until a determination is made by the governing body or its authorized representative on the protest.
- [5.] 7. A person who submits an unsuccessful bid may not seek any type of judicial intervention until the governing body or its authorized representative has made a determination on the protest and awarded the contract.
- [6.] 8. A governing body or its authorized representative is not liable for any costs, expenses, attorney's fees, loss of income or other damages sustained by a person who submits a bid, whether or not the person files a notice of protest pursuant to this section.
- [7.] 9. If the protest is upheld, the [bond posted or other] security submitted with the notice of protest must be returned to the person who [posted the bond or] submitted the security. If the protest is rejected, a claim may be made against the [bond or other] security by the governing body or its authorized representative in an amount equal to the expenses incurred by the governing body or its authorized representative because of the unsuccessful protest. Any money remaining after the claim has been satisfied must be returned to the person who [posted the bond or] submitted the security.
 - **Sec. 7.** NRS 332.105 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 332.105 1. [A] Security for a bid, [bond,] performance, [bond,] payment [bond] or any combination thereof, [with sufficient surety,] in such amount as may be determined necessary by the governing body or its authorized representative, may be required of each bidder or contractor on a particular contract.
- 2. Any such **[bonds]** security may be to insure proper performance of the contract and save, indemnify and keep harmless the local government against all loss, damages, claims, liabilities, judgments, costs and expenses which may accrue against the local government in consequence of the awarding of the contract.
- 3. If a local government requires such [a bond,] security, it shall not also require a detailed financial statement from each bidder on the contract.
- 4. A person required to provide security may provide any of the following:
- (a) A bond executed by a good and solvent surety authorized to do business in this State;
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual surety; or





- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the governing body or its authorized representative, and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the person:
 - (1) Cash;

- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;
- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
- (5) A security interest approved by the governing body or its authorized representative; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the governing body or its authorized representative.

5. The governing body or its authorized representative may accept performance security required pursuant to this section that includes the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust on real property located in this State if:

- (a) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor providing the mortgage or deed of trust as performance security; and
- (b) The mortgage or deed of trust is recorded by the governing body or its authorized representative in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the real property is located.
- 6. The governing body or its authorized representative shall determine the value of any security furnished pursuant to this section.
 - **Sec. 8.** NRS 332.352 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 332.352 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 332.353, a local government shall use the following criteria for determining whether a person satisfies the requirements to be a qualified service company pursuant to NRS 332.360:
- (a) The financial ability of the applicant to perform the work required by the local government;
- (b) Whether the applicant possesses a business license issued pursuant to chapter 76 of NRS;
- (c) Whether the applicant possesses a valid contractor's license issued pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS of a class corresponding to the work required by the local government and, if engineering work





is required, whether the applicant possesses a valid license as a professional engineer issued pursuant to chapter 625 of NRS;

- (d) Whether the applicant has the ability to obtain the necessary **[bonding]** *security* for the work required by the local government;
- (e) Whether the applicant has successfully completed an appropriate number of projects as determined by the local government, but not to exceed five projects, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application of similar size, scope or type as the work required by the local government;
- (f) Whether the principal personnel employed by the applicant have the necessary professional qualifications and experience for the work required by the local government;
- (g) Whether the applicant has breached any contracts with a public agency or person in this State or any other state during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application;
- (h) Whether the applicant has been disqualified from being awarded a contract by any governing body in the State of Nevada;
- (i) Whether the applicant has been convicted of a violation for discrimination in employment during the 2 years immediately preceding the date of application;
- (j) Whether the applicant has the ability to obtain and maintain insurance coverage for public liability and property damage within limits sufficient to protect the applicant and all the subcontractors of the applicant from claims for personal injury, accidental death and damage to property that may arise in connection with the work required by the local government;
- (k) Whether the applicant has established a safety program that complies with the requirements of chapter 618 of NRS;
- (I) Whether the applicant has been disciplined or fined by the State Contractors' Board or another state or federal agency for conduct that relates to the ability of the applicant to perform the work required by the local government;
- (m) Whether, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application, the applicant has filed as a debtor under the provisions of the United States Bankruptcy Code;
 - (n) Whether the application is truthful and complete; and
- (o) Whether, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of the application, the applicant has, as a result of causes within the control of the applicant or a subcontractor or supplier of the applicant, failed to perform any contract:
- (1) In the manner specified by the contract and any change orders initiated or approved by the person or governmental entity that awarded the contract or its authorized representative;





- (2) Within the time specified by the contract unless extended by the person or governmental entity that awarded the contract or its authorized representative; or
- (3) For the amount of money specified in the contract or as modified by any change orders initiated or approved by the person or governmental entity that awarded the contract or its authorized representative.
- → Evidence of the failures described in this subsection may include, without limitation, the assessment of liquidated damages against the applicant, the forfeiture of any [bonds] security posted by the applicant, an arbitration award granted against the applicant or a decision by a court of law against the applicant.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 332.353, in addition to the criteria described in subsection 1, the local government may use any other relevant criteria that are necessary to determine whether a person satisfies the requirements to be a qualified service company pursuant to NRS 332.360.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 332.390 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 332.390 1. If a performance contract entered into pursuant to NRS 332.300 to 332.440, inclusive, requires the employment of skilled mechanics, skilled workers, semiskilled mechanics, semiskilled workers or unskilled labor to perform the performance contract, the performance contract must include a provision relating to the prevailing wage as required pursuant to NRS 338.020 to 338.090, inclusive.
- 2. Before a qualified service company enters into a performance contract pursuant to NRS 332.300 to 332.440, inclusive, that exceeds \$100,000, the qualified service company must furnish to the contracting body any [bonds] security required pursuant to NRS 339.025. The provisions of chapter 339 of NRS apply to any performance contract described in this subsection.
- **Sec. 10.** Chapter 333 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 11, 12 and 13 of this act.
- Sec. 11. A bond or other security required by or pursuant to NRS 333.355, 333.360 or 333.370 may be executed by an individual surety only if:
- 1. The individual surety transacts business only through an insurance company that is licensed by the Division of Insurance of the Department of Business and Industry and approved to do business in this State.
- 2. The person on whose behalf the bond or security is executed provides with the bid, on a form approved by the Administrator, an affidavit from the individual surety attesting to compliance with the provisions of this chapter.





- 3. The individual surety submits to the Administrator a Uniform Commercial Code 1 (UCC1) form for each asset pledged pursuant to subsection 4.
- 4. Subject to the provisions of section 12 of this act, the individual surety pledges one or more of the following assets in an amount equal to or greater than the amount of the required security:
 - (a) Cash or a certificate of deposit;

- (b) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
- (c) Assets for which the individual surety can demonstrate a security interest, including, without limitation, an irrevocable trust receipt that is issued by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755, or by an independent trustee in the name of the State of Nevada, and that includes a payout clause in the event that any default by the individual surety cannot otherwise be remedied;
 - (d) United States Government securities at market value;
 - (e) Stocks and bonds that are:
- (1) Traded on a national securities exchange registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission;
- (2) Accompanied by certificates issued in the name of the individual surety; and
- (3) Pledged at an amount not more than 90 percent of the lowest price of the stocks and bonds during the 12-month period immediately preceding the execution of the security by the individual surety;
 - (f) Real property located in this State that:
- (1) Is owned by the bidder or contractor or the individual surety in fee simple or is owned by cotenants who have entered into a binding agreement to pledge the real property pursuant to this section; and
- (2) Is pledged by the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust on the real property located in this State, provided that:
- (I) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor or individual surety providing the mortgage or deed of trust; and
- (II) The mortgage or deed of trust must be recorded by the contracting body in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the real property is located; or
 - (g) An irrevocable letter of credit that:





- (1) Is issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 in the name of the State of Nevada; and
- (2) Includes a payout clause in the event that any default by the individual surety cannot otherwise be remedied.
- **Sec. 12.** An asset pledged pursuant to subsection 4 of section 11 of this act:
- I. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, may be pledged as security only for the purposes of section 11 of this act; and
- 2. May not be pledged for any other bond or security inside or outside this State unless and until it is released by the Administrator.
- Sec. 13. The provisions of this section and sections 11 and 12 of this act authorize an individual surety to execute bonds and otherwise provide security only pursuant to NRS 333.355, 333.360 and 333.370 and sections 11 and 12 of this act.
 - **Sec. 14.** NRS 333.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 333.020 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 1. "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Purchasing Division.
- 2. "Best value" means the greatest possible economy consistent with grades or qualities of supplies, materials, equipment and services that are adapted to the purposes to be served.
- 3. "Director" means the Director of the Department of Administration.
- 4. "Individual surety" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 339.015.
- 5. "Invitation to bid" means a written statement which sets forth the requirements and specifications of a contract to be awarded by competitive selection.
 - [5.] 6. "Proprietary information" means:
- (a) Any trade secret or confidential business information that is contained in a bid or proposal submitted on a particular contract; or
- (b) Any other trade secret or confidential business information submitted in a bid or proposal and designated as proprietary by the Administrator.
- As used in this subsection, "confidential business information" means any information relating to the amount or source of any income, profits, losses or expenditures of a person, including data relating to cost or price submitted in support of a bid or proposal. The term does not include the amount of a bid or proposal.
- [6.] 7. "Purchasing Division" means the Purchasing Division of the Department of Administration.





- [7.] 8. "Purchasing officer" means a person who is authorized by the Administrator or a using agency to participate in:
 - (a) The evaluation of bids or proposals for a contract;
 - (b) Any negotiations concerning a contract; or
 - (c) The development, review or approval of a contract.
- [8.] 9. "Request for proposals" means a written statement which sets forth the requirements and specifications of a contract to be awarded by competitive selection.
- [9.] 10. "Trade secret" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 600A.030.
- [10.] 11. "Using agencies" means all officers, departments, institutions, boards, commissions and other agencies in the Executive Department of the State Government which derive their support from public money in whole or in part, whether the money is provided by the State of Nevada, received from the Federal Government or any branch, bureau or agency thereof, or derived from private or other sources. The term does not include the Nevada Rural Housing Authority, the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry, local governments as defined in NRS 354.474, conservation districts, irrigation districts and the Nevada System of Higher Education.
- [11.] 12. "Volunteer fire department" means a volunteer fire department which pays premiums for industrial insurance pursuant to the provisions of chapters 616A to 616D, inclusive, or chapter 617 of NRS.
 - **Sec. 15.** NRS 333.355 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 333.355 1. The Administrator may request that [a certified check, cashier's check or bond,] security, in an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the total value of the bid or proposal, accompany a bid or proposal, if the request applies to each person who submits a bid or proposal. A person required to provide security may provide any of the following:
- (a) A bond executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in this State;
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 11, 12 and 13 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the Administrator, and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the person:
 - (1) Cash;
- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;





- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
 - (5) A security interest approved by the Administrator; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the Administrator.
- 2. The Administrator shall determine the value of any security furnished pursuant to this section.
- 3. No division or department of the State is liable for any expense incurred by or loss of income sustained by any person because of a request made pursuant to subsection 1.

Sec. 16. NRS 333.360 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 333.360 1. [A bond furnished by a surety company authorized to do business in this state] Security may be required by the Administrator for the proper performance of the contract, [. The Administrator may request a certified check, cashier's check or bond,] in an amount not to exceed the total amount of the contract, before entering into a contract with a person who submits a successful bid or proposal. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person required to provide security may provide any of the following:
- (a) A bond executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in this State;
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 11, 12 and 13 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the Administrator, and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the person:
 - (1) Cash;

- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;
- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
 - (5) A security interest approved by the Administrator; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the Administrator.
- 2. The Administrator may accept a performance security required pursuant to this section that includes the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust on real property located in this State if:





(a) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor providing the mortgage or deed of trust as performance security; and

(b) The mortgage or deed of trust is recorded by the contracting body in the office of the county recorder of the county

in which the real property is located.

3. The Administrator shall determine the value of any security furnished pursuant to this section.

4. No division or department of the State is liable for any expense incurred by or loss of income sustained by any person because of a request made pursuant to subsection 1.

Sec. 17. NRS 333.365 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 333.365 1. A person who has entered into a contract with the Purchasing Division or another agency of this state and who does not perform according to the terms of the contract is liable for, in addition to any other applicable damages for breach of contract, a penalty of not more than 5 percent of the total value of the bid or contract. The penalty must be recovered in a civil action upon the complaint of the Administrator in any court of competent jurisdiction. In addition to recovering the penalty and any other applicable damages, the Administrator may refuse to accept a bid from the person or refuse to award a contract to the person, or both, for not more than 2 years.
- 2. If the Administrator does not bring an action to recover the penalty prescribed by subsection 1, he or she may:
- (a) Refuse to accept a bid from the person, refuse to award a contract to the person, or both, for not more than 2 years; and
- (b) Impose an administrative penalty, in an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the total value of the bid or contract. Such a penalty may be recovered only after notice is given to the person by mail.
- 3. A penalty imposed pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 may be deducted from any payment due the person or, if [a bond] security has been [issued or a check received,] submitted, a claim may be made against the [bond or check.] security. If no payment is due and no [bond] security was [issued or check received,] submitted, the Administrator may issue a claim for payment of the penalty. The claim must be paid within 30 days.
 - **Sec. 18.** NRS 333.370 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 333.370 1. A person who makes an unsuccessful bid or proposal may file a notice of appeal with the Purchasing Division and with the Hearings Division of the Department of Administration within 10 days after:
 - (a) The date of award as entered on the bid record; and





- (b) The notice of award has been posted in at least three public buildings, including the location of the using agency.
- → The notice of appeal must include a written statement of the issues to be addressed on appeal.
- 2. A person filing a notice of appeal must [post a bond with] provide as security any of the following:
- (a) A bond executed by a good and solvent surety authorized to do business in this state [or submit other security, in a form approved by the Administrator by regulation, to the];
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 11, 12 and 13 of this act, a bond executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the Administrator and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the person:
 - (1) Cash;

- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;
- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
 - (5) A security interest approved by the Administrator; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the Administrator.
- 3. The Administrator shall determine the value of any security furnished pursuant to this section.
- 4. The Purchasing Division [, who] shall hold the [bond or other] security until a determination is made on the appeal. Except as otherwise provided in subsection [3, a bond posted or other] 5, the security submitted with a notice of appeal must be in an amount equal to 25 percent of the total value of the successful bid submitted.
- [3.] 5. If the total value of the successful bid cannot be determined because the total requirements for the contract are estimated as of the date of award, [a bond posted or other] the security submitted with a notice of appeal must be in an amount equal to 25 percent of the estimated total value of the contract. Upon request, the Administrator shall provide:
 - (a) The estimated total value of the contract; or
- (b) The method for determining the estimated total value of the contract.
- based on records of past experience and estimates of anticipated requirements furnished by the using agency.





[4.] 6. Within 20 days after receipt of the notice of appeal, a hearing officer of the Hearings Division of the Department of Administration shall hold a contested hearing on the appeal in substantial compliance with the provisions of NRS 233B.121 to 233B.1235, inclusive, 233B.125 and 233B.126. The successful bidder must be given notice of the hearing in the same manner as the person who filed the notice of appeal. The successful bidder may participate in the hearing.

[5.] 7. The hearing officer may cancel the award for lack of compliance with the provisions of this chapter. A cancellation of the award requires readvertising for bids and a new award in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

[6.] 8. A notice of appeal filed in accordance with the provisions of this section operates as a stay of action in relation to any contract until a determination is made by the hearing officer on the appeal.

[7.] 9. A person who makes an unsuccessful bid or proposal may not seek any type of judicial intervention until the hearing officer has made a determination on the appeal.

[8.] 10. The Administrator may make as many open market purchases of the commodities or services as are urgently needed to meet the requirements of the Purchasing Division or the using agency until a determination is made on the appeal. With the approval of the Administrator, the using agency may make such purchases for the agency.

[9.] 11. Neither the State of Nevada, nor any agency, contractor, department, division, employee or officer of the State is liable for any costs, expenses, attorney's fees, loss of income or other damages sustained by a person who makes an unsuccessful bid or proposal, whether or not the person files a notice of appeal pursuant to this section.

[10.] 12. If the appeal is upheld and the award is cancelled, the [bond posted or other] security submitted with the notice of appeal must be returned to the person who [posted the bond or] submitted the security. If the appeal is rejected and the award is upheld, a claim may be made against the [bond or other] security by the Purchasing Division and the using agency to the Hearings Division of the Department of Administration in an amount equal to the expenses incurred and other monetary losses suffered by the Purchasing Division and the using agency because of the unsuccessful appeal. The hearing officer shall hold a hearing on the claim in the same manner as prescribed in subsection [4.] 6. Any money not awarded by the hearing officer must be returned to the person who [posted the bond or] submitted the security.





- **Sec. 19.** NRS 100.065 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 100.065 1. In lieu of any cash payment or surety bond required as protection for the State of Nevada, the person required to provide the cash payment or surety bond may deposit with the State Treasurer, unless a different custodian is named by specific statute:
- (a) Bonds of the United States or of the State of Nevada of an actual market value of not less than the amount of the required cash payment or surety bond;
- (b) A letter of credit from a bank, savings bank, credit union or savings and loan association situated in Nevada, which meets the requirements set for that purpose by the State Treasurer; or
- (c) A savings certificate, certificate of deposit or investment certificate of a bank, savings bank, credit union or savings and loan association situated in Nevada, which must indicate an account of an amount not less than the amount of the required cash payment or surety bond and, except as otherwise provided by specific statute, that the amount is not available for withdrawal except by direct order of the State Treasurer.
- 2. Whenever a savings certificate, certificate of deposit or investment certificate is deposited as provided in this section, interest earned on the certificate accrues to the account of the depositor.
- 3. If a surety bond is provided as protection for the State of Nevada, *except as otherwise provided in sections 2, 11 and 30 of this act and NRS 332.068, 332.105, 333.355, 333.360, 333.370, 338.142, 339.025, 408.337, 408.357, 408.367, the bond must be issued by an insurer who is authorized or otherwise allowed under title 57 of NRS to issue such a bond pursuant to title 57 of NRS.*
- **Sec. 20.** NRS 287.0415 is hereby amended to read as follows: 287.0415 1. A majority of the members of the Board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.
- 2. The Governor shall designate one of the members of the Board to serve as the Chair.
- 3. The Board shall meet at least once every calendar quarter and at other times upon the call of the Chair.
 - 4. The Board may meet in closed session:
 - (a) To discuss matters relating to personnel;
- (b) With investment counsel to plan future investments or establish investment objectives and policies;
- (c) With legal counsel to receive advice upon claims or suits by or against the Program;
- 42 (d) To prepare a request for a proposal or other solicitation for 43 bids to be released by the Board for competitive bidding; or
 - (e) As otherwise provided pursuant to chapter 241 of NRS.





- 5. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the Board causes a meeting to be transcribed by a court reporter who is certified pursuant to chapter 656 of NRS, the Board shall post a transcript of the meeting on its Internet website not later than 30 days after the meeting. The Board shall post a transcript of a closed session of the Board on its Internet website when the Board determines that the matters discussed no longer require confidentiality and, if applicable, the person whose character, conduct, competence or health was discussed in the closed session has consented to the posting.
- 6. The Board may appoint such advisory committees as it deems necessary to assist the Board in carrying out its duties pursuant to NRS 287.0402 to 287.049, inclusive.
- 7. As used in this section, "request for a proposal" has the meaning ascribed to it in [subsection 8 of] NRS 333.020.

Sec. 21. NRS 309.340 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 309.340 After adopting a plan for such works as are proposed, or in conjunction with the issuance of general obligation bonds (but either before or after such issuance), the board of directors shall cause notice to be given by the secretary by publication thereof for not less than 2 weeks in a newspaper published in the county in which the district was organized, and in such other publications or newspapers as it may deem advisable, calling for bids for the construction of such works or any portion thereof. If less than the whole work is advertised, then the portions so advertised must be particularly described in such notice. The notice must set forth that the plans and specifications can be seen at the office of the board, that the board will receive sealed proposals for the construction of the proposed works, and that a contract therefor will be let to the lowest responsible bidder, subject to the right of the board to reject any and all bids, stating the time and place for opening the bids.
- 2. At the time and place appointed the bids must be opened in public and as soon as convenient thereafter the board shall accept a bid or bids and contract for the construction of the works, either in portions or as a whole, or it may reject any and all bids and readvertise for proposals.
- 3. In case of necessity, the board of directors, by unanimous vote of those present at any regular or special meeting, may contract for the construction or repair of any part of the system of works, and may in the ordinary course of business purchase any necessary machinery or materials in such amount in one transaction as will not exceed an amount equal to 5 cents for each acre of land in the district.





- 4. If a contract is not subject to the provisions of chapter 408 of NRS and provides for work exceeding \$35,000, any person to whom such a contract may be awarded shall furnish to the district a performance [bond] security and a payment [bond] security as provided in NRS 339.025. The work must be done under the direction and to the satisfaction of the engineer employed by the district and approved by the board.
 - **Sec. 22.** NRS 338.1377 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 338.1377 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 338.1382, if a governing body that sponsors or finances a public work elects to award contracts for public works pursuant to the provisions of NRS 338.1377 to 338.139, inclusive, the governing body shall adopt the following criteria for determining whether a person who has applied pursuant to NRS 338.1379 is qualified to bid on contracts for public works of the local government:
- 1. Whether the applicant possesses a valid contractor's license of a class corresponding to the work to be required by the local government;
- 2. Whether the applicant has the ability to obtain the necessary **[bonding]** *security* for the work to be required by the local government;
- 3. Whether the applicant has successfully completed an appropriate number of projects as determined by the local government, but not to exceed five projects, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application of similar size, scope or type as the work to be required by the local government;
- 4. Whether the principal personnel employed by the applicant have the necessary professional qualifications and experience for the work to be required by the local government;
- 5. Whether the applicant has breached any contracts with a public agency or person in this State or any other state during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application;
- 6. Whether the applicant has been disqualified from being awarded a contract pursuant to NRS 338.017 or 338.13895;
- 7. Whether the applicant has been convicted of a violation for discrimination in employment during the 2 years immediately preceding the date of application;
- 8. Whether the applicant has the ability to obtain and maintain insurance coverage for public liability and property damage within limits sufficient to protect the applicant and all the subcontractors of the applicant from claims for personal injury, accidental death and damage to property that may arise in connection with the work to be required by the local government;
- 9. Whether the applicant has established a safety program that complies with the requirements of chapter 618 of NRS;





- 10. Whether the applicant has been disciplined or fined by the State Contractors' Board or another state or federal agency for conduct that relates to the ability of the applicant to perform the work to be required by the local government;
- 11. Whether, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application, the applicant has filed as a debtor under the provisions of the United States Bankruptcy Code;
- 12. Whether the application of the applicant is truthful and complete; and
- 13. Whether, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application, the applicant has, as a result of causes within the control of the applicant or a subcontractor or supplier of the applicant, failed to perform any contract:
- (a) In the manner specified by the contract and any change orders initiated or approved by the person or governmental entity that awarded the contract or its authorized representative;
- (b) Within the time specified by the contract unless extended by the person or governmental entity that awarded the contract or its authorized representative; or
- (c) For the amount of money specified in the contract or as modified by any change orders initiated or approved by the person or governmental entity that awarded the contract or its authorized representative.
- Evidence of the failures described in this subsection may include, without limitation, the assessment of liquidated damages against the applicant, the forfeiture of any [bonds] security posted by the applicant, an arbitration award granted against the applicant or a decision by a court of law against the applicant.
 - Sec. 23. NRS 338.141 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 338.141 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 338.1727, each bid submitted to a public body for any public work to which paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 338.1385, paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 338.143 or NRS 408.327 applies, must include:
- (a) If the public body provides a list of the labor or portions of the public work which are estimated by the public body to exceed 3 percent of the estimated cost of the public work, the name of each first tier subcontractor who will provide such labor or portion of the work on the public work which is estimated to exceed 3 percent of the estimated cost of the public work; or
- (b) If the public body does not provide a list of the labor or portions of the public work which are estimated by the public body to exceed 3 percent of the estimated cost of the public work, the name of each first tier subcontractor who will provide labor or a portion of the work on the public work to the prime contractor for





which the first tier subcontractor will be paid an amount exceeding 5 percent of the prime contractor's total bid. If the bid is submitted pursuant to this paragraph, within 2 hours after the completion of the opening of the bids, the contractors who submitted the three lowest bids must submit a list containing:

- (1) The name of each first tier subcontractor who will provide labor or a portion of the work on the public work to the prime contractor for which the first tier subcontractor will be paid an amount exceeding \$250,000.
- (2) If any one of the contractors who submitted one of the three lowest bids will employ a first tier subcontractor who will provide labor or a portion of the work on the public work to the prime contractor for which the first tier subcontractor will not be paid an amount exceeding \$250,000, the name of each first tier subcontractor who will provide labor or a portion of the work on the public work to the prime contractor for which the first tier subcontractor will be paid 1 percent of the prime contractor's total bid or \$50,000, whichever is greater.
- (3) For each first tier subcontractor whose name is listed pursuant to subparagraph (1) or (2), the number of the license issued to the first tier subcontractor pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS.
- 2. The lists required by subsection 1 must include a description of the labor or portion of the work which each first tier subcontractor named in the list will provide to the prime contractor.
- 3. A prime contractor shall include his or her name on a list required by paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 1. If the prime contractor will perform any work which is more than 1 percent of the prime contractor's total bid and which is not being performed by a subcontractor listed pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 1, the prime contractor shall also include on the list:
- (a) A description of the labor or portion of the work that the prime contractor will perform; or
- (b) A statement that the prime contractor will perform all work other than that being performed by a subcontractor listed pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 1.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a contractor:
 - (a) Fails to submit the list within the required time; or
- (b) Submits a list that includes the name of a subcontractor who, at the time of the submission of the list, is on disqualified status with the Division pursuant to NRS 338.1376,
- the contractor's bid shall be deemed not responsive. A contractor's bid shall not be deemed not responsive on the grounds that the contractor submitted a list that includes the name of a subcontractor who, at the time of the submission of the list, is on





disqualified status with the Division pursuant to NRS 338.1376 if the contractor, before the award of the contract, provides an acceptable replacement subcontractor in the manner set forth in subsection 1 or 2 of NRS 338.13895.

- 5. A prime contractor shall not substitute a subcontractor for any subcontractor who is named in the bid, unless:
- (a) The public body or its authorized representative objects to the subcontractor, requests in writing a change in the subcontractor and pays any increase in costs resulting from the change.
- (b) The substitution is approved by the public body or its authorized representative. The substitution must be approved if the public body or its authorized representative determines that:
- (1) The named subcontractor, after having a reasonable opportunity, fails or refuses to execute a written contract with the contractor which was offered to the named subcontractor with the same general terms that all other subcontractors on the project were offered;
- (2) The named subcontractor files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent;
- (3) The named subcontractor fails or refuses to perform his or her subcontract within a reasonable time or is unable to furnish [a] performance [bond] security and payment [bond] security pursuant to NRS 339.025; or
- (4) The named subcontractor is not properly licensed to provide that labor or portion of the work.
- (c) If the public body awarding the contract is a governing body, the public body or its authorized representative, in awarding the contract pursuant to NRS 338.1375 to 338.139, inclusive:
- (1) Applies such criteria set forth in NRS 338.1377 as are appropriate for subcontractors and determines that the subcontractor does not meet that criteria; and
 - (2) Requests in writing a substitution of the subcontractor.
- 6. If a prime contractor substitutes a subcontractor for any subcontractor who is named in the bid without complying with the provisions of subsection 5, the prime contractor shall forfeit, as a penalty to the public body that awarded the contract, an amount equal to 1 percent of the total amount of the contract.
- 7. If a prime contractor, after the submission of the bid, substitutes a subcontractor to perform the work indicated pursuant to subsection 3 that the prime contractor would perform, the prime contractor shall forfeit as a penalty to the public body that awarded the contract, the lesser of, and excluding any amount of the contract that is attributable to change orders:
- (a) An amount equal to 2.5 percent of the total amount of the contract; or





- (b) An amount equal to 35 percent of the estimate by the engineer of the cost of the work the prime contractor indicated pursuant to subsection 3 that he or she would perform on the public work.
 - 8. As used in this section:

- (a) "First tier subcontractor" means a subcontractor who contracts directly with a prime contractor to provide labor, materials or services for a construction project.
- (b) "General terms" means the terms and conditions of a contract that set the basic requirements for a public work and apply without regard to the particular trade or specialty of a subcontractor, but does not include any provision that controls or relates to the specific portion of the public work that will be completed by a subcontractor, including, without limitation, the materials to be used by the subcontractor or other details of the work to be performed by the subcontractor.
 - **Sec. 24.** NRS 338.142 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 338.142 1. A person who bids on a contract may file a notice of protest regarding the awarding of the contract with the authorized representative designated by the public body within 5 business days after the date the recommendation to award a contract is issued by the public body or its authorized representative.
- 2. The notice of protest must include a written statement setting forth with specificity the reasons the person filing the notice believes the applicable provisions of law were violated.
- 3. A person filing a notice of protest may be required by the public body or its authorized representative, at the time the notice of protest is filed, to **[post a]** provide security. A person required to provide security may provide any of the following:
- (a) A bond [with a] executed by a good and solvent surety authorized to do business in this state [or submit other security, in a form];
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 30, 31 and 32 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual security; or
- (c) Any other security that is approved by the public body [, to the] or its authorized representative, and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the person:
 - (1) Cash;
- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;





- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
- (5) A security interest approved by the public body or its authorized representative; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the public body or its authorized representative.
- 4. The public body or its authorized representative shall determine the value of any security furnished pursuant to this section.
- 5. The public body [who] or its authorized representative shall hold the [bond or other] security provided pursuant to subsection 3 until a determination is made on the protest. [A bond posted or other] The security submitted with a notice of protest must be in an amount equal to the lesser of:
- (a) Twenty-five percent of the total value of the bid submitted by the person filing the notice of protest; or
 - (b) Two hundred fifty thousand dollars.
- [4.] 6. A notice of protest filed in accordance with the provisions of this section operates as a stay of action in relation to the awarding of any contract until a determination is made by the public body on the protest.
- [5.] 7. A person who makes an unsuccessful bid may not seek any type of judicial intervention until the public body has made a determination on the protest and awarded the contract.
- [6.] 8. Neither a public body nor any authorized representative of the public body is liable for any costs, expenses, attorney's fees, loss of income or other damages sustained by a person who makes a bid, whether or not the person files a notice of protest pursuant to this section.
- [7.] 9. If the protest is upheld, the [bond posted or other] security submitted with the notice of protest must be returned to the person who [posted the bond or] submitted the security. If the protest is rejected, a claim may be made against the [bond or other] security by the public body in an amount equal to the expenses incurred by the public body because of the unsuccessful protest. Any money remaining after the claim has been satisfied must be returned to the person who [posted the bond or] submitted the security.
- 10. As used in this section, "individual surety" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 339.015.
 - **Sec. 25.** NRS 338.1692 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 338.1692 1. A public body or its authorized representative shall advertise for proposals for a construction manager at risk in a





newspaper qualified pursuant to chapter 238 of NRS that is published in the county where the public work will be performed. If no qualified newspaper is published in the county where the public work will be performed, the required advertisement must be published in some qualified newspaper that is printed in the State of Nevada and has a general circulation in the county.

- 2. A request for proposals published pursuant to subsection 1 must include, without limitation:
 - (a) A description of the public work;

- (b) An estimate of the cost of construction;
- (c) A description of the work that the public body expects a construction manager at risk to perform;
- (d) The dates on which it is anticipated that the separate phases of the preconstruction and construction of the public work will begin and end;
- (e) The date by which proposals must be submitted to the public body;
- (f) If the project is a public work of the State, a statement setting forth that the construction manager at risk must be qualified to bid on a public work of the State pursuant to NRS 338.1379 before submitting a proposal;
- (g) The name, title, address and telephone number of a person employed by the public body that an applicant may contact for further information regarding the public work;
- (h) A list of the selection criteria and relative weight of the selection criteria that will be used to rank proposals pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 338.1693;
- (i) A list of the selection criteria and relative weight of the selection criteria that will be used to rank applicants pursuant to subsection 7 of NRS 338.1693; and
- (j) A notice that the proposed form of the contract to assist in the preconstruction of the public work or to construct the public work, including, without limitation, the terms and general conditions of the contract, is available from the public body.
 - 3. A proposal must include, without limitation:
- (a) An explanation of the experience that the applicant has with projects of similar size and scope in both the public and private sectors by any delivery method, whether or not that method was the use of a construction manager at risk, and including, without limitation, design-build, design-assist, negotiated work or value-engineered work, and an explanation of the experience that the applicant has in such projects in Nevada;
- (b) The contact information for references who have knowledge of the background, character and technical competence of the applicant;





- (c) Evidence of the ability of the applicant to obtain the necessary [bonding] security for the work to be required by the public body;
- (d) Evidence that the applicant has obtained or has the ability to obtain such insurance as may be required by law;
 - (e) A statement of whether the applicant has been:
- (1) Found liable for breach of contract with respect to a previous project, other than a breach for legitimate cause, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of the advertisement for proposals; and
- (2) Disqualified from being awarded a contract pursuant to NRS 338.017, 338.13895, 338.1475 or 408.333;
- (f) The professional qualifications and experience of the applicant, including, without limitation, the resume of any employee of the applicant who will be managing the preconstruction and construction of the public work;
- (g) The safety programs established and the safety records accumulated by the applicant;
- (h) Evidence that the applicant is licensed as a contractor pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS;
- (i) The proposed plan of the applicant to manage the preconstruction and construction of the public work which sets forth in detail the ability of the applicant to provide preconstruction services and to construct the public work and which includes, if the public work involves predominantly horizontal construction, a statement that the applicant will perform construction work equal in value to at least 25 percent of the estimated cost of construction; and
- (j) If the project is for the design of a public work of the State, evidence that the applicant is qualified to bid on a public work of the State pursuant to NRS 338.1379.
- 4. The public body or its authorized representative shall make available to the public the name of each applicant who submits a proposal pursuant to this section.
- **Sec. 26.** NRS 338.16991 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 338.16991 1. To be eligible to provide labor, materials or equipment on a public work, the contract for which a public body has entered into with a construction manager at risk pursuant to NRS 338.1696, a subcontractor must be:
 - (a) Licensed pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS; and
- (b) Qualified pursuant to the provisions of this section to submit a proposal for the provision of labor, materials or equipment on a public work.
- 2. Subject to the provisions of subsections 3, 4 and 5, the construction manager at risk shall determine whether an applicant is





qualified to submit a proposal for the provision of labor, materials or equipment on the public work for the purposes of paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

- 3. Not earlier than 30 days after a construction manager at risk has been selected pursuant to NRS 338.1693 and not later than 10 working days before the date by which an application must be submitted, the construction manager at risk shall advertise for applications from subcontractors in a newspaper qualified pursuant to chapter 238 of NRS that is published in the county where the public work will be performed. If no qualified newspaper is published in the county where the public work will be performed, the advertisement must be published in some qualified newspaper that is printed in the State of Nevada and has a general circulation in the county. The construction manager at risk may accept an application from a subcontractor before advertising for applications pursuant to this subsection.
- 4. The criteria to be used by the construction manager at risk when determining whether an applicant is qualified to submit a proposal for the provision of labor, materials or equipment must include, and must be limited to:
- (a) The monetary limit placed on the license of the applicant by the State Contractors' Board pursuant to NRS 624.220;
- (b) The financial ability of the applicant to provide the labor, materials or equipment required on the public work;
- (c) Whether the applicant has the ability to obtain the necessary **[bonding]** *security* for the work required by the public body;
- (d) The safety programs established and the safety records accumulated by the applicant;
- (e) Whether the applicant has breached any contracts with a public body or person in this State or any other state during the 5 years immediately preceding the application;
- (f) Whether the applicant has been disciplined or fined by the State Contractors' Board or another state or federal agency for conduct that relates to the ability of the applicant to perform the public work;
- (g) The performance history of the applicant concerning other recent, similar public or private contracts, if any, completed by the applicant in Nevada;
 - (h) The principal personnel of the applicant;
- (i) Whether the applicant has been disqualified from the award of any contract pursuant to NRS 338.017 or 338.13895; and
 - (j) The truthfulness and completeness of the application.
- 5. The public body or its authorized representative shall ensure that each determination made pursuant to subsection 2 is made subject to the provisions of subsection 4.





- 6. The construction manager at risk shall notify each applicant and the public body in writing of a determination made pursuant to subsection 2.
- 7. A determination made pursuant to subsection 2 that an applicant is not qualified may be appealed pursuant to NRS 338.1381 to the public body with whom the construction manager at risk has entered into a contract for the construction of the public work.
- **Sec. 27.** NRS 338.16995 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 338.16995 1. If a public body enters into a contract with a construction manager at risk for the construction of a public work pursuant to NRS 338.1696, the construction manager at risk may enter into a subcontract for the provision of labor, materials and equipment necessary for the construction of the public work only as provided in this section.
- 2. The provisions of this section apply only to a subcontract for which the estimated value is at least 1 percent of the total cost of the public work or \$50,000, whichever is greater.
- 3. After the design and schedule for the construction of the public work is sufficiently detailed and complete to allow a subcontractor to submit a meaningful and responsive proposal, and not later than 21 days before the date by which a proposal for the provision of labor, materials or equipment by a subcontractor must be submitted, the construction manager at risk shall notify in writing each subcontractor who was determined pursuant to NRS 338.16991 to be qualified to submit such a proposal of a request for such proposals. A copy of the notice required pursuant to this subsection must be provided to the public body.
- 4. The notice required pursuant to subsection 3 must include, without limitation:
- (a) A description of the design for the public work and a statement indicating where a copy of the documents relating to that design may be obtained;
- (b) A description of the type and scope of labor, equipment and materials for which subcontractor proposals are being sought;
- (c) The dates on which it is anticipated that construction of the public work will begin and end;
- (d) If a preproposal meeting regarding the scope of the work to be performed by the subcontractor is to be held, the date, time and place at which the preproposal meeting will be held;
- 42 (e) The date and time by which proposals must be received, and to whom they must be submitted;
 - (f) The date, time and place at which proposals will be opened for evaluation;





- (g) A description of the **[bonding]** security and insurance requirements for subcontractors;
- (h) Any other information reasonably necessary for a subcontractor to submit a responsive proposal; and
 - (i) A statement in substantially the following form:

Notice: For a proposal for a subcontract on the public work to be considered:

- 1. The subcontractor must be licensed pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS;
 - 2. The proposal must be timely received;
- 3. If a preproposal meeting regarding the scope of the work to be performed by the subcontractor is held, the subcontractor must attend the preproposal meeting; and
- 4. The subcontractor may not modify the proposal after the date and time the proposal is received.
- 5. A subcontractor may not modify a proposal after the date and time the proposal is received.
 - 6. To be considered responsive, a proposal must:
 - (a) Be timely received by the construction manager at risk; and
- (b) Substantially and materially conform to the details and requirements included in the proposal instructions and for the finalized bid package for the public work, including, without limitation, details and requirements affecting price and performance.
- 7. The opening of the proposals must be attended by an authorized representative of the public body. The public body may require the architect or engineer responsible for the design of the public work to attend the opening of the proposals. The opening of the proposals is not otherwise open to the public.
- 8. At the time the proposals are opened, the construction manager at risk shall compile and provide to the public body or its authorized representative a list that includes, without limitation, the name and contact information of each subcontractor who submits a timely proposal.
- 9. Not more than 10 working days after opening the proposals and before the construction manager at risk submits a guaranteed maximum price, a fixed price or a fixed price plus reimbursement pursuant to NRS 338.1696, the construction manager at risk shall:
- (a) Evaluate the proposals and determine which proposals are responsive.
- (b) Select the subcontractor who submits the proposal that the construction manager at risk determines is the best proposal. Subject to the provisions of subparagraphs (1), (2) and (3), if only one subcontractor submits a proposal, the construction manager at risk





may select that subcontractor. The subcontractor must be selected from among those:

- (1) Who attended the preproposal meeting regarding the scope of the work to be performed by the subcontractor, if such a preproposal meeting was held;
 - (2) Who submitted a responsive proposal; and
- (3) Whose names are included on the list compiled and provided to the public body or its authorized representative pursuant to subsection 8.
- (c) Inform the public body or its authorized representative which subcontractor has been selected.
- 10. The public body or its authorized representative shall ensure that the evaluation of proposals and selection of subcontractors are done pursuant to the provisions of this section and regulations adopted by the State Public Works Board.
- 11. A subcontractor selected pursuant to subsection 9 need not be selected by the construction manager at risk solely on the basis of lowest price.
- 12. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 13 and 15, the construction manager at risk shall enter into a subcontract with a subcontractor selected pursuant to subsection 9 to provide the labor, materials or equipment described in the request for proposals.
- 13. A construction manager at risk shall not substitute a subcontractor for any subcontractor selected pursuant to subsection 9 unless:
- (a) The public body or its authorized representative objects to the subcontractor, requests in writing a change in the subcontractor and pays any increase in costs resulting from the change; or
- (b) The substitution is approved by the public body after the selected subcontractor:
 - (1) Files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent;
- (2) After having a reasonable opportunity, fails or refuses to execute a written contract with the construction manager at risk which was offered to the selected subcontractor with the same general terms that all other subcontractors on the project were offered;
- (3) Fails or refuses to perform the subcontract within a reasonable time;
- (4) Is unable to furnish [a] performance [bond] security and payment [bond] security pursuant to NRS 339.025, if required for the public work; or
- (5) Is not properly licensed to provide that labor or portion of the work.
- 14. If a construction manager at risk substitutes a subcontractor for any subcontractor selected pursuant to subsection 9 without





complying with the provisions of subsection 13, the construction manager at risk shall forfeit, as a penalty to the public body, an amount equal to 1 percent of the total amount of the contract.

- 15. If a construction manager at risk does not select a subcontractor pursuant to subsection 9 to perform a portion of work on a public work, the construction manager at risk shall notify the public body that the construction manager at risk intends to perform that portion of work. If, after providing such notification, the construction manager at risk substitutes a subcontractor to perform the work, the construction manager at risk shall forfeit, as a penalty to the public body, the lesser of, and excluding any amount of the contract that is attributable to change orders:
- (a) An amount equal to 2.5 percent of the total amount of the contract; or
- (b) An amount equal to 35 percent of the estimate by the engineer of the cost of the work the construction manager at risk selected himself or herself to perform on the public work.
- 16. The construction manager at risk shall make available to the public the name of each subcontractor who submits a proposal.
- 17. If a public work is being constructed in phases, and a construction manager at risk selects a subcontractor pursuant to subsection 9 for the provision of labor, materials or equipment for any phase of that construction, the construction manager at risk may select that subcontractor for the provision of labor, materials or equipment for any other phase of the construction without following the requirements of subsections 3 to 11, inclusive.
- 18. As used in this section, "general terms" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 338.141.
 - Sec. 28. NRS 338.1721 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 338.1721 To qualify to participate in a project for the design and construction of a public work, a design-build team must:
- 1. Have the ability to obtain [a] performance [bond] security and payment [bond] security as required pursuant to NRS 339.025;
- 2. Have the ability to obtain insurance covering general liability and liability for errors and omissions;
- 3. Not have been found liable for breach of contract with respect to a previous project, other than a breach for legitimate cause, during the 5 years immediately preceding the date of the advertisement for preliminary proposals;
- 4. Not have been disqualified from being awarded a contract pursuant to NRS 338.017, 338.13895, 338.1475 or 408.333;
- 5. Ensure that the members of the design-build team possess the licenses and certificates required to carry out the functions of their respective professions within this State; and





- 6. If the project is for the design and construction of a public work of the State, ensure that the prime contractor is qualified to bid on a public work of the State pursuant to NRS 338.1379.
- **Sec. 29.** Chapter 339 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 30, 31 and 32 of this act.
- Sec. 30. A bond or security required by or pursuant to NRS 338.142, 339.025, 408.337, 408.357 or 408.367 may be executed by an individual surety only if:
- 1. The individual surety transacts business only through an insurance company that is licensed by the Division of Insurance of the Department of Business and Industry and approved to do business in this State.
- 2. The person on whose behalf the bond or security is executed provides with the bid, on a form approved by the State Public Works Board, an affidavit from the individual surety attesting to compliance with the provisions of this chapter or chapter 338 or 408 of NRS, as applicable.
- 3. The individual surety submits to the contracting body a Uniform Commercial Code 1 (UCC1) form for each asset pledged pursuant to subsection 4.
- 4. Subject to the provisions of section 31 of this act, the individual surety pledges one or more of the following assets in an amount equal to or greater than the amount of the required security:
 - (a) Cash or a certificate of deposit;
- (b) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
- (c) Assets for which the individual surety can demonstrate a security interest, including, without limitation, an irrevocable trust receipt that is issued by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755, or by an independent trustee in the name of the contracting body, and that includes a payout clause in the event that any default by the individual surety cannot otherwise be remedied;
 - (d) United States Government securities at market value;
 - (e) Stocks and bonds that are:
- (1) Traded on a national securities exchange registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission;
- (2) Accompanied by certificates issued in the name of the individual surety; and
- (3) Pledged at an amount not more than 90 percent of the lowest price of the stocks and bonds during the 12-month period





immediately preceding the execution of the security by the individual surety;

(f) Real property located in this State that:

(1) Is owned by the bidder or contractor, as applicable, or the individual surety in fee simple or is owned by cotenants who have entered into a binding agreement to pledge the real property pursuant to this section; and

(2) Is pledged by the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust

on the real property located in this State, provided that:

(I) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor, as applicable, or individual surety providing the mortgage or deed of trust; and

(II) The mortgage or deed of trust must be recorded by the contracting body in the office of the county recorder of the

county in which the real property is located; or

(g) An irrevocable letter of credit that:

(1) Is issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 in the name of the contracting body; and

(2) Includes a payout clause in the event that any default by

the individual surety cannot otherwise be remedied.

Sec. 31. An asset pledged pursuant to subsection 4 of section 30 of this act:

- I. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, may be pledged as a security only for the purposes of section 30 of this act; and
- 2. May not be pledged for any other security or contract inside or outside this State unless and until it is released by the contracting body.
- Sec. 32. The provisions of this section and sections 30 and 31 of this act authorize an individual surety to execute bonds and otherwise provide security only pursuant to NRS 338.142, 339.025, 408.337, 408.357 and 408.367 and sections 30 and 31 of this act.
 - **Sec. 33.** NRS 339.015 is hereby amended to read as follows: 339.015 As used in this chapter:

1. "Claimant" includes a natural person, firm, partnership, association or corporation.

- 2. "Contracting body" means the State, county, city, town, school district, or any public agency of the State or its political subdivisions which has authority to contract for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or other public work or public improvement.
- 3. "Individual surety" means a natural person who is not an insurer, as that term is defined in NRS 679A.100, and who pledges





his or her personal property or assets to guarantee the performance of a contract or payment pursuant to a contract.

Sec. 34. NRS 339.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:

339.025 1. Before any contract, except one subject to the provisions of chapter 408 of NRS, exceeding \$100,000 for any project for the new construction, repair or reconstruction of any public building or other public work or public improvement of any contracting body is awarded to any contractor, the contractor shall furnish to the contracting body the following [bonds] securities which become binding upon the award of the contract to the contractor:

- (a) [A performance bond] Performance security in an amount to be fixed by the contracting body, but not less than 50 percent of the contract amount, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract in accordance with the plans, specifications and conditions of the contract. The [bond] security must be solely for the protection of the contracting body which awarded the contract.
- (b) [A payment bond] Payment security in an amount to be fixed by the contracting body, but not less than 50 percent of the contract amount. The [bond] security must be solely for the protection of claimants supplying labor or materials to the contractor to whom the contract was awarded, or to any of his or her subcontractors, in the prosecution of the work provided for in such contract.
- 2. If a general contractor has been awarded a contract, except one subject to the provisions of chapter 408 of NRS, by the State Public Works Division of the Department of Administration for any project for new construction, repair or reconstruction of any public building or other public work or public improvement, each of the subcontractors of the general contractor who will perform work on the contract that exceeds \$50,000 or 1 percent of the proposed project, whichever amount is greater, shall furnish [a bond] security to the Division in an amount to be fixed by the Division.
- 3. [Each of the bonds] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, security required pursuant to this section must be [executed]:
- (a) A bond executed by one or more surety companies authorized to do business in the State of Nevada [...];
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 30, 31 and 32 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the contracting body and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the contractor:
 - (1) Cash;





- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;

- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
 - (5) A security interest approved by the contracting body; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the contracting body.
- 4. A contracting body may accept performance security required pursuant to this section that includes the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust on real property located in this State if:
- (a) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor providing the mortgage or deed of trust as performance security; and
- (b) The mortgage or deed of trust is recorded by the contracting body in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the real property is located.
- 5. The contracting body shall determine the value of any security offered pursuant to this section.
- 6. If the contracting body is the State of Nevada or any officer, employee, board, bureau, commission, department, agency or institution thereof, the [bonds] security must be payable to or deposited with, as applicable, the State of Nevada. If the contracting body is other than one of those enumerated in this subsection, the [bonds] security must be payable to or deposited with, as applicable, the other contracting body.
- [4.] 7. Each [of the bonds] security must be filed or deposited in the office of the contracting body which awarded the contract for which the [bonds were] security is given.
- [5.] 8. This section does not prohibit a contracting body from requiring bonds [.] or other security.
 - **Sec. 35.** NRS 339.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 339.035 1. Subject to the provisions of subsection 2, any claimant who has performed labor or furnished material in the prosecution of the work provided for in any contract for which [a] payment [bond] security has been given pursuant to the provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 339.025, and who has not been paid in full before the expiration of 90 days after the date on which the claimant performed the last of such labor or furnished the last of such materials for which the claimant claims payment, may bring an action on such payment [bond] security in his or her own name to





recover any amount due the claimant for such labor or material, and may prosecute such action to final judgment and have execution on the judgment.

- 2. Any claimant who has a direct contractual relationship with any subcontractor of the contractor who gave such payment [bond,] security, but no contractual relationship, express or implied, with such contractor, may bring an action on the payment [bond] security only:
- (a) If the claimant has, within 30 days after furnishing the first of such materials or performing the first of such labor, served on the contractor a written notice which shall inform the latter of the nature of the materials being furnished or to be furnished, or the labor performed or to be performed, and identifying the person contracting for such labor or materials and the site for the performance of such labor or materials; and
- (b) After giving written notice to such contractor within 90 days from the date on which the claimant performed the last of the labor or furnished the last of the materials for which the claimant claims payment. Each written notice shall state with substantial accuracy the amount claimed and the name of the person for whom the work was performed or the material supplied, and shall be served by being sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to such contractor at any place in which the contractor maintains an office or conducts business, or at the residence of the contractor.
 - **Sec. 36.** NRS 339.045 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 339.045 1. The contracting body shall furnish a certified copy of any payment [bond] security and the contract for which such [bond] security was given to any person who makes an application for such copy and who submits an affidavit stating that the person:
- (a) Has supplied labor or material for the completion of the work provided for in the contract, and that the person has not been fully paid for such labor or material;
- (b) Is the defendant in an action brought on [a] any payment [bond;] security; or
- (c) Is surety in [a] any payment [bond] security on which an action has been brought.
- 2. Every such applicant shall pay for each certified copy a fee fixed by the contracting body to cover the actual cost of the preparation of such copy.
- 3. A certified copy of any payment [bond] security and of the contract for which such [bond] security was given shall constitute prima facie evidence of the contents, execution and delivery of the original of such [bond] security and contract.





- **Sec. 37.** NRS 339.055 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 339.055 1. Every action on [a] any payment [bond] security as provided in NRS 339.035 shall be brought in the appropriate court of the political subdivision where the contract for which the [bond] security was given was to be performed.
- 2. No such action may be commenced after the expiration of 1 year from the date on which the claimant performed the last of the labor or furnished the last of the materials for the payment of which such action is brought.
 - **Sec. 38.** NRS 339.065 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 339.065 1. It is unlawful for any representative of a contracting body, in issuing an invitation for bids, to require that any **[bond]** *security* specified in NRS 339.025 be furnished by a particular surety company *or individual surety* or through a particular agent or broker.
- 2. Any person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- **Sec. 39.** Chapter 408 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- "Individual surety" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 339.015.
- **Sec. 40.** NRS 408.020 is hereby amended to read as follows: 408.020 As used in this chapter the words and terms defined in NRS 408.033 to 408.095, inclusive, *and section 39 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings ascribed to
- them in those sections.

 Sec. 41. NRS 408.337 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 408.337 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 408.3875 to
 408.3887, inclusive:
- 1. All bids must be accompanied by [an undertaking executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in the State, or by eash or a certified check] security in an amount equal to at least 5 percent of the amount bid. Such [undertaking, eash or check] security furnished to accompany a bid submitted on-line pursuant to NRS 408.343 must be furnished in accordance with the procedures set forth by the Director. A person required to provide security may provide any of the following:
- (a) A bond executed by a corporate surety authorized to do business in this State;
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 30, 31 and 32 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) If approved by the Department and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security:
 - (1) Cash;





- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;

- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
 - (5) A security interest approved by the Department; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the Department.
- 2. The Department shall determine the value of any security furnished pursuant to this section.
- 3. If the successful bidder fails to execute the contract in accordance with his or her bid and give any [bond] security required by law and the contract and [bond] security are not postmarked or delivered to the Department within 20 days after award of the contract, the undertaking, cash or certified check is forfeited and the proceeds must be paid into the State Highway Fund.
- [3.] 4. The failure of the successful bidder to furnish any [bond] security required of the bidder by law within the time fixed for his or her execution of the contract constitutes a failure to execute the contract.
- [4.] 5. If the Director deems it is for the best interests of the State, the Director may, on refusal or failure of the successful bidder to execute the contract, award it to the second lowest responsible bidder. If the second lowest responsible bidder fails or refuses to execute the contract, the Director may likewise award it to the third lowest responsible bidder. On the failure or refusal to execute the contract of the second or third lowest bidder to whom a contract is so awarded, their bidder's security is likewise forfeited to the State.
- [5.] 6. The bidder's security of the second and third lowest responsible bidders may be withheld by the Department until the contract has been finally executed and the [bond] security given as required under the provisions of the contract, at which time the security must be returned. The bidder's security submitted by all other unsuccessful bidders must be returned to them within 10 days after the contract is awarded.
 - **Sec. 42.** NRS 408.354 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 408.354 If the Director awards to a railroad company a contract for a project for the construction, reconstruction, improvement or maintenance of a highway and the project is located on property that is owned by or under the control of the railroad company, the contract may provide that the railroad company is not required to file, furnish or obtain [a] payment [bond,] security, performance





[bond] security or any other [bond] security that would otherwise be required pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 43. NRS 408.357 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 408.357 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 408.354, every contract must provide for the filing and furnishing of [one or more bonds] security by the successful bidder, [with corporate sureties approved by the Department and authorized to do business in the State,] in a sum equal to the full or total amount of the contract awarded. The [bond or bonds] security must be performance [bonds] security or labor and material [bonds,] security, or both.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, security required pursuant to this section must be:
- (a) A bond executed by a corporate surety approved by the Department and authorized to do business in the State;
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 30, 31 and 32 of this act, a bond or other security executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the Department and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the bidder:
 - (1) Cash;

- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;
- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
 - (5) A security interest approved by the Department; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the Department.
- 3. The Department may accept performance security required pursuant to this section that includes the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust on real property located in this State if:
- (a) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor providing the mortgage or deed of trust as performance security; and
- (b) The mortgage or deed of trust is recorded by the Department in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the real property is located.
- 4. The Department shall determine the value of any security offered pursuant to this section.





5. The performance [bonds] security must:

- (a) Guarantee the faithful performance of the contract in accordance with the plans, specifications and terms of the contract.
- (b) Be maintained for 1 year after the date of completion of the contract.
 - [3.] 6. The labor and material [bonds] security must:
- (a) Secure payment of state and local taxes relating to the contract, premiums under the Nevada Industrial Insurance Act, contributions under the Unemployment Compensation Law, and payment of claims for labor, materials, provisions, implements, machinery, means of transportation or supplies furnished upon or used for the performance of the contract; and
- (b) Provide that if the contractor or his or her subcontractors, or assigns, fail to pay for such taxes, premiums, contributions, labor and materials required of, and used or consumed by, the contractor or his or her subcontractors []:
- (1) If the security required by this section was a bond executed by a surety or individual surety pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 2, the surety or individual surety shall make the required payment in an amount not exceeding the total sum specified in the [bond] terms of the security together with interest at a rate of 8 percent per annum [-]; and
- (2) If the security required by this section was security described in paragraph (c) or (d) of subsection 2, the contractor or his or her subcontractors, or assigns, as applicable, shall make the required payment in an amount not exceeding the total sum specified in the terms of the security together with an interest at a rate of 8 percent per annum.
- All such [bonds] security must be otherwise conditioned as required by law or the Department.
- [4.] 7. No person bidding for work or submitting proposals under the provisions of this chapter may be accepted as surety *or individual surety* on any bond.
- [5.] 8. Whenever the Department has cause to believe that [the sureties or any of them have] any security furnished pursuant to this section has become insufficient, it may demand in writing of the contractor such further [bonds or additional sureties,] security, in a total sum not exceeding that originally required, as are necessary, considering the extent of the work remaining to be done. Thereafter no payment may be made upon the contract to the contractor or any assignee of the contractor until the further [bonds or additional sureties have] security has been furnished.
- [6.] 9. The Department in every contract may require the furnishing of proof by the successful bidder of public liability and insurance coverage for damage to property.





Sec. 44. NRS 408.363 is hereby amended to read as follows:

408.363 1. Any person who has furnished labor, materials, provisions, implements, machinery, means of transportation or supplies used or consumed by such contractor or the contractor's subcontractors in or about the performance of the work contracted to be done, and whose claim therefor has not been paid by such contractor or subcontractors, and who desires to be protected under the [bond,] security furnished pursuant to NRS 408.357, shall file with the Department a claim in triplicate within 30 days from the date of final acceptance of the contract as provided in NRS 408.387, and such claim shall be executed and verified before a notary public and contain a statement that the same has not been paid. One copy shall be filed in the office of the Department and the remaining copies shall be forwarded to the contractor and surety.

- 2. Any such person so filing a claim may at any time within 6 months thereafter commence an action against the [surety or sureties on the bond] security for the recovery of the amount of the claim and the filing of such claim shall not constitute a claim against the Department. Failure to commence such action [upon] against the [bond and the sureties] security within 6 months after date of the Department's final acceptance will bar any right of action against such [surety or sureties.] security.
 - **Sec. 45.** NRS 408.367 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 408.367 1. With the approval of the Board, the Director may receive informal bids and award contracts for highway construction, reconstruction, improvements, and maintenance on projects estimated to cost not in excess of \$250,000.
- 2. Before furnishing any person proposing to bid on any solicited work with the plans and specifications for such work, the Director shall require from the person a statement, verified under oath, in the form of answers to questions contained in a standard form of questionnaire, which must include information describing:
- (a) The geographical regions of this State in which the person is willing to perform the public work;
- (b) The type of license and classification, if any, held by the person; and
- (c) The business license held by the person and its expiration date.
- 3. Before awarding a contract pursuant to subsection 1, the Director must:
- (a) If the estimated cost of the project is \$50,000 or less, solicit a bid from at least one properly licensed contractor; and
- (b) If the estimated cost of the project is more than \$50,000 but not more than \$250,000, solicit bids from at least three properly licensed contractors.





- 4. Any bids received in response to a solicitation for bids made pursuant to subsection 3 may be rejected if the Director determines that:
- (a) The quality of the services, materials, equipment or labor offered does not conform to the approved plan or specifications;
 - (b) The bidder is not responsive or responsible; or
 - (c) The public interest would be served by such a rejection.
- 5. At least once each quarter, the Director shall prepare a report detailing, for each project for which a contract for its completion is awarded pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 3, if any:
- (a) The name of the contractor to whom the contract was awarded:
 - (b) The amount of the contract awarded;
 - (c) A brief description of the project; and
 - (d) The names of all contractors from whom bids were solicited.
- 6. A report prepared pursuant to subsection 5 is a public record and must be maintained on file at the principal offices of the Department.
- 7. Except as otherwise provided in *subsection 8 and* NRS 408.354, [contracts] *a contract* awarded pursuant to the provisions of this section must be accompanied by [bonds and]:
- (a) A bond conditioned and executed in the name of the State of Nevada [, and];
- (b) Subject to the provisions of sections 30, 31 and 32 of this act, a bond conditioned and executed by an individual surety; or
- (c) Any other form of security that is approved by the Department, and in an amount equal to the amount of the required security, including, without limitation, any one or a combination of the following paid or issued by the bidder:
 - (1) Cash;

- (2) A cash equivalent held with a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755;
 - (3) A money order;
- (4) A certified check or cashier's or similar bank officer's check;
 - (5) A security interest approved by the Department; or
- (6) An irrevocable letter of credit, issued or confirmed by a financial institution that is federally insured or insured by a private insurer approved pursuant to NRS 678.755 approved by the Department.





8. The Department may accept performance security required pursuant to this section that includes the granting of a mortgage or deed of trust on real property located in this State if:

(a) The face amount of the mortgage or deed of trust does not exceed 75 percent of the value of the interest in the real property of the bidder or contractor providing the mortgage or deed of trust

as performance security; and

(b) The mortgage or deed of trust is recorded by the Department in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the real property is located.

9. The Department shall determine the value of any security

offered pursuant to this section.

10. Any contract entered into for security required by this section must be signed by the Director under the seal of the Department, and by the contracting party or parties. The form and legality of those contracts must be approved by the Attorney General or Chief Counsel of the Department.

Sec. 46. NRS 408.383 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 408.383 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2, 11 and 12, the Director may pay at the end of each calendar month, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to any contractor satisfactorily performing any highway improvement or construction as the work progresses in full for the work as completed but not more than 95 percent of the entire contract price. The progress estimates must be based upon materials in place, or on the job site, or at a location approved by the Director, and invoiced, and labor expended thereon. The remaining 5 percent, but not more than \$50,000, must be retained until the entire contract is completed satisfactorily and accepted by the Director.
- 2. If the work in progress is being performed on a satisfactory basis, the Director may reduce the percentage retained if the Director finds that sufficient reasons exist for additional payment and has obtained written approval from every surety furnishing bonds *and every person furnishing other security* for the work. Any remaining money must be retained until the entire contract is completed satisfactorily and accepted by the Director.
- 3. If it becomes necessary for the Department to take over the completion of any highway contract or contracts, all of the amounts owing the contractor, including the withheld percentage, must first be applied toward the cost of completion of the contract or contracts. Any balance remaining in the retained percentage after completion by the Department is payable to the contractor or the contractor's creditors.
- 4. Such retained percentage as may be due any contractor is due and payable at the expiration of the 30-day period as provided





in NRS 408.363 for filing of creditors' claims, and this retained percentage is due and payable to the contractor at that time without regard to creditors' claims filed with the Department.

- 5. The contractor under any contract made or awarded by the Department, including any contract for the construction, improvement, maintenance or repair of any road or highway or the appurtenances thereto, may, from time to time, withdraw the whole or any portion of the sums otherwise due to the contractor under the contract which are retained by the Department, pursuant to the terms of the contract, if the contractor deposits with the Director:
- (a) United States treasury bonds, United States treasury notes, United States treasury certificates of indebtedness or United States treasury bills;
 - (b) Bonds or notes of the State of Nevada; or
- (c) General obligation bonds of any political subdivision of the State of Nevada.
- → Certificates of deposit must be of a market value not exceeding par, at the time of deposit, but at least equal in value to the amount so withdrawn from payments retained under the contract.
- 6. The Director has the power to enter into a contract or agreement with any national bank, state bank, credit union, trust company or safe deposit company located in the State of Nevada, designated by the contractor after notice to the owner and surety, to provide for the custodial care and servicing of any obligations deposited with the Director pursuant to this section. Such services include the safekeeping of the obligations and the rendering of all services required to effectuate the purposes of this section.
- 7. The Director or any national bank, state bank, credit union, trust company or safe deposit company located in the State of Nevada, designated by the contractor to serve as custodian for the obligations pursuant to subsection 6, shall collect all interest or income when due on the obligations so deposited and shall pay them, when and as collected, to the contractor who deposited the obligation. If the deposit is in the form of coupon bonds, the Director shall deliver each coupon as it matures to the contractor.
- 8. Any amount deducted by the State of Nevada, or pursuant to the terms of a contract, from the retained payments otherwise due to the contractor thereunder, must be deducted first from that portion of the retained payments for which no obligation has been substituted, then from the proceeds of any deposited obligation. In the latter case, the contractor is entitled to receive the interest, coupons or income only from those obligations which remain on deposit after that amount has been deducted.





- 9. A contractor shall disburse money paid to the contractor pursuant to this section, including any interest that the contractor receives, to his or her subcontractors and suppliers within 15 days after receipt of the money in the proportion that the value of the work performed by each subcontractor or the materials furnished by each supplier bears to the total amount of the contract between the principal contractor and the Department.
- 10. Money payable to a subcontractor or supplier accrues interest at a rate equal to the lowest daily prime rate at the three largest banks in the United States on the date the subcontract or order for supplies was executed plus 2 percent, from 15 days after the money was received by the principal contractor until the date of payment.
- 11. If a contractor withholds more than 10 percent of a payment required by subsection 9, the subcontractor or supplier may inform the Director in writing of the amount due. The Director shall attempt to resolve the dispute between the contractor and the subcontractor or supplier within 20 working days after the date that the Director receives notice of the amount due. If the dispute is not resolved within 20 working days after the date that the Director receives notice of the amount due, the contractor shall deposit the disputed amount in an escrow account that bears interest. The contractor, subcontractor or supplier may pursue any legal or equitable remedy to resolve the dispute over the amount due. The Director may not be made a party to any legal or equitable action brought by the contractor, subcontractor or supplier.
- 12. If the Director awards to a railroad company a contract for a project for the construction, reconstruction, improvement or maintenance of a highway and the project is located on property that is owned by or under the control of the railroad company, the Director may agree in the contract not to retain any portion of the contract price.
- **Sec. 47.** NRS 408.3884 is hereby amended to read as follows: 408.3884 To qualify to participate in the design and construction of a project for the Department, a design-build team must:
- 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 408.354, obtain [a] performance [bond] security and payment [bond] security as the Department may require;
- 2. Obtain insurance covering general liability and liability for errors and omissions;
- 3. Not have been found liable for breach of contract with respect to a previous project, other than a breach for legitimate cause;





- 4. Not have been disqualified from being awarded a contract pursuant to NRS 338.017, 338.13895, 338.1475 or 408.333; and
- 5. Ensure that the members of the design-build team possess the licenses and certificates required to carry out the functions of their respective professions within this state.





