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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 187—ASSEMBLYWOMAN COHEN

PREFILED FEBRUARY 13, 2017

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the membership of the Board of Wildlife Commissioners. (BDR 45-763)

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

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

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AN ACT relating to wildlife; revising the qualifications of certain members of the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to include representatives of the ecotourism industry; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law creates the Board of Wildlife Commissioners, consisting of nine  
2 members appointed by the Governor, and confers broad authority upon the  
3 Commission to manage wildlife and its habitat in this State. (NRS 501.105,  
4 501.167, 501.181) Existing law further requires that five of those nine members  
5 hold a resident license to fish or hunt, or both, in Nevada. (NRS 501.171) **Section 1**  
6 of this bill: (1) decreases from five to three the members of the Commission who  
7 are qualified by reason of holding a resident license to fish or hunt, or both, in  
8 Nevada; and (2) requires the remaining two members to be actively engaged in the  
9 ecotourism industry in this State.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 501.171 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 501.171 1. A county advisory board to manage wildlife shall  
3 submit written nominations for appointments to the Commission  
4 upon the request of the Governor and may submit nominations to  
5 any other time.



1 2. After consideration of the written nominations submitted by  
2 a county advisory board to manage wildlife and any additional  
3 candidates for appointment to the Commission, the Governor shall  
4 appoint to the Commission:

5 (a) One member who is actively engaged in and possesses  
6 experience and expertise in advocating issues relating to  
7 conservation;

8 (b) One member who is actively engaged in farming;

9 (c) One member who is actively engaged in ranching;

10 (d) One member who represents the interests of the general  
11 public; ~~land~~

12 (e) ~~Five~~ *Two members who are actively engaged in the*  
13 *ecotourism industry; and*

14 (f) *Three* members who during at least 3 of the 4 years  
15 immediately preceding their appointment held a resident license to  
16 fish or hunt, or both, in Nevada.

17 3. The Governor shall not appoint to the Commission any  
18 person who has been convicted of:

19 (a) A felony or gross misdemeanor for a violation of  
20 NRS 501.376;

21 (b) A gross misdemeanor for a violation of NRS 502.060;

22 (c) A felony or gross misdemeanor for a violation of NRS  
23 504.395; or

24 (d) Two or more violations of the provisions of chapters 501 to  
25 504, inclusive, of NRS,

26 ↪ during the previous 10 years.

27 4. Not more than three members may be from the same county  
28 whose population is 700,000 or more, not more than two members  
29 may be from the same county whose population is 100,000 or more  
30 but less than 700,000, and not more than one member may be from  
31 the same county whose population is less than 100,000.

32 5. The Commission shall annually select a Chair and a Vice  
33 Chair from among its members. A person shall not serve more than  
34 two consecutive terms as Chair.

35 6. *As used in this section, "ecotourism" means visiting or*  
36 *otherwise experiencing the natural and cultural resources of this*  
37 *State while ensuring the protection of those natural and cultural*  
38 *resources and generating economic activity which directly benefits*  
39 *the residents of this State without compromising the options of*  
40 *future generations.*

41 **Sec. 2.** On or before July 1, 2017, the Governor shall appoint  
42 two members to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners pursuant to  
43 the provisions of paragraph (e) of subsection 2 of NRS 501.171, as  
44 amended by section 1 of this act, to a term beginning on July 1,  
45 2017, to replace the two members appointed pursuant to the



1 provisions of paragraph (f) of subsection 2 of NRS 501.171, as  
2 amended by section 1 of this act, whose terms expire on  
3 June 30, 2017.

4 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval  
5 for the purpose of appointing the members of the Board of Wildlife  
6 Commissioners pursuant to section 2 of this act and on July 1, 2017,  
7 for all other purposes.

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