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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 94—ASSEMBLYWOMAN NEAL

PREFILED FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Referred to Committee on Taxation

SUMMARY—Repeals the prospective expiration of the NV Grow Program. (BDR S-217)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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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 economic development; repealing the prospective expiration of the NV Grow Program that provides certain assistance to existing small businesses; making an appropriation to support the NV Grow Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law directs the Office of Economic Development within the Office of  
2 the Governor to create the NV Grow Program as a pilot program to provide certain  
3 informational and technical assistance to existing small businesses in this State that  
4 are expanding or ready to expand. (Section 2 of chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada  
5 2015, p. 2681) Existing law provided a \$150,000 appropriation for the 2015–2017  
6 biennium to the Nevada System of Higher Education for the College of Southern  
7 Nevada to hire a geographic information technology specialist, purchase related  
8 software and provide other services related to the NV Grow Program. (Section 5 of  
9 chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, p. 2683) Existing law also provides that the  
10 NV Grow Program expires by limitation on June 30, 2017. (Section 8 of chapter  
11 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, p. 2683)

12 **Section 2** of this bill repeals the prospective expiration of the NV Grow  
13 Program. **Sections 2-6**, inclusive, of this bill remove the term “pilot” because the  
14 program is ongoing. **Section 8** of this bill makes a \$300,000 appropriation for the  
15 2017–2019 biennium to the Nevada System of Higher Education to support the NV  
16 Grow Program, providing: (1) \$150,000 to the Nevada Small Business  
17 Development Centers for the operation of the Program; and (2) \$150,000 to the  
18 College of Southern Nevada to hire counselors to assist small businesses who  
19 participate in the Program.



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

1       **Section 1.** Chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto a new section to be designated as section  
3 0.5, immediately preceding section 1, to read as follows:

4               *Section 0.5. This act may be cited as the NV Grow Act.*

5       **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at  
6 page 2681, is hereby amended to read as follows:

7               Section 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares  
8 that:

9               1. It is vital to the overall health and growth of the  
10 economy of the State of Nevada to promote favorable  
11 conditions which allow the expansion of Nevada businesses  
12 that demonstrate the ability to grow;

13              2. As a result of the extraordinary economic challenges  
14 which have been, and are, confronting the State, the public  
15 has an interest in expanding the resources of this State to  
16 stimulate investment in Nevada's economy;

17              3. It is the intent of the Legislature that resources be  
18 provided for the operation of the ~~fpilot~~ program described in  
19 section 2 of this act; and

20              4. The purpose of the ~~fpilot~~ program described in  
21 section 2 of this act is to stimulate investment in Nevada's  
22 economy by providing technical assistance for businesses in  
23 this State that are expanding or ready to expand.

24       **Sec. 3.** Section 2 of chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at  
25 page 2681, is hereby amended to read as follows:

26              Sec. 2. 1. The Office, in consultation with the  
27 stakeholders group, shall develop, create and oversee the NV  
28 Grow Program as a ~~fpilot~~ program to stimulate Nevada's  
29 economy with a view toward providing assistance to  
30 businesses that are already located and operating in this State  
31 rather than recruiting businesses from other states to relocate  
32 in Nevada.

33              2. Under the auspices of the ~~fpilot~~ program:

34              (a) Institutions of the Nevada System of Higher Education  
35 located in Clark County and the Nevada Small Business  
36 Development Center in Clark County shall, in cooperation  
37 with the geographic information system specialist employed  
38 at the College of Southern Nevada, mentor and track  
39 businesses participating in the ~~fpilot~~ program in Clark  
40 County. The Clark County Department of Business License  
41 will coordinate with the College to provide such data as may



1 be necessary for the operation of the ~~fpilot~~ program in Clark  
2 County.

3 (b) The Nevada Small Business Development Center  
4 located in Washoe County shall cooperate with the  
5 geographic information system specialist employed to assist  
6 businesses in Clark County that are participating in the ~~fpilot~~  
7 program with marketing and other efforts.

8 3. The ~~fpilot~~ program must include, without limitation:

9 (a) The employment of a geographic information  
10 specialist at the College of Southern Nevada who provides  
11 data to clients of the stakeholders group;

12 (b) The appointment of the Nevada Small Business  
13 Development Center in Washoe County as administrator of  
14 the geographic information system;

15 (c) An analysis of businesses in this State that are ready to  
16 expand;

17 (d) The identification of the skilled labor that exists in this  
18 State and its potential for growth;

19 (e) The targeting of business sectors and occupations in  
20 this State that have demonstrated the ability to grow and  
21 stimulate the economy of the State;

22 (f) A focus on the utilization of existing resources;

23 (g) The harnessing of the academic expertise of the  
24 Centers to provide economic and market data to contribute to  
25 the diversification and growth of the economy of this State;

26 (h) The use of geographic information systems to map  
27 areas of this State to determine locations in which retail sales  
28 and other commerce are flourishing and locations in which  
29 retail sales and commerce demonstrate the capacity for  
30 further growth;

31 (i) The selection of businesses and business sectors in this  
32 State to participate in the ~~fpilot~~ program;

33 (j) The elements described in subsection 2;

34 (k) The provision of informational and other assistance to  
35 businesses and business sectors in this State; and

36 (l) Such other components as the Office, in consultation  
37 with the stakeholders group, determines are likely to be  
38 necessary, advisable or advantageous for the growth and  
39 development of businesses located in this State.

40 4. The ~~fpilot~~ program shall, insofar as is possible, use  
41 the resources and expertise of the Centers and make available  
42 those resources and that expertise to businesses in this State  
43 for the purposes of:

44 (a) Developing business connections;



1 (b) Exchanging data and other information with and  
2 between businesses and trade associations;

3 (c) Creating and facilitating peer-to-peer mentoring  
4 sessions; and

5 (d) Providing to businesses and business sectors data and  
6 other information that is calculated or otherwise generated  
7 through the use of geographic information systems.

8 5. To the extent possible, the ~~fpilot~~ program must be  
9 conducted with the goal of selecting 10 businesses in Clark  
10 County to participate in the ~~fpilot~~ program.

11 6. To qualify to participate in the ~~fpilot~~ program, a  
12 business must:

13 (a) Have its principal place of business within the State of  
14 Nevada and have had its principal place of business in this  
15 State for at least 2 years;

16 (b) Generate at least \$100,000 but not more than  
17 \$700,000 in revenue; and

18 (c) Have a business plan.

19 7. As used in this section:

20 (a) "Business plan" means a written statement of a set of  
21 business goals, the reasons those goals are believed to be  
22 attainable and the plan for reaching those goals.

23 (b) "Centers" means all institutions of the Nevada System  
24 of Higher Education, including, without limitation, the  
25 College of Southern Nevada and the University of Nevada,  
26 Reno.

27 (c) "Geographic information system" means a  
28 computerized database management system for the capture,  
29 storage, retrieval, analysis and display of spatial or  
30 locationally defined data.

31 (d) "Office" means the Office of Economic Development  
32 within the Office of the Governor.

33 (e) "Stakeholders group" means a group of persons  
34 interested in economic development in this State selected by  
35 the Office, including, without limitation, a representative of  
36 the College of Southern Nevada, the University of Nevada,  
37 Las Vegas, the Urban Chamber of Commerce of Las Vegas,  
38 the Las Vegas Latin Chamber of Commerce, the Valley  
39 Center Opportunity Zone, the University of Nevada  
40 Cooperative Extension in Clark County, Clark County and  
41 incorporated cities in Clark County.

42 **Sec. 4.** Section 3 of chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at  
43 page 2683, is hereby amended to read as follows:

44 Sec. 3. In assisting and carrying out the ~~fpilot~~ program  
45 described in section 2 of this act, the Centers, as defined in



1 section 2 of this act, shall, without limitation, perform the  
2 following services:

3 1. Analyze data;

4 2. Ensure that businesses participating in the ~~#{pilot}~~  
5 program understand the manner in which the data so analyzed  
6 will be applied to those businesses so that the businesses may  
7 make better business decisions and understand the current  
8 business market in which they exist;

9 3. Mentor the businesses as to the optimum use of data  
10 received under the ~~#{pilot}~~ program relative to the making of  
11 business decisions; and

12 4. With respect to the businesses participating in the  
13 ~~#{pilot}~~ program:

14 (a) Track the business decisions and growth of each  
15 business over the entire period of the ~~#{pilot}~~ program; and

16 (b) Report the data tracked pursuant to paragraph (a), at  
17 least once each 6 months, to the Office of Economic  
18 Development within the Office of the Governor.

19 **Sec. 5.** Section 4.5 of chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at  
20 page 2683, is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 Sec. 4.5. The Office of Economic Development within  
22 the Office of the Governor may apply for any available  
23 grants, accept any gifts, grants or donations and use any such  
24 gifts, grants or donations to aid the Office in carrying out the  
25 ~~#{pilot}~~ program described in section 2 of this act.

26 **Sec. 6.** Section 7 of chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at  
27 page 2683, is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 Sec. 7. The ~~#{pilot}~~ program described in section 2 of  
29 this act must begin operating not later than January 1, 2016.

30 **Sec. 7.** Section 8 of chapter 459, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at  
31 page 2683, is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 Sec. 8. ~~#{}~~ This act becomes effective upon passage  
33 and approval for the purpose of performing any preparatory  
34 administrative tasks necessary to carry out the provisions of  
35 this act, and on July 1, 2015, for all other purposes.

36 ~~#{2.—This act expires by limitation on June 30, 2017.}~~

37 **Sec. 8.** There is hereby appropriated from the State General  
38 Fund to the Nevada System of Higher Education:

39 1. The sum of \$150,000 to allow the Nevada Small Business  
40 Development Centers to provide such services as may be necessary  
41 to assist and carry out the NV Grow Program established pursuant to  
42 the NV Grow Act.

43 2. The sum of \$150,000 to allow the College of Southern  
44 Nevada to hire counselors to assist small businesses who participate  
45 in the NV Grow Program established pursuant to the NV Grow Act.



1       **Sec. 9.** Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by  
2 section 8 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after  
3 June 30, 2019, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or  
4 any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or  
5 otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the  
6 appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose  
7 after September 20, 2019, by either the entity to which the money  
8 was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently  
9 granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General  
10 Fund on or before September 20, 2019.

11       **Sec. 10.** 1. This section and sections 1 to 7, inclusive, of this  
12 act become effective upon passage and approval.

13       2. Sections 8 and 9 of this act become effective on July 1,  
14 2017.

