

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.805

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Legislative Committee on Energy at its meeting on September 16, 2020. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Legislative Commission for transmittal to the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

1. Draft a bill requiring Nevada's Department of Transportation to establish a working group beginning in July 2021 and ending in December 2022 to study:
 - a. The needs of all transportation mode users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users;
 - b. Social and user transportation equity;
 - c. The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
 - d. The sustainability of the Highway Fund, including, but not limited to, an analysis of the Natural Resources Defense Council funding model and Utah's Road Usage Charge Program; and
 - e. The role of land use and smart growth strategies in reducing transportation emissions and improving system efficiency and equity.

The working group must consist of, but is not limited to:

- a. Representatives of agencies from metropolitan planning organizations;
- b. Representatives of environmental agencies and organizations;
- c. Representatives of clean energy;
- d. Experts in taxation policy;
- e. Representatives of federal, state, county, local, and tribal agencies with transportation and clean energy expertise, as well as other interested parties;
- f. The chairs of the Senate and Assembly Committees on Growth and Infrastructure of the immediately preceding legislative session;
- g. Representatives of labor organizations; and
- h. Other interested persons and entities.

The working group must collect and monitor data and develop preliminary plans for a sustainable transportation funding system. The Department must submit a report to the 2023 Legislature concerning the activities, conclusions, and recommendations of the working group. **(BDR S-458)**

2. Draft a bill amending Article 9, Section 5 of the *Nevada Constitution* to provide that the use of the proceeds from the imposition of any license or registration fee and other charge with respect to the operation of any motor vehicle upon any public highway in this state and the proceeds from the imposition of any excise tax on gasoline or other motor vehicle fuel shall, except the costs of administration, be used exclusively for the construction, maintenance, operation, and repair of the public highways, transit, and transportation infrastructure of this state. **(BDR C-459)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

3. Draft a letter to the governor of Nevada, the Office of Energy of the Office of the Governor, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, and NV Energy supporting an integrated western energy market. The benefits of an integrated western energy market include lower emissions of greenhouse gases, lower energy prices, and improved grid efficiency. The letter should include support of the principles developed by the Advanced Energy Economy to inform and guide discussion among western states about options to create a broader regional wholesale market and a more coordinated transmission grid.
4. Draft a letter to the Nevada System of Higher Education, Nevada's Department of Education, and the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation encouraging them to continue working with the mining industry to improve education, communication, and interest in mining-related fields, such as mining and mineral-related education in grades K-12, undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education. An exchange of communication between educators and industry will result in the type of skills and attributes necessary for Nevada's students to become mining industry employees.
5. Include a statement in the Committee's final report encouraging governmental agencies, such as the United States Geological Survey of the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Energy, to allocate additional funds to be used in Nevada to increase statewide light detection and ranging (LiDAR) data, which is high resolution topographic data that may provide critical information on the distribution of faults and rock layers that host renewable energy resources. The LiDAR systems allow scientists and mapping professionals to examine both natural and manmade environments with accuracy, precision, and flexibility. Applications in Nevada include fault patterns related to geothermal resources, lithium exploration, and solar and wind farm siting.