

---

---

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 131—ASSEMBLYMEN MORTENSON,  
CHOWNING, CLABORN, CARPENTER, OHRENSCHALL,  
ANDERSON, ATKINSON, BUCKLEY, CHRISTENSEN,  
COLLINS, CONKLIN, GIUNCHIGLIANI, HORNE, KOIVISTO,  
LESLIE, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, OCEGUERA, PARKS, PERKINS,  
PIERCE AND WILLIAMS

FEBRUARY 14, 2003

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to protection of  
cultural resources. (BDR 33-92)

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

~

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

---

---

AN ACT relating to cultural resources; requiring the Administrator  
of the Office of Historic Preservation of the Department  
of Cultural Affairs to establish a stewardship program for  
the protection of cultural resources; and providing other  
matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1     **Section 1.** Chapter 383 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2     thereto a new section to read as follows:  
3     ***1. The Administrator shall, by regulation, establish a***  
4     ***stewardship program to:***  
5     ***(a) Protect cultural resources in this state;***  
6     ***(b) Increase public awareness of the significance and value of***  
7     ***cultural resources and the damage done to cultural resources by***  
8     ***vandalism;***  
9     ***(c) Discourage vandalism of cultural resources and the sale***  
10    ***and trade of artifacts, including, without limitation, archeological***  
11    ***and paleontological materials;***



1 (d) Support the adoption and enforcement of national, state,  
2 tribal and local laws and regulations to protect cultural resources;  
3 (e) Support and encourage high standards for the investigation  
4 of cultural resources throughout this state;  
5 (f) Promote cooperation among agencies, organizations,  
6 Native American tribes and natural persons who are concerned  
7 about the protection of cultural resources and enter into  
8 agreements with such agencies, organizations, Native American  
9 tribes and natural persons to promote the protection of cultural  
10 resources; and

11 (g) Add to the inventory of cultural resources maintained  
12 pursuant to NRS 383.021.

13 2. The Administrator shall select, train and certify volunteers  
14 to serve in the stewardship program based upon policy, criteria  
15 and procedures established by the Administrator.

16 3. The stewardship program must:

17 (a) In cooperation with agencies, organizations, Native  
18 American tribes and natural persons who are concerned about the  
19 protection of cultural resources, create a list of sites that are  
20 cultural resources in this state for monitoring;

21 (b) Establish activities for periodic monitoring by volunteers of  
22 cultural resources on the list created pursuant to paragraph (a);

23 (c) Establish requirements for reporting damage, threats of  
24 damage or vandalism of cultural resources to appropriate  
25 authorities as determined by the Administrator; and

26 (d) Establish programs for educating the public concerning  
27 the significance and value of cultural resources and the loss to the  
28 public resulting from damage to cultural resources.

29 4. The Administrator shall coordinate the cooperation of  
30 federal authorities, Native American tribes and state and local  
31 governmental agencies, as necessary, to carry out the stewardship  
32 program.

33 5. The Administrator and the Office shall provide  
34 administrative support to the stewardship program.

35 6. Volunteers selected for the stewardship program serve  
36 without compensation and are not entitled to receive a per diem  
37 allowance or travel expenses.

38 7. The Administrator may accept gifts and grants to assist in  
39 the operation of the stewardship program.

40 **Sec. 2.** NRS 383.011 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
41 383.011 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
42 requires:

- 43 1. "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Office.  
44 2. "Advisory Board" means the Board of Museums and  
45 History.



- 1 3. *“Cultural resources” means objects, sites or information of*  
2 *historic, prehistoric, archeological, architectural, paleontological*  
3 *or traditional significance.*  
4 4. “Director” means the Director of the Department of Cultural  
5 Affairs.  
6 ~~[4.]~~ 5. “Office” means the Office of Historic Preservation of  
7 the Department of Cultural Affairs.  
8 **Sec. 3.** NRS 383.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
9 383.021 1. The Office of Historic Preservation is hereby  
10 created.  
11 2. The Office shall:  
12 (a) Encourage, plan and coordinate historic preservation and  
13 archeological activities within the State, including programs to  
14 survey, record, study and preserve or salvage ~~[objects, localities and~~  
15 ~~information of historic, prehistoric and paleoenvironmental~~  
16 ~~significance.]~~ *cultural resources.*  
17 (b) Compile and maintain an inventory of ~~[historic,~~  
18 ~~archeological and architectural]~~ *cultural* resources in Nevada  
19 deemed significant by the Administrator.  
20 (c) Designate repositories for the materials that comprise the  
21 inventory.  
22 3. The Comstock Historic District Commission is within the  
23 Office.  
24 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.

