## ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 542-COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS, PROCEDURES, AND ETHICS

## APRIL 7, 2003

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to operation of Legislature and Legislative Counsel Bureau. (BDR 17-1024)

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 fomitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the Legislature; making various changes relating to the operation of the Legislature and the Legislative Counsel Bureau; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

**Section 1.** NRS 218.2405 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.2405 1. Except as otherwise provided by specific statute joint rule or concurrent resolution of the Legislature, the Legislative Counsel shall honor:

- (a) The number of requests for the drafting of a bill or resolution for a regular session of the Legislature only as provided in NRS 218.240 to 218.255, inclusive.
- (b) [A request for the drafting of a bill or resolution for a regular session of the Legislature only if the request is received by the Legislative Counsel on or before December 15 preceding the 12 commencement of that session.
- (e) A request for the drafting of a bill or resolution for any 13 session of the Legislature which is submitted by a state agency, 14 board or department, a local government, the judiciary or another 15



authorized nonlegislative requester only if the request is in a subject related to the function of the requester.

2. The Legislative Counsel shall not:

- (a) Assign a number to a request for the drafting of a bill or resolution for any session of the Legislature to establish the priority of the request until sufficient detail has been received to allow complete drafting of the legislative measure.
- (b) Honor a request to change the subject matter of a request for the drafting of a bill or resolution for any session of the Legislature after it has been submitted for drafting.
- (c) Honor a request for the drafting of a bill or resolution for any session of the Legislature which has been combined in violation of Section 17 of Article 4 of the Nevada Constitution.
  - **Sec. 2.** NRS 218.2415 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.2415 1. An association of elected officials may directly request the Legislative Counsel and the Legal Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau to prepare no more than 5 legislative measures for a regular legislative session.
- 2. An association of counties or cities may directly request the Legislative Counsel and the Legal Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau to prepare no more than 20 legislative measures for a regular legislative session.
- 3. A request for the drafting of a legislative measure pursuant to this section must be submitted to the Legislative Counsel on or before September 1 preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature.
  - **Sec. 3.** NRS 218.2423 is hereby amended to read as follows: 218.2423 1. Each:
- (a) Incumbent Assemblyman may request the drafting of not more than 5 legislative measures submitted to the Legislative Counsel on or before September 1 preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature and not more than 5 legislative measures submitted to the Legislative Counsel after September 1 but on or before December 15 preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature.
- (b) Incumbent Senator may request the drafting of not more than 10 legislative measures submitted to the Legislative Counsel on or before September 1 preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature and not more than 10 legislative measures submitted to the Legislative Counsel after September 1 but on or before December 15 preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature.
- (c) Newly elected Assemblyman may request the drafting of not more than 5 legislative measures submitted to the Legislative



Counsel on or before December 15 preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature.

- (d) Newly elected Senator may request the drafting of not more than 10 legislative measures submitted to the Legislative Counsel on or before December 15 preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature.
- 2. In addition to the number authorized pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) The chairman of each standing committee of the immediately preceding regular legislative session, or a person designated in the place of the chairman by the Speaker of the Assembly or the Majority Leader of the Senate, as the case may be, may request before the date of the general election preceding the commencement of the next regular legislative session the drafting of not more than 1 legislative measure for introduction by the committee in a subject within the jurisdiction of the committee for every 15 legislative measures that were referred to the respective standing committee during the immediately preceding regular legislative session.
- (b) A person designated after a general election as a chairman of a standing committee for the next regular legislative session, or a person designated in the place of a chairman by the person designated as the Speaker of the Assembly or *the* Majority Leader of the Senate for the next regular legislative session, may request *on or* before *December 15 preceding* the commencement of the next regular legislative session the drafting of the remaining number of the legislative measures allowed for the respective standing committee that were not requested by the previous chairman or designee.
- **Sec. 4.** NRS 218.2426 is hereby amended to read as follows: 218.2426 1. In addition to the number authorized pursuant to NRS 218.2423:
- (a) The Speaker of the Assembly and the Majority Leader of the Senate may each request before [or during a] the date of the general election preceding the commencement of the next regular legislative session, without limitation, the drafting of not more than 15 legislative measures for that session.
- (b) The Minority Leader of the Assembly and the Minority Leader of the Senate may each request before [or during a] the date of the general election preceding the commencement of the next regular legislative session, without limitation, the drafting of not more than 10 legislative measures for that session.
- (c) A person designated after a general election as the Speaker of the Assembly, the Majority Leader of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate for the



next regular legislative session may request *before the commencement of the next regular legislative session* the drafting of the remaining number of the legislative measures allowed for the respective officer that were not requested by the previous officer.

2. The Legislative Counsel, the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the Assembly may request before or during a regular legislative session, without limitation, the drafting of as many legislative measures as are necessary or convenient for the proper exercise of their duties.

**Sec. 5.** NRS 218.2723 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.2723 I. Before a vote is taken by a committee of the Assembly or the Senate on any bill or joint resolution which [reduces] the Legislative Counsel, in consultation with the Fiscal Analysis Division, determines may reduce the revenues or [increases] increase the expenditures of a local government, [or any bill which increases or newly provides for a term of imprisonment in a county or city jail or detention facility, or makes release on probation therefrom less likely,] the Fiscal Analysis Division shall prepare a fiscal note [after consultation with the appropriate local governments or their representatives.] pursuant to NRS 218.272 to 218.2758, inclusive.

- 2. Before preparing a fiscal note pursuant to this section, the Fiscal Analysis Division shall:
- (a) Provide to the appropriate local governments a copy of the bill or joint resolution for which the fiscal note is required; and
- (b) Request that the local governments review the bill or joint resolution and, if required, prepare a fiscal note pursuant to the provisions of subsection 2 of NRS 218.2752.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a fiscal note is not required if the only impact on a local government is that a bill or joint resolution increases or newly provides for a term of imprisonment in a county or city jail or detention facility, or makes release on probation therefrom less likely. The Fiscal Analysis Division shall prepare a fiscal note for a bill or joint resolution for which a fiscal note is not otherwise required pursuant to this subsection if, within 8 working days after the bill or joint resolution is introduced:
- (a) A local government prepares a fiscal note for the bill or joint resolution and submits it to the Fiscal Analysis Division; and
- (b) The fiscal note complies with requirements set forth in NRS 218.2751.
  - **Sec. 6.** NRS 218.275 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.275 1. The name of the agency preparing the fiscal note must appear on the fiscal note with the **[signature]** name of the



official of the agency who is primarily responsible for preparing the

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- 2. The Department of Administration shall review the fiscal notes prepared by the agencies before such notes are returned to the Legislature. If the Department of Administration disagrees with a fiscal note prepared by the agency, it may submit a supplementary fiscal note for the bill or joint resolution.
- **Sec. 6.5.** NRS 218.2751 is hereby amended to read as follows: 218.2751 The fiscal note must be factual and concise in nature, and must provide a reliable estimate of the dollar amount of effect the bill or joint resolution will have. If the agency *or local government* concludes that no dollar amount can be estimated, the note must so state with reasons for such a conclusion.
  - **Sec. 7.** NRS 218.2752 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.2752 1. Whenever a bill or joint resolution is submitted to an agency for a fiscal note, the agency shall prepare the note and return it to the Fiscal Analysis Division within 5 working days. The Fiscal Analysis Division may extend the period for not more than 10 additional working days if the matter requires extended research.
- 2. Whenever a bill or joint resolution is submitted to a local government for a fiscal note, the local government shall:
- (a) Review the provisions of the bill or joint resolution to determine whether the bill or joint resolution reduces the revenues or increases the expenditures of the local government; and
- (b) If the local government determines that the bill or joint resolution reduces the revenues or increases the expenditures of the local government, prepare a fiscal note for that bill or resolution and return it to the Fiscal Analysis Division within 8 working days.
  - **Sec. 8.** NRS 218.2753 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.2753 1. Agencies *and local governments* may use the bills and joint resolutions submitted to them for official purposes only. A person shall not copy or otherwise disseminate information concerning any bill or joint resolution submitted to him which has not been introduced in the Legislature without the consent of the requester.
- 2. Any person who knowingly disseminates information in violation of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.
  - **Sec. 9.** NRS 218.2754 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.2754 1. The summary of each bill or joint resolution introduced in the Legislature must include the statement:
- 42 (a) "Fiscal Note: Effect on Local Government: [Yes,"] May 43 have Fiscal Impact,"

"Fiscal Note: Effect on Local Government: No,"



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"Fiscal Note: Effect on Local Government: [Contains
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             Appropriation included in Executive Budget," or
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           "Fiscal Note: Effect on Local Government: Contains
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             Appropriation not included in Executive Budget,"]
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             Increases or Newly Provides for Term of Imprisonment
             in County or City Jail or Detention Facility,"
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    whichever is appropriate; and
       (b) "Effect on the State: Yes,"
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           "Effect on the State: No,"
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           "Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation included in
             Executive Budget,"
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           "Effect on the State: Executive Budget," or
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           "Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in
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             Executive Budget,"
    whichever is appropriate.
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           The Legislative Counsel shall consult the Fiscal Analysis
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    Division to secure the appropriate information for summaries of
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    bills and joint resolutions.
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       Sec. 10. NRS 218.2755 is hereby amended to read as follows:
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218.2755 After a bill or joint resolution has been drafted, the Fiscal Analysis Division shall inform the requester that a fiscal note is required when the draft is submitted to the requester for review. If the requester so directs, the Fiscal Analysis Division shall promptly determine the agency *or local government* to which the bill or joint resolution should be submitted and shall submit it for a fiscal note. If the requester is a Legislator and desires to introduce the bill or joint resolution without a fiscal note, he may do so, but when the bill is introduced, the Fiscal Analysis Division shall promptly determine the agency *or local government* to which the bill or joint resolution is to be submitted and shall forward it to the agency *or local government* to obtain the fiscal note.

**Sec. 11.** NRS 218.2756 is hereby amended to read as follows: 218.2756 1. [The original, signed copy of a fiscal note that is obtained before a bill or joint resolution is introduced must be retained by the Fiscal Analysis Division to be used as printer's copy after the bill or joint resolution is introduced.

2. If the fiscal note is obtained after the bill or joint resolution has been introduced, the Fiscal Analysis Division shall forward a signed copy to the Superintendent of the State Printing Division of the Department of Administration for the purposes of printing.

3. The original fiscal note must be retained by the Fiscal Analysis Division.

4. The As soon as practicable after a fiscal note is received from an agency, the Fiscal Analysis Division shall send a copy of the fiscal note to the chairman of the standing committee or



committees to which the bill or joint resolution has been referred. *The Fiscal Analysis Division shall retain the original fiscal note.* 

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- 2. Upon expiration of the period prescribed in paragraph (b) 3 of subsection 2 of NRS 218.2752, the Fiscal Analysis Division 4 5 shall prepare a single consolidated fiscal note into which any information submitted by a local government regarding a bill or joint resolution must be incorporated. If, upon the expiration of that period, the Fiscal Analysis Division determines that no local governments have submitted information regarding the fiscal 10 impact of a bill or joint resolution, the Fiscal Analysis Division shall prepare a fiscal note indicating that local governments have 11 reported no decreases in revenues or increases in expenditures 12 13 resulting from the bill or joint resolution. The Fiscal Analysis Division shall send to the chairman of the standing committee or 15 committees to which the bill or joint resolution has been referred a copy of a fiscal note prepared pursuant to this subsection. The 16 17 Fiscal Analysis Division shall retain the original fiscal note and any fiscal notes submitted by local governments for the bill or 18 19 resolution.
  - 3. If a local government wishes to submit a fiscal note for a bill or joint resolution after the expiration of the period prescribed in paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 218.2752, the local government must submit the fiscal note to the chairman of the committee or committees to which the bill or joint resolution has been referred, and a copy of the fiscal note to the Fiscal Analysis Division. The Fiscal Analysis Division shall retain the copy of the fiscal note provided by the local government.
    - **Sec. 12.** NRS 218.277 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 218.277 1. Any member of the next succeeding regular session of the Legislature may request the Legislative Counsel to prefile any legislative bill or joint resolution that was requested by that Legislator for introduction in the next succeeding regular session of the Legislature.
  - 2. A person designated as a chairman of a standing committee for the next succeeding regular session of the Legislature may request the Legislative Counsel to prefile on behalf of the committee any legislative bill or joint resolution within the jurisdiction of the committee for introduction in the next succeeding regular session of the Legislature.
  - 3. Such bills and joint resolutions must be in such final and correct form for introduction in the Legislature as required by the *Nevada* Constitution and this chapter.
  - [3.] 4. The Legislative Counsel shall not prefile a bill or joint resolution requested by:



(a) A member of the Legislature who is not a candidate for reelection until after the general election immediately preceding the regular session of the Legislature.

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- (b) A member of the Legislature who is elected or reelected to his office at the general election immediately preceding the regular session of the Legislature until he is determined to have received the highest number of votes pursuant to the canvass of votes required by NRS 293.395.
  - **Sec. 13.** NRS 218.480 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.480 1. At the end of each session of the Legislature, [100] copies of the journals must be printed, indexed and bound in book form in the same style as those of the 1927 session of the Legislature. The journal of each house must be bound separately.
- 2. The Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the Assembly shall direct the compilation of the journal indexes, for their respective houses and shall deliver the completed journal indexes to the Superintendent.
- 3. The bound volumes must be delivered to the Legislative Counsel Bureau and constitute the journals of the Senate and the Assembly.
- 4. Each member of the Legislature of which such journals are 22 the record is entitled to one copy of the Senate Journal and one copy of the Assembly Journal.
  - **Sec. 14.** NRS 218.642 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 218.642 A petty cash account of the Legislative Counsel Bureau is hereby created [for]:
  - 1. For each building in which offices of employees of the Legislative Counsel Bureau are located; and
  - 2. In any division approved for the sale of souvenirs pursuant to NRS 218.6845.
  - in the sum of not more than \$1,000 each for the minor expenses of the Legislative Counsel Bureau. Each account must be kept in the custody of an employee designated by the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and must be replenished periodically from the Legislative Fund upon approval of expenditures and submission of vouchers or other documents to indicate payment.
    - **Sec. 15.** NRS 218.647 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 1. The Legislative Counsel Bureau shall compile and publish a Legislative Manual containing information concerning the Legislature and [the offices, departments, institutions and agencies of the state government and] other information appropriate
  - 2. The costs of compilation and publication shall be paid from the Legislative Fund.



**Sec. 16.** NRS 218.683 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 218.683 1. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, as executive head of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, shall direct and supervise all its administrative and technical activities. The fiscal analysts, Legislative Auditor, Research Director and Legislative Counsel shall perform the respective duties assigned to them by law under the administrative supervision of the Director.
  - 2. The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau shall, consistent with the budget approved by the Legislative Commission and within the limits of legislative appropriations and other available funds, employ and fix the salaries of or contract for the services of such professional, technical, clerical and operational personnel and consultants as the execution of his duties and the operation of the Legislative Counsel Bureau may require.
  - 3. All of the personnel of the Legislative Counsel Bureau are exempt from the provisions of chapter 284 of NRS. They are entitled to such leaves of absence as the Legislative Commission shall prescribe.
  - [4. The Director shall serve as the Nevada Legislative Federal-State Coordinator.]
    - **Sec. 17.** NRS 218.934 is hereby amended to read as follows: 218.934 The Director may:
  - 1. Prepare and publish such reports concerning lobbying activities as he deems appropriate.
- 2. Release to the public the name of any lobbyist who fails to file any activity report within 14 days after the date it is required to be filed.
- 3. Revoke the registration of any lobbyist who fails to file any activity report within 30 days after the date it is required to be filed or fails to file two or more activity reports within the time required.
- Sec. 17.5. NRS 218.940 is hereby amended to read as follows: 218.940 1. [Any] Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a registrant who files an activity report after the time provided in NRS 218.926 shall pay to the Director a fee for late filing of \$10 for each day that it was late, but the Director may reduce or waive this fee upon a finding of just cause. The Legislative Commission may by regulation exempt a classification of lobbyist from the fee for late filing.
- 2. An activity report with respect to which a late filing fee has been paid by the registrant or waived by the Director shall be deemed timely filed, and the late filing is not a public offense.
- **Sec. 18.** NRS 220.120 is hereby amended to read as follows: 220.120 1. In preparing the annotations and keeping Nevada Revised Statutes current, the Legislative Counsel is authorized:



(a) To adopt such system of numbering as he deems practical.

- (b) To cause the revision to be published in a number of volumes deemed convenient.
- (c) To cause the volumes to be bound in loose-leaf binders of good, and so far as possible, permanent quality.
- 2. The pages of Nevada Revised Statutes must conform in size and printing style to the pages of the Statutes of Nevada, and roman style type must be used.
- 3. The Legislative Counsel shall classify and arrange the entire body of statute laws in logical order throughout the volumes, the arrangement to be such as will enable subjects of a kindred nature to be placed under one general head, with necessary cross references.
- 4. Notes of decisions of the Supreme Court, historical references and other material must be printed and arranged in such manner as the Legislative Counsel finds will promote the usefulness thereof.
- 5. The Legislative Counsel in keeping Nevada Revised Statutes current shall not alter the sense, meaning or effect of any legislative act, but may renumber sections and parts of sections thereof, change the wording of headnotes, rearrange sections, change reference numbers or words to agree with renumbered chapters or sections, substitute the word "chapter" for "article" and the like, substitute figures for written words and vice versa, change capitalization for the purpose of uniformity, correct inaccurate references to the titles of officers, the names of departments or other agencies of the State, local governments, or the Federal Government, and such other name changes as are necessary to be consistent with the laws of this state and correct manifest clerical or typographical errors.
- 6. The Legislative Counsel may create new titles, chapters and sections of Nevada Revised Statutes, or otherwise revise the title, chapter and sectional organization of Nevada Revised Statutes, all as may be required from time to time, to effectuate the orderly and logical arrangement of the statutes. Any new titles, chapters, sections and organizational revisions have the same force and effect as the 58 titles originally enacted and designated as the Nevada Revised Statutes pursuant to chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 1957.
- 7. The Legislative Counsel shall assign NRS numbers to such new permanent and general laws enacted at any legislative session.
- 8. The Legislative Counsel shall resolve all nonsubstantive conflicts between multiple laws enacted at any legislative session as if made by a single enactment. If multiple amendments to a single section of NRS are made during a legislative session, such amendments are all effective and must be compiled in a manner that



is consistent with the intent of the Legislature as determined by the Legislative Counsel.

- 9. The Legislative Counsel shall substitute the name of any agency, officer or instrumentality of the State or of a political subdivision whose name is changed by law or to which powers, duties and responsibilities have been transferred by law, for the name which the agency, officer or instrumentality previously used or which was previously vested with the same powers and charged with the same duties and responsibilities.
- **Sec. 19.** The preliminary chapter of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

The provisions of any law or statute which is reenacted, amended or revised, so far as they are the same as those of prior laws, shall be construed as a continuation of such laws and not as new enactments. If any provision of a law is repealed and in substance reenacted, a reference in any other law to the repealed provision shall be deemed to be a reference to the reenacted provision.

**Sec. 20.** NRS 0.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 0.025 1. Except as otherwise expressly provided in a particular statute or required by the context:
- (a) "May" confers a right, privilege or power. The term "is entitled" confers a private right.
- (b) "May not" or "no \* \* \* may" abridges or removes a right, privilege or power.
  - (c) "Must" expresses a requirement when:
- (1) The subject is a thing, whether the verb is active or passive.
  - (2) The subject is a natural person and:
    - (I) The verb is in the passive voice; or
    - (II) Only a condition precedent and not a duty is imposed.
  - (d) "Shall" imposes a duty to act.
- (e) "Shall be deemed" or "shall be considered" creates a legal fiction.
  - (f) "Shall not" imposes a prohibition against acting.
- 2. Except as otherwise required by the context, text of a statute that:
- (a) Follows subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs or subsubparagraphs that are introduced by a colon;
- (b) Is not designated as a separate subsection, paragraph, subparagraph or sub-subparagraph; and
- (c) Begins flush to the left margin rather than immediately following the material at the end of the final subsection, paragraph, subparagraph or sub-subparagraph,



→applies to the section as a whole, in the case of subsections, or to the subdivision preceding the colon as a whole rather than solely to the subdivision that the text follows. The symbol "→" in bills and in Nevada Revised Statutes indicates the beginning of such text.

**Sec. 21.** NRS 286.495 is hereby amended to read as follows: 286.495 Except as provided in NRS 286.470, 286.475 and 286.501, members shall be credited with service on the basis of days, months or years actually worked by a member, except that:

- 1. Intermittent service shall be credited to a member on the basis of 1 day of service for each 8 hours worked, and portions of a day shall be prorated.
- 2. Part-time employees who regularly work at least half-time for a full year with a minimum of 720 hours worked are entitled to a full year of credit for retirement eligibility only, with credit for actual service for determination of benefit being granted on actual time worked.
- 3. An employee of the Nevada Legislature who works full time for at least 6 months in a fiscal year during which the Legislature meets in regular session is entitled to a full year of credit for retirement eligibility only, with credit for actual service for determination of benefit being granted on actual time worked.
- Service credit under this section shall be computed according to the fiscal year. No member may receive less credit under this section than was provided under the law in force at the time when the credit was earned. Nothing in this section allows a member to receive more than 1 year of credit for retirement eligibility in any year.
  - **Sec. 22.** (Deleted by amendment.)

- Sec. 23. NRS 218.274 is hereby repealed.
- **Sec. 24.** 1. The Public Employees' Retirement System shall, upon request by a current or former officer or employee of the Nevada Legislature who would have been entitled to additional credit for service pursuant to NRS 286.495, as amended by section 21 of this act, had those provisions been in effect for any period during which he was an officer or employee of the Nevada Legislature, recalculate that person's credit for service to take into account the additional amount provided pursuant to that section.
- 2. A current or former officer or employee of the Nevada Legislature who would be entitled to credit for service in the Public Employees' Retirement System pursuant to the provisions of NRS 286.495, as amended by section 21 of this act, but who has withdrawn his contributions pursuant to NRS 286.430, may redeposit his withdrawn contributions pursuant to NRS 286.440, under the terms and conditions provided pursuant to chapter 286 of



NRS, and thereby qualify for the credit for service provided pursuant to NRS 286.495, as amended by section 21 of this act.

Sec. 25. Sections 21 and 24 of this act apply retroactively to

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**Sec. 25.** Sections 21 and 24 of this act apply retroactively to all persons who would have been entitled to additional service credit pursuant to NRS 286.495, as amended by section 21 of this act, had those provisions been in effect for any period during which they were employed by the Nevada Legislature.

## TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

218.274 Fiscal notes prepared by two or more state agencies; general or consolidated fiscal note. Bills containing provisions for both appropriations and revenues or appropriations for more than one state agency shall carry notes from each such agency, unless in the case of a bill which would require notes prepared by several agencies, the Fiscal Analysis Division determines that a single agency shall prepare a general note, or prepares a single consolidated fiscal note into which the information submitted by the several agencies is incorporated.



