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Assembly Bill No. 81–Assemblymen Oceguera, Giunchigliani, Atkinson, Buckley, Claborn, Conklin, Horne and Pierce

FEBRUARY 13, 2003

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

- SUMMARY—Providing for certain civil actions and remedies related to intellectual property. (BDR 52-366)
- FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

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

AN ACT relating to intellectual property; providing for the protection of intellectual property by authorizing a civil action for the unauthorized use of the intellectual property; authorizing award for treble damages, attorney's fees and costs in certain civil actions relating to marks; 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 597 is hereby amended by adding thereto 2 the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2.** As used in sections 2 and 3 of this act, unless the 4 context otherwise requires, "intellectual property" means:

5 1. A patent issued by the United States Patent and Trademark 6 Office.

7 2. A copyright registered with the United States Copyright 8 Office.

9 3. A copyright recognized by the common law.

10 Sec. 3. 1. An owner of intellectual property has a right to

11 receive all economic benefits associated with the ownership of the

12 intellectual property. These rights include, without limitation, the

13 right to receive consideration for the use of the intellectual 14 property by another person.



2. A person is liable for the intentional interference with the 1 2 prospective economic expectations of an owner of intellectual property if the person intentionally uses the intellectual property 3 of another without the expressed authorization of the owner of the 4 5 intellectual property.

3. An owner of intellectual property may proceed by suit to 6 7 recover for his lost economic expectations caused by the 8 unauthorized use of his intellectual property.

9 4. A court of competent jurisdiction shall, upon finding a 10 defendant liable for the intentional interference with the prospective economic expectations of an owner of intellectual 11 property, award to the owner of the intellectual property treble 12 damages on all profits derived from the intentional acts of the 13 14 defendant and treble damages on all damages suffered by reason 15 of those acts.

5. In an action brought pursuant to this section, the court 16 may award costs and attorney's fees to the prevailing party. 17

Sec. 4. NRS 600.430 is hereby amended to read as follows:

600.430 1. Any owner of a mark registered in this state may 19 20 proceed by suit to enjoin the manufacture, use, display or sale of 21 counterfeits or imitations of it. [and a] 22

2. A court of competent jurisdiction may [grant]:

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23 (a) Grant injunctions to restrain such manufacture, use, display 24 or sale as it deems just and reasonable under the circumstances $\frac{1}{2}$ and may require the defendants]: 25

(b) Require the defendant to pay to the owner all profits derived 26 27 from [his] the wrongful acts of the defendant and all damages 28 suffered by reason of these acts [. The court may also order];

29 (c) Require the defendant to pay to the owner treble damages 30 on all profits derived from the willful and wrongful acts of the 31 defendant and treble damages on all damages suffered by reason 32 of these acts; and

33 (d) Order that any counterfeits or imitations in the possession or 34 control of any defendant be delivered for destruction to an officer of 35 the court or to the complainant.

[2.] 3. In an action brought pursuant to this section, the court 36 may award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing 37 38 party.

39 The enumeration of any right or remedy in this section does 4. 40 not affect a registrant's right to prosecute under any penal law of 41 this state.

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