SENATE BILL NO. 75-COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

(ON BEHALF OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS (NRS 218.5363))

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Provides for administration of program to provide grants for local treatment and control of invasive weeds and noxious weeds. (BDR S-672)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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

AN ACT relating to the control of weeds; providing for the administration of a program to provide grants for the local treatment and control of invasive weeds and noxious weeds; making appropriations to carry out the program; 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. 1. The Director shall administer a program to provide grants for the local treatment and control of invasive weeds and noxious weeds. In carrying out the program, the Director shall:

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- (a) Solicit proposals from qualified entities to carry out one or more projects each fiscal year. Each proposal must require a qualified entity to provide not less than 25 percent of the cost of each project.
- (b) Establish priorities for the evaluation of proposals from qualified entities and award grants each fiscal year to qualified entities on a competitive basis.



- 2. To the extent possible, the awarding of grants pursuant to subsection 1 must be done in such a manner that each county in this state receives the same amount of money pursuant to the program.
 - 3. The recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) Shall not use any part of the grant for the payment of any administrative fees or expenses.
- (b) Shall submit a written report on the project for which the grant was received to the Director not later than:
 - (1) Ninety days after the completion of the project; or
- 10 (2) The last day of the fiscal year for which the grant was received.
 - whichever occurs later. The report must include, without limitation, a statement of the amount of acreage treated for the control of each pertinent species of weed and the methods of treatment used.
 - 4. The Director shall compile the information contained in the reports he receives pursuant to subsection 3 and, on or before December 31, 2004, submit a summary of the results of the program administered pursuant to this section to the Governor and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the appropriate standing committees of the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.
 - 5. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (a) "Director" means the Director of the State Department of Agriculture.
 - (b) "Invasive weed" means an aggressive species of plant which is not native to Nevada and which has the capability to outcompete native plants and dominate natural plant communities.
 - (c) "Noxious weed" means any species of plant which is, or is likely to be, detrimental or destructive, and difficult to control or eradicate.
 - (d) "Project" means a local project for the treatment and control of one or more invasive weeds or noxious weeds, or both.
 - (e) "Qualified entity" means:

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- (1) The governing body of a county or its designated representative;
- (2) A cooperative weed management area created in accordance with the criteria set forth in the state weed plan;
- (3) A weed control district created pursuant to chapter 555 of NRS before July 1, 2003;
- (4) A nonprofit organization that is recognized as exempt from taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3); or
- (5) A private landowner or a federal agency that owns or occupies lands upon which weeds identified as invasive weeds or noxious weeds are found.



Sec. 2. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the State Department of Agriculture to be used to provide grants for local projects for the local treatment and control of invasive weeds and noxious weeds under the program established pursuant to section 1 of this act:

- 2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by this section for the:
- (a) Fiscal year 2003-2004 must be transferred and added to the money appropriated for the fiscal year 2004-2005.
- (b) Fiscal year 2004-2005, including any money added thereto pursuant to paragraph (a), must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.
- Sec. 3. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the State Department of Agriculture to carry out the program to provide grants for local projects for the local treatment and control of invasive weeds and noxious weeds established pursuant to section 1 of this act, including, without limitation, to monitor and coordinate local efforts to treat and control such weeds, to develop and maintain a map of the status of the treatment and control of such weeds throughout Nevada, to provide outreach services and services for the weed abatement program, and to support educational and research programs specifically related to the treatment and control of such weeds:

- 2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by this ection for the:
- (a) Fiscal year 2003-2004 must be transferred and added to the money appropriated for the fiscal year 2004-2005.
- (b) Fiscal year 2004-2005, including any money added thereto pursuant to paragraph (a), must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.
 - **Sec. 4.** 1. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.
- 2. Section 1 of this act expires by limitation on June 30, 2005.



