

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 224—ASSEMBLYWOMAN NEAL

FEBRUARY 21, 2019

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Referred to Committee on Taxation

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the NV Grow Program. (BDR S-28)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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

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AN ACT relating to economic development; revising provisions governing the NV Grow Program; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law directs the Office of Economic Development within the Office of  
2 the Governor to develop, create and oversee the NV Grow Program to provide  
3 certain informational and technical assistance to existing small businesses in this  
4 State that are expanding or ready to expand. (Section 2 of chapter 459, Statutes of  
5 Nevada 2015, p. 2681, as amended by Chapter 430, Statutes of Nevada 2017, at  
6 page 2880) **Section 2** of this bill transfers those responsibilities to the Division of  
7 Workforce and Economic Development of the College of Southern Nevada.  
8 **Section 2** also requires that the Division manage the NV Grow Program and select  
9 the lead counselor for the NV Grow Program who will also serve as its coordinator  
10 and who must be an employee of the College of Southern Nevada. **Sections 3-5** of  
11 this bill make conforming changes.  
12 **Section 6** of this bill appropriates \$425,000 to the Nevada System of Higher  
13 Education to enable the College of Southern Nevada to assist and carry out the NV  
14 Grow Program.

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

1 **Section 1.** The NV Grow Act, being chapter 459, Statutes of  
2 Nevada 2015, as amended by chapter 430 Statutes of Nevada 2017  
3 at page 2880, is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to



1 be designated section 1.7, immediately following section 1.5, to read  
2 as follows:

3 *Sec. 1.7 As used in this act, unless the context*  
4 *otherwise requires, "Division" means the Division of*  
5 *Workforce and Economic Development of the College of*  
6 *Southern Nevada.*

7 **Sec. 2.** Section 2 of the NV Grow Act, being chapter 459,  
8 Statutes of Nevada 2015, as amended by chapter 430, Statutes of  
9 Nevada 2017, at page 2880, is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 Sec. 2. 1. The ~~{Office,}~~ *Division*, in consultation with  
11 the stakeholders group, shall develop, create and oversee the  
12 NV Grow Program to stimulate Nevada's economy with a  
13 view toward providing assistance to businesses that are  
14 already located and operating in this State rather than  
15 recruiting businesses from other states to relocate in Nevada.

16 2. Under the auspices of the program:

17 (a) Institutions of the Nevada System of Higher Education  
18 located in Clark County and the Nevada Small Business  
19 Development Center in Clark County shall, in cooperation  
20 with the geographic information system specialist employed  
21 at the College of Southern Nevada, mentor and track  
22 businesses participating in the program in Clark County. The  
23 Clark County Department of Business License will  
24 coordinate with the College to provide such data as may be  
25 necessary for the operation of the program in Clark County.

26 (b) The Nevada Small Business Development Centers  
27 located in Clark County and Washoe County shall each  
28 cooperate with the geographic information system specialist  
29 employed to assist businesses in Clark County that are  
30 participating in the program with marketing and other efforts.

31 3. The ~~{Centers, jointly,}~~ *Division* shall select the lead  
32 counselor and manage the NV Grow Program, which must  
33 include, without limitation:

34 (a) *The employment of the lead counselor at the College*  
35 *of Southern Nevada who, in addition to his or her other*  
36 *duties, serves as the coordinator of the program;*

37 (b) The employment of a geographic information  
38 specialist at the College of Southern Nevada who provides  
39 data to clients of the stakeholders group;

40 ~~{(b)}~~ (c) The appointment of the College of Southern  
41 Nevada as administrator of the geographic information  
42 system ~~{;~~

43 ~~—(e)}~~ *and fiscal agent for the program;*

44 (d) An analysis and identification by the ~~{Centers}~~  
45 *Division* of businesses and business sectors in this State that



1 are ready to expand and a determination of which of these  
2 businesses and business sectors will participate in the  
3 program;

4 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) Identification by the Centers *and the Division*  
5 of the skilled labor that exists in this State and its potential for  
6 growth;

7 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) Targeting by the Centers *and the Division* of  
8 business sectors and occupations in this State that have  
9 demonstrated the ability to grow and stimulate the economy  
10 of the State;

11 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) A focus by the Centers *and the Division* on the  
12 utilization of existing resources;

13 ~~[(g)]~~ (h) The harnessing of the academic expertise of the  
14 College of Southern Nevada and the Centers to provide  
15 economic and market data to contribute to the diversification  
16 and growth of the economy of this State;

17 ~~[(h)]~~ (i) The use of geographic information systems by  
18 the College of Southern Nevada and the Centers to map areas  
19 of this State to determine locations in which retail sales and  
20 other commerce are flourishing and locations in which retail  
21 sales and commerce demonstrate the capacity for further  
22 growth;

23 ~~[(i)]~~ (j) The elements described in subsection 2;

24 ~~[(j)]~~ (k) The provision of informational and other  
25 assistance by the College of Southern Nevada to businesses  
26 and business sectors in this State, including, without  
27 limitation, business training, nontraditional marketing  
28 techniques and business mentoring; and

29 ~~[(k)]~~ (l) Such other components as the ~~[Office,]~~ *Division*,  
30 in consultation with the stakeholders group, determines are  
31 likely to be necessary, advisable or advantageous for the  
32 growth and development of businesses located in this State.

33 4. The program shall, insofar as is possible, use the  
34 resources and expertise of the Centers and make available  
35 those resources and that expertise to businesses in this State  
36 for the purposes of:

37 (a) Developing business connections and business  
38 mentorships within the program;

39 (b) Exchanging data and other information with and  
40 between businesses and trade associations;

41 (c) Creating and facilitating peer-to-peer mentoring  
42 sessions for participants in the NV Grow Program; and

43 (d) Providing to businesses and business sectors data and  
44 other information that is calculated or otherwise generated  
45 through the use of geographic information systems.



1           5. To the extent possible, the program must be  
2 conducted with the goal of selecting ~~{5}~~ *at least 30*  
3 businesses in Clark County to participate in the program  
4 every year.

5           6. To qualify to participate in the program, a business  
6 must:

7           (a) Have its principal place of business within the State of  
8 Nevada and have had its principal place of business in this  
9 State for at least 2 years;

10          (b) Generate at least \$50,000 but not more than \$700,000  
11 in revenue; and

12          (c) Have a business plan.

13          7. As used in this section:

14          (a) “Business plan” means a written statement of a set of  
15 business goals, the reasons those goals are believed to be  
16 attainable and the plan for reaching those goals.

17          (b) “Centers” means all institutions of the Nevada System  
18 of Higher Education, including, without limitation, the  
19 College of Southern Nevada and the University of Nevada,  
20 Reno.

21          (c) “Geographic information system” means a  
22 computerized database management system for the capture,  
23 storage, retrieval, analysis and display of spatial or  
24 locationally defined data.

25          (d) ~~“Office” means the Office of Economic Development~~  
26 ~~within the Office of the Governor.~~

27          ~~—(e)~~ “Stakeholders group” means a group of persons  
28 interested in economic development in this State selected by  
29 the ~~{Office}~~ *Division*, including, without limitation, a  
30 representative of the College of Southern Nevada, the  
31 University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the Urban Chamber of  
32 Commerce of Las Vegas, the Las Vegas Latin Chamber of  
33 Commerce, *the Henderson Chamber of Commerce, the*  
34 *Asian Community Development Council*, the Valley Center  
35 Opportunity Zone, the University of Nevada Cooperative  
36 Extension in Clark County, Clark County and incorporated  
37 cities in Clark County ~~{}~~ *and various entities affiliated with*  
38 *the Small Business Administration.*

39          **Sec. 3.** Section 3 of the NV Grow Act, being chapter 459,  
40 Statutes of Nevada 2015, as amended by chapter 430, Statutes of  
41 Nevada 2017, at page 2882, is hereby amended to read as follows:

42          Sec. 3. In assisting and carrying out the program  
43 described in section 2 of this act, the Centers, as defined in  
44 section 2 of this act, shall, without limitation, perform the  
45 following services:



- 1           1. Analyze data;
- 2           2. Ensure that businesses participating in the program
- 3 understand the manner in which the data so analyzed will be
- 4 applied to those businesses so that the businesses may make
- 5 better business decisions and understand the current business
- 6 market in which they exist;
- 7           3. Mentor the businesses as to the optimum use of data
- 8 received under the program relative to the making of business
- 9 decisions; and
- 10          4. With respect to the businesses participating in the
- 11 program:
- 12           (a) Track the business decisions and growth of each
- 13 business over the entire period of the program; ~~and~~
- 14           (b) Report the data tracked pursuant to paragraph (a), at
- 15 least once each 6 months, to the ~~{Office of Economic~~
- 16 ~~Development within the Office of the Governor.}~~ *Division;*
- 17 *and*
- 18           (c) *Ensure the development of contacts with the Office*
- 19 *of Economic Development and, if appropriate, the Regional*
- 20 *Business Development Advisory Council for Clark County*
- 21 *to facilitate participation in procurement programs and to*
- 22 *further enhance the growth of each business.*

23       **Sec. 4.** Section 4 of the NV Grow Act, being chapter 459,  
24 Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 2683, is hereby amended to read as  
25 follows:

26           Sec. 4. The ~~{Office of Economic Development within~~  
27 ~~the Office of the Governor.}~~ *Division* shall serve as a  
28 consultant to the stakeholders group described in subsection 2  
29 of section 2 of this act, including, without limitation,  
30 collecting and analyzing data to ensure that the data used by  
31 the Centers is uniform.

32       **Sec. 5.** Section 4.5 of the NV Grow Act, being chapter 459,  
33 Statutes of Nevada 2015, as amended by chapter 430, Statutes of  
34 Nevada 2017, at page 2883, is hereby amended to read as follows:

35           Sec. 4.5. The ~~{Office of Economic Development within~~  
36 ~~the Office of the Governor.}~~ *Division* may apply for any  
37 available grants, accept any gifts, grants or donations and use  
38 any such gifts, grants or donations to aid the ~~{Office}~~ *Division*  
39 in carrying out the program described in section 2 of this act.

40       **Sec. 6.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State  
41 General Fund to the Nevada System of Higher Education, the sum  
42 of \$425,000 to allow the College of Southern Nevada to:

43           (a) Provide or obtain such services as may be necessary to assist  
44 and carry out the Program;



1 (b) Employ a geographic information specialist to assist small  
2 businesses who participate in the Program;

3 (c) Employ the lead counselor selected pursuant to section 2 of  
4 the NV Grow Act;

5 (d) Provide stipends for counselors and members of the faculty  
6 of the Nevada System of Higher Education who provide services in  
7 connection with the Program; and

8 (e) Make direct program expenditures to assist and carry out the  
9 Program, including, without limitation, data software, marketing  
10 tools, interns, field trips and grants to members of the stakeholders  
11 group to assist and carry out the Program.

12 2. All money appropriated by the provisions of this section  
13 must be used only for the purposes specified in subsection 1 and no  
14 portion of the money may be set aside, distributed or otherwise  
15 committed or used for any other purpose, including any indirect  
16 costs incurred by any institution of the Nevada System of Higher  
17 Education, including, without limitation, the College of Southern  
18 Nevada.

19 3. As used in this section, "Program" means the NV Grow  
20 Program established pursuant to the NV Grow Act.

21 **Sec. 7.** Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by  
22 section 6 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after  
23 June 30, 2021, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or  
24 any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or  
25 otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the  
26 appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose  
27 after September 17, 2021, by either the entity to which the money  
28 was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently  
29 granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General  
30 Fund on or before September 17, 2021.

31 **Sec. 8.** Any remaining balance of money received by the  
32 Office of Economic Development within the Office of the Governor  
33 from any gifts, grants or donations accepted by the Office pursuant  
34 to section 4.5 of the NV Grow Act, as that section exists on June 30,  
35 2019, that has not been committed for expenditure before July 1,  
36 2019, must be transferred to an account in the State General Fund  
37 administered by the College of Southern Nevada for the purposes of  
38 carrying out the provisions of the NV Grow Act.

39 **Sec. 9.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

