

Amendment No. 246

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| Senate Amendment to Senate Bill No. 110 | (BDR 18-447) |
| Proposed by: Senate Committee on Government Affairs | |
| Amends: Summary: No Title: No Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: No | |

| ASSEMBLY ACTION | | | Initial and Date | SENATE ACTION | | | Initial and Date | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Adopted | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lost | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | Adopted | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lost | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Concurred In | <input type="checkbox"/> | Not | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | Concurred In | <input type="checkbox"/> | Not | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Receded | <input type="checkbox"/> | Not | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | Receded | <input type="checkbox"/> | Not | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of green bold underlining is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.



SENATE BILL NO. 110—SENATOR SPEARMAN

FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to businesses engaged in the development of emerging technologies. (BDR 18-447)

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

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

AN ACT relating to technology; creating the Emerging Technologies Task Force within the Department of Business and Industry; prescribing the membership, powers and duties of the Task Force; authorizing the Director of the Department to create an Opportunity Center for Emerging Technology Businesses as part of the Office of Business Finance and Planning of the Department; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 **Sections 2-8** of this bill provide for an Emerging Technologies Task Force within the
2 Department of Business and Industry. **Section 6** of this bill creates the Task Force and
3 prescribes its membership. **Section 7** of this bill designates the Chair of the Task Force and
4 prescribes the minimum frequency of its meetings and the number of members required to
5 constitute a quorum. **Section 8** of this bill requires the Task Force to develop certain strategies
6 and make certain recommendations with regard to: (1) attracting to this State businesses that
7 are engaged in the development of emerging technologies; and (2) encouraging the growth of
8 such businesses. **Section 8** also requires the Task Force to submit a report of its findings and
9 recommendations annually to the Governor, the Director of the Department and the
10 Legislature. **Section 9** of this bill makes a conforming change to indicate the proper placement
11 of **sections 2-8** in the Nevada Revised Statutes.

12 Existing law authorizes the Director of the Department of Business and Industry to create
13 an Office of Business Finance and Planning within the Department for administering,
14 coordinating and improving access to programs to assist in the growth and retention of
15 business and industry in this State and to provide certain information to the public. (NRS
16 232.522) **Section 10** of this bill authorizes the Director to create an Opportunity Center for
17 Emerging Technology Businesses as part of the Office of Business Finance and Planning, if
18 that office is created, to advocate for, assist and support the growth of businesses engaged in
19 the development of emerging technologies.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 232 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the
2 provisions set forth as sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this act.

3 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this act, unless the context*
4 *otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3, 4 and 5 of this act*
5 *have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

6 **Sec. 3.** *“Blockchain” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 719.045.*

7 **Sec. 4.** *“Emerging technologies” means any technologies that are of a*
8 *unique type or that have a unique scope of application and would provide a*
9 *benefit to the economy of this State if developed, used or produced by businesses*
10 *in this State. The term includes, without limitation, blockchain technology,*
11 *autonomous technology, the Internet of things, robotics and artificial*
12 *intelligence.*

13 **Sec. 5.** *“Task Force” means the Emerging Technologies Task Force*
14 *created by section 6 of this act.*

15 **Sec. 6.** *1. The Emerging Technologies Task Force is hereby created*
16 *within the Department.*

17 **2.** *The Task Force consists of:*

18 **(a)** *The Director;*

19 **(b)** *The Commissioner of Financial Institutions or his or her designee;*

20 **(c)** *The Director of the Department of Employment, Training and*
21 *Rehabilitation or his or her designee;*

22 **(d)** *One member who is a representative of the Office of the Attorney*
23 *General, appointed by the Attorney General;*

24 **(e)** *One member who is a representative of the Office of Economic*
25 *Development, appointed by the Executive Director of the Office of Economic*
26 *Development; ~~and~~*

27 **(f)** *One member who is a representative of the Nevada System of Higher*
28 *Education, appointed by the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada;*

29 **(g)** *One member who is a teacher at a Title I school in a large school district,*
30 *appointed by an organization that represents licensed educational personnel*
31 *within the school district;*

32 **(h)** *One member who is a representative of K-12 public education, appointed*
33 *by the Nevada State Education Association;*

34 **(i)** *One member who has experience as a consumer advocate, appointed by*
35 *the Director; and*

36 **(j)** *At least one member who has knowledge, skill and experience in*
37 *emerging technologies, appointed by the Director.*

38 **3.** *The Director may appoint as many additional members to the Task Force*
39 *who have knowledge, skill and experience in emerging technologies as the*
40 *Director deems necessary to carry out the duties of the Task Force.*

41 **4.** *In appointing the members of the Task Force described in subsections 2*
42 *and 3, the appointing authorities shall coordinate the appointments to the extent*
43 *practicable so that the members of the Task Force:*

44 **(a)** *Represent the diversity of this State, including, without limitation, the*
45 *age, gender, sexual, ethnic, geographic and socioeconomic diversity of this State;*
46 *and*

47 **(b)** *Include persons with behavioral health conditions and persons who have*
48 *served or are serving in the military.*

1 5. *The term of each appointed member of the Task Force is 3 years. Such a*
2 *member may be reappointed to the Task Force and any vacancy must be filled in*
3 *the same manner as the original appointment.*

4 ~~5.~~ 6. *The members of the Task Force serve without compensation, except*
5 *that each member is entitled, while engaged in the business of the Task Force*
6 *and within the limits of available money, to receive the per diem allowance and*
7 *travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally.*

8 ~~6.~~ 7. *A member of the Task Force who is an officer or employee of this*
9 *State or a political subdivision of this State must be relieved from his or her*
10 *duties without loss of regular compensation so that the member may prepare for*
11 *and attend meetings of the Task Force and perform any work necessary to carry*
12 *out the duties of the Task Force in the most timely manner practicable. A state*
13 *agency or political subdivision of this State shall not require an officer or*
14 *employee who is a member of the Task Force to make up the time he or she is*
15 *absent from work to carry out his or her duties as a member of the Task Force or*
16 *use annual vacation or compensatory time for the absence.*

17 ~~7.~~ 8. *The Director shall provide the personnel, facilities, equipment and*
18 *supplies required by the Task Force to carry out the provisions of sections 2 to 8,*
19 *inclusive, of this act.*

20 9. As used in this section:

21 (a) "Large school district" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388G.530.

22 (b) "Title I school" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 385A.040.

23 Sec. 7. 1. The Director is the Chair of the Task Force.

24 2. The members of the Task Force shall meet at least once each quarter at
25 the call of the Chair. The Task Force shall prescribe procedures for its own
26 management and government.

27 3. A majority of the members of the Task Force constitutes a quorum, and a
28 quorum may exercise all the powers conferred on the Task Force.

29 Sec. 8. 1. The Task Force shall:

30 (a) Develop concrete strategies to ensure that this State remains a leader in
31 technological innovation by attracting businesses engaged in the development of
32 emerging technologies.

33 (b) Make recommendations for streamlining process, regulatory, structural
34 and other barriers a business engaged in the development of emerging
35 technologies may face in relocating to or expanding operations in this State.

36 (c) Identify opportunities to develop leading practices and standards that will
37 support the growth of businesses engaged in the development of emerging
38 technologies.

39 (d) Address methods to comprehensively incorporate blockchain technology
40 into all levels of government.

41 (e) Recommend concrete steps to develop a workforce with technical
42 expertise in emerging technologies, including, without limitation, prioritizing the
43 employment of persons who are unemployed as a result of a pandemic, a natural
44 disaster or an act of terrorism and persons who are 40 years of age or older.

45 (f) Solicit input from persons and organizations with expertise in emerging
46 technologies.

47 (g) On or before February 1 of each year, prepare and submit a report to the
48 Governor, the Director of the Department and the Director of the Legislative
49 Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature concerning its findings and
50 recommendations.

51 2. The Task Force may apply for any available grants and accept any gifts,
52 grants or donations to assist the Task Force in carrying out its duties pursuant to
53 this section.

1 **3. As used in this section, “act of terrorism” has the meaning ascribed to it**
2 **in NRS 202.4415.**

3 **Sec. 9.** NRS 232.505 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 232.505 As used in NRS 232.505 to 232.866, inclusive, **and sections 2 to 8,**
5 **inclusive, of this act,** unless the context requires otherwise:

6 1. “Department” means the Department of Business and Industry.

7 2. “Director” means the Director of the Department.

8 **Sec. 10.** NRS 232.522 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 232.522 The Director may:

10 1. Create within the Department, as part of the Office of the Director, an
11 Office of Business Finance and Planning to:

12 (a) Administer and coordinate programs related to financing for the assistance
13 of entities engaged in business and industry in this state;

14 (b) Provide information to the public concerning the regulatory programs,
15 assistance programs, and other services and activities of the Department; and

16 (c) Interact with other public or private entities to coordinate and improve
17 access to the Department’s programs related to the growth and retention of business
18 and industry in this state.

19 2. Create within the Department, as part of the Office of Business Finance
20 and Planning, **if that office is created,** a Center for Business Advocacy and
21 Services:

22 (a) To assist small businesses in obtaining information about financing and
23 other basic resources which are necessary for success;

24 (b) In cooperation with the Executive Director of the Office of Economic
25 Development, to increase public awareness of the importance of developing
26 manufacturing as an industry and to assist in identifying and encouraging public
27 support of businesses and industries that manufacture goods in this state;

28 (c) To serve as an advocate for small businesses, subject to the supervision of
29 the Director or the Director’s representative, both within and outside the
30 Department;

31 (d) To assist the Office of Business Finance and Planning in establishing an
32 information and referral service within the Department that is responsive to the
33 inquiries of business and industry which are directed to the Department or any
34 entity within the Department; and

35 (e) In cooperation with the Executive Director of the Office of Economic
36 Development, to advise the Director and the Office of Business Finance and
37 Planning in developing and improving programs of the Department to serve more
38 effectively and support the growth, development and diversification of business and
39 industry in this state.

40 **3. Create within the Department, as part of the Office of Business Finance**
41 **and Planning, if that office is created, an Opportunity Center for Emerging**
42 **Technology Businesses:**

43 **(a) To assist businesses engaged in the development of emerging**
44 **technologies in obtaining information about financing and other basic resources**
45 **which are necessary for success;**

46 **(b) In cooperation with the Executive Director of the Office of Economic**
47 **Development, to increase public awareness of the importance of developing**
48 **emerging technologies and to assist in identifying and encouraging public**
49 **support for businesses that are engaged in the development of emerging**
50 **technologies;**

51 **(c) To serve as an advocate for businesses engaged in the development of**
52 **emerging technologies, subject to the supervision of the Director or the Director’s**
53 **representative, both within and outside the Department;**

1 (d) *To assist the Office of Business Finance and Planning in establishing an*
2 *information and referral service within the Department that is responsive to the*
3 *inquiries of businesses engaged in the development of emerging technologies*
4 *which are directed to the Department or any entity within the Department.*

5 (e) *To collaborate with businesses engaged in the development of emerging*
6 *technologies, persons and organizations with expertise in emerging technologies,*
7 *public and private entities and other interested stakeholders to promote:*

8 (1) *The integration of emerging technologies in the private sector and at*
9 *all levels of government; and*

10 (2) *The employment of persons who are unemployed as a result of a*
11 *pandemic, a natural disaster or an act of terrorism and persons who are 40 years*
12 *of age or older; and*

13 (f) *In cooperation with the Executive Director of the Office of Economic*
14 *Development, to advise the Director and the Office of Business Finance and*
15 *Planning in developing and improving programs of the Department to serve more*
16 *effectively and support the growth, development and diversification of businesses*
17 *engaged in the development of emerging technologies in this State.*

18 4. Require divisions, offices, commissions, boards, agencies or other entities
19 of the Department to work together to carry out their statutory duties, to resolve or
20 address particular issues or projects or otherwise to increase the efficiency of the
21 operation of the Department as a whole and the level of communication and
22 cooperation among the various entities within the Department.

23 5. *As used in this section:*

24 (a) *“Act of terrorism” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 202.4415.*

25 (b) *“Emerging technologies” has the meaning ascribed to it in section 4 of*
26 *this act.*

27 **Sec. 11.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to
28 any provision of this act which adds or revises a requirement to submit a report to
29 the Legislature.

30 **Sec. 12.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.