## SENATE BILL NO. 105—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

## (ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY)

Prefiled February 2, 2023

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the Department of Corrections. (BDR 18-320)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to the Department of Corrections; making the Department subject to the provisions of Nevada Administrative Procedure Act under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

## **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law enacts the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act, which establishes procedural requirements for the adoption of regulations and adjudication of contested cases by certain agencies of the Executive Department of the State Government. (Chapter 233B of NRS) With certain exceptions, existing law exempts the Department of Corrections from the requirements prescribed by the Act. (NRS 233B.039) Section 1 of this bill removes this exemption and makes the Department of Corrections subject to the Act for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to contested cases. Sections 2 and 3 of this bill make conforming changes related to the removal of the exemption in section 1. Section 4 of this bill provides that the regulations currently adopted by the Department remain in effect until replaced by new regulations adopted by the Department in accordance with the Act.



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

**Section 1.** NRS 233B.039 is hereby amended to read as follows:

233B.039 1. The following agencies are entirely exempted from the requirements of this chapter:

(a) The Governor.

- (b) [Except as otherwise provided in NRS 209.221 and 209.2473, the Department of Corrections.
- (c) The Nevada System of Higher Education.
  - [(d)] (c) The Office of the Military.
  - (d) The Nevada Gaming Control Board.
- [(f)] (e) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 368A.140 and 463.765, the Nevada Gaming Commission.
- [(g)] (f) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 425.620, the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- [(h)] (g) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 422.390, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- **[(i)]** (h) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 533.365, the Office of the State Engineer.
- (i) The Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry acting to enforce the provisions of NRS 618.375.
- [(k)] (j) The Administrator of the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry in establishing and adjusting the schedule of fees and charges for accident benefits pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 616C.260.
- [(1)] (k) The Board to Review Claims in adopting resolutions to carry out its duties pursuant to NRS 445C.310.
  - (m) (l) The Silver State Health Insurance Exchange.
  - [(n)] (m) The Cannabis Compliance Board.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 and NRS 391.323, the Department of Education, the Board of the Public Employees' Benefits Program and the Commission on Professional Standards in Education are subject to the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to any contested case.
  - 3. The special provisions of:
- (a) Chapter 612 of NRS for the adoption of an emergency regulation or the distribution of regulations by and the judicial review of decisions of the Employment Security Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation;





- (b) Chapters 616A to 617, inclusive, of NRS for the determination of contested claims;
  - (c) Chapter 91 of NRS for the judicial review of decisions of the Administrator of the Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State; and
  - (d) NRS 90.800 for the use of summary orders in contested cases,
  - prevail over the general provisions of this chapter.
  - 4. The provisions of NRS 233B.122, 233B.124, 233B.125 and 233B.126 do not apply to the Department of Health and Human Services in the adjudication of contested cases involving the issuance of letters of approval for health facilities and agencies.
    - 5. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:
  - (a) Any order for immediate action, including, but not limited to, quarantine and the treatment or cleansing of infected or infested animals, objects or premises, made under the authority of the State Board of Agriculture, the State Board of Health, or any other agency of this State in the discharge of a responsibility for the preservation of human or animal health or for insect or pest control;
  - (b) An extraordinary regulation of the State Board of Pharmacy adopted pursuant to NRS 453.2184;
  - (c) A regulation adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 388.255 or 394.1694;
  - (d) The judicial review of decisions of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada;
  - (e) The adoption, amendment or repeal of policies by the Rehabilitation Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation pursuant to NRS 426.561 or 615.178;
  - (f) The adoption or amendment of a rule or regulation to be included in the State Plan for Services for Victims of Crime by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 217.130;
- (g) The adoption, amendment or repeal of rules governing the conduct of contests and exhibitions of unarmed combat by the Nevada Athletic Commission pursuant to NRS 467.075;
- (h) The adoption, amendment or repeal of regulations by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 447.335 to 447.350, inclusive;
- (i) The adoption, amendment or repeal of standards of content and performance for courses of study in public schools by the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools and the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 389.520;
- (j) The adoption, amendment or repeal of the statewide plan to allocate money from the Fund for a Resilient Nevada created by NRS 433.732 established by the Department of Health and Human





Services pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 433.734; or

- (k) The adoption or amendment of a data request by the Commissioner of Insurance pursuant to NRS 687B.404.
- 6. The State Board of Parole Commissioners is subject to the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to any contested case.
- 7. The Department of Corrections is subject to the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to any contested case.
  - **Sec. 2.** NRS 209.221 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 209.221 1. The Offenders' Store Fund is hereby created as a special revenue fund. All money received for the benefit of offenders through contributions, and from other sources not otherwise required to be deposited in another fund, must be deposited in the Offenders' Store Fund.
  - 2. The Director shall:

- (a) Keep, or cause to be kept, a full and accurate account of the Fund;
- (b) Submit reports to the Board relative to money in the Fund as may be required from time to time; and
- (c) Submit a monthly report to the offenders of the amount of money in the Fund by posting copies of the report at locations accessible to offenders generally or by delivery of copies to the appropriate representatives of the offenders if any are selected.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 4 to 10, inclusive, money in the Offenders' Store Fund, except interest earned upon it, must be expended for the welfare and benefit of all offenders or for any other purpose authorized by the Legislature.
- 4. If necessary to cover a shortfall of money in the Prisoners' Personal Property Fund, the Director may, after obtaining the approval of the Interim Finance Committee, authorize the State Controller to transfer money from the Offenders' Store Fund to the Prisoners' Personal Property Fund, and the State Controller shall make the transfer.
- 5. If an offender has insufficient money in his or her individual account in the Prisoners' Personal Property Fund to repay or defray costs assessed to the offender pursuant to NRS 209.246, the Director shall authorize the State Controller to transfer sufficient money from the Offenders' Store Fund to the appropriate account in the State General Fund to pay costs remaining unpaid, and the State Controller shall make the transfer. Any money so transferred must be accounted for separately. The Director shall cause the Offenders' Store Fund to be reimbursed from the offender's individual account





in the Prisoners' Personal Property Fund, as money becomes available.

- 6. If the Department incurs costs related to state property that has been willfully damaged, destroyed or lost or incurs costs related to medical examination, diagnosis or treatment for an injury to an offender, the Director may authorize the State Controller to transfer money from the Offenders' Store Fund to the appropriate account in the State General Fund to repay or defray those costs if:
- (a) The Director has reason to believe that an offender caused the damage, destruction, loss or injury; and
- (b) The identity of the offender is unknown or cannot be determined by the Director with reasonable certainty.
- → The State Controller shall make the transfer if authorized by the Director. Any money transferred must be accounted for separately. If the identity of the offender is determined after money has been transferred, the Director shall cause the Offenders' Store Fund to be reimbursed from the offender's individual account in the Prisoners' Personal Property Fund, as money becomes available.
- 7. The Director may, with approval of the Board, establish by regulation criteria for a reasonable deduction from money credited to the Offenders' Store Fund to repay or defray the costs relating to the operation and maintenance of the offenders' store, coffee shop, gymnasium and correctional officers' salaries for visitation posts where they exist in each facility. [Any regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection must be adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 233B of NRS.]
- 8. The Director may, with approval of the Board, establish by regulation a charge on the purchase of electronic devices by offenders to defray the costs relating to the operation of the devices. The Director shall utilize the proceeds collected from the charge established for operation of the devices to offset the energy costs of the facilities within the Department. [Any regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection must be adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 233B of NRS.]
- 9. The Director may, with approval of the Board, establish by regulation a charge on the use by offenders of videoconferencing equipment for conducting visits to defray the costs relating to the operation and maintenance of the equipment. The Director shall utilize the proceeds collected from the charge established for the operation and maintenance of the equipment to offset the costs of operating and maintaining the videoconferencing equipment and correctional officers' salaries for posts for conducting visits by videoconference where the posts exist in each facility.
- 10. If an offender who has been assigned to a center for the purpose of making restitution is returned to an institution for





committing an infraction of the regulations of the Department and the center has not been fully compensated for the cost of providing the offender with housing, transportation, meals, or medical or dental services at the center, the Director may authorize the State 4 Controller to transfer money from the Offenders' Store Fund to the appropriate account in the State General Fund to repay or defray those costs. The State Controller shall make the transfer if 8 authorized by the Director. Any money transferred must be accounted for separately. The Director shall cause the Offenders' 9 Store Fund to be reimbursed from the offender's individual account 10 in the Prisoners' Personal Property Fund, as money becomes 12 available.

- 11. If an offender has insufficient money in his or her individual account in the Prisoners' Personal Property Fund to repay or defray costs assessed to the offender pursuant to NRS 209.246, the offender shall sign a statement under penalty of perjury concerning his or her financial situation. Such a statement must include, but is not limited to, the following information:
  - (a) The value of any interest the offender has in real estate;
  - (b) The value of the personal property of the offender;
  - (c) The assets in any bank account of the offender; and
  - (d) The employment status of the offender.
- 12. The statement required by subsection 11 must also authorize the Department to access any relevant document, for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the information provided by the offender pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, information regarding any bank account of the offender, information regarding any bank account held in trust for the offender and any federal income tax return, report or withholding form of the offender.
- 13. An offender who conceals assets from the Department or provides false or misleading information on a statement prepared pursuant to this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.
- A person who aids or encourages an offender to conceal assets from the Department or to provide false or misleading information on a statement prepared pursuant to this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.
  - **Sec. 3.** NRS 209.2473 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 209.2473 [1.] The Department may adopt necessary to carry out the provisions of NRS 209.247 and 209.463.
- 2. Any regulations adopted pursuant to this section must be adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 233B of NRS.]
- regulations **Sec. 4.** 1. Any current adopted Department of Corrections, except for those regulations adopted by the Department pursuant to NRS 209.221 and 209.2473, as those



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sections existed before July 1, 2023, must remain in effect until regulations are adopted pursuant to chapter 233B of NRS, as amended by section 1 of this act, to replace those regulations, as required pursuant to subsection 2.

2. The Department shall, as soon as practicable, adopt regulations pursuant to chapter 233B of NRS, as amended by section 1 of this act, to replace the current regulations adopted by the Department, except for those regulations adopted by the Department pursuant to NRS 209.221 and 209.2473, as those sections existed before July 1, 2023.

**Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.





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