

SENATE BILL NO. 207—SENATORS SPEARMAN,
NEAL AND SEEVERS GANSERT

MARCH 2, 2023

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN O’NEILL, BROWN-MAY;
CONSIDINE AND MONROE-MORENO

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to ethics in government.
(BDR 23-875)

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

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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 ethics in government; revising the definition of “pecuniary interest” for purposes of the code of ethical standards set forth in The Nevada Ethics in Government Law; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 The code of ethical standards set forth in The Nevada Ethics in Government
2 Law governs the conduct of a public officer or employee and, pursuant to the code,
3 a public officer or employee is: (1) prohibited from engaging in certain conduct in
4 which the public officer or employee has a significant pecuniary interest; (2) with
5 certain exceptions, required to disclose a significant pecuniary interest before acting
6 on certain matters; and (3) with certain exceptions, prohibited from bidding on or
7 entering into certain contracts in which the public officer or employee has a
8 significant pecuniary interest. (NRS 281A.400, 281A.420, 281A.430) Existing law
9 defines “pecuniary interest” to mean any beneficial or detrimental interest in a
10 matter that consists of or is measured in money or is otherwise related to money,
11 including, without limitation, anything of economic value and payments or other
12 money which a person is owed or otherwise entitled to under certain circumstances.
13 (NRS 281A.139) This bill revises the definition of “pecuniary interest” to: (1)
14 clarify that the term includes real property; and (2) provide that such real property
15 includes real property in which a public officer or employee has any interest in that
16 is adjacent to real property that is the subject of a matter before the public officer or
17 employee. As a result of the change to this definition, any significant pecuniary
18 interest of a public officer or employee or person to whom the public officer or



19 employee has a commitment in a private capacity is subject to the provisions of the
20 code of ethical standards.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 281A.139 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 281A.139 "Pecuniary interest" means any beneficial or
4 detrimental interest in a matter that consists of or is measured in
5 money or is otherwise related to money, including, without
6 limitation:

7 1. Anything of economic value; ~~land~~

8 2. *Real property, including, without limitation, any real*
9 *property that a public officer or employee has an interest in that is*
10 *adjacent to real property that is the subject of a matter before the*
11 *public officer or employee; and*

12 3. Payments or other money which a person is owed or
13 otherwise entitled to by virtue of any statute, regulation, code,
14 ordinance or contract or other agreement.

