SENATE BILL NO. 300–SENATORS SEEVERS GANSERT, BUCK, DONATE, TITUS, STONE; DONDERO LOOP, GOICOECHEA, HANSEN, D. HARRIS, KRASNER, LANGE, OHRENSCHALL AND PAZINA

MARCH 16, 2023

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes an appropriation from the State General Fund to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for a grant program for certain interns. (BDR S-100)

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 [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT making an appropriation from the State General Fund to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for a grant program for certain interns; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

1 WHEREAS, According to the Health Resources and Services 2 Administration of the United States Department of Health and 3 Human Services, over 90 percent of Nevadans reside in a mental 4 health professional shortage area with reduced access to mental 5 health care; and

6 WHEREAS, The American Psychological Association ranks 7 Nevada 48th in the nation for the number of licensed psychologists 8 for every 100,000 persons, with Nevada having 12.2 licensed 9 psychologists for every 100,000 persons compared to the average in 10 the United States of 32.8 licensed psychologists for every 100,000 11 persons; and

WHEREAS, As delineated in NRS 641.025, the scope of the practice of psychology is broad and encompasses additional areas of focus than other mental and behavioral health care fields; and

15 WHEREAS, To be licensed as a psychologist in Nevada, a person 16 must earn a doctorate in psychology or equivalent doctorate-level





education and 2 years of supervised and documented training
 experience, 1 year of which must be postdoctoral; and

3 WHEREAS, Nevada lacks accredited predoctoral and 4 postdoctoral training programs providing supervised experience in 5 and behavioral health such specialty mental areas as 6 neuropsychology, pediatric care, pediatric neuropsychology and 7 geriatrics; and

8 WHEREAS, The development of new training programs located 9 in Nevada that provide supervised experience requires substantial 10 resources for recruitment, training and supervision to meet 11 accreditation standards; now, therefore,

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

16 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State 17 General Fund to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for the grant 18 program set forth in subsection 2 the following sums:

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For the Fiscal Year 2024-2025......\$1,000,000 2. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in collaboration with the University of Nevada, Reno, shall develop and implement a grant program to award grants from the money appropriated by subsection 1 to any natural person, partnership, association, corporation or other form of business organization in Nevada or any governmental entity in Nevada that:

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(a) Supervises or intends to supervise; or

(b) Employs or contracts with, or intends to employ or contractwith, a natural person to supervise,

30 → one or more predoctoral or postdoctoral interns, or both, who are
 31 completing the experience required for licensure as a psychologist
 32 pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 641.170.

33 3. The grants awarded pursuant to subsection 2 must be used 34 only for:

35 (a) Stipends for the interns;

(b) The costs associated with the supervision of the interns; and

(c) The expenses associated with obtaining the accreditation of
the American Psychological Association or the Association of State
and Provincial Psychology Boards, as applicable, for the internship
program.

41 4. Not more than 12 percent of the money appropriated by
42 subsection 1 may be used by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas,
43 for the actual costs incurred in administering the grant program.

5. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for either fiscal year. Any remaining balance of those sums must not be





committed for expenditure after June 30, 2025, by the entity to 1 which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from 2 the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, 3 and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be 4 spent for any purpose after September 19, 2025, by either the entity 5 to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the 6 money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be 7 reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 19, 2025. 8 9 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

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