

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 160—ASSEMBLYMEMBERS
YEAGER AND O’NEILL

PREFILED JANUARY 30, 2025

Referred to Committee on Revenue

SUMMARY—Creates the Nevada-Ireland Trade Commission.
(BDR 18-650)

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 economic development; creating the Nevada-Ireland Trade Commission; prescribing the membership, powers and duties of the Commission; creating the Account for the Nevada-Ireland Trade Commission; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law creates the Board of Economic Development, which is required to
2 review and make recommendations on various aspects of economic development in
3 Nevada. (NRS 231.033, 231.037) **Section 3** of this bill creates the Nevada-Ireland
4 Trade Commission, which consists of nine members. **Section 4** of this bill: (1)
5 provides for the officers of the Commission; (2) prescribes requirements for
6 meetings of the Commission; and (3) requires the Office of Economic Development
7 to provide necessary administrative support to the Commission. **Section 5** of this
8 bill requires the Commission to study and make recommendations to the Board of
9 Economic Development regarding: (1) advancing bilateral trade and investment
10 between Nevada and Ireland; (2) initiating joint action on policy issues of mutual
11 interest to Nevada and Ireland; (3) promoting business and academic exchanges
12 between Nevada and Ireland; (4) encouraging mutual economic support between
13 Nevada and Ireland; (5) encouraging mutual investment in the infrastructure of
14 Nevada and Ireland; and (6) such other issues as determined by the Commission.
15 **Section 5** also requires the Commission to prepare and submit an annual report of
16 its activities and recommendations to the Director of the Legislative Counsel
17 Bureau and the Governor. **Section 6** of this bill creates the Account for the Nevada-
18 Ireland Trade Commission in the State General Fund, which is required to be
19 administered by the Commission and only used to carry out the activities of the
20 Commission. **Section 6** also: (1) authorizes the Commission to apply for grants and
21 accept gifts, grants, bequests and other contributions; and (2) requires that any such



22 money received by the Commission be deposited in the Account. **Section 2** of this
23 bill defines the term "Commission" for purposes of **sections 3-6**.

1 WHEREAS, During the early mining boom in Nevada in the mid-
2 1800s, Irish immigrants were a significant part of this State's
3 population and workforce; and

4 WHEREAS, The rich Irish heritage of Nevada is reflected in the
5 names of many prominent Nevadans, including, McCarran, Mackay,
6 Manogue and O'Callaghan, who made important contributions to
7 this State in the areas of religion, government, development,
8 business and gaming; and

9 WHEREAS, There are significant and enduring connections
10 between Nevada and Ireland, and Nevada has historic and practical
11 reasons to desire the building of stronger economic, educational,
12 governmental and cultural links with Ireland; and

13 WHEREAS, In light of the mutual economic interests of Nevada
14 and Ireland and the need to adapt to the evolving global economy,
15 creation of a trade commission demonstrates a shared commitment
16 to fostering stronger commercial ties between Nevada and Ireland to
17 encourage investment between, leverage the resources of and create
18 mutually beneficial opportunities for both regions; and

19 WHEREAS, A trade commission will also serve as a platform for
20 educational and cultural exchanges and for building a lasting and
21 collaborative relationship with a global partner; now, therefore,

22
23 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
24 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
25

26 **Section 1.** Chapter 231 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
27 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this
28 act.

29 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act, unless*
30 *the context otherwise requires, "Commission" means the Nevada-*
31 *Ireland Trade Commission created by section 3 of this act.*

32 **Sec. 3. 1.** *There is hereby created the Nevada-Ireland*
33 *Trade Commission, consisting of the following nine members:*

34 *(a) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the Majority*
35 *Leader of the Senate;*

36 *(b) Two members of the Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of*
37 *the Assembly; and*

38 *(c) Five members appointed by the Governor, including,*
39 *without limitation:*

40 *(1) A representative of the Nevada System of Higher*
41 *Education;*



1 (2) *A representative of a chamber of commerce or trade*
2 *association; and*

3 (3) *A representative of the general public who represents*
4 *Irish-American communities or interests in this State.*

5 2. *After the initial terms, each member of the Commission*
6 *serves a term of 2 years. A member of the Commission may be*
7 *reappointed.*

8 3. *The membership of any member of the Commission who is*
9 *a Legislator and who is not a candidate for reelection or who is*
10 *defeated for reelection terminates on the day next after the general*
11 *election.*

12 4. *Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the*
13 *Commission must be filled in the same manner as the original*
14 *appointment. A member appointed to fill a vacancy serves as a*
15 *member of the Commission for the remainder of the original term*
16 *of appointment.*

17 5. *Each member of the Commission:*

18 (a) *Serves without compensation; and*

19 (b) *While engaged in the business of the Commission, is*
20 *entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses*
21 *provided for state officers and employees generally.*

22 **Sec. 4. 1.** *The members of the Commission shall elect a*
23 *Chair and Vice Chair from among its members. After the initial*
24 *election, the Chair and Vice Chair serve for a term of 1 year*
25 *beginning on July 1 of each year. If the position of Chair or Vice*
26 *Chair becomes vacant, the members of the Commission shall elect*
27 *a Chair or Vice Chair, as appropriate, from among its members*
28 *for the remainder of the unexpired term.*

29 2. *The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair or a*
30 *majority of the members of the Commission.*

31 3. *A majority of the members of the Commission constitutes a*
32 *quorum and is required to transact any business of the*
33 *Commission.*

34 4. *The Office shall provide the Commission with such*
35 *administrative support as is necessary to assist the Commission in*
36 *carrying out the provisions of sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act.*

37 **Sec. 5. 1.** *The Commission shall study and make*
38 *recommendations to the Board regarding:*

39 (a) *Advancing bilateral trade and investment between Nevada*
40 *and Ireland;*

41 (b) *Initiating joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to*
42 *Nevada and Ireland;*

43 (c) *Promoting business and academic exchanges between*
44 *Nevada and Ireland;*



1 (d) Encouraging mutual economic support between Nevada
2 and Ireland;

3 (e) Encouraging mutual investment in the infrastructure of
4 Nevada and Ireland; and

5 (f) Such other issues as determined by the Commission.

6 2. On or before October 1 of each year, the Commission
7 shall:

8 (a) Prepare a written report of its activities during the
9 immediately preceding fiscal year and any recommendations; and

10 (b) Submit a copy of the written report prepared pursuant to
11 paragraph (a) to:

12 (I) The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
13 transmittal to:

14 (I) If the report is prepared in an even-numbered year,
15 the next regular session of the Legislature; or

16 (II) If the report is prepared in an odd-numbered year,
17 the Legislative Commission.

18 (2) The Governor.

19 **Sec. 6. 1. The Account for the Nevada-Ireland Trade**
20 **Commission is hereby created in the State General Fund.**

21 2. The Commission shall administer the Account. The money
22 in the Account must be used only to carry out the provisions of
23 sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act, including, without limitation,
24 for payment of administrative costs and expenses relating to travel,
25 meals and lodging.

26 3. The Commission may apply for any available grants and
27 accept gifts, grants, bequests and other contributions from any
28 public or private source for deposit in the Account.

29 4. The interest and income earned on the money in the
30 Account, after deducting applicable charges, must be credited to
31 the Account.

32 5. Money in the Account must remain in the Account and
33 must not revert to the State General Fund at the end of any fiscal
34 year.

35 **Sec. 7.** The provisions of NRS 218D.380 do not apply to any
36 provision of this act which adds or revises a requirement to submit a
37 report to the Legislature.

38 **Sec. 8.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

