SENATE BILL NO. 53–COMMITTEE ON GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(ON BEHALF OF LYON COUNTY)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 19, 2024

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Establishes certain requirements relating to notices of road hazards and road closures. (BDR 35-406)

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 highways; requiring the Department of Transportation to create an electronic system for local governments to report road conditions under certain circumstances; authorizing a city, county, regional transportation commission, the Department or any other public authority to notify a navigation provider regarding certain road conditions; requiring a navigation provider to take certain actions after receiving such a notification; revising provisions relating to the Advisory Committee on Traffic Safety; requiring the Director of the Department to adopt regulations; providing a civil penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law regulates trade practices and other commercial activities in this State. (Title 52 of NRS) **Section 6** of this bill authorizes a city, county, regional transportation commission, the Department of Transportation or any other public authority to transmit a written or electronic notification to a navigation provider concerning a current or anticipated road condition, such as a road closure, road hazard, lane closure, construction project, accident or other road condition impacting a highway under the jurisdiction of the entity providing the notification. **Section 6** requires a navigation provider who receives such a notification to incorporate the road condition information contained within the notification into the real-time data concerning traffic and road closures that is used by the navigation provider to provide turn-by-turn directions to end users of its navigation application within 48 hours after receiving the notification, with certain exceptions. If a





navigation provider fails to incorporate the road condition information into the realtime data concerning traffic and road closures used to provide turn-by-turn directions to end users within the time prescribed, **section 6** provides for a civil penalty of \$500 to be imposed against the navigation provider for each day that the navigation provider fails to incorporate the road condition information until: (1) the provider incorporates the road condition information; or (2) the road condition ceases to exist or is otherwise resolved. Additionally, **section 6** authorizes a city, county, regional transportation commission, the Department or any other public authority, as a part of the notification sent to a navigation provider, to recommend a specific route which would direct traffic around the specific road condition. A navigation provider is not required to incorporate the recommended route into the data used to provide turn-by-turn directions to end users.

Section 6 defines a "navigation provider" as a person who operates a navigation application and defines a "navigation application" as an Internet website, online service or mobile application which: (1) offers turn-by-turn directions in real time to an end user; and (2) incorporates real-time data concerning traffic and road closures into the direction and navigation services provided to the end user. **Section 6** excludes from the definition of "navigation application" a service which: (1) has less than 10,000,000 active users per month; (2) does not offer direction and navigation services for end users with respect to the highways in this State; or (3) does not incorporate real-time data concerning traffic and road closures into the direction and navigation services provided to an end user with respect to the highways in this State.

Existing law creates the Department of Transportation and tasks the Director of the Department with the general supervision of the construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance and repair of all highways, facilities and services authorized by the provisions governing highways, roads and transportation facilities. (NRS 408.106, 408.195) The Director is also required to collect and compile statistics and maps relating to the mileage, traffic, character and condition of the highways. (NRS 408.190) **Section 1** of this bill requires the Department to create and maintain an electronic system which allows a qualified representative of a city, county or regional transportation commission to submit to the Department information relating to road conditions impacting certain highways under the jurisdiction of the reporting entity for upload onto an Internet website or mobile application maintained by the Department to communicate road conditions to the public, including Nevada 511, if such a website or application is maintained by the Department. Sections 2 and 4 of this bill require the Department to adopt regulations and use funds in the Account for Systems of Providing Information to the Traveling Public in the State Highway Fund, as necessary, to carry out the provisions of section 1. Section 3 of this bill adds the provisions of section 1 to the provisions of law which the Department, in cooperation with the Commission on Tourism, is required to develop a plan to carry out.

Existing law creates the Advisory Committee on Traffic Safety within the Department. The Advisory Committee consists of voting members and certain nonvoting members who may be appointed by the Director of the Department. (NRS 408.581) **Section 5** of this bill requires the Director of the Department to appoint to the Advisory Committee two nonvoting members who represent navigation providers.



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

Section 1. Chapter 408 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

- 1. If the Department maintains an Internet website or mobile application to communicate to the public information concerning the conditions for driving on some or all of the highways in this State, including, without limitation, Nevada 511 or any successor Internet website or application, the Department shall create and maintain an electronic system which allows a qualified representative of a city, county or regional transportation commission to submit to the Department, for upload to the Internet website or mobile application as soon as practicable, information related to a current or anticipated road closure, road hazard, lane closure, construction project, accident or other road condition which impacts a highway:
- (a) Under the jurisdiction of the city, county or regional transportation commission; and
- (b) For which the condition is communicated by the Internet website or mobile application.
 - 2. As used in this section:
 - (a) "City" means an incorporated city.
- (b) "Qualified representative" means a person who is authorized by his or her respective city, county or regional transportation commission to submit information through the electronic system created and maintained pursuant to subsection 1.
- (c) "Regional transportation commission" means a regional transportation commission created pursuant to NRS 277A.170.
 - **Sec. 2.** NRS 408.557 is hereby amended to read as follows: 408.557

 1. The Director shall adopt regulations:
- (a) Governing the size, shape, lighting and other characteristics of a sign to be erected at a location designated pursuant to NRS 408.553;
- (b) Authorizing the use of trademarks and symbols identifying an individual enterprise on a sign erected at the location;
- (c) Fixing the qualifications of a person or governmental agency to erect or construct, operate, sponsor or maintain a center or sign and of an enterprise to be identified on a directional or informational sign;
- (d) Fixing reasonable fees, based upon the market value as determined by the Department, for:





- (1) Authorizing the use of trademarks and symbols identifying an individual enterprise on a directional or informational sign; and
 - (2) Providing:

- (I) Information concerning commercial attractions; and
- (II) Items designed to promote tourism in this State; and
- (e) Otherwise necessary to carry out the provisions of NRS 408.551 to 408.567, inclusive [...], and section 1 of this act.
- 2. The regulations adopted by the Director pursuant to subsection 1 must be consistent with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. §§ 111 and 131.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 408.559 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 408.559 The Department shall develop a plan, in cooperation with the Commission on Tourism, to carry out the provisions of NRS 408.551 to 408.567, inclusive [.], and section 1 of this act. The plan must take into consideration such factors as:
 - 1. Economic development in this state.
- 2. Availability of money for the purposes of NRS 408.551 to 408.567, inclusive [...], and section 1 of this act.
 - 3. Population in a particular area.
 - 4. Proposed highway construction.
 - 5. Need for information.
- → The Department and the Commission shall review the plan at least once each year and revise it until the provisions of NRS 408.551 to 408.567, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act* have been uniformly put into effect throughout the State.
 - **Sec. 4.** NRS 408.567 is hereby amended to read as follows: 408.567

 1. Money received by the Department from:
 - (a) Fees for:
- (1) Authorizing the use of trademarks and symbols identifying an individual enterprise on a directional or informational sign; and
 - (2) Providing:
 - (I) Information concerning commercial attractions; and
 - (II) Items designed to promote tourism in this State;
- (b) Participants in a telephone system established to reserve accommodations for travelers; and
- (c) Appropriations made by the Legislature for the purposes of NRS 408.551 to 408.567, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act*,
- must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Account for Systems of Providing Information to the Traveling Public in the State Highway Fund, which is hereby created.
- 2. Money in the Account must only be used to carry out the provisions of NRS 408.551 to 408.567, inclusive [...], and section 1 of this act.





- **Sec. 5.** NRS 408.581 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 408.581 1. The Advisory Committee on Traffic Safety is hereby created in the Department. The Advisory Committee consists of the following voting members:
- (a) The Director of the Department of Transportation or his or her designee;
- (b) The Director of the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her designee;
- (c) The Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles or his or her designee;
- (d) The Director of the Department of Public Safety or his or her designee;
- (e) The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee;
- (f) One member who is a representative of the Department of Transportation, appointed by the Director of the Department of Transportation;
- (g) One member who is a representative of the Department of Public Safety, appointed by the Director of the Department of Public Safety;
- (h) One member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly who is a member of the Assembly Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure during the current or immediately preceding regular session;
- (i) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate who is a member of the Senate Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure during the current or immediately preceding regular session;
- (j) One member who is a representative of the Administrative Office of the Courts, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nevada;
- (k) One member who represents tribal governments in Nevada, appointed by the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., or its successor organization;
- (l) Two members who are full- or part-time faculty members in the Nevada System of Higher Education and have expertise in traffic safety or trauma care, appointed by the Director of the Department of Transportation;
- (m) One member appointed by each metropolitan planning organization to represent the appointing organization;
- (n) One member appointed by the Nevada Association of Counties:
 - (o) One member appointed by the Nevada League of Cities; and
- (p) One member who represents local law enforcement agencies, appointed by the Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association.





- 2. The Director of the Department of Transportation shall appoint as nonvoting members of the Advisory Committee two members who represent navigation providers.
- 3. The Director of the Department of Transportation may appoint as nonvoting members of the Advisory Committee such other persons as the Director deems appropriate.
- [3.] 4. The term of office of each member appointed to the Advisory Committee is 2 years. Such members may be reappointed for additional terms of 2 years in the same manner as the original appointments. Any vacancy occurring in the appointed voting membership of the Advisory Committee must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment not later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs.
- [4.] 5. The members of the Advisory Committee shall elect from their voting membership a Chair and a Vice Chair. The term of office of the Chair and the Vice Chair is 2 years. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Chair or Vice Chair, the members of the Advisory Committee shall elect a Chair or Vice Chair, as applicable, from among its voting members to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- [5.] 6. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once each calendar quarter and may meet at such further times as deemed necessary by the Chair.
- [6.] 7. A majority of the voting members of the Advisory Committee constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members of the Advisory Committee present is sufficient for any official action taken by the Advisory Committee.
- [7.] 8. Each member of the Advisory Committee serves without compensation and is not entitled to receive a per diem allowance or travel expenses.
- [8.] 9. The Department shall provide administrative support to the Advisory Committee.
- [9.] 10. The Advisory Committee shall review, study and make recommendations regarding:
- (a) Evidence-based best practices for reducing or preventing deaths and injuries related to motor vehicle crashes on roadways in this State;
- (b) Data on motor vehicle crashes resulting in death or serious bodily injury in this State, including, without limitation, factors that cause such crashes and measures known to prevent such crashes;
- (c) Policies intended to reduce or prevent deaths and injuries related to motor vehicle crashes on roadways in this State; and
 - (d) Any other matter submitted by the Chair.





[10.] 11. The Advisory Committee shall prepare and submit to the Governor and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature an annual report concerning the activities of the Advisory Committee that addresses, without limitation, any issue reviewed or studied and any recommendations made by the Advisory Committee pursuant to subsection [9.] 10.

11. 12. The Advisory Committee may establish such working groups, task forces and similar entities from within or outside its membership as necessary to address specific issues or otherwise to

assist in its work.

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As used in this section ["metropolitan]: [12.] 13.

(a) "Metropolitan planning organization" means an entity that has been designated as a metropolitan planning organization pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 134 and 49 U.S.C. § 5303.

(b) "Navigation provider" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 6 of this act.

Sec. 6. Chapter 597 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

- A city, county, regional transportation commission, the Department of Transportation or any other public authority may, at any time, transmit a written or electronic notification to a navigation provider regarding a current or anticipated road closure, road hazard, lane closure, construction project, accident or other road condition which impacts a highway in this State under the jurisdiction of the city, county, regional transportation commission, Department of Transportation or other public authority. If the navigation provider has appointed a registered agent located in this State, the notification must be transmitted to the registered agent, unless the navigation provider posts on its Internet website or within the navigation application an alternative method of providing the notification.
- A city, county, regional transportation commission, the Department of Transportation or any other public authority may include in a notification transmitted pursuant to subsection 1 information concerning the route recommended by the city, county, regional transportation commission, Department of Transportation or other public authority for directing traffic around the road condition. A navigation provider is not required to incorporate a recommended route which is included in a notification pursuant to this subsection into the real-time traffic and road closure data used to provide turn-by-turn directions in real time to an end user of the navigation application.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 4, a navigation provider who receives a notification transmitted pursuant to subsection 1 shall incorporate the information





contained in the notification regarding the existence of a road condition into the navigation application not later than:

(a) Forty-eight hours after the notification is received by the

navigation provider; or

(b) The time at which the road condition contained in the notification occurs, if the road condition does not occur until more than 48 hours after the notification was received.

- 4. A navigation provider is not required to incorporate the information contained in the notification regarding the existence of a road condition into the navigation application pursuant to subsection 3 if the road condition resolves before the time by which the navigation provider would be required to incorporate the information pursuant to subsection 3.
- 5. A navigation provider who violates subsection 3 remains in violation of that subsection until:
- (a) The navigation provider incorporates the information contained in the notification regarding the existence of a road condition into the navigation application; or
- (b) The road condition contained in the notification ceases to exist or is otherwise resolved.
- 6. A navigation provider who violates the provisions of subsection 3 is subject to a civil penalty of \$500 per day of the violation, and each day's continuance of the violation constitutes a separate and distinct violation.
 - 7. As used in this section:
 - (a) "City" means an incorporated city.
- (b) "Highway" means any street, road, alley, thoroughfare or way of any kind, paved or unpaved, which is used or open to the use of the public for the purpose of vehicular travel.
 - (c) "Navigation application":
- (1) Means an Internet website, online service or mobile application which:
- (I) Offers turn-by-turn directions in real time to an end user; and
- (II) Incorporates real-time data concerning traffic and road closures into the direction and navigation services provided to the end user.
 - (2) Does not include a service which:
 - (I) Has less than 10,000,000 active users per month;
- (II) Does not offer direction and navigation services for end users with respect to the highways in this State; or
- (III) Does not incorporate real-time data concerning traffic and road closures into the direction and navigation services provided to the end user with respect to the highways in this State.





- (d) "Navigation provider" means a person who operates a navigation application.
- (e) "Public authority" means a state or local governmental agency that maintains a highway or to which a highway is dedicated.
- (f) "Regional transportation commission" means a regional transportation commission created pursuant to NRS 277A.170.
- **Sec. 7.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
 - 2. Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, of this act become effective:
- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On October 1, 2025, for all other purposes.





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