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SENATE BILL NO. 83—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
FOR THE REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OF THE  
TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY AND  
THE MARLETTE LAKE WATER SYSTEM)

PREFILED JANUARY 7, 2025

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

**SUMMARY**—Requires the issuance of bonds for environmental improvement projects in the Lake Tahoe Basin. (BDR S-376)

**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.

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AN ACT relating to the Lake Tahoe Basin; requiring the issuance of general obligation bonds to carry out certain environmental improvement projects included in the second phase of the Environmental Improvement Program for the Lake Tahoe Basin; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 The Environmental Improvement Program was implemented in 1997 to carry  
2 out projects to improve the environment in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The costs of the  
3 Program are apportioned among the Federal Government, the States of Nevada and  
4 California and local governments and owners of private property in both states. In  
5 1999, the Nevada Legislature authorized the issuance of not more than \$56.4  
6 million in general obligation bonds to pay for a significant portion of Nevada’s  
7 share of the costs of the first phase of the Program. (Chapter 514, Statutes of  
8 Nevada 1999, at page 2626)  
9 In 2009, the Nevada Legislature authorized the issuance of not more than \$100  
10 million in general obligation bonds to pay for Nevada’s share of the costs of the  
11 second phase of the Program beginning on July 1, 2009, and ending on June 30,  
12 2020. (Section 3 of chapter 431, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at page 2417) Issuance of  
13 those bonds requires the approval of the Legislature or the Interim Finance  
14 Committee. (*Id.*) In 2017, the Nevada Legislature extended the deadline for the  
15 issuance of the remainder of the general obligation bonds that were authorized in



16 2009 for the second phase of the Program from June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2030.  
17 (Chapter 32, Statutes of Nevada 2017, at page 137)

18 Of the \$100 million in general obligation bonds authorized to pay for Nevada's  
19 share of the costs of the second phase of the Program, the Nevada Legislature  
20 required the issuance of: (1) not more than \$4.42 million of those bonds in 2009;  
21 (2) not more than \$12 million of those bonds in 2011; (3) not more than \$8 million  
22 of those bonds in 2019; (4) not more than \$4 million of those bonds in 2021; and  
23 (5) not more than \$13 million of those bonds in 2023. (Section 1 of chapter 431,  
24 Statutes of Nevada 2009, at page 2416; section 1 of chapter 437, Statutes of Nevada  
25 2011, at page 2638; section 1 of chapter 167, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 891;  
26 section 1 of chapter 215, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 1008; section 1 of  
27 chapter 99, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 501)

28 This bill requires the issuance of not more than \$19 million of the \$100 million  
29 in general obligation bonds authorized in 2009 to provide money to carry out  
30 certain environmental improvement projects included in the second phase of the  
31 Environmental Improvement Program and allows the use of interest accrued on the  
32 proceeds of the general obligation bonds for the Program.

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1 WHEREAS, The Lake Tahoe Basin exhibits unique  
2 environmental and ecological conditions that are irreplaceable; and

3 WHEREAS, This State has a compelling interest in preserving,  
4 protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment of the  
5 Lake Tahoe Basin; and

6 WHEREAS, The preservation, protection, restoration and  
7 enhancement of the natural environment of the Lake Tahoe Basin is  
8 of such significance that it must be carried out on a continual basis;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In October 1997, Governor Bob Miller, on behalf  
11 of the State of Nevada, signed a Memorandum of Agreement  
12 between the Federal Interagency Partnership on the Lake Tahoe  
13 Ecosystem, the States of Nevada and California, the Washoe Tribe  
14 of Nevada and California, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and  
15 interested local governments, in which the parties affirmed their  
16 commitment to the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact, to the sound  
17 management and protection of the resources within the Lake Tahoe  
18 Basin and the support of a healthy, sustainable economy and to  
19 achieve environmental thresholds for Lake Tahoe, and agreed to  
20 cooperate to carry out, including, without limitation, providing  
21 financial support for, the Environmental Improvement Program; and

22 WHEREAS, The costs of carrying out the Environmental  
23 Improvement Program have been apportioned among the Federal  
24 Government, the States of Nevada and California and the local  
25 governments and private property owners within both states; and

26 WHEREAS, The cost of carrying out the second phase of the  
27 Environmental Improvement Program for the State of Nevada and  
28 its political subdivisions is \$100,000,000; and



1 WHEREAS, Section 3 of chapter 431, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at  
2 page 2417, authorized the State Board of Finance to issue general  
3 obligation bonds of the State of Nevada in a total face amount of not  
4 more than \$100,000,000 to provide money to carry out the second  
5 phase of the Environmental Improvement Program beginning on  
6 July 1, 2009, and ending on June 30, 2020; and

7 WHEREAS, Section 2 of chapter 32, Statutes of Nevada 2017, at  
8 page 138, extended the deadline for the State Board of Finance to  
9 issue the remainder of the general obligation bonds of the State of  
10 Nevada that were authorized in 2009 for the second phase of the  
11 Environmental Improvement Program from June 30, 2020, to  
12 June 30, 2030; and

13 WHEREAS, Section 1 of chapter 431, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at  
14 page 2416, granted approval to the State Board of Finance to issue  
15 \$4,420,000 of those general obligation bonds to provide money to  
16 carry out certain environmental improvement projects included in  
17 the second phase of the Environmental Improvement Program; and

18 WHEREAS, Section 1 of chapter 437, Statutes of Nevada 2011, at  
19 page 2638, granted approval to the State Board of Finance to issue  
20 an additional \$12,000,000 of those general obligation bonds to  
21 provide money to carry out certain environmental improvement  
22 projects included in the second phase of the Environmental  
23 Improvement Program; and

24 WHEREAS, Section 1 of chapter 167, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at  
25 page 891, granted approval to the State Board of Finance to issue an  
26 additional \$8,000,000 of those general obligation bonds to provide  
27 money to carry out certain environmental improvement projects  
28 included in the second phase of the Environmental Improvement  
29 Program; and

30 WHEREAS, Section 1 of chapter 215, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at  
31 page 1008, granted approval to the State Board of Finance to issue  
32 an additional \$4,000,000 of those general obligation bonds to  
33 provide money to carry out certain environmental improvement  
34 projects included in the second phase of the Environmental  
35 Improvement Program; and

36 WHEREAS, Section 1 of chapter 99, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at  
37 page 501, granted approval to the State Board of Finance to issue an  
38 additional \$13,000,000 of those general obligation bonds to provide  
39 money to carry out certain environmental improvement projects  
40 included in the second phase of the Environmental Improvement  
41 Program; and

42 WHEREAS, The general obligation bonds authorized by chapter  
43 431, Statutes of Nevada 2009, may only be issued with the prior  
44 approval of the Legislature or the Interim Finance Committee and  
45 pursuant to a schedule established by the Administrator of the



1 Division of State Lands of the State Department of Conservation  
2 and Natural Resources; now, therefore,

3  
4 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
5 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:  
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7 **Section 1.** Money to carry out the Environmental  
8 Improvement Program for the Lake Tahoe Basin established  
9 pursuant to section 1 of chapter 514, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at  
10 page 2627, must be provided by the issuance by the State Board of  
11 Finance of general obligation bonds of the State of Nevada in a total  
12 face amount of not more than \$19,000,000 pursuant to NRS 349.150  
13 to 349.364, inclusive. The proceeds of the bonds issued pursuant to  
14 this section and any accrued interest thereon must be deposited in  
15 the Fund to Protect the Lake Tahoe Basin created pursuant to  
16 section 2 of chapter 514, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 2628,  
17 and, except as otherwise provided in section 2 of this act, must be  
18 used for the following activities related to the Environmental  
19 Improvement Program to be carried out by the State Department of  
20 Conservation and Natural Resources:

- 21 1. Continued implementation of forest health, restoration and  
22 fuels management projects;
- 23 2. Control and prevention of invasive terrestrial and aquatic  
24 species;
- 25 3. Enhancement of recreational opportunities;
- 26 4. Protection of sensitive species and improvement of wildlife  
27 habitat; and
- 28 5. Water quality, erosion control and stream restoration and  
29 enhancement projects of the Environmental Improvement Program  
30 to be carried out pursuant to grants and project agreements.

31 **Sec. 2.** The Division of State Lands of the State Department of  
32 Conservation and Natural Resources may use money authorized  
33 pursuant to section 1 of this act for an activity other than an activity  
34 listed in section 1 of this act if the Interim Finance Committee  
35 approves such a use in writing before the Division of State Lands  
36 engages in the activity.

37 **Sec. 3.** The Legislature finds and declares that the issuance of  
38 securities and the incurrence of indebtedness pursuant to section 1  
39 of this act:

- 40 1. Are necessary for the protection and preservation of the  
41 natural resources of this State and for the purpose of obtaining the  
42 benefits thereof; and

43 2. Constitute an exercise of the authority conferred by the  
44 second paragraph of Section 3 of Article 9 of the Constitution of the  
45 State of Nevada.



1     **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

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