

Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 2, 2019
TO: Chair and members, Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”)
FROM: John B. Rhodes, Legal Counsel
SUBJECT: Report on legislative activities, including Bill Draft Requests (“BDRs”) and Bills pending in the 2019 session of the Nevada Legislature that may affect or are of interest to the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) and the NWPC.

The attached list summarizes BDRs and Bills pending in the 2019 Nevada Legislature, as of April 2, 2019, that may affect or are of interest to the WRWC and NNWPC. No additional language is available for the BDRs at this time. Pending Bills are noted with an Assembly (“AB”) or Senate (“SB”) designation, and the complete language of each Bill is available by clicking on the corresponding link contained in the electronic version of this report posted on the WRWC website. The dates following the BDR number in parentheses indicate the date the BDR was requested or if a Bill is pending, the date the Bill was introduced. WRWC staff and the WRWC Legislative Subcommittee will track these Bills, recommend positions to be taken, provide periodic updates to the NNWPC, and submit staff and/or the Subcommittee's recommendations to the WRWC, at its regular meetings, for possible approval and adoption, or revision.

Important 2019 Legislative Deadlines

4/12 Bills must pass Committee
4/23 Bills must pass first House
5/24 Bills must pass second House
6/3 Adjournment

Bill Drafts Requested and Bills Introduced

Water Issues

BDR/Bill	Sponsor	Subcommittee Position
44	Assemblyman Oscarson Revises provisions relating to water. (3/20/18)	Neutral/Watch
S-1177	Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor Makes appropriations from the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture for water conservation purposes. (2/22/19)	Neutral/Watch
AB30	Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining Expands authority of State Engineer through 3M Plans. (BDR 48-214, 11/16/18)	Neutral/Watch
AB51	Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining Expands authority of State Engineer over conjunctive management of groundwater and surface water. (BDR 48-213, 11/18/18)	Neutral/Watch
AB62	Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining Expands authority of State Engineer to extend time for improvements required for Permits. (BDR 48-215, 11/19/18)	Neutral/Watch
AB84	Assembly Committee on Ways and Means Provides bonding to protect and preserve natural resources, including the lower Truckee River. (BDR S-326, 11/21/18) Exempt	Support
AB95	Legislative Committee on Public Lands (NRS 218E.510) Requires State Engineer to allow domestic well pumping under certain circumstances after restriction of withdrawals. (BDR 48-504, 1/24/19)	Neutral/Watch
AB163	Assemblyman Watts and Senator Brooks Revises minimum standards for plumbing fixtures in new construction and renovations. (BDR 48-798, 2/15/19)	Neutral/Watch
AB220	Legislative Committee for Oversight of TRPA and Marlette Lake (NRS 218E.555) Provides bonding for environmental improvement projects in the Tahoe Basin. (BDR S-435, 2/21/19) Exempt	Support
AB233	Assemblyman Kramer, Assemblywoman Hardy; Senators Goicoechea and Parks Allows counties to pay state water assessments from general fund. (BDR 48-45, 3/1/19)	Neutral/Watch
AB265	Assemblymen Peters, Swank, and Watts Requires the Desert Research Institute to conduct a study on water treatment and recycling. (BDR S-901, 3/14/19)	Neutral/Watch

Bill	Sponsor	Subcommittee Position
SB140	Senate Committee on Natural Resources Requires the State Engineer to reserve 10% of any unappropriated water for temporary use in emergencies. (BDR 48-541, 2/11/19)	Neutral/Watch
SB150	Senator Goicoechea Requires governing bodies to develop water resource plans analyzing whether identified sources of water are sufficient to meet future demands. (BDR 22-775, 2/12/19)	Neutral/Watch
SB236	Senators Goicoechea, Brooks, and Hansen Eliminates requirement for a change application where a new point of diversion is within 300' of original point of diversion on same property. (BDR 48-635, 2/27/19)	Neutral/Watch
SB250	Senator Settelmeyer Requires that any water rights dedicated to a public entity to support development must remain so dedicated. (BDR 48-664, 3/5/19)	Neutral/Watch (Discuss possible support)
SB499	Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor Creates the advisory Board of Water Resources Planning and Drought Resiliency. (BDR 48-1243, 4/1/19) Exempt	Neutral/Watch

Ethics Issues

SB129	Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections Makes numerous revisions to the Nevada Ethics in Government Law. (BDR 23-191, 2/1/19)	Neutral/Watch
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Public Records Issues

AB362	Assemblyman Fumo Authorizes CPS workers and other comparable public employees to obtain court orders for confidentiality of their personal information in public records. (BDR 20-763, 3/20/19)	Neutral/Watch
AB371	Assemblyman Daly Redefines the term "public record" for public access to state and local government records. (BDR 19-16, 3/20/19)	Oppose as Written
SB224	Senators Ratti, Parks, and Woodhouse (BDR 19-598, 2/18/19) Provides that the names of individuals receiving PERS benefits shall be confidential. (BDR 48-664,	Neutral/Watch
SB287	Senator Parks Revises numerous provisions relating to public access to public records. (BDR 19-648, 3/15/19)	Neutral/Watch
SB302	Senators Seevers and Gansert Revises provisions regarding personal information collected by government agencies. (BDR 52-547, 3/18/19)	Neutral/Watch

Bill	Sponsor	Subcommittee Position
SB339	Senator Denis Authorizes a public entity to declare certain information confidential if it creates a privacy risk to a specific person. (BDR 19-821, 3/18/19)	Neutral/Watch
SB388	Senator Denis Provides for the designation of certain electronically collected public records as confidential if disclosure creates negative consequences. (BDR 19-287, 3/20/19)	Neutral/Watch

Open Meeting Issues

AB70	Attorney General Makes numerous revisions to the Nevada Open Meeting Law. (BDR 19-421, 11/20/18)	Neutral/Watch
AB127	Assemblywoman Cohen Requires any person who receives compensation for testifying before a public body to disclose that fact prior to testifying. (BDR 19-272, 2/12/19)	Neutral/Watch
SB183	Senators Gansert, Hardy, and Hammond Makes numerous revisions to the Nevada Open Meeting Law, including notice provisions. (BDR 19-537, 2/18/19) Exempt	Neutral/Watch

Other Areas of Interest

AB101	Assemblyman Daly Authorizes a private plaintiff to bring an action for declaratory relief against a governmental entity for violation of state or local law. (BDR 3-26, 1/28/19)	Neutral/Watch
SB96	Senate Committee on Natural Resources Creates a program for grants to local governments for matching funds to secure federal grants for projects relating to public lands. (BDR 26-510, 1/24/19)	Support
SB245	Senator Ohrenschall Increases cap on tort actions against governmental entities from \$100,00 to \$250,000 and \$1,000,000 for gross negligence. (BDR 3-965, 3/1/19)	Neutral/Watch