



## 2017 Session of the Nevada Legislature SUMMARY OF BILLS THAT REQUIRE COUNTY ACTION

*(Please see NACO final bill tracker for comprehensive list of bills that affect counties)*

**June 2017**

*(Italics indicate actions that counties must take; text in purple indicate actions that county elected officials must take)*

### **BILLS THAT PASSED**

**AB21** – **Elected County Officials should be aware** – This bill made changes to residency and other requirements for candidates for office; increases penalties for breaking residency requirements. **County Clerks/Election Officials** must update their Declaration of Candidacy and Declaration of Residency forms to reflect the most recent version in [NRS 293.177](#).

**AB32** – **Any county employee who engages in pest control using certain pesticides must now be licensed with the State Department of Agriculture.** Previously the license could be held by the department or county to cover all employees.

**AB34** – If a county wishes to sell or lease county land they may only use an appraiser who, in counties larger than 45k, is not related by more than 3rd degree consanguinity to a person with an interest in the land; in a county smaller than 45k, is not related by more than 2nd degree consanguinity to a person with an interest in the land.

**AB45** – **Elected County Officials should be aware** this bill changes the dates for filing campaign finance reports, requires that the balance in a campaign account be included in each report, and requires itemization of expenses paid for by credit card. **County Clerks/Election Officials** this bill changes the deadlines to register to vote.

**AB97** – **Law enforcement agencies must submit SAFE kits (forensic evidence of victims of sexual assault) to labs within 30 days, for testing.** Allows the Fund for the Compensation of Victims of Crime to be used to pay counties for the cost of forensic examinations incurred by a county up to \$10,000/year or 10 examinations, whichever is less.

**AB176** – Changes to recording fees, **County Recorders** *shall now charge \$25/doc and \$1 for each additional page for most documents.*

**AB204** – **County Clerks** may accept requests to change names when granting wedding licenses - couples may change their middle and last names to some combination of either of the couple's middle and last names.

**AB205** – Alkaline hydrolysis, a new form of cremation, is now allowed by permit from the State if the local jurisdiction also consents to the proposed location.

**AB241** – *Requires counties to change their building codes to require that public restrooms in new buildings include baby changing tables; for counties that do not have building codes, the county still must adopt this requirement into their ordinances; either the building code or the ordinance must have an exception for buildings where people under 18 are not permitted. (Bill is effective October 2017)*

**AB297** – *Requires each county to designate one or more police/Sheriff stations as a site at which two or more persons may meet to complete the sale of personal property that was initiated on the Internet;* county is removed from liability for any incidents that occur at these meetings.

**AB310** – *Counties must provide their public administrators with a salary, that salary can be as little as \$1.*

**AB365** – *Requires the County Clerk to establish and require a course for marriage officiants, if they allow officiants to perform marriages. Clerks* must also change their marriage license to conform with changes in this bill.

**AB384** – *Requires all jurisdictions to “Ban the Box” on employment applications for county jobs.* Criminal history may not be considered until the final phase of the government employment application process, and misdemeanors without jail time, convictions that are sealed, and arrests without conviction should never be considered - only charges committed can be used. Exempts peace officers, fire fighters, and court employees.

**AB417** – Through GOED and the National Main Street program, support may now be available to counties seeking to begin or enhance preservation efforts in historic business districts.

**AB478** – **County Clerks/Election Officials** changes the deadlines to register to vote. Clerks are not required to distribute sample ballots for an election to persons who register to vote less than 20 days before the election.

**SB26** – *Counties may not enter into any contract over \$50,000 with a company unless the contract includes a written certification that the company is not currently engaged in, and agrees for the duration of the contract not to engage in, a boycott of Israel.* The State Treasurer will keep a list of companies that do not meet this requirement.

**SB54** – Rural counties may now, if they choose, expand the use of their sales tax collected for infrastructure for: health and welfare facilities, and for operations and maintenance excluding salaries.

**SB144** – **Clerks/Election Officials** must allow those aged 17-18 to preregister to vote; and implement other changes relating to overseas ballots.

**SB176** – *All counties/sheriffs must outfit all uniformed officers who regularly interact with the public with body cameras by July 2018.* Allows counties to raise their 911 surcharge to \$1 to pay for the cameras as well as 911 needs.

**SB267** – Counties may now hold auctions for foreclosed properties at other locations besides the county courthouse steps.

**SB314** – **Counties/ County planning staff should be aware of minor changes** in SB314 – regarding permitting of wind mill / wind energy project.

**SB352** – **A County Assessor** must approve an application for an exemption of a portion of the assessed value of a single-family residence if the owner and primary resident applies for it and the home is a replacement for a single-family residence partially or completely destroyed by a flood, fire, earthquake or other event for which a state of emergency or declaration of disaster was proclaimed by the Governor on or after July 1, 2012.

**SB371** – If a county impounds a domestic animal of a person who has been arrested, the **county must, for a person detained for more than 7 days, allow the person to provide the name of another who will care for the animal** and the county shall transfer the animal to that person; if there is no authorized person the county may put the animal up for adoption; a county can recover the cost of animal care or shelter if the person is convicted.

**SB433** – **Requires a County Recorder to charge and collect an additional \$2 fee for the recording of a document**, which the **County Treasurer** is required to remit to a legal services organization that provides services for indigent protected persons in guardianship proceedings or to the court for legal services for indigent protected persons in guardianship proceedings. ([NRS chapter 152](#))

**SB447** – **County Clerks/Election Officials** Required changes to the absentee ballot process.

**SB477** – **Any county ordinance that is adopted and includes the definition of the term “single-family residence” must be changed to reflect** changes to the statute regarding group homes including that they not be defined as commercial, and requirements for fire sprinklers.

**SB492** – **County Clerks/Election Officials are required to establish polling places on tribal lands under certain circumstances;** changes re polling places and election materials.

## Marijuana

Consumption and possession of marijuana is legal in Nevada; however, counties may pass an ordinance to prohibit businesses that sell, grow, and process marijuana if they wish. This can be done through the passage of an ordinance creating locational limitations on the establishments (zoning) pursuant to [Question 2, 2016 \(begins p. 14\)](#).

Counties that wish to allow the establishment of businesses that sell, grow, and process marijuana are enabled to do so through their business license processes. Counties can also collect an up-front business license fee as well as a fee of up to 3% of the revenue collected by each of the businesses. Pursuant to Question 2, the State will license and regulate the businesses; however, counties also have the authority to license and regulate the businesses, in partnership with the State, with certain limitations. [Question 2, 2016 \(begins p. 14\)](#) as well as [SB487](#) and [Chapter 453 of NRS](#) address marijuana regulation as well as local authority regarding marijuana.

## Budget Items / Cost Shifts to Counties

NACO watched the budgeting process all Session and no new county assessments were enacted. There were slight increases in existing assessments for services provided by the Department of Health and Human Services based on inflation and case loads. There was, however, a significant increase (57%) in assessments for the Department of Public Safety's Division of Parole and Probation for pre-sentence investigation (PSI) reports. The increase is mostly for additional staff to meet mandated time frames for preparing PSI reports in southern Nevada as well as overhead costs for P&P staff. The increase will be allocated proportionally among all counties based on the number of PSI reports. Additionally, SB512 which was also included in the budget requires all local governments to transition into funding the full amount of a subsidy to provide parity for non-State retirees in the State's Public Employees Benefits Program by fiscal year 2021-2022.

*Please don't hesitate to contact NACO if you would like additional information or assistance with any of the information contained in this document.*

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