

2007-2008
The Guide



NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE

UNLV 50TH ANNIVERSARY

1957

The first University building opens.

1964

The first class graduates.

1965

The Nevada Legislature names the school "Nevada Southern University".

1969

The school was renamed UNLV.

2007

UNLV celebrates 50th anniversary.



◀ Left: The UNLV campus as it looked in 1962.
Right: UNLV's Main Campus today. In the distance, the Las Vegas Strip and the Spring Mountains are visible.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS (UNLV) is one of eight institutions within the Nevada System of Higher Education. The State's first university was founded in Elko and relocated to Reno in 1887. The University of Nevada in Reno remained the State's only institution of higher education for 75 years.

In the summer of 1957, the Las Vegas division of the University opened its first classroom door. In the 50 years since, UNLV has evolved from a small regional institution with 41 students, three faculty, and a single building into an internationally recognized center of learning and research.

Today, enrollment at UNLV exceeds 28,000 students, with approximately 3,000 faculty and staff, and 99 buildings. The University offers more than 220 undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs and is classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Doctoral/Research University—Extensive, a category comprising less than 4 percent of all universities in America.



WELCOME TO THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS is the heart of Nevada government. It is through the Legislature that the voice of the people finds its most direct expression.

This guide has been prepared by the Legislative Counsel Bureau of the State of Nevada to assist people who are interested in learning about the Nevada State Legislature.

One of the best ways to learn about the Nevada State Legislature is to watch it in action. When you visit, we ask that you abide by a few rules. If you converse in the galleries, please speak softly because loud noises disrupt the legislative process. Also, please note that smoking is prohibited in the building.

▼ In Nevada government, as at the national level, power is distributed among three branches of government. While each branch has separate responsibilities, one branch cannot function without the other two branches, and none can function without the consent of the people.

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▼ Legislative Branch: Creates the law



▼ Judicial Branch: Interprets the law



▼ Executive Branch: Carries out the law



HISTORIC MINING TOWNS IN NEVADA

HISTORIC MINING TOWNS Names like Goldfield, Manhattan, Rawhide, Rhyolite, and Virginia City conjure up images of the Wild West and prospectors striking it rich. Today, in many of these historic mining towns only distant memories of a bustling heyday remain.

STRIKING IT RICH The gold and silver mining booms spanned two centuries in Nevada, beginning in 1849 and ending in the early 1900s. An estimated 575 mining camps and towns flourished in Nevada during this time. Mining towns cropped up around the State whenever a new strike was found. However, many of these strikes produced more fanfare than ore, forcing prospectors to chase their illusive fortunes from town to town.

GOLD STRIKE! Gold was first discovered in Nevada in 1849 at Gold Canyon. A few years later, silver and gold deposits were discovered near Virginia City. The wealth of the fabulous “Comstock Lode” built Virginia City into the world’s richest mining town with an estimated population of 25,000. Virginia City today is one of the nation’s largest historic districts and a popular tourist destination.

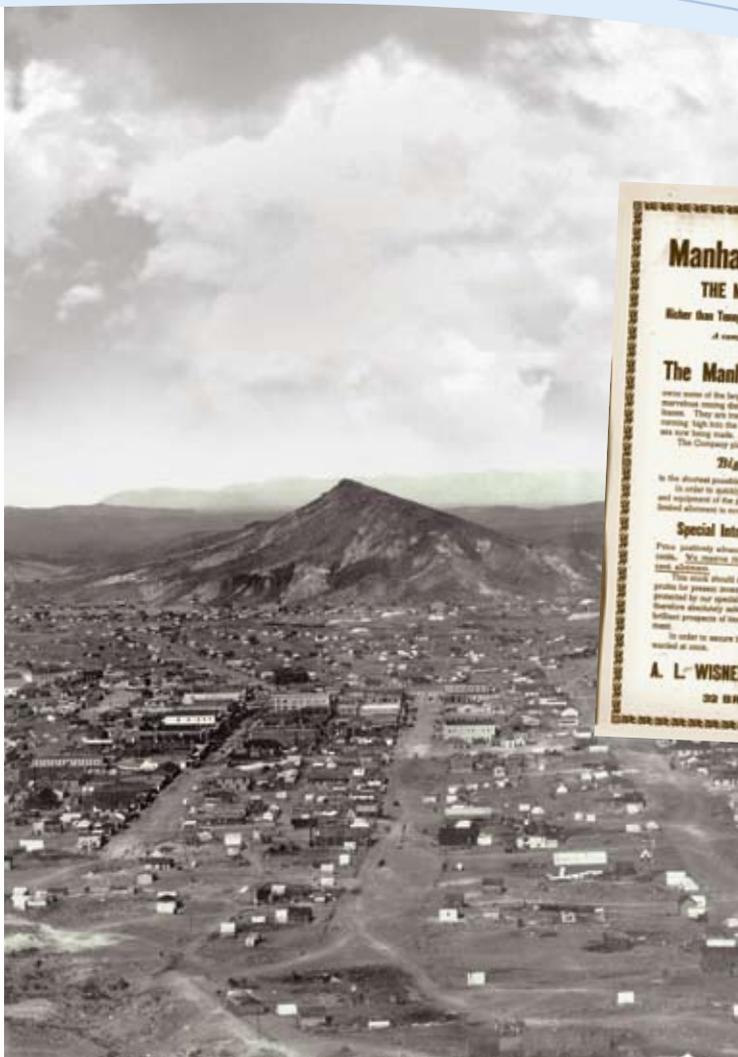
▀ Nevada is one of the very youngest and wildest of the States; nevertheless it is already strewn with ruins that seem as gray and silent and time-worn as if the civilization to which they belonged had perished centuries ago. Yet, strange to say, all those ruins are results of mining efforts made within the last few years.

– John Muir, *Steep Trails*
(Boston, 1918)

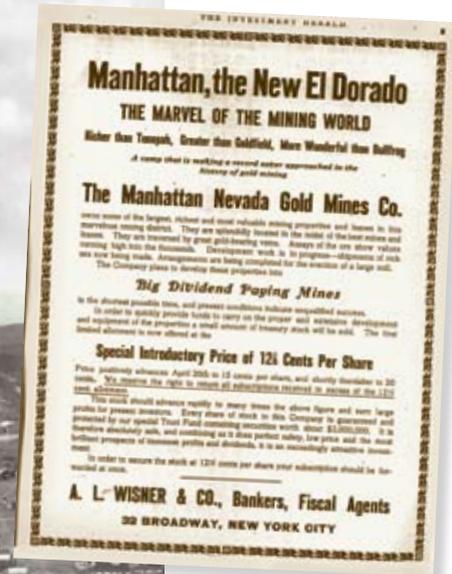
▶ Top: Miners in Virginia City circa 1890. Bottom: In 1905, 20,000 spectators attend a drilling contest in Goldfield.



HISTORIC MINING TOWNS IN NEVADA



BIGGEST EYE VIEW OF THE GREATEST GOLDFIELD IN THE WORLD.



◀ Left: In 1903, the population in Goldfield was approximately 20 people. By 1906, the population had peaked at an estimated 30,000 people.

THE NEXT BONANZA In 1900, a second Nevada gold rush occurred when gold and silver were discovered in the Tonopah-Goldfield area. Soon, prospectors fanned out from this area looking for the next bonanza.

BULLFROG STRIKE One of these bonanzas was called the “Bullfrog Strike.” In 1904, on the edge of Death Valley, prospectors discovered gold in green-stained rock. Almost overnight, the town of Rhyolite sprang up. By 1906, an estimated 6,000 people lived in the town, supporting three railroads, a power plant, three dozen saloons, several hotels, an opera house, and a symphony orchestra. The boom lasted only a few years. By 1910, most of the population had left and the buildings were hauled away to be used in Beatty and Las Vegas.

GOLD RUSH OVER As the ore disappeared, so did the residents of mining towns. By the 1930s, Nevada’s epic gold rush was over, leaving behind a legacy of historic mining towns throughout the State.

THE LEGISLATURE AND ITS OFFICES

▀ To help you find your way around the Legislative Building, diagrams of the four floors of the building are included in this guide. In addition, directories are located at various points throughout the building. Committee rooms and meeting times are posted in the lobby and elsewhere around the building. For further assistance, visitors may consult with the Legislative Police in the main lobby. Parking is available in a public lot south of the Legislative Building and in a parking garage just east of the building.

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING – CARSON CITY

Located on the Legislative Mall, the Legislative Building is situated south of the Capitol and houses the meeting rooms and offices of the Nevada State Legislature. Originally constructed in 1970, the building was extensively remodeled and expanded for the 1997 Legislative Session. The Administrative and Legal Divisions of the Legislative Counsel Bureau are also housed in this building.

THE SEDWAY OFFICE BUILDING – CARSON CITY

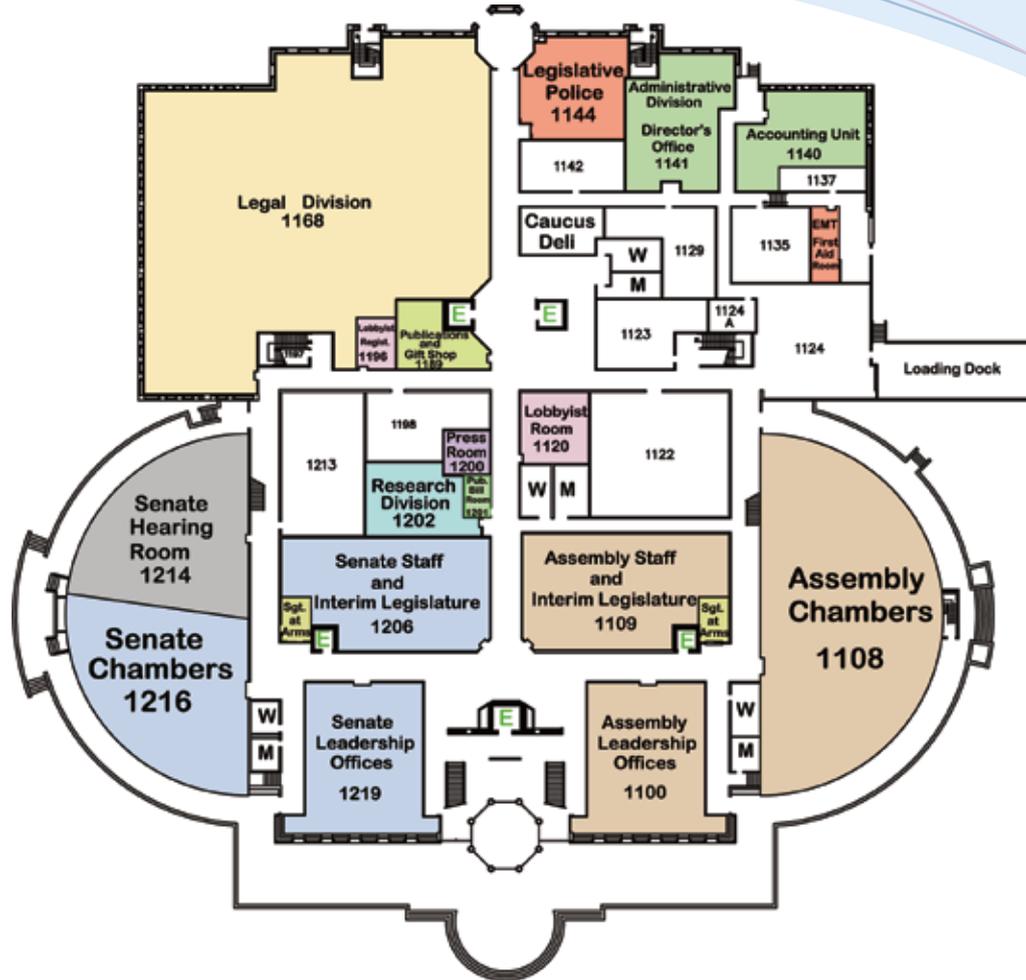
The Sedway Office Building in Carson City, named after former State Assemblyman Marvin M. Sedway, is located south of the Legislative Building on the corner of Fifth and Stewart Streets. This three-story structure houses the Legislative Research Library and the offices of the Audit, Fiscal Analysis, and Research Divisions of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.



LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU – LAS VEGAS

The southern office of the Legislative Counsel Bureau is located on the fourth floor of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building in Las Vegas at 555 East Washington Avenue. This office provides legislative information and staff services to legislators and the public who reside in southern Nevada. In addition, it furnishes meeting space for individual legislators and committees, as well as for other governmental bodies.

FIRST FLOOR MAP



SENATE

Majority Leadership	1219
President of the Senate/ Lieutenant Governor	1219
Secretary of the Senate/ Senate Staff	1206
Sergeant at Arms	1208

ASSEMBLY

Majority Leadership	1100
Chief Clerk of the Assembly/ Assembly Staff	1109
Sergeant at Arms	1113

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Director's Office	1141
Legislative Police	1144
Lobbyist Room	1120
Lobbyist Registration	1196
Press Room	1200
Public Bill Room	1201

LEGAL DIVISION

Publications & Gift Shop	1189
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RESEARCH DIVISION

1202

PUBLIC RESTROOMS

W M

ELEVATORS



SECOND FLOOR MAP

SENATE

Committee Rooms

2134, 2135, 2144, 2149

Senators' Offices

2100-2104, 2107, 2112,
2121-2131, 2156, 2158

Senate Minority Floor Leader 2160

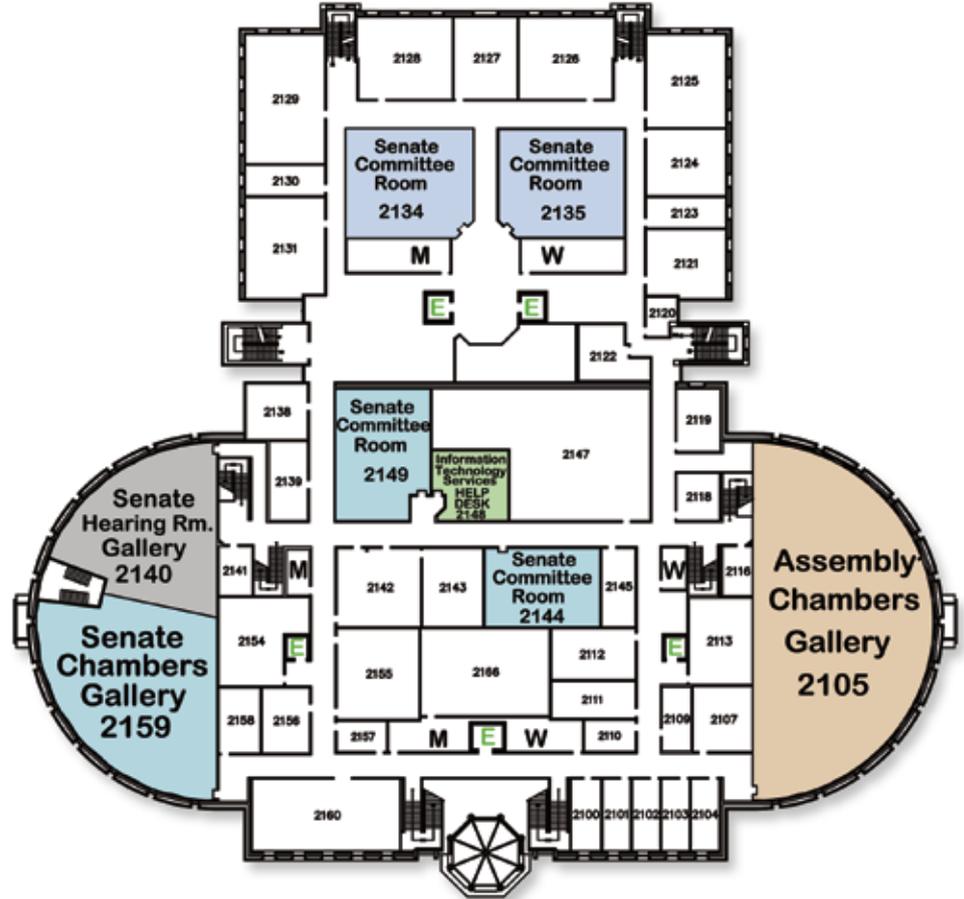
AUDIT DIVISION

2120

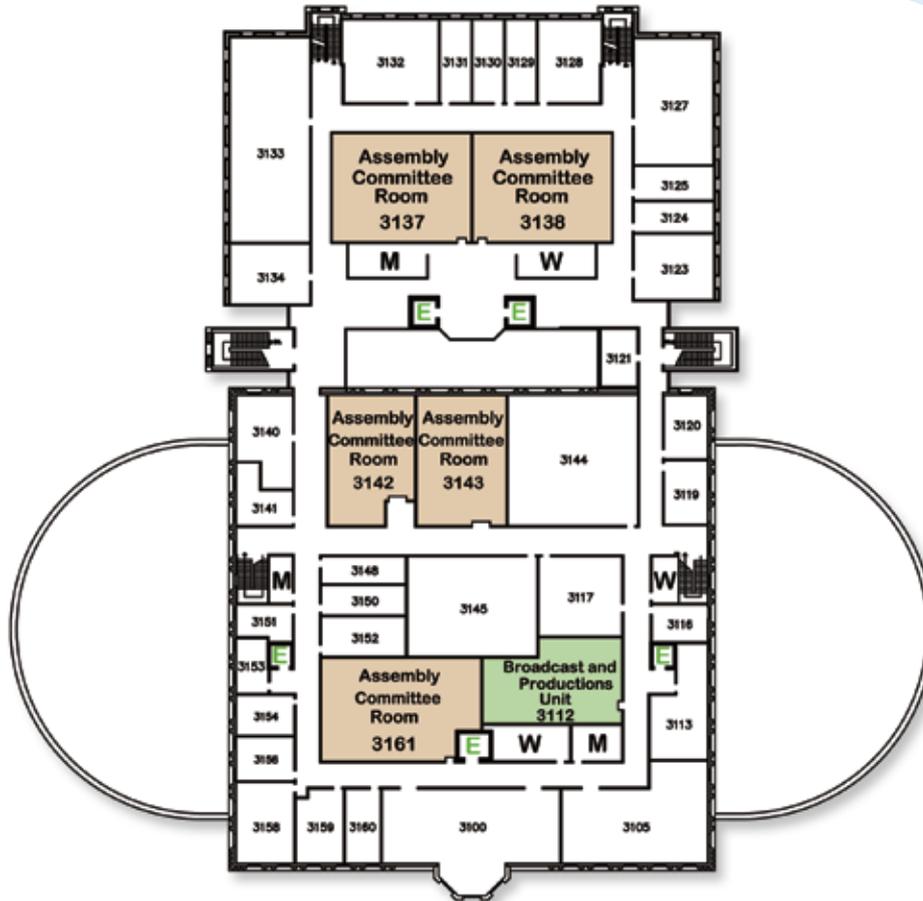
PUBLIC RESTROOMS

W M

ELEVATORS



THIRD FLOOR MAP



ASSEMBLY

Committee Rooms

3137, 3138, 3142, 3143, 3161

Assembly Members' Offices

3116-3134, 3140, 3154, 3156,
3158-3160

Assembly Minority Floor Leader

3105

PUBLIC RESTROOMS

W M

ELEVATORS



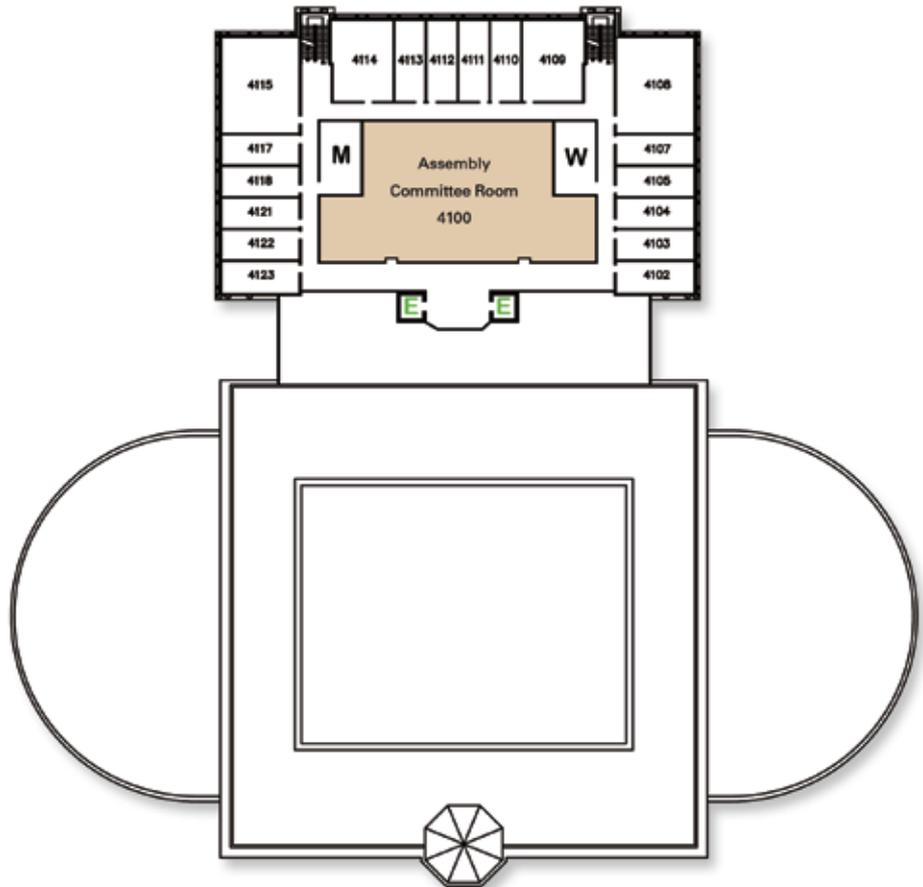
FOURTH FLOOR MAP

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ROOM 4100

ASSEMBLY MEMBERS' OFFICES 4102-4123

PUBLIC RESTROOMS W M

ELEVATORS 



OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE



SIZE AND APPORTIONMENT

The *Nevada Constitution* sets the maximum size of the Legislature at 75 members. It further provides that the Senate may not be less than one-third nor more than one-half the size of the Assembly. The Nevada State Legislature, which has the responsibility to establish the number of its members by law, presently has 63 members, 42 in the Assembly and 21 in the Senate.

The *Constitution* requires the Legislature to adjust the boundaries of the legislative districts following each decennial census. The 2001 Legislature

retained 42 Assembly districts, with an average population of 47,578 people (based on the 2000 U.S. Census). It also retained districts for 21 State Senators. Seventeen of these are single-member districts, which represent an average of 95,155 citizens per district. The remaining four Senators are in two-member districts in Clark County, which contain about 190,310 residents per district. The average legislative district in Nevada has increased by 66 percent in population over the past decade, reflecting Nevada's rapid growth. The State's population was about 1.2 million in 1990, and reached an estimated 2.5 million in 2005.

Currently, 14 Senators and 29 Assembly Members represent legislative districts in Clark County, while four Senators and seven Assembly Members serve primarily Washoe County. Three Senators and six Assembly Members represent the remainder of the State. (One Assembly district that includes Washoe County also covers portions of rural Nevada, and one Senate district covers central Nevada and a portion of Clark County.)

▀ Nevada has a bicameral (two-house) Legislature consisting of the Senate and the Assembly. The two houses are jointly designated in the *State Constitution* as "The Legislature of the State of Nevada."

OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATOR QUALIFICATIONS To be elected to either house of the Legislature, a person must be at least 21 years of age at the time of the election, a resident of the State for at least one year, and a qualified elector and resident in the district to be represented.

TERMS OF OFFICE Members of the Senate are elected for four-year terms, with 10 being elected in one General Election and the other 11 in the next. All 42 members of the Assembly are elected for two-year terms at the General Election held in November of even-numbered years.

TERM LIMITS In Nevada, an initiative proposal establishing term limits for state and local elected officers was approved by voters at the 1994 and 1996 General Elections. These limits apply to Senators and Assembly Members (incumbent or not) who file or run for office during or after the 1998 election cycle. Assembly Members are limited to 12 years or six terms in office and Senators are limited to 12 years or three terms in office. ▽ The 2008 election is the last eligible election year for Assembly members who were elected in and served continually since 1998. Those Senators who were elected in and served continually since 1998 were eligible to run again in 2002 and 2006. Senators elected in and served continually since 2000 were eligible to run for reelection in 2004 and may run again in 2008. ▽ The last eligible election for the following State Senators was in 2006: Mark E. Amodei, Terry Care, Maggie Carlton, Bob Coffin, Bernice Mathews, Randolph J. Townsend, and Maurice E. Washington.

COMPENSATION Legislators receive a salary of up to \$137.90 per day for the first 60 days of each regular session and the first 20 days of each special session. (Legislators receive no salary for the remaining 60 days of a regular session.) In addition, a per diem allowance for meals and lodging (consistent with the federal rate set for the Carson City area) is authorized by statute. Legislators receive additional allowances for stationery, postage, travel, and telephone use.

STAFF SUPPORT The Legislative Counsel Bureau provides central, nonpartisan staff support for the Nevada State Legislature. This agency includes the Administrative, Audit, Fiscal Analysis, Legal, and Research Divisions. ▽ The Legislative Counsel Bureau is supervised by the Legislative Commission, a body of 12 legislators, six from each house. The Commission meets periodically to take action on behalf of the Legislative Branch of government and provides guidance to the staff of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.



OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATE

RURAL

Rural Nevada Senatorial District

Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Pershing, and White Pine Counties, and portions of Nye County – **Rhoads**

Central Nevada Senatorial District

Churchill, Esmeralda, and Mineral Counties, and portions of Clark, Douglas, Lyon, and Nye Counties – **McGinness**

Capital Senatorial District

Portions of Carson City, and Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties – **Amodei**

CLARK COUNTY

Clark County Senatorial District 1 – **Lee**

Clark County Senatorial District 2 – **Carlton**

Clark County Senatorial District 3 – **Wiener**

Clark County Senatorial District 4 – **Horsford**

Clark County Senatorial District 5 – **Two Senators: Heck and Woodhouse**

Clark County Senatorial District 6 – **Beers**

Clark County Senatorial District 7 – **Two Senators: Care and Titus**

Clark County Senatorial District 8 – **Cegavske**

Clark County Senatorial District 9 – **Nolan**

Clark County Senatorial District 10 – **Coffin**

Clark County Senatorial District 11 – **Schneider**

Clark County Senatorial District 12 – **Hardy**

WASHOE COUNTY

Washoe County Senatorial District 1 – **Mathews**

Washoe County Senatorial District 2 (includes portions of Lyon and Storey Counties) – **Washington**

Washoe County Senatorial District 3 – **Raggio**

Washoe County Senatorial District 4 (includes portions of Carson City) – **Townsend**

ASSEMBLY

Districts 1-23, 28, 29, 34, 37, 41, and 42 Clark County – **See individual member listings.**

Districts 24-27, 30, and 31 Washoe County – **See individual member listings.**

District 32 Portions of Humboldt, Lander, and Washoe Counties – **Marvel**

District 33 Elko County and portions of Humboldt County – **Carpenter**

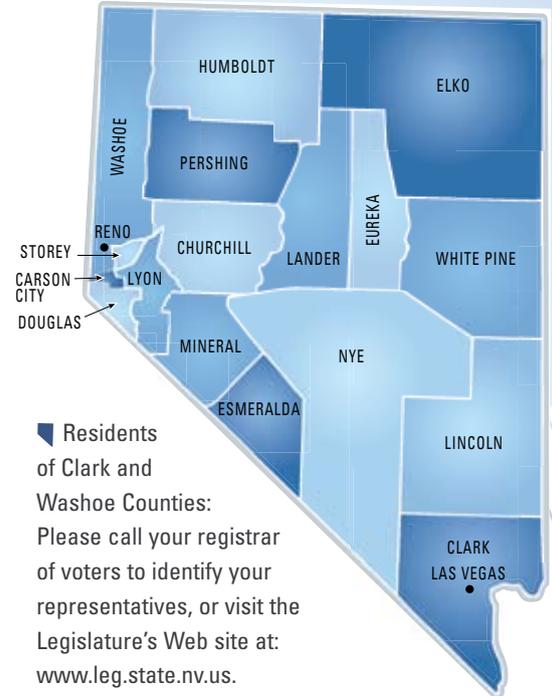
District 35 Eureka, Pershing, and White Pine Counties, and portions of Churchill, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, and Washoe Counties – **Goicoechea**

District 36 Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, and Nye Counties and portions of Churchill County – **Goedhart**

District 38 Storey County, most of Lyon County, and portions of Carson City and Churchill County – **Grady**

District 39 Douglas County and portions of Carson City and Washoe County – **Settelmeyer**

District 40 Portions of Carson City and Washoe County – **Parnell**



THE SENATE MEMBERS



Brian K. Krolicki **R**
Lieutenant Governor and
President of the Senate
(2007, elected Lt. Gov. in 2006)
Office 1224



Mark E. Amodei **R**
President pro Tempore
(Capital Senatorial
District)
Assembly 1997
Senate 1999-2007
Office 2128



Bob Beers **R**
(Clark, No. 6)
Assembly 1999-2003
Senate 2004-2007
Office 2130



Terry Care **D**
(Clark, No. 7)
Senate 1999-2007
Office 2101



Claire Jesse Clift
Secretary of the Senate



Joseph J. Heck **R**
Assistant Majority Whip
(Clark, No. 5)
Senate 2004-2007
Office 2123



Steven A. Horsford **D**
(Clark, No. 4)
Senate 2004-2007
Office 2103



John J. Lee **D**
(Clark, No. 1)
Assembly 1997-2001
Senate 2004-2007
Office 2156



Dean A. Rhoads **R**
Majority Whip
(Rural Nevada
Senatorial District)
Assembly 1977-1981
Senate 1985-2007
Office 2124



Michael A. Schneider **D**
(Clark, No. 11)
Assembly 1993-1995
Senate 1997-2007
Office 2112



Dina Titus **D**
Minority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 7)
Senate 1989-2007
Office 2160

THE SENATE MEMBERS



Maggie Carlton **D**
(Clark, No. 2)
Senate 1999-2007
Office 2104



Barbara K. Cegavske **R**
(Clark, No. 8)
Assembly 1997-2001
Senate 2003-2007
Office 2121



Bob Coffin **D**
(Clark, No. 10)
Assembly 1983-1985
Senate 1987-2007
Office 2158



Warren B. Hardy II **R**
(Clark, No. 12)
Assembly 1991
Senate 2003-2007
Office 2126



Bernice Mathews **D**
Assistant Minority Floor
Leader
(Washoe, No. 1)
Senate 1995-2007
Office 2107



Mike McGinness **R**
(Central Nevada
Senatorial District)
Assembly 1989-1991
Senate 1993-2007
Office 2131



Dennis Nolan **R**
Assistant Majority Floor
Leader
(Clark, No. 9)
Assembly 1995-2001
Senate 2003-2007
Office 2127



William J. Raggio **R**
Majority Floor Leader
(Washoe, No. 3)
Senate 1973-2007
Office 1220



Randolph J. Townsend **R**
(Washoe, No. 4)
Senate 1983-2007
Office 2125



Maurice E. Washington **R**
(Washoe, No. 2)
Senate 1995-2007
Office 2129



Valerie Wiener **D**
Minority Whip
(Clark, No. 3)
Senate 1997-2007
Office 2100



Joyce Woodhouse **D**
(Clark, No. 5)
Senate 2007
Office 2102

THE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS



Francis Allen 
(Clark, No. 4)
Assembly 2004-2007
Office 4110



Bernie Anderson 
Speaker pro Tempore
(Washoe, No. 31)
Assembly 1991-2007
Office 3127



Morse Arberry Jr. 
(Clark, No. 7)
Assembly 1985-2007
Office 3133



Kelvin D. Atkinson 
(Clark, No. 17)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 3119



Bob Beers 
(Clark, No. 21)
Assembly 2007
Office 3116



David Bobzien 
(Washoe, No. 24)
Assembly 2007
Office 4121



Barbara E. Buckley 
Speaker
(Clark, No. 8)
Assembly 1995-2007
Office 1100



Susan Gerhardt 
(Clark, No. 29)
Assembly 2004-2007
Office 4118



Ed Goedhart 
(Assembly District No. 36)
Assembly 2007
Office 3125



Pete Goicoechea 
Minority Whip
(Assembly District No. 35)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 4104



Tom Grady 
(Assembly District No. 38)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 4107



Joe Hardy 
Minority Whip
(Clark, No. 20)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 4102



Joe Hogan 
(Clark, No. 10)
Assembly 2004-2007
Office 3131



William Horne 
Assistant Majority Whip
(Clark, No. 34)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 3159



Kathy McClain 
(Clark, No. 15)
Assembly 1999-2007
Office 3123



Harry Mortenson 
(Clark, No. 42)
Assembly 1997-2007
Office 3158



Harvey J. Munford 
(Clark, No. 6)
Assembly 2004-2007
Office 3134



John Ocegüera 
Majority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 16)
Assembly 2001-2007
Office 1100



James Ohrenschall 
(Clark, No. 12)
Assembly 2007
Office 4117



David R. Parks 
(Clark, No. 41)
Assembly 1997-2007
Office 4115



Bonnie Parnell 
(Assembly District No. 40)
Assembly 1999-2001 and
2004-2007
Office 4114

Susan Furlong Reil
Chief Clerk



THE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS



John C. Carpenter
(Assembly District No. 33)
Assembly 1987-2007
Office 4122



Chad Christensen
(Clark, No. 13)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 3129



Jerry D. Claborn
(Clark, No. 19)
Assembly 1999-2007
Office 3140



Ty Cobb
(Washoe, No. 26)
Assembly 2007
Office 4113



Marcus Conklin
Assistant Majority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 37)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 4108



Moises Denis
(Clark, No. 28)
Assembly 2004-2007
Office 4105



Heidi S. Gansert
Assistant Minority Floor Leader
(Washoe, No. 25)
Assembly 2004-2007
Office 3105



Ruben Kihuen
(Clark, No. 11)
Assembly 2007
Office 3124



Marilyn Kirkpatrick
(Clark, No. 1)
Assembly 2004-2007
Office 4109



Ellen M. Koivisto
(Clark, No. 14)
Assembly 1997-2007
Office 3128



Sheila Leslie
Majority Whip
(Washoe, No. 27)
Assembly 1999-2007
Office 3132



Garn Mabey
Minority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 2)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 3105



Mark A. Manendo
(Clark, No. 18)
Assembly 1995-2007
Office 3156



John W. Marvel
(Assembly District No. 32)
Assembly 1979-2007
Office 3160



Peggy Pierce
(Clark, No. 3)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 4123



Tick Segerblom
(Clark, No. 9)
Assembly 2007
Office 4111



James Settelmeyer
(Assembly District No. 39)
Assembly 2007
Office 4112



Debbie Smith
Assistant Majority Whip
(Washoe, No. 30)
Assembly 2001, 2004-2007
Office 3154



Lynn Stewart
(Clark, No. 22)
Assembly 2007
Office 3130



Valerie E. Weber
Minority Whip
(Clark, No. 5)
Assembly 2003-2007
Office 3105



RoseMary Womack
(Clark, No. 23)
Assembly 2007
Office 4103

SENATE DIRECTORY



Senator Mark E. Amodei (R)
(Capital Senatorial District)
805 West Sunset Way
Carson City, Nevada 89703-3751
775-882-0362 (H)
775-882-6500 (District O)
775-852-3900 (Law O)

Senator Bob Beers (R)
(Clark, No. 6)
9428 Grenville Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89134-6206
702-592-8822 (C)
702-256-1072 (H)

Senator Terry Care (D)
(Clark, No. 7)
4371 Woodcrest Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89121-4946
702-436-9298 (O)

Senator Maggie Carlton (D)
(Clark, No. 2)
5540 East Cartwright Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89110-3802
702-452-3619 (M)

Senator Barbara K. Cegavske (R)
(Clark, No. 8)
6465 Laredo Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146-5272
702-873-0711 (H/O)
702-222-9909 (F)

Senator Bob Coffin (D)
(Clark, No. 10)
1139 Fifth Place
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104-1413
702-384-9501 (O)

Senator Warren B. Hardy II (R)
(Clark, No. 12)
5070 Arville Street, Suite 4
Las Vegas, Nevada 89118-4904
702-453-1112 (H)
702-227-0536 (O)
702-453-1155 (F)

Senator Joseph J. Heck (R)
(Clark, No. 5)
P.O. Box 530520
Henderson, Nevada 89053-0520
702-614-5900 (O)
702-920-7635 (F)

Senator Steven A. Horsford (D)
(Clark, No. 4)
1306 West Craig Road, E-310
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89032-0215
702-635-0827 (O)
702-924-1605 (F)

Senator John J. Lee (D)
(Clark, No. 1)
3216 Villa Pisani Court
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89031-7267
702-258-5447 (H)
702-647-3550 (O)
702-647-0951 (F)

Senator Bernice Mathews (D)
(Washoe, No. 1)
P.O. Box 7176
Reno, Nevada 89510-7176
775-673-2086 (H)

Senator Mike McGinness (R)
(Central Nevada Senatorial District)
770 Wildes Road
Fallon, Nevada 89406-7843
775-423-5889 (H)

Senator Dennis Nolan (R)
(Clark, No. 9)
P.O. Box 82249
Las Vegas, Nevada 89180-2249
702-838-3838 (M/F)

Senator William J. Raggio (R)
(Washoe, No. 3)
P.O. Box 281
Reno, Nevada 89504-0281
775-786-5000 (O)
775-786-1177 (F)

Senator Dean A. Rhoads (R)
(Rural Nevada Senatorial District)
Box 8
Tuscarora, Nevada 89834-0008
775-756-6582 (H)
775-756-5544 (F)

Senator Michael A. Schneider (D)
(Clark, No. 11)
6381 Sandpiper Way
Las Vegas, Nevada 89103-2110
702-876-5121 (H)
702-610-5240 (C)

Senator Dina Titus (D)
(Clark, No. 7)
1637 Travois Circle
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119-6283
702-798-8348 (H)
702-895-3756 (O)
702-798-4301 (F)

Senator Randolph J. Townsend (R)
(Washoe, No. 4)
P.O. Box 20923
Reno, Nevada 89515-0923
775-825-5111 (H)
775-954-2020 ext. 204 (O)
775-954-2023 (F)
775-771-1555 (C)

Senator Maurice E. Washington (R)
(Washoe, No. 2)
P.O. Box 1166
Sparks, Nevada 89432-1166
775-331-3826 (O)
775-331-7647 (F)

Senator Valerie Wiener (D)
(Clark, No. 3)
3540 W. Sahara, #352
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102-5816
702-871-6536 (O)
702-221-9239 (F)

Senator Joyce Woodhouse (D)
(Clark, No. 5)
246 Garfield Drive
Henderson, Nevada 89074-1027
702-896-1453 (H)

Assemblywoman Francis Allen (R)

(Clark, No. 4)
P.O. Box 34718
Las Vegas, Nevada 89133-4718
702-248-8488 (H)

Assemblyman Bernie Anderson (D)

(Washoe, No. 31)
747 Glen Meadow Drive
Sparks, Nevada 89434-1536
775-358-8113 (H)
775-358-5825 (F)

Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr. (D)

(Clark, No. 7)
5300 West Spring Mountain Road, #104
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146-8721
702-562-2323 (O)
702-562-1805 (F)

Assemblyman Kelvin D. Atkinson (D)

(Clark, No. 17)
5631 Indian Springs Street
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89031-5078
702-457-9995 (H/F)

Assemblyman Bob Beers (R)

(Clark, No. 21)
355 Cavalla Street
Henderson, Nevada 89704-4952
702-434-8066 (H)
702-368-7553 (F)
702-524-9636 (C)

Assemblyman David Bobzien (D)

(Washoe, No. 24)
1605 Wesley Drive
Reno, Nevada 89503-2332
775-787-1351 (H)

Assemblywoman Barbara E. Buckley (D)

(Clark, No. 8)
5442 Holbrook Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89103-2439
702-222-9901 (H)
702-222-0145 (F)
775-684-8537 (Capital Office)
775-684-8522 (Capital Fax)

Assemblyman John C. Carpenter (R)

(Assembly District No. 33)
P.O. Box 190
Elko, Nevada 89803-0190
775-738-9861 (H/O)
775-738-4953 (F)

Assemblyman Chad Christensen (R)

(Clark, No. 13)
9101 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 105
Las Vegas, Nevada 89117-5799
702-597-5358 (O)
702-548-1308 (F)

Assemblyman Jerry D. Claborn (D)

(Clark, No. 19)
6617 Network Circle
Las Vegas, Nevada 89156-7015
702-437-9948 (H)
702-452-4573 (F)

Assemblyman Ty Cobb (R)

(Washoe, No. 26)
P.O. Box 34375
Reno, Nevada 89533-4375
775-287-4827 (C)

Assemblyman Marcus Conklin (D)

(Clark, No. 37)
1600 Palmae Way
Las Vegas, Nevada 89128-3244
702-363-3885 (O/F)

Assemblyman Moises Denis (D)

(Clark, No. 28)
3204 Osage Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101-1838
702-657-6857 (H)
702-743-3571 (C)

Assemblywoman Heidi S. Gansert (R)

(Washoe, No. 25)
316 California Avenue, #302
Reno, Nevada 89509-1650
775-787-5814 (H/O)
775-787-7442 (F)

Assemblywoman Susan Gerhardt (D)

(Clark, No. 29)
2245 North Green Valley Parkway, #512
Henderson, Nevada 89014-5024
702-286-2447 (O)

Assemblyman Ed Goedhart (R)

(Assembly District No. 36)
P.O. Box 70
Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020-0070
702-682-3339 (C)

Assemblyman Pete Goicoechea (R)

(Assembly District No. 35)
P.O. Box 97
Eureka, Nevada 89316-0097
775-237-5300 (H)
775-237-5102 (F)
775-778-1620 (C)
775-237-7383 (Ranch)

Assemblyman Pete Grady (R)

(Assembly District No. 38)
43 Fairway Drive
Yerington, Nevada 89447-2170
775-463-2612 (H)
775-771-5199 (C)

Assemblyman Joe Hardy (R)

(Clark, No. 20)
P.O. Box 60306
Boulder City, Nevada 89006-0306
702-293-7506 (H)
702-643-4563 (O)
702-293-2172 (F)

Assemblyman Joe Hogan (D)

(Clark, No. 10)
2208 Plaza De La Candela
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102-4043
702-365-0505 (H)
702-365-0606 (F)

Assemblyman William Horne (D)

(Clark, No. 34)
2251 North Rampart Boulevard, #357
Las Vegas, Nevada 89128-7640
702-457-6963 (H)

Assemblyman Ruben Kihuen (D)

(Clark, No. 11)
1528 North 22nd Street, Suite 3
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101-1346
702-274-1707 (C)

Assemblywoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D)

(Clark, No. 1)
4747 Showdown Drive
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89031-2133
702-655-0332 (H)
702-655-3327 (F)

Assemblywoman Ellen M. Koivisto (D)

(Clark, No. 14)
1147 Timber Ridge Court
Las Vegas, Nevada 89110-2545
702-438-5723 (H)
702-438-6783 (F)

Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie (D)

(Washoe, No. 27)
825 Humboldt Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89509-2009
775-333-6564 (H)

Assemblyman Garn Mabey (R)

(Clark, No. 2)
1404 Silver Oaks Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89117-1456
702-242-2894 (O)
702-242-8949 (F)

Assemblyman Mark A. Manendo (D)

(Clark, No. 18)
4629 Butterfly Circle
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122-6149
702-451-8654 (H)
702-451-9060 (F)

Assemblyman John W. Marvel (R)

(Assembly District No. 32)
P.O. Box 1270
Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820-1270
775-635-2538 (H-Battle Mtn.)
775-882-2054 (H-Carson City)
775-635-9144 (F-Battle Mtn.)
775-882-8691 (F-Carson)

Assemblywoman Kathy McClain (D)

(Clark, No. 15)
2457 Swan Lane
Las Vegas, Nevada 89121-5242
702-898-5579 (H/O)

Assemblyman Harry Mortenson (D)

(Clark, No. 42)
3930 El Camino Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89103-2221
702-876-6944 (H)

Assemblyman Harvey J. Munford (D)

(Clark, No. 6)
809 Sunny Place
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106-3637
702-646-4265 (H)
702-375-0601 (C)

Assemblyman John Ocegueda (D)

(Clark, No. 16)
7655 Chaumont Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89123-1491
702-452-4800 (H)

Assemblyman James Ohrenschaal (D)

(Clark, No. 12)
P.O. Box 97741
Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-7741
702-432-6999 (H)
702-523-4766 (C)

Assemblyman David R. Parks (D)

(Clark, No. 41)
P.O. Box 71887
Las Vegas, Nevada 89170-1887
702-736-6929 (H)
702-736-3922 (F)

Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell (D)

(Assembly District No. 40)
804 Saratoga Way
Carson City, Nevada 89703-3656
775-883-4234 (H)

Assemblywoman Peggy Pierce (D)

(Clark, No. 3)
5304 Gipsy Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89107-3847
702-631-8036 (H)

Assemblyman Tick Segerblom (D)

(Clark, No. 9)
704 South Ninth Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101-7015
702-386-9945 (H)
702-388-9600 (O)
702-385-2909 (F)

Assemblyman James Settelmeyer (R)

(Assembly District No. 39)
770 U.S. Highway 395 North
Gardnerville, Nevada 89410-7813
775-265-7739 (H)
775-450-6114 (C)

Assemblywoman Debbie Smith (D)

(Washoe, No. 30)
3270 Wilma Drive
Sparks, Nevada 89431-1173
775-331-0897 (H)
775-233-2905 (C)

Assemblyman Lynn Stewart (R)

(Clark, No. 22)
2720 Cool Lilac Avenue
Henderson, Nevada 89052-3836
702-370-2185 (C)

Assemblywoman Valerie E. Weber (R)

(Clark, No. 5)
10001 Harpoon Circle
Las Vegas, Nevada 89117-0931
702-338-8452 (C)

Assemblywoman RoseMary Womack (D)

(Clark, No. 23)
565 College Drive, Suite C260
Henderson, Nevada 89015-7592
702-558-4221 (O)

THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE IN ACTION



LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

A legislative session is the period during which the Legislature meets. Regular sessions of the Legislature are held in odd-numbered years, and begin on the first Monday in February. Nevada is one of only six states that conducts true biennial sessions. Following voter approval of a constitutional amendment in 1998, regular sessions now are limited to 120 calendar days. Before this amendment passed, the length of legislative sessions was not limited and some lasted as long as 169 days. The Legislature convened its 74th Regular Session on February 5, 2007. It must adjourn "Sine Die" (without a day being set for reconvening) no later than June 4, 2007.

THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE IN ACTION

THE 2005 REGULAR SESSION During the course of the 2005 Regular Session, the Legislature considered 1,107 bills—580 from the Assembly and 527 from the Senate. Of this total, 513 bills were approved. Because the Governor vetoed three bills, 510 of those bills became law.

22ND SPECIAL SESSION The Governor called a short special session in the early morning hours of June 7, 2005. The session ended by noon on that day, allowing Legislators to finish their work on a few remaining bills. During the 22nd Special Session, 12 bills and one joint resolution were considered. Of these, one joint resolution was adopted and 11 bills were enacted into State law.

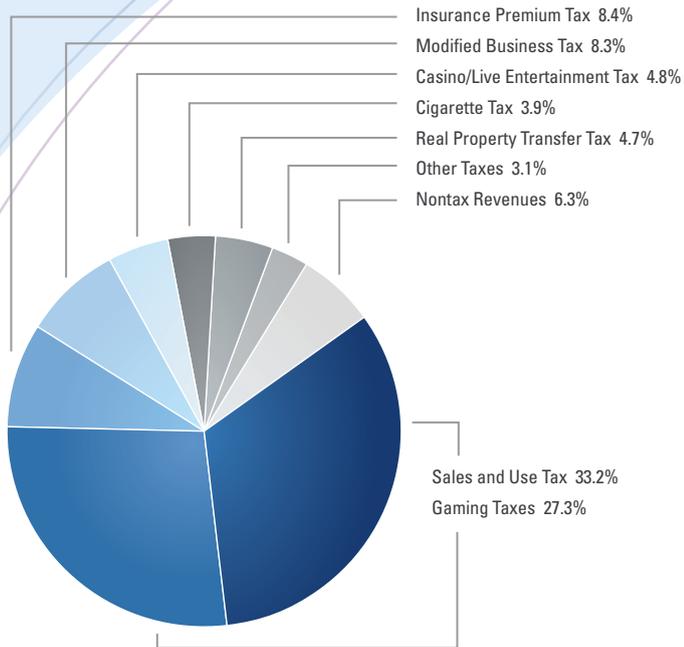
THE LEGISLATURE BETWEEN SESSIONS The 12-member Legislative Commission acts on behalf of the Legislative Branch of government when the full Legislature is not in session. This body meets every few months between sessions to provide guidance to staff of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and to address other interim matters. ▽ The Interim Finance Committee, composed of the members of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means from the preceding session, makes fiscal decisions for the Legislature during the period between regular sessions. The Interim Finance Committee endeavors to maintain an adequate fund balance to meet unforeseen financial emergencies. ▽ During the interim, all legislators are assigned to various study committees to investigate a wide range of issues. These committees hold public hearings, direct research, and deliberate on proposed legislation for the next session of the Legislature.



GENERAL FUND BUDGET

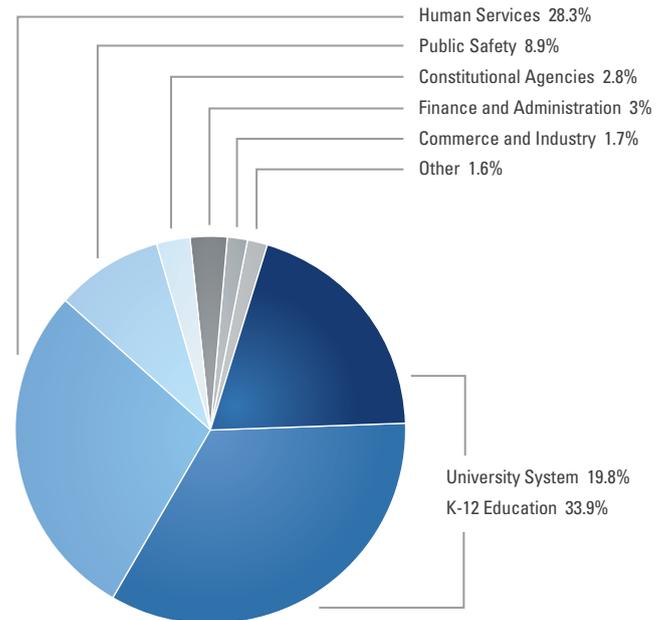
REVENUES

The General Fund revenues for the 2005-2007 biennium were projected to come from the following sources:



APPROPRIATIONS

The General Fund appropriations for the 2005-2007 biennium were approved for expenditure as follows:



LEADERSHIP OF THE 74TH SESSION

SENATE



President pro Tempore
Mark E. Amodei



Majority Floor Leader
William J. Raggio



Assistant Majority Floor Leader
Dennis Nolan



Majority Whip
Dean A. Rhoads



Assistant Majority Whip
Joseph J. Heck



Minority Floor Leader
Dina Titus



Assistant Minority Floor Leader
Bernice Mathews



Minority Whip
Valerie Wiener

ASSEMBLY



Speaker
Barbara E. Buckley



Speaker pro Tempore
Bernie Anderson



Majority Floor Leader
John Ocegquera



Assistant Majority Floor Leader
Marcus Conklin



Majority Whip
Sheila Leslie



Assistant Majority Whip
William Horne



Assistant Majority Whip
Debbie Smith



Minority Floor Leader
Garn Mabey



Assistant Minority Floor Leader
Heidi S. Gansert



Minority Whip
Pete Goicoechea



Minority Whip
Joe Hardy



Minority Whip
Valerie E. Weber

NOTABLES



William J. Raggio

Longest Senate Service in Nevada History: 1973-2007.

Barbara E. Buckley

First Woman Speaker in Nevada History.

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

▮ The following is a general description of the steps in the legislative process, if a bill is to be enacted into law. As a rule, a bill must be approved by both houses of the Legislature and signed by the Governor to become a law.

INITIAL STEPS BY THE AUTHOR

IDEA | Ideas for legislation come from elected officials, businesses, lobbyists, and citizens.

DRAFTING | Legislators, legislative committees, the Governor, State agencies, and local governments may request bill drafts. Staff attorneys in the Legislative Counsel Bureau prepare the formal drafts of bills.

ACTION IN THE HOUSE OF ORIGIN

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING | A bill is submitted by a Senator or Assembly Member, numbered and read for the first time, assigned to committee, and printed. A bill or resolution may be introduced in either the Senate or the Assembly and cosponsors in the other house may be listed on the front of the measure.

COMMITTEE | A committee holds a hearing to take testimony and gather information about the bill. A committee may recommend that the house pass a bill as it is written, pass it with amendments, or not pass it. If a committee thinks that a bill requires further committee consideration, it may recommend that the house amend the bill and refer it again to the same committee or to another committee. Finally, a committee may vote to “Indefinitely Postpone” consideration of a bill, effectively killing it, or it may take no action at all.

SECOND READING BEFORE THE FULL HOUSE | A bill given a “Do Pass” recommendation is read a second time and placed on the general file for debate and vote. A bill which is given an “Amend and Do Pass” recommendation is read a second time, amended, and reprinted before being placed on the general file for action.

FLOOR DEBATE AND VOTE BY THE FULL HOUSE | A bill is read a third time and debated. A roll-call vote follows. Passage of most bills and joint resolutions requires 11 votes in the Senate and 22 in the Assembly. The passage of a bill that imposes or increases a tax or fee requires 14 votes in the Senate and 28 votes in the Assembly.

INITIAL STEPS BY THE AUTHOR

Idea
Drafting

ACTION IN THE HOUSE OF ORIGIN

Introduction and first reading
Committee
Second reading before the full house
Floor debate and vote by the full house

ACTION IN THE SECOND HOUSE

First reading
Committee
Second reading before the full house
Floor debate and vote by the full house

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

A measure that does not receive the required number of votes for passage is defeated. Any member voting on the prevailing side may serve notice of reconsideration to request a second vote. If passed, or passed with amendments, the measure is sent to the second house.

ACTION IN THE SECOND HOUSE

The method of processing a bill in the second house is identical to that in the first house. If the second house to consider a bill passes it without amendment, it is sent to the Governor. Resolutions are sent directly to the Secretary of State. If the second house amends a measure, it is returned to the house of origin for consideration of the amendments.

RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES (IF NECESSARY)

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS | The house of origin decides whether to accept the second house's amendments. If it accepts the amendments, the bill goes to the Governor. If the amendments are rejected, the bill is returned to the second house for a decision whether or not to withdraw the proposed changes.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE | If the second house does not withdraw their proposed changes, the bill is referred to a conference committee that includes members of both houses. The conference committee attempts to reconcile the differences and presents its recommendation in the form of a conference report. If both houses accept the report, the bill goes to the Governor. If either house rejects the report, a second (and final) conference committee is appointed. The bill dies if the members of the second conference committee fail to agree or if a second conference report is not accepted by both houses.



ROLE OF THE GOVERNOR

The Governor must act on a bill within five days after he receives it if the Legislature is still in session, or ten days if the session has ended. He may sign the bill into law, allow it to become law without his signature, or veto it. A vetoed bill returns to the house of origin for a possible vote on overriding the veto. An override requires a two-thirds majority of both houses. If the Governor vetoes a bill after session ends, it returns to the next legislative session. Measures become effective on October 1 following the end of the legislative session, unless otherwise specified in the bill.

RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES (if necessary)

Consideration of amendments
Conference

ROLE OF THE GOVERNOR

Sign or veto

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE 74TH SESSION

“No man is good enough to govern another man without that other’s consent.”

– Abraham Lincoln 1854

Committees are the workshops of the Legislature. At committee hearings, interested individuals and groups express their positions. Committees thoroughly analyze and consider the general intent and the details of proposed legislation.

In the 2007 Session, the Senate has nine standing committees while the Assembly has 11. The listings that follow show the specific committee assignments for the 2007 Legislature. For each committee, the Chair is named first, the Vice Chair second, followed by members in alphabetical order.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

Commerce and Labor Townsend, Hardy, Carlton, Heck, Schneider.

Finance Raggio, Beers, Cegavske, Coffin, Mathews, Rhoads, Titus.

Government Affairs Hardy, Beers, Care, Lee, Raggio, Titus, Townsend.

Human Resources and Education Washington, Cegavske, Heck, Horsford, Nolan, Wiener, Woodhouse.

Judiciary Amodei, Washington, Care, Horsford, McGinness, Nolan, Wiener.

Legislative Operations and Elections Cegavske, Raggio, Beers, Hardy, Horsford, Mathews, Wiener.

Natural Resources Rhoads, McGinness, Amodei, Carlton, Coffin, Heck, Schneider.

Taxation McGinness, Townsend, Amodei, Care, Coffin, Rhoads, Schneider.

Transportation and Homeland Security Nolan, Heck, Amodei, Carlton, Lee, Washington, Woodhouse.



ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEES

Commerce and Labor Ocegueda, Conklin, Allen, Anderson, Arberry, Buckley, Christensen, Gansert, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Mabey, Manendo, Parks, Settlemeyer.

Education Parnell, Smith, Beers, Bobzien, Denis, Hardy, Kihuen, Mabey, Munford, Segerblom, Stewart.

Elections, Procedures, Ethics (EPE), and Constitutional Amendments (CA) Koivisto (Chair EPE), Mortenson (Chair CA), Christensen, Cobb, Conklin, Gansert, Goedhart, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Munford, Ohrenschall, Segerblom, Settlemeyer.

Government Affairs Kirkpatrick, Pierce, Atkinson, Beers, Bobzien, Christensen, Claborn, Goicoechea, Kihuen, Munford, Parnell, Settlemeyer, Stewart, Womack.

Health and Human Services Leslie, Gerhardt, Beers, Hardy, Koivisto, McClain, Parnell, Pierce, Stewart, Weber, Womack.

Judiciary Anderson, Horne, Allen, Carpenter, Cobb, Conklin, Gerhardt, Goedhart, Mabey, Manendo, Mortenson, Ocegueda, Ohrenschall, Segerblom.

Natural Resources, Agriculture and Mining Claborn, Hogan, Atkinson, Bobzien, Carpenter, Goicoechea, Grady, Kihuen, Marvel, Ohrenschall, Smith.

Select Committee on Corrections, Parole, and Probation Parks, Anderson, Carpenter, Horne, McClain, Weber.

Taxation McClain, Parks, Allen, Arberry, Denis, Grady, Horne, Marvel, Mortenson, Ohrenschall, Pierce, Weber.

Transportation Atkinson, Manendo, Bobzien, Carpenter, Claborn, Cobb, Gerhardt, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Hogan, Womack.

Ways and Means Arberry, Leslie, Buckley, Denis, Gansert, Grady, Hardy, Hogan, Koivisto, Marvel, McClain, Parks, Smith, Weber.

CONTACTING THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE

WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION

During the legislative session, the status of bills and other information on the legislative process may be obtained by:

Visiting the Nevada State Legislature Web site at www.leg.state.nv.us

Not only can you learn about the status of bills on this site, but you can access: the biographies and photos of all the legislators; general information about the legislative process, including definitions of common legislative terms; a list of upcoming committee meetings; and much more.

Telephoning the Legislative Hotline During Session (to obtain bill information):

684-3300 (from the Reno/Carson City area)

486-2626 (from the Las Vegas area) and ask for the Hotline
1-800-992-0973, 1-800-995-9080, or 1-800-978-2878 (from anywhere in Nevada) and ask for the Hotline

Telephoning the Legislative Message Center During Session (to contact a legislator or voice an opinion):

684-6789 (from the Reno/Carson City area)

486-2626 (from the Las Vegas area)

1-800-992-0973, 1-800-995-9080, or 1-800-978-2878 (from anywhere in Nevada)

FAX a Document:

To Senators at **(775) 684-6522** or

To Assembly Members at **(775) 684-8533**

Mail a Letter:

To your legislator's attention at the following address:

**Nevada Legislature
Legislative Building, Capitol Complex
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747**

WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS NOT IN SESSION

When the Legislature is not in session, you may obtain information about the interim committees and their meeting schedules by visiting the Nevada State Legislature Web site at www.leg.state.nv.us.

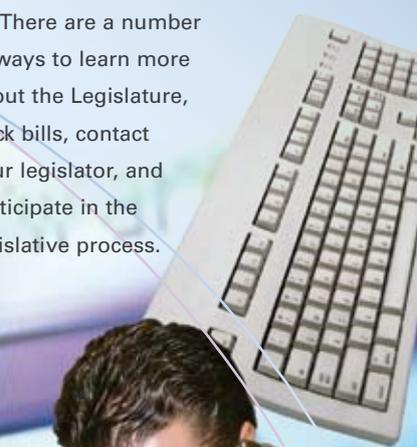
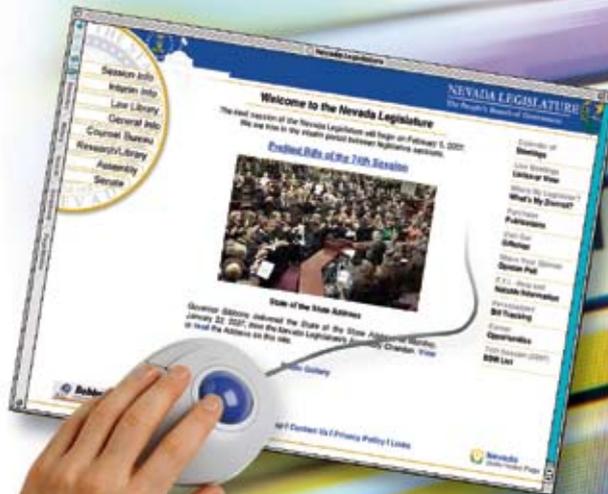
You may also contact your legislator at the address and telephone number listed on pages 16 and 17, through the Internet Web site by following the links to e-mail your legislator, or by calling the following telephone numbers:

684-6800 (from the Reno/Carson City area)

486-2626 (from the Las Vegas area)

1-800-992-0973, 1-800-995-9080 or 1-800-978-2878
(from anywhere in Nevada)

There are a number of ways to learn more about the Legislature, track bills, contact your legislator, and participate in the legislative process.



THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN MID-1864, NEVADA'S CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION adopted a description of the features to be placed on Nevada's Great Seal. The Territorial Legislature had approved the description of the seal for the Territory of Nevada on November 29, 1861. The Territorial Seal included the motto "Volens et Potens," which means "Willing and Able," expressing the ideas of loyalty to the Union and the mineral wealth to sustain it.

On February 24, 1866, the Legislature changed the motto on the seal to "All For Our Country." In 1969, this measure was amended to make the legal description conform to the actual features of the seal. This provision is now found in *Nevada Revised Statutes* 235.010.



THE DESIGN OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IS DESCRIBED AS

FOLLOWS: In the foreground, there are two large mountains, at the base of which, on the right, is located a quartz mill, and on the left, a tunnel, penetrating the silver leads of the mountain, with a miner running out a carload of ore, and a team loaded with ore for the mill. Immediately in the foreground, there are emblems indicative of the agricultural resources of the State including a plow, a sheaf, and a sickle. In the middle ground, there is a railroad train passing a mountain gorge and a telegraph line extending along the line of the railroad. In the extreme background, there is a range of snow-clad mountains, with the rising sun in the east. Thirty-six stars (to signify Nevada as the 36th State to join the Union) and the motto, "All For Our Country," encircle the entire illustration. In an outer circle, the words "The Great Seal of the State of Nevada" are engraved, with "Nevada" at the base of the seal and separated from the other words by two groups of three stars each.

In 1999, the Nevada Legislature formally defined in the *Nevada Revised Statutes* the colors of the seal, including the yellow band highlighting the words "All For Our Country."

Two large metal versions of the seal may be found on both the north and south exterior faces of the Legislative Building, a gift from the Government of Taiwan to the Nevada Legislature. Taiwan was designated as Nevada's sister state in 1985.

THE NEVADA STATE FLAG

NEVADA HAS HAD 4 FLAGS IN ITS HISTORY. The Legislature did not adopt the design of the first flag until 1905, more than 40 years after Nevada entered the Union. Governor John Sparks and Colonel Henry Day of Carson City, a member of the Governor's staff, designed this flag. It had a blue background with the words "Nevada" in the center, "silver" at the top, and "gold" at the bottom. Thirty-six silver and gold stars represented that Nevada was the 36th State admitted to the Union.

In 1915, the State Legislature repealed the 1905 Flag Act and created a new official flag, which was much different from the original. Clara Crisler of Carson City designed the new flag. It had a blue background with the State seal in the center. The design featured 18 gold stars arranged around the word "Nevada," and 18 silver stars below the words "All For Our Country." Again, the 36 stars indicated that Nevada was the 36th State admitted to the Union. When Miss Crisler added an extra star for a total of 37, the meaning of the stars was lost. This flag now hangs in the Nevada State Museum located in Carson City.

The Legislature adopted the design of Don Louis Shellback III for the third flag in 1929. The background color of the flag remained blue, but the flag's design changed dramatically. Two sprays of sagebrush crossed to form a wreath in the upper left portion of the flag. A five-pointed star appeared at the center of the wreath with "Nevada" spelled out between the points of the star. A scroll with the motto "Battle Born" signified that Nevada entered the Union during the Civil War.

The 1991 Legislature approved a bill, sponsored by Senator William J. Raggio, to alter the way that "Nevada" is depicted on the State flag. Since October 1, 1991, the name "Nevada" has been positioned underneath instead of interspersed between the points of the star. Verne R. Horton created the current design of the flag.



FACTS ABOUT NEVADA



STATE BIRD – MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD

The Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) lives in the Nevada high country and destroys many harmful insects. It is a member of the thrush family and its song is a clear, short warble like the caroling of a robin. The male is azure blue with a white belly, while the female is brown with a bluish rump, tail, and wings.

The presence of Nevada's earliest inhabitants, beginning about 12,400 years ago, is marked by many petroglyphs and archaeological sites. Baskets, decoys, and ingenious traps are evidence of the resourcefulness of these early people in a harsh and arid environment. European explorers traveled through Nevada in the early 19th century, but it was not until 1851 that the first settlements were established. An Act of Congress created the Territory of Nevada on March 2, 1861. James W. Nye of New York was appointed Nevada's first Territorial Governor by President Abraham Lincoln later that year. On October 31, 1864, President Lincoln proclaimed

Nevada's admission to the Union as the 36th State. The state's first elected governor, Henry Blasdel, took office on December 5th. Today, Nevada is the nation's seventh largest state in land area. Several hundred mountain ranges cross its landscape, many with elevations over 10,000 feet. In contrast, the State's lowest point (along the Colorado River) is only 470 feet above sea level. From majestic mountains to desert valleys, nature has endowed Nevada with diverse and unique ecosystems. The Nevada Legislature has honored the State's natural resources and cultural heritage with a variety of State designations described on this and the following pages.

STATE ANIMAL – DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

The Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) is smaller than its Rocky Mountain cousin, but has a wider spread of horns. The bighorn is well-suited for Nevada's mountainous desert country because it can survive for long periods without water. The large rams stand about 4 ½ feet tall and can weigh as much as 175 pounds.



FACTS ABOUT NEVADA



STATE FLOWER – SAGEBRUSH

The Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* or *trifida*) grows abundantly in the deserts of the western United States. A member of the wormwood family, sagebrush is a branching bush (1 to 12 feet high) and grows in regions where other kinds of vegetation cannot subsist. Known for its pleasant aroma, gray-green twigs, and pale yellow flowers, sagebrush is an important winter food for sheep and cattle.

STATE TREE 2 – BRISTLECONE PINE

The Bristlecone Pine (*Pinus longaeva*) is the oldest living thing on Earth, with some specimens in Nevada more than 4,000 years old. The tree can be found at high elevations. Normal height for older trees is about 15 to 30 feet, although some have attained a height of 60 feet. Diameter growth continues throughout the long life of the tree, resulting in massive trunks with a few contorted limbs.



STATE TREE 1 – SINGLE LEAF PINON

The Single Leaf Pinon (*Pinus monophylla*) is an aromatic pine tree with short, stiff needles and gnarled branches. The tree grows in coarse, rocky soils and rock crevices. Though its normal height is about 15 feet, the single leaf pinon can grow as high as 50 feet under ideal conditions.

FACTS ABOUT NEVADA



STATE REPTILE - DESERT TORTOISE

The Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) lives in the extreme southern parts of Nevada. This reptile spends much of its life in underground burrows to escape the harsh summer heat and winter cold. It can live to be more than 70 years old.

STATE FOSSIL - ICHTHYOSAUR

This fossil (*genus Shonisaurus*) was found in Berlin, east of Gabbs. Nevada is the only State to possess a complete skeleton (approximately 55 feet long) of this extinct marine reptile.



STATE ROCK - SANDSTONE

In its more traditionally recognized form or as quartzite, sandstone is found throughout the State. In areas such as the Valley of Fire State Park and Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (both near Las Vegas), it provides some of Nevada's most spectacular scenery. The State Capitol and the former U.S. Mint are built of sandstone.

STATE GRASS – INDIAN RICEGRASS

Indian Ricegrass (*Oryzopsis hymenoides*), once a staple food source for Nevada Indians, now provides valuable feed for wildlife and range livestock. This tough native grass, which is found throughout the State, is known for its ability to reseed and establish itself on sites damaged by fire or overgrazing.



FACTS ABOUT NEVADA

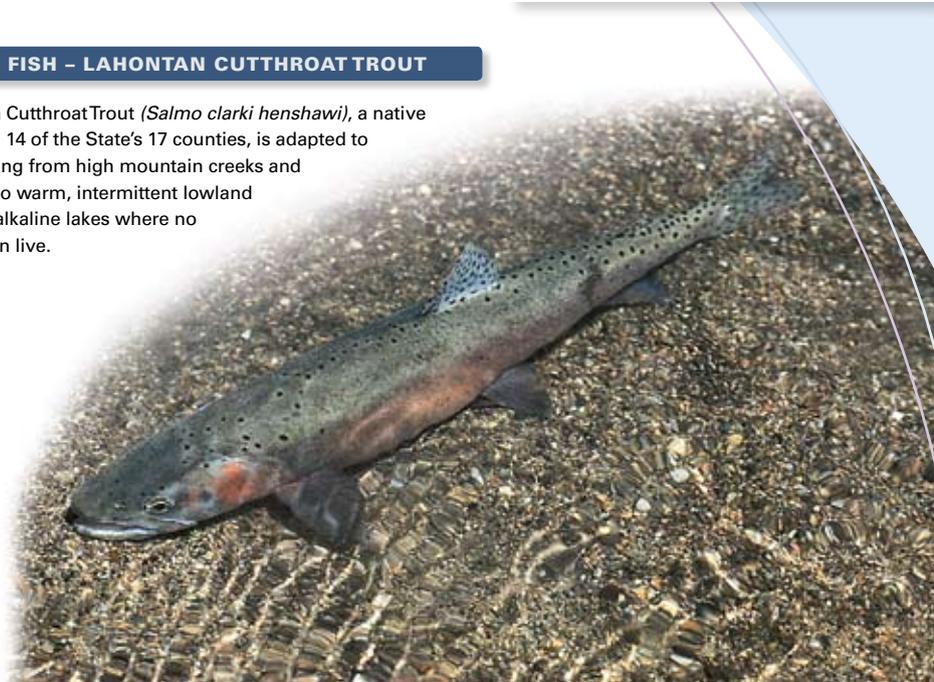
STATE ARTIFACT – TULE DUCK DECOY

This decoy was created almost 2,000 years ago. Discovered by archeologists in 1924 during an excavation at Lovelock Cave, the decoys are formed of bulrush (tule) stems, bound together and shaped to resemble canvasback ducks.



STATE FISH – LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT

The Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (*Salmo clarki henshawi*), a native trout found in 14 of the State's 17 counties, is adapted to habitats ranging from high mountain creeks and alpine lakes, to warm, intermittent lowland streams and alkaline lakes where no other trout can live.



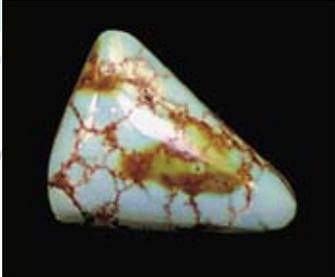
FACTS ABOUT NEVADA

STATE PRECIOUS GEMSTONE – BLACK FIRE OPAL



Among the many gemstones found in Nevada, the Virgin Valley Black Fire Opal is one of the most beautiful. The Virgin Valley in northern Nevada is the only place in North America where the Black Fire Opal is found in any significant quantity.

STATE SEMIPRECIOUS GEMSTONE – NEVADA TURQUOISE



Sometimes called the “Jewel of the Desert,” Nevada Turquoise is found in many parts of the State.

STATE SONG

In 1933, the Legislature adopted “Home Means Nevada” as the official state song. Mrs. Bertha Raffetto of Reno wrote the song to honor the State. The refrain of the song goes as follows:

*“Home” means Nevada, “Home” means the hills,
“Home” means the sage and the pines.
Out by the Truckee’s silvery rills.
Out where the sun always shines.
There is a land that I love the best,
Fairer than all I can see.
Right in the heart of the golden west,
“Home” means Nevada to me.*

OTHER STATE FACTS

POPULATION STATISTICS:

STATE OF NEVADA

1,998,257 (2000 Census)

2,518,869 (2005 estimate)

CAPITAL

Carson City: 57,104 (2005 estimate)

MOST POPULOUS CITY

Las Vegas: 569,838 (2005 estimate)

MOST POPULOUS COUNTY

Clark County: 1,796,380 (2005 estimate)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

AREA OF STATE

110,540 square miles

(87 percent federally controlled)

HIGHEST ELEVATION

Boundary Peak in Esmeralda County:

13,140 feet

LOWEST ELEVATION

On the Colorado River in Clark County:

470 feet

OTHER STATE SYMBOLS

State Metal: Silver (Ag)

State Colors: Silver and Blue

State Soil: Orovada Soil

State March: Silver State Fanfare

State Tartan:



Nevada Nicknames:

Sagebrush State

Silver State

Battle-Born State

The origin of the State’s name is Spanish, meaning “snow-capped.”

GUIDE TO THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE

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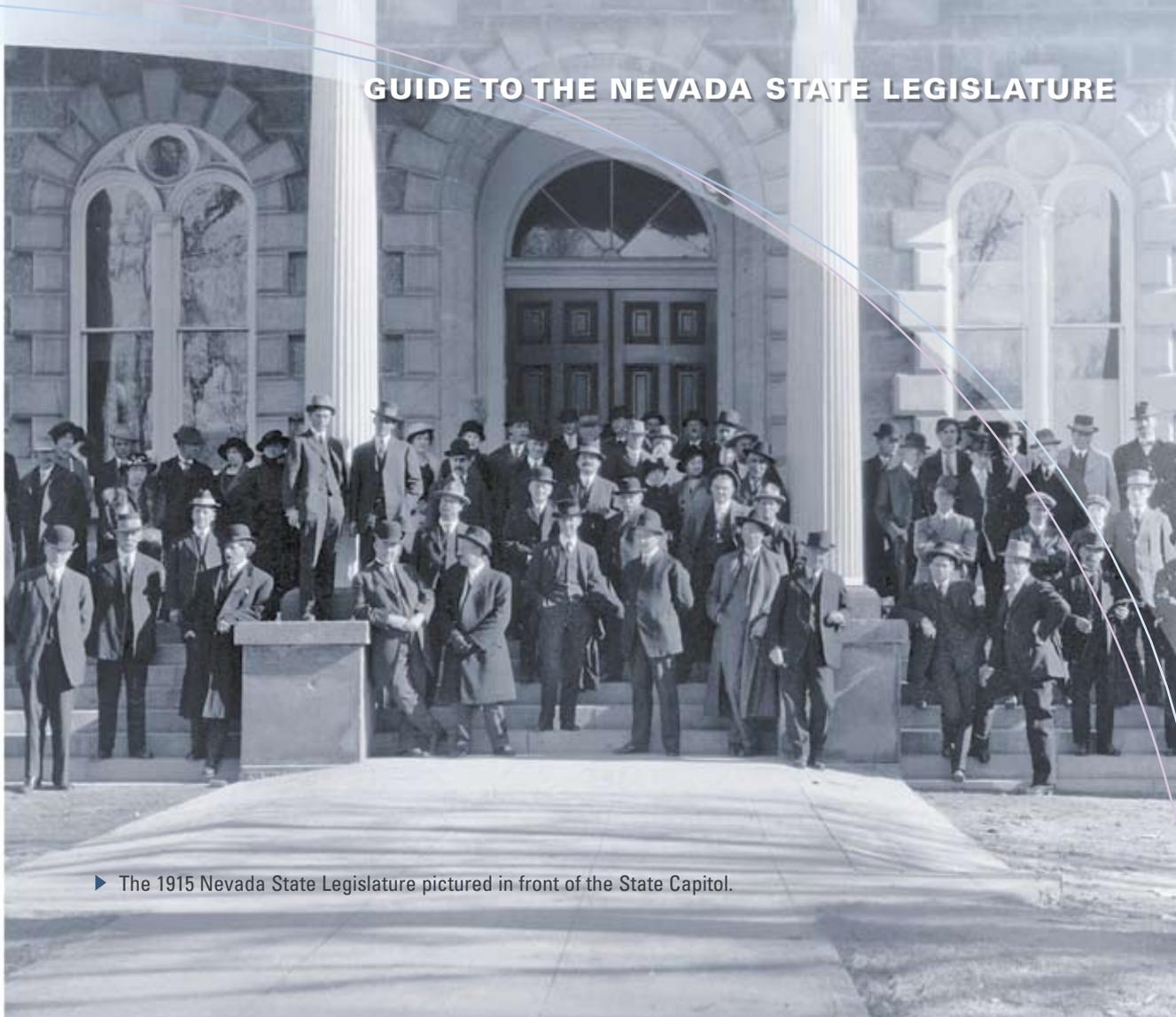
Mackay School of Mines

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► The 1915 Nevada State Legislature pictured in front of the State Capitol.

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