

The Guide to the Nevada Legislature 2011–2012



WELCOME TO THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Table of Contents

Welcome to the Nevada Legislature	i
Seven Wonders of Nevada.....	1
The Legislature – Buildings/Offices	4
Overview of the Nevada Legislature	9
Members of the Senate.....	12
Members of the Assembly.....	14
Senate Directory	16
Assembly Directory.....	17
The Nevada Legislature in Action	18
General Fund Budget	20
Leadership of the 76th Session	21
How a Bill Becomes a Law	22
Standing Committees of the 76th Session	24
Contacting the Nevada Legislature	25
The Great Seal of the State of Nevada	26
The Nevada State Flag.....	27
Facts About Nevada	28
Credits	33

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 Legislature.

One of the best ways to learn about the Nevada 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.

Thank you for visiting and for taking an interest in the Legislature, the first branch of democratic government.

THE THREE BRANCHES OF NEVADA STATE GOVERNMENT

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Creates the law

Nevada Legislature
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701



EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Enforces the law

Nevada Capitol
101 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701



JUDICIAL BRANCH

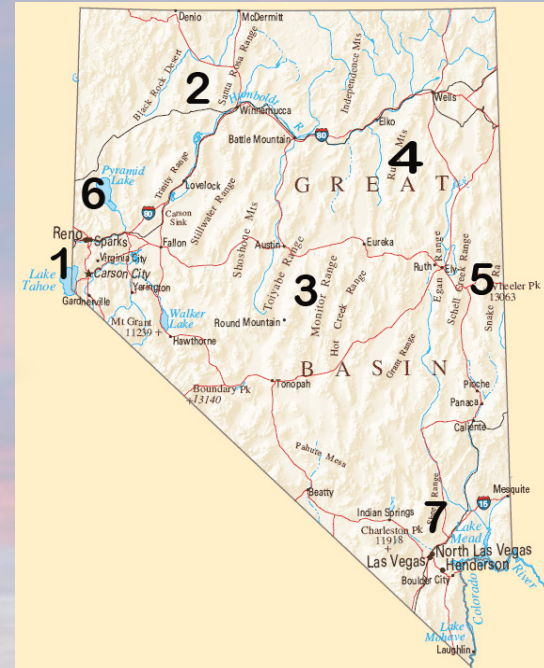
Interprets the law

Supreme Court
201 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701



SEVEN WONDERS OF NEVADA

Throughout history, numerous lists have been compiled describing various natural or man-made wonders. The first list was probably the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, which includes the (1) Great Pyramid of Giza; (2) Hanging Gardens of Babylon; (3) Statue of Zeus at Olympia; (4) Temple of Artemis at Ephesus; (5) Mausoleum of Maussollos at Halicarnassus; (6) Colossus of Rhodes; and (7) Lighthouse of Alexandria. Because seven is often the number of items identified, we have chosen seven wonders in the State of Nevada to share with you.



1

LAKE TAHOE



Lake Tahoe is a beautiful and unique lake situated on the border between Nevada and California. It is considered to be a spiritual site to the Washoe Indians who gathered there before explorers came to the area in the mid-1840s. Numerous streams feed into Lake Tahoe, and its only outlet is the Truckee River, which runs

through Reno and ends at Pyramid Lake. The maximum depth of Lake Tahoe is 1,645 feet, which makes it the second deepest lake in the United States. Lake Tahoe is the focal point that brings thousands of summer and winter sports enthusiasts to the area each year.

2 FLY GEYSER

Fly Geysler, located on the western edge of the Black Rock Desert, was created when a geothermic energy company drilled a well in 1964. Deciding not to use the well, the company attempted to reseal it. However, the seal did not hold, and Fly Geysler has grown substantially as minerals from the geothermal water pocket deposit on the desert surface. The geyser is an unusual shape due to the multiple geyser spouts, which have prohibited the geyser from forming a typical cone shape. The geyser is covered with thermophilic algae, which thrives in moist, hot environments, causing the multiple hues of green and red that add to its unique appearance.



SEVEN WONDERS OF NEVADA

3



LENTICULAR CLOUDS

Lenticular clouds form at high altitudes in the shape of a lens when a current of moist air is forced upwards causing a cloud to form. The clouds have been mistaken for UFOs because of their lens-shaped appearance and smooth saucer-like shape. Bright colors are sometimes seen along the edge of lenticular clouds.



4



LAMOILLE CANYON

Lamoille Canyon, located in the Ruby Mountains in northeastern Nevada, was extensively carved by glaciers. Referred to by some people as the Yosemite of Nevada, travelers to Lamoille Canyon will see meadows with bright wildflowers, abundant wildlife, and waterfalls. The area is known for fishing, hunting, hiking, horseback riding, nature observation, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.

5



LEHMAN CAVES

Lehman Caves is part of the Great Basin National Park, located in eastern Nevada. Made of beautiful marble, the caves are adorned with stalactites, stalagmites, flowstone, and over 300 shield formations. The caves were discovered by Absalom Lehman sometime between 1881 and 1883. Tours of the caves are available year-round.

SEVEN WONDERS OF NEVADA



PYRAMID LAKE

6

Pyramid Lake was named by John C. Fremont, the first United States explorer to see Pyramid Lake in 1844, for its tufa rock formation in the shape of a pyramid. Tufa rock is formed when spring water supersaturated with calcium carbonate evaporates in water at ambient temperatures. From its pyramid-shaped formation on the east side of the lake to the saw tooth formation at the northwestern corner of the lake (the Needles) to the hot springs, Pyramid Lake is a stark contrast to Lake Tahoe.



RED ROCK

7

Red Rock Canyon is 197,000 acres of geologic beauty located within the Mojave Desert. Various geologic formations are found there, including, but not limited to, petrified wood and cross beds of sand. Additionally, Red Rock Canyon is home to thousands of different plant species and animals, such as the Joshua Tree, the Mojave Yucca, the desert tortoise, the bighorn sheep, the bobcat, and the roadrunner. Many people visit the area for its amazing hiking, biking, and climbing opportunities.



THE LEGISLATURE – BUILDINGS/OFFICES

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 Legislature. Originally constructed in 1970, the building was extensively remodeled and expanded for the 1997 Legislative Session. The Director and 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.

State Printing Office (Carson City)

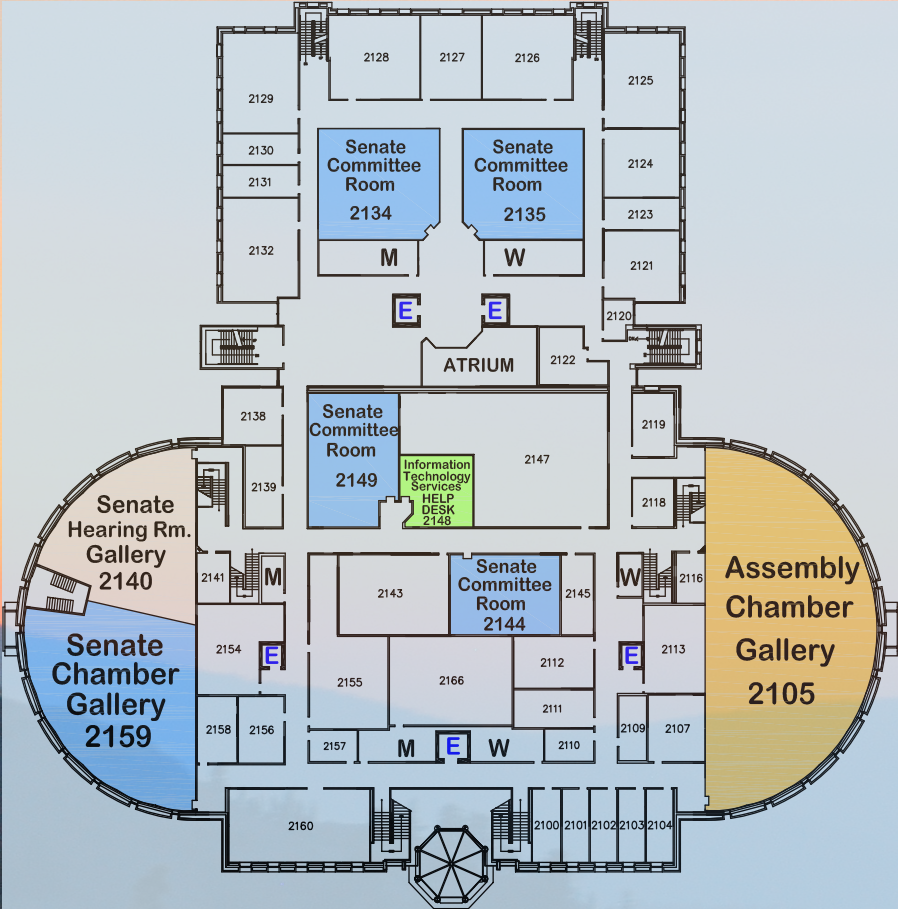
Nevada State Printing was transferred from the Executive Branch of State government to the Legal Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau on July 1, 2003. The State Printing Office is located to the east of the Legislative Building and parking garage on the corner of Stewart and Fifth Streets. The State Printing Office serves the printing needs of the three branches of government, in addition to local governments.

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 residents of southern Nevada. In addition, it furnishes meeting space for individual legislators and committees, as well as for other governmental bodies.

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 – SECOND FLOOR



Senate

Committee Hearing Rooms2134, 2135,
2144, 2149

Senators’ Offices2100-2104, 2107,
2121, 2124-2129, 2132,
2143, 2145, 2156, 2158

President of the Senate/
Lieutenant Governor 2112

Senate Minority Floor Leader 2160

Audit Division 2120

Information Technology Services 2148

Public Restrooms MW

Elevators E

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING – THIRD FLOOR

Assembly

Committee Hearing Rooms3137, 3138, 3142,
3143, 3161

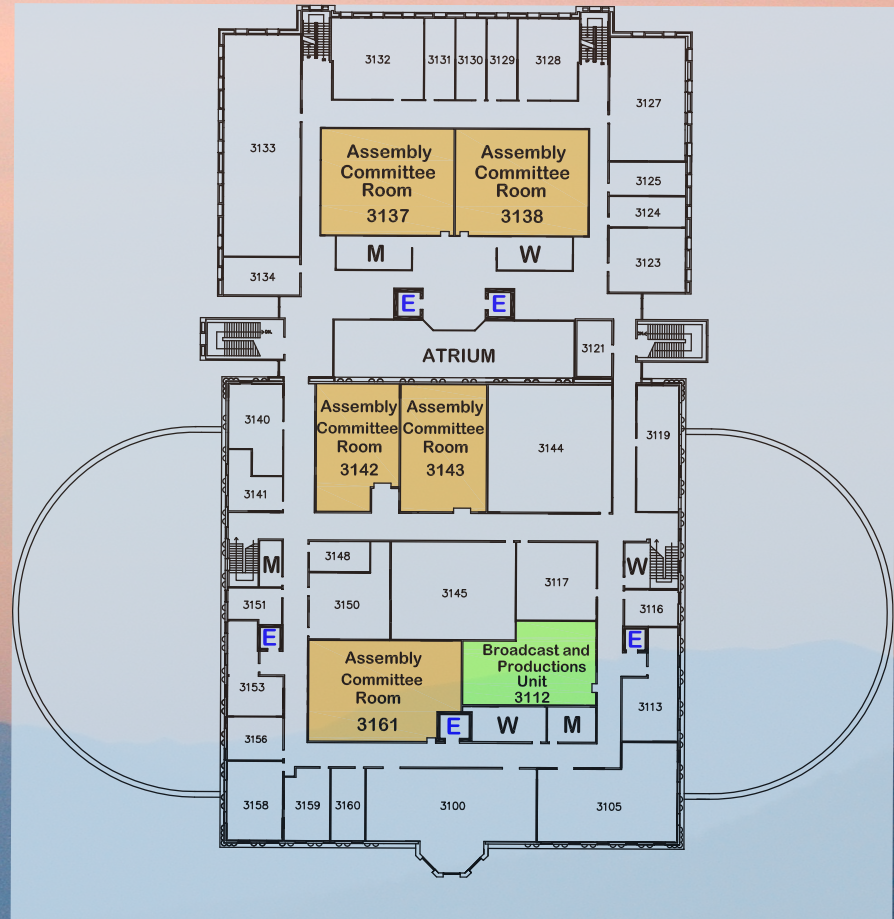
Assembly Members' Offices3116, 3119,
3123-3125, 3127-3134,
3140, 3153, 3156, 3158-3160

Assembly Minority Floor Leader3105

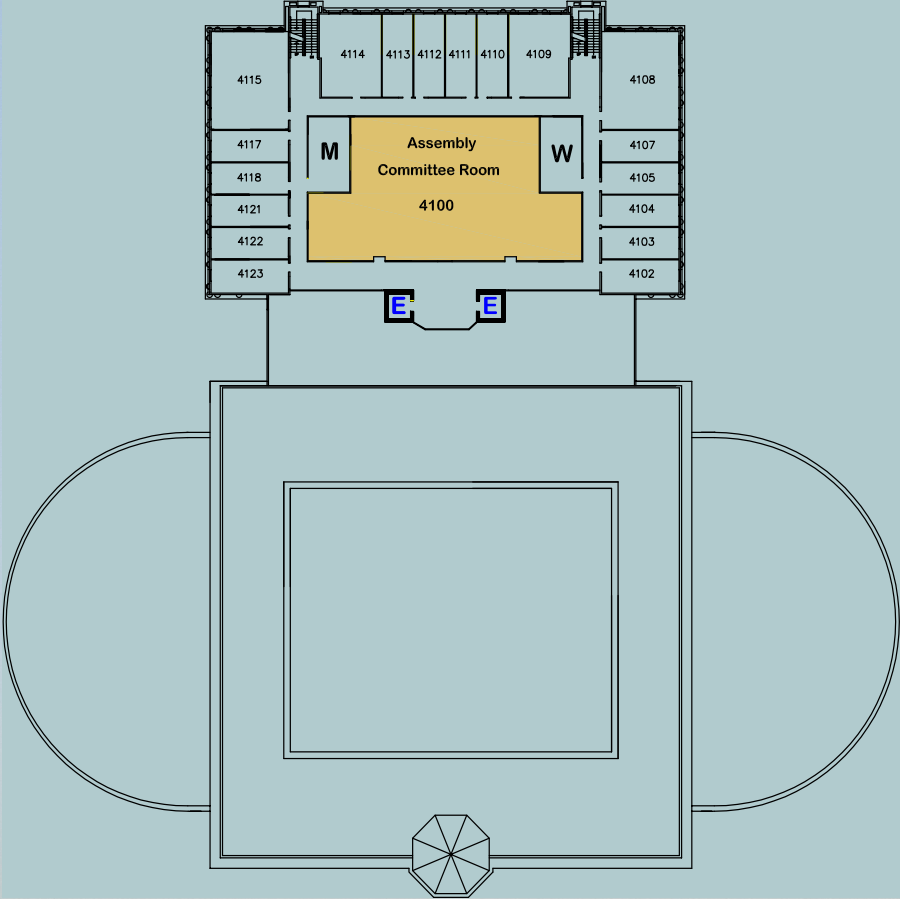
Broadcast and Production Services Unit3112

Public Restrooms MW

Elevators E



LEGISLATIVE BUILDING – FOURTH FLOOR



Committee Hearing Room 4100

Assembly Members’ Offices 4102-4105,
4107-4115, 4117-4118,
4121-4123

Public Restrooms **MW**

Elevators **E**

OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA 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 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 United States 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 2011 Legislature will readjust the boundaries of legislative districts based on the results of the 2010 U.S. Census. The State's population was about 2 million in 2000, and reached 2.7 million in 2010.

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

Currently, 14 Senators and 29 Assembly Members represent legislative districts in Clark County, while 4 Senators and 7 Assembly Members serve primarily Washoe County. Three Senators and 6 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.)



OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA 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 filed or ran for office during or after the 1998 election cycle. Assembly Members are limited to 12 years or 6 terms in office and Senators are limited to 12 years or 3 terms in office.



In 2010, 17 legislators were prohibited from running for reelection to seats they had held since 1998. Some of these legislators chose to run for other elected offices. Additionally, the 2010 election was the last eligible election year for Assemblyman John Ocegüera, who was elected in and served continually since 2000.

Those Senators who were elected in and served continually since 2000 ran for office a final time in 2008. Members serving in their final regular

legislative session in the Senate in 2011 are: Mike McGinness, Dean A. Rhoads, Michael A. Schneider, and Valerie Wiener. Similarly, the 2010 election was the last for Barbara K. Cegavske, who was elected in and served continually since 2002.

Compensation

Legislators are paid a daily salary of \$146.29 for the first 60 days of a regular session and for up to 20 days of a special 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 Legislature. This agency includes a Director and the Administrative, Audit, Fiscal Analysis, Legal, and Research Divisions.

The Legislative Counsel Bureau is supervised by the Legislative Commission, a body of 12 legislators, 6 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 LEGISLATURE

SENATE

- Clark County Senatorial District 1 (Lee)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 2 (Denis)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 3 (Wiener)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 4 (Horsford)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 5 (Breedon and Roberson)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 6 (Copening)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 7 (Manendo and Parks)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 8 (Cegavske)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 9 (Halseth)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 10 (Kihuen)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 11 (Schneider)**
- Clark County Senatorial District 12 (Hardy)**
- Rural Nevada Senatorial District (Rhoads)**
Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Pershing, and White Pine Counties, and portions of Nye County
- Central Nevada Senatorial District (McGinness)**
Churchill, Esmeralda, and Mineral Counties, and portions of Clark, Douglas, Lyon, and Nye Counties
- Capital Senatorial District (Settelmeyer)**
Portions of Carson City and Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties
- Washoe County Senatorial District 1 (Leslie)**
- Washoe County Senatorial District 2 (Gustavson)**
Also includes portions of Lyon and Storey Counties
- Washoe County Senatorial District 3 (Brower)**
- Washoe County Senatorial District 4 (Kieckhefer)**
Also includes a portion of Carson City



ASSEMBLY

- Districts 1-23, 28, 29, 34, 37, 41, and 42 Clark County**
(See individual member listings on page 17)
- Districts 24-27, 30, and 31 Washoe County**
(See individual member listings on page 17)
- District 32 (Hansen)**
Portions of Humboldt, Lander, and Washoe Counties
- District 33 (Ellison)**
Elko County and portions of Humboldt County
- District 35 (Goicoechea)**
Eureka, Pershing, and White Pine Counties, and portions of Churchill, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, and Washoe Counties
- District 36 (Goedhart)**
Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, and Nye Counties, and portions of Churchill County
- District 38 (Grady)**
Storey County, most of Lyon County, and portions of Carson City and Churchill County
- District 39 (Kite)**
Douglas County, and portions of Carson City and Washoe County
- District 40 (Livermore)**
Portions of Carson City and Washoe County

Residents of Clark and Washoe Counties: Please call your registrar of voters to identify your representatives, or visit the Legislature's Who's My Legislator? What's My District? webpage (<http://mapserve.leg.state.nv.us/website/lcb/viewer.htm>).

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE



Shirley A. Breeden
(Clark, No. 5)
Senate 2008–2011
Office 2126

D



Greg Brower
(Washoe, No. 3)
Assembly 1999–2002
Senate 2011
Office 2101

R



Barbara K. Cegavske
Assistant Minority
Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 8)
Assembly 1997–2001
Senate 2003–2011
Office 2158

R



Allison Copening
(Clark, No. 6)
Senate 2008–2011
Office 2129

D



Joe Hardy
(Clark, No. 12)
Assembly 2003–2009
Senate 2011
Office 2100

R



Steven A. Horsford
Majority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 4)
Senate 2004–2011
Office 1219

D



Ben Kieckhefer
(Washoe, No. 4)
Senate 2011
Office 2145

R



Ruben J. Kihuen
(Clark, No. 10)
Assembly 2007–2009
Senate 2011
Office 2124

D



Mike McGinness
Minority Floor Leader
(Central Nevada
Senatorial District)
Assembly 1989–1991
Senate 1993–2011
Office 2160

R



David R. Parks
(Clark, No. 7)
Assembly 1997–2007
Senate 2008–2011
Office 2143

D



Dean A. Rhoads
(Rural Nevada
Senatorial District)
Assembly 1977–1981
Senate 1985–2011
Office 2156

R



Michael Roberson
(Clark, No. 5)
Senate 2011
Office 2103

R

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE



Moises (Mo) Denis
 Assistant Majority
 Whip
 (Clark, No. 2)
 Assembly 2004–2009
 Senate 2011
 Office 2128
D




Don Gustavson
 (Washoe, No. 2)
 Assembly 1997–2004
 and 2008–2009
 Senate 2011
 Office 2104
R



Elizabeth Halseth
 (Clark, No. 9)
 Senate 2011
 Office 2102
R

President of the Senate

Brian K. Krolicki
 Lieutenant Governor
 2007–2011
 Office 2112
R




John J. Lee
 Majority Whip
 (Clark, No. 1)
 Assembly 1997–2001
 Senate 2004–2011
 Office 2132
D



Sheila Leslie
 Assistant Majority
 Whip
 (Washoe, No. 1)
 Assembly 1999–2009
 Senate 2011
 Office 2121
D



Mark A. Manendo
 (Clark, No. 7)
 Assembly 1995–2009
 Senate 2011
 Office 2127
D



Michael A. Schneider
 President pro Tempore
 (Clark, No. 11)
 Assembly 1993–1995
 Senate 1997–2011
 Office 2125
D



James A. Sattelmeyer
 Minority Whip
 (Capital Senatorial
 District)
 Assembly 2007–2009
 Senate 2011
 Office 2107
R



Valerie Wiener
 Assistant Majority
 Floor Leader
 (Clark, No. 3)
 Senate 1997–2011
 Office 1224
D

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY



Paul Aizley (D)
(Clark, No. 41)
Assembly 2008–2011
Office 4118



Elliot T. Anderson (D)
(Clark, No. 15)
Assembly 2011
Office 3160



Kelvin D. Atkinson (D)
Senior Chief Deputy Whip
(Clark, No. 17)
Assembly 2003–2011
Office 4108



Teresa Benitez-Thompson (D)
(Washoe, No. 27)
Assembly 2011
Office 4107



David P. Bobzien (D)
Chief Deputy Whip
(Washoe, No. 24)
Assembly 2007–2011
Office 4114



Steven J. Brooks (D)
(Clark, No. 19)
Assembly 2011
Office 3159



Irene Bustamante Adams (D)
(Clark, No. 42)
Assembly 2011
Office 4117



Lucy Flores (D)
(Clark, No. 28)
Assembly 2011
Office 4110



Jason M. Frierson (D)
(Clark, No. 8)
Assembly 2011
Office 3134



Ed Goedhart (R)
(District No. 36)
Assembly 2007–2011
Office 3116



Pete Goicoechea (R)
Minority Floor Leader
(District No. 35)
Assembly 2003–2011
Office 3105



Tom Grady (R)
Minority Whip
(District No. 38)
Assembly 2003–2011
Office 3105



John Hambrick (R)
(Clark, No. 2)
Assembly 2008–2011
Office 3129



Scott Hammond (R)
(Clark, No. 13)
Assembly 2011
Office 4111



Kelly Kite (R)
(District No. 39)
Assembly 2011
Office 4121



Peter Livermore (R)
(District No. 40)
Assembly 2011
Office 3124



April Mastroluca (D)
(Clark, No. 29)
Assembly 2008–2011
Office 3132



Richard McArthur (R)
(Clark, No. 4)
Assembly 2008–2011
Office 4123



Harvey J. Munford (D)
(Clark, No. 6)
Assembly 2004–2011
Office 3140



Dina Neal (D)
(Clark, No. 7)
Assembly 2011
Office 4102



John Ocegüera (D)
Speaker
(Clark, No. 16)
Assembly 2001–2011
Office 1104

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY



Maggie Carlton (D)
(Clark, No. 14)
Senate 1999–2009
Assembly 2011
Office 3158



Richard Carrillo (D)
(Clark, No. 18)
Assembly 2011
Office 3125



Marcus L. Conklin (D)
Majority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 37)
Assembly 2003–2011
Office 1102



Richard (Skip) Daly (D)
(Washoe, No. 31)
Assembly 2011
Office 4105



Olivia Diaz (D)
(Clark, No. 11)
Assembly 2011
Office 4122



Marilyn Dondero Loop (D)
(Clark, No. 5)
Assembly 2008–2011
Office 3119



John C. Ellison (R)
(District No. 33)
Assembly 2011
Office 4113



Ira Hansen (R)
(District No. 32)
Assembly 2011
Office 3156



Crescent Hardy (R)
(Clark, No. 20)
Assembly 2011
Office 3131



Pat Hickey (R)
(Washoe, No. 25)
Assembly 1997–1998
and 2011
Office 4112



Joseph M. Hogan (D)
(Clark, No. 10)
Assembly 2004–2011
Office 3153



William C. Horne (D)
Majority Whip
(Clark, No. 34)
Assembly 2003–2011
Office 3127



Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D)
Assistant Majority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 1)
Assembly 2004–2011
Office 4115



Randy Kirner (R)
(Washoe, No. 26)
Assembly 2011
Office 3130



James Ohrenschall (D)
(Clark, No. 12)
Assembly 2007–2011
Office 3128



Peggy Pierce (D)
Chief Deputy Whip
(Clark, No. 3)
Assembly 2003–2011
Office 3123



Tick Segerblom (D)
(Clark, No. 9)
Assembly 2007–2011
Office 4109



Mark Sherwood (R)
Minority Whip
(Clark, No. 21)
Assembly 2011
Office 4104



Debbie Smith (D)
Speaker pro Tempore
(Washoe, No. 30)
Assembly 2001–2002
and 2004–2011
Office 3133



Lynn D. Stewart (R)
Assistant Minority Floor Leader
(Clark, No. 22)
Assembly 2007–2011
Office 3105



Melissa Woodbury (R)
(Clark, No. 23)
Assembly 2008–2011
Office 4103

SENATE DIRECTORY

Breeden, Shirley A. (D)

Clark, No. 5
284 Kershner Court
Henderson, NV 89074-4180
(702) 456-6192 (H)

Brower, Greg (R)

Washoe, No. 3
200 South Virginia Street, Floor 8
Reno, NV 89501-2405

Cegavske, Barbara K. (R)

Clark, No. 8
6465 Laredo Street
Las Vegas, NV 89146-5272
(702) 873-0711 (H/O)
(702) 222-9909 (F)

Copening, Allison (D)

Clark, No. 6
1821 Montvale Court
Las Vegas, NV 89134-6683
(702) 869-9543 (H/O)

Denis, Moises (Mo) (D)

Clark, No. 2
3204 Osage Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89101-1838
(702) 657-6857 (H)
(702) 743-3571 (C)

Gustavson, Don (R)

Washoe, No. 2
P.O. Box 51601
Sparks, NV 89435-1601
(775) 722-1278 (C)

Halseth, Elizabeth (R)

Clark, No. 9
8022 South Rainbow Boulevard
Suite 140
Las Vegas, NV 89139-6477
(702) 885-7675 (C)

Hardy, Joe (R)

Clark, No. 12
P.O. Box 60306
Boulder City, NV 89006-0306
(702) 293-7506 (H)
(702) 581-3066 (C)
(702) 293-2172 (F)

Horsford, Steven A. (D)

Clark, No. 4
3450 West Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 100
North Las Vegas, NV 89032-8223
(702) 985-7535 (O)
(702) 631-6400 (F)

Kieckhefer, Ben (R)

Washoe, No. 4
10045 Goler Wash Court
Reno, NV 89521-3029
(775) 853-8320 (H)
(775) 223-9618 (C)

Kihuen, Ruben J. (D)

Clark, No. 10
P.O. Box 427
Las Vegas, NV 89125-0427
(702) 274-1707 (C)

Lee, John J. (D)

Clark, No. 1
3216 Villa Pisani Court
North Las Vegas, NV 89031-7267
(702) 258-5447 (H)
(702) 647-3550 (O)
(702) 647-0951 (F)

Leslie, Sheila (D)

Washoe, No. 1
825 Humboldt Street
Reno, NV 89509-2009
(775) 333-6564 (H)

Manendo, Mark A. (D)

Clark, No. 7
4629 Butterfly Circle
Las Vegas, NV 89122-6149
(702) 451-8654 (H)
(702) 451-9060 (F)

McGinness, Mike (R)

Central Nevada Senatorial District
770 Wildes Road
Fallon, NV 89406-7843
(775) 423-5889 (H)

Parks, David R. (D)

Clark, No. 7
P.O. Box 71887
Las Vegas, NV 89170-1887
or
1700 Gabriel Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89119-6286
(702) 736-6929 (H)

Rhoads, Dean A. (R)

Rural Nevada Senatorial District
Box 8
Tuscarora, NV 89834-0008
(775) 756-6582 (H)
(775) 756-5544 (F)

Roberson, Michael (R)

Clark, No. 5
P.O. Box 97251
Las Vegas, NV 89193-7251
(702) 612-6929 (H)

Schneider, Michael A. (D)

Clark, No. 11
6381 Sandpiper Way
Las Vegas, NV 89103-2110
(702) 876-5121 (H)
(702) 610-5240 (C)

Settelmeyer, James A. (R)

Capital Senatorial District
2388 Highway 395
Minden, NV 89423-8923
(775) 265-7739 (H)
(775) 450-6114 (C)

Wiener, Valerie (D)

Clark, No. 3
3540 West Sahara Avenue, No. 352
Las Vegas, NV 89102-5816
(702) 871-6536 (O)
(702) 221-9239 (F)



David A. Byerman
Secretary of the Senate

ASSEMBLY DIRECTORY

Aizley, Paul (D)

Clark, No. 41
237 East Eldorado Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89123-1159
(702) 361-8262 (H)
(702) 361-7472 (F)

Anderson, Elliot T. (D)

Clark, No. 15
3135 South Mojave Road, Unit 227
Las Vegas, NV 89121-8315
(702) 733-4073 (H)

Atkinson, Kelvin D. (D)

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

Benitez-Thompson, Teresa (D)

Washoe, No. 27
1201 Joshua Drive
Reno, NV 89509-2217
(775) 247-7665 (C)

Bobzien, David P. (D)

Washoe, No. 24
1605 Wesley Drive
Reno, NV 89503-2332
(775) 393-9709 (H)

Brooks, Steven J. (D)

Clark, No. 19
6007 Turtle River Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89156-4791
(702) 987-1820 (H/F)

Bustamante Adams, Irene (D)

Clark, No. 42
3800 Reflection Way
Las Vegas, NV 89147-4442
(702) 542-3900 (H)

Carlton, Maggie (D)

Clark, No. 14
5540 East Cartwright Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89110-3802
(702) 452-3619 (Work)

Carrillo, Richard (D)

Clark, No. 18
4819 Diza Court
Las Vegas, NV 89122-7574
(702) 273-8786 (H)

Conklin, Marcus L. (D)

Clark, No. 37
2251 North Rampart Boulevard
No. 305
Las Vegas, NV 89128-7640
(702) 363-3885 (O)

Daly, Richard (Skip) (D)

Washoe, No. 31
2180 Fourth Street
Sparks, NV 89431-2201
(775) 359-0731 (H)
(775) 722-6534 (C)

Diaz, Olivia (D)

Clark, No. 11
P.O. Box 365072
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-9072
(702) 501-8994 (H)

Dondero Loop, Marilyn (D)

Clark, No. 5
3724 Emerald Bay Circle
Las Vegas, NV 89147-6816
(702) 556-0224 (C)
(702) 240-7995 (F)

Ellison, John C. (R)

District No. 33
(Mailing)
P.O. Box 683
Elko, NV 89803-0683
or
(Office)
438 South Fifth Street
Elko, NV 89801-4276
(775) 738-6284 (H/O)
(775) 934-6611 (C)

Flores, Lucy (D)

Clark, No. 28
420 North Nellis Boulevard
Suite A3-87
Las Vegas, NV 89110-5365
(702) 437-0587 (O)

Frierson, Jason M. (D)

Clark, No. 8
P.O. Box 31623
Las Vegas, NV 89173-1623
(702) 280-2981 (C)

Goedhart, Ed (R)

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

Goicoechea, Pete (R)

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

Grady, Tom (R)

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

Hambrick, John (R)

Clark, No. 2
1930 Village Center Circle
Suite 3-419
Las Vegas, NV 89134-6245
(702) 242-8580 (H)
(702) 499-6169 (C)
(702) 242-3406 (F)

Hammond, Scott (R)

Clark, No. 13
8408 Gracious Pine Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89143-4608
(702) 523-9055 (H)

Hansen, Ira (R)

District No. 32
68 Amigo Court
Sparks, NV 89441-6213
(775) 221-2502 (C)
(775) 322-8889 (F)

Hardy, Cresent (R)

Clark, No. 20
P.O. Box 601
Mesquite, NV 89024-0601
(702) 378-8310 (C)

Hickey, Pat (R)

Washoe, No. 25
1180 Forest Street
Reno, NV 89509-2707
(775) 762-8006 (C)
(775) 329-7802 (F)

Hogan, Joseph M. (D)

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

Horne, William C. (D)

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

Kirkpatrick, Marilyn (D)

Clark, No. 1
4747 Showdown Drive
North Las Vegas, NV 89031-2133
(702) 655-0332 (H)
(702) 767-1315 (C)

Kirner, Randy (R)

Washoe, No. 26
P.O. Box 17388
Reno, NV 89511-7388
(775) 852-3857 (H)

Kite, Kelly (R)

District No. 39
P.O. Box 2251
Minden, NV 89423-2251
(775) 450-6962 (C)

Livermore, Peter (R)

District No. 40
4 Raglan Circle
Carson City, NV 89701-6507
(775) 882-5056 (H)
(775) 530-1890 (C)
(775) 883-7396 (F)

Mastroluca, April (D)

Clark, No. 29
265 Copper Glow Court
Henderson, NV 89074-8744
(702) 286-8568 (C)

McArthur, Richard (R)

Clark, No. 4
4640 Panoramic Court
Las Vegas, NV 89129-1617
(702) 396-1065 (H)

Munford, Harvey J. (D)

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

Neal, Dina (D)

Clark, No. 7
3217 Brautigan Court
North Las Vegas, NV 89032-6030
(702) 738-5870 (H)
(702) 399-2114 (F)

Ocegüera, John (D)

Clark, No. 16
7655 Chaumont Street
Las Vegas, NV 89123-1491
(775) 684-8595 (Capital Office)
(702) 452-4800 (H)

Ohrnschall, James (D)

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

Pierce, Peggy (D)

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

Seegerblom, Tick (D)

Clark, No. 9
700 South Third Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101-6703
(702) 388-9600 (O)
(702) 385-2909 (F)

Sherwood, Mark (R)

Clark, No. 21
2397 Brockton Way
Henderson, NV 89074-5462
(702) 624-6600 (C)
(702) 933-5801 (F)

Smith, Debbie (D)

Washoe, No. 30
3270 Wilma Drive
Sparks, NV 89431-1173
(775) 233-2905 (C)
(775) 331-9064 (F)

Stewart, Lynn D. (R)

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

Woodbury, Melissa (R)

Clark, No. 23
9500 West Flamingo Road
Suite 203
Las Vegas, NV 89147-5721
(702) 762-3110 (H)
(702) 240-2332 (F)



Susan Furlong Reil
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

THE NEVADA 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 four 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 76th Regular Session on February 7, 2011. It must adjourn “sine die” (without a day being set for reconvening) no later than June 6, 2011.



The 2009 Regular Session

During the course of the 2009 Regular Session, the Legislature considered 1,000 bills—564 from the Assembly, 435 from the Senate, and 1 initiative petition. Of this total, 527 bills were approved. The Governor signed 470 bills, allowed 9 bills to become law without his signature, and vetoed 48 bills. The Legislature overrode 25 of the Governor’s vetoes; therefore 504 bills became law.



THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE IN ACTION

26th Special Session

The Governor called the Legislature into its 26th Special Session on February 23, 2010, to address a shortfall in General Fund revenue of approximately \$890 million. During the 26th Special Session, 11 bills were introduced, and 10 of them were enacted into State law. The Governor vetoed one of the bills, and it will be returned to the 2011 Legislative Session for reconsideration.

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.

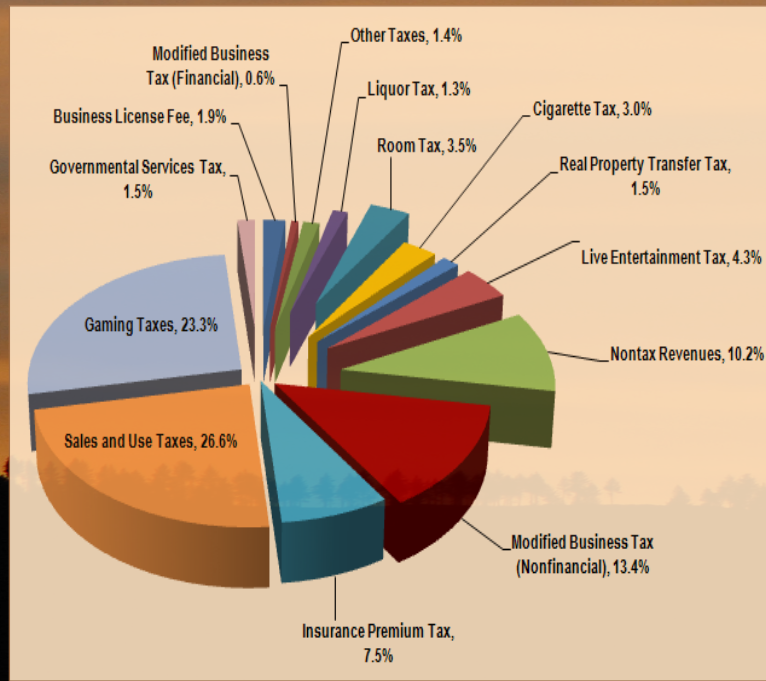
During the interim, all legislators are assigned to various study committees to investigate a wide range of issues. These committees hold public hearings, direct research, and deliberate on proposed legislation for the next session of the Legislature.



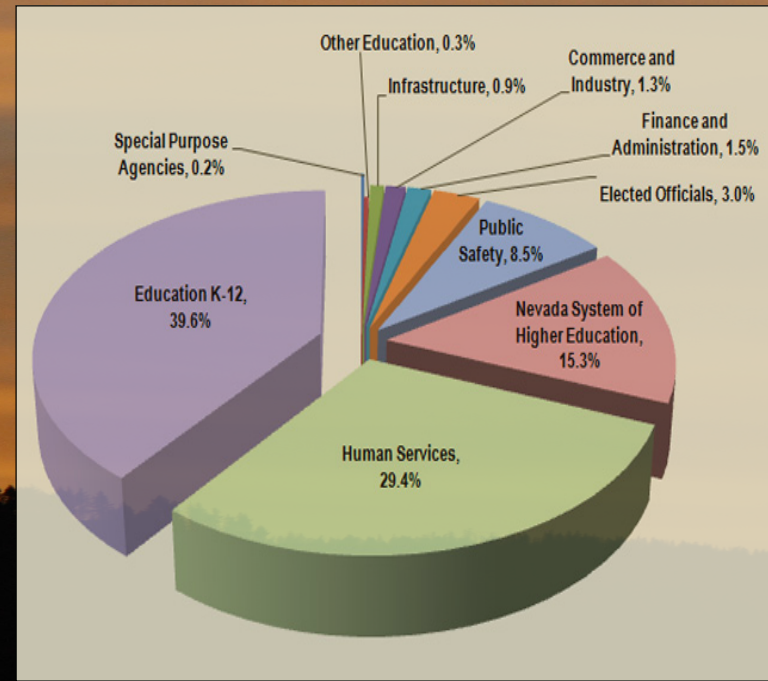
GENERAL FUND BUDGET

The 2009 Legislature approved State General Fund appropriations for the 2009–2011 Biennium of approximately \$6.5 billion. Because of a continuing decline in revenue, the Governor called the Legislature into the 26th Special Session in February 2010 to address a shortfall in the State General Fund appropriations of approximately \$890 million.

The **State General Fund Revenues** for the 2009–2011 Biennium were projected in May 2009 to come from the following sources (below):



The **Uses of State General Fund Appropriations** for the 2009–2011 Biennium were approved by the 2009 Legislature for expenditure as follows (below):



LEADERSHIP OF THE 76TH SESSION

The two houses of the Legislature are authorized by the *Nevada Constitution* to choose their own officers (except for the President of the Senate, who is the Lieutenant Governor).

SENATE

President pro Tempore
Michael A. Schneider

Majority Floor Leader
Steven A. Horsford

Assistant Majority Floor Leader
Valerie Wiener

Majority Whip
John J. Lee

Assistant Majority Whips
Moises (Mo) Denis
Sheila Leslie

Minority Floor Leader
Mike McGinness

Assistant Minority Floor Leader
Barbara K. Cegavske

Minority Whip
James A. Settlemeyer

ASSEMBLY

Speaker
John Ocegüera

Speaker pro Tempore
Debbie Smith

Majority Floor Leader
Marcus L. Conklin

Assistant Majority Floor Leader
Marilyn Kirkpatrick

Majority Whip
William C. Horne

Senior Chief Deputy Whip
Kelvin D. Atkinson

Chief Deputy Whips
David P. Bobzien
Peggy Pierce

Minority Floor Leader
Pete Goicoechea

Assistant Minority Floor Leader
Lynn D. Stewart

Minority Whips
Tom Grady
Mark Sherwood



SENATE



ASSEMBLY

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

The following is a general description of the five 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.

1. Initial Steps by the Author

Idea

Ideas for legislation come from State and local governments, elected officials, businesses, organizations, and citizens.

Drafting

Requests for drafting may be made by legislators, legislative committees, the Governor, State agencies, and local governments. A staff attorney for the Legislature prepares a formal draft of a bill.

2. Action in the House of Origin

Introduction and First Reading

A bill is submitted for introduction by an individual legislator or committee chair. It is then numbered, read for the first time, referred to committee, printed, and delivered to the committee.

Committee Action and Report

A committee holds a hearing to take testimony and gather information about the bill. A committee may make a variety of recommendations to the entire legislative body. It may recommend that the house pass a bill as it is written or pass it with amendments. If a committee thinks that a bill requires further committee consideration, it may recommend that the house amend the bill and rerefer it to another committee. Finally, a committee may vote to indefinitely postpone consideration of a bill, effectively killing it, or 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 General File for debate and final vote. A bill that is given an “Amend and Do Pass” recommendation is read a second time, and if the amendment is adopted, reprinted before being placed on 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 a two-thirds majority (14 votes in the Senate and 28 votes in the Assembly). A measure that does not receive at least the required number of votes is defeated. Any member voting on the prevailing side may serve notice of reconsideration to request a second vote. All bills that are passed by the first legislative house are forwarded to the second house for consideration.

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

3. 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 enrolled and sent to the Governor. Resolutions are sent 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.

4. 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 is enrolled and sent 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 its proposed changes, the bill is referred to a conference committee that includes members of both houses. The conference committee attempts to resolve the differences and presents its recommendation in the form of a conference report. If both houses accept the report, the bill is enrolled and sent to the Governor. The bill dies if the members of the conference committee fail to agree or if a conference report is not adopted by both houses.



Governor Brian Sandoval

5. Role of the Governor

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

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE 76TH SESSION

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 2011 Session, the Senate has ten standing committees and one select committee while the Assembly has ten standing committees. The listings that follow show the specific committee assignments for the 2011 Legislature. For each committee, the Chair is named first, the Vice Chair second, followed by majority party members in alphabetical order, and then minority party members in alphabetical order.



Senate Standing Committees

Commerce, Labor, and Energy—Schneider, Breden, Copening, Parks, Halseth, Roberson, Settlemeyer

Education—Denis, Kihuen, Leslie, Wiener, Brower, Cegavske, Gustavson

Finance—Horsford, Leslie, Denis, Parks, Cegavske, Kieckhefer, Rhoads

Government Affairs—Lee, Manendo, Schneider, J. Hardy, Settlemeyer

Health and Human Services—Copenig, Wiener, Kihuen, Leslie, Brower, J. Hardy, Kieckhefer

Judiciary—Wiener, Copening, Breden, Kihuen, Gustavson, McGinness, Roberson

Legislative Operations and Elections—Parks, Denis, Horsford, Cegavske, Settlemeyer

Natural Resources—Manendo, Parks, Lee, Rhoads, Roberson

Revenue—Leslie, Horsford, Denis, Schneider, Halseth, J. Hardy, McGinness

Transportation—Breden, Schneider, Lee, Manendo, Halseth, McGinness, Rhoads

Select Committee on Economic Growth and Employment—Kihuen, Lee, Manendo, Wiener, Brower, Gustavson, Kieckhefer

Assembly Standing Committees

Commerce and Labor—Atkinson, Conklin, Bustamante Adams, Carlton, Daly, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Segerblom, Ellison, Goedhart, Grady, C. Hardy, Hickey, Kite

Education—Bobzien, Dondero Loop, Aizley, Anderson, Diaz, Flores, Mastroluca, Munford, Neal, Hansen, Kirner, McArthur, Stewart, Woodbury

Government Affairs—Kirkpatrick, Bustamante Adams, Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, Flores, Munford, Neal, Pierce, Ellison, Goedhart, Livermore, Stewart, Woodbury

Health and Human Services—Mastroluca, Pierce, Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, Brooks, Carrillo, Flores, Frierson, Smith, Goicoechea, Hambrick, Hammond, Livermore, Sherwood

Judiciary—Horne, Ohrenschall, Brooks, Carrillo, Daly, Diaz, Dondero Loop, Frierson, Segerblom, Hammond, Hansen, Kite, McArthur, Sherwood

Legislative Operations and Elections—Segerblom, Flores, Conklin, Daly, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Smith, Goicoechea, Grady, C. Hardy, Hickey, McArthur, Stewart

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining—Carlton, Hogan, Aizley, Anderson, Bobzien, Bustamante Adams, Munford, Pierce, Ellison, Goedhart, Hansen, Kite, Livermore

Taxation—Kirkpatrick, Munford, Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, Bustamante Adams, Flores, Neal, Pierce, Ellison, Goedhart, Livermore, Stewart, Woodbury

Transportation—Dondero Loop, Frierson, Atkinson, Benitez-Thompson, Brooks, Carrillo, Diaz, Hogan, Neal, Hambrick, Hammond, Kirner, Sherwood, Woodbury

Ways and Means—Smith, Conklin, Aizley, Atkinson, Bobzien, Carlton, Hogan, Mastroluca, Ocegüera, Goicoechea, Grady, Hambrick, C. Hardy, Hickey, Kirner

CONTACTING THE NEVADA 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 Legislature website 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 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)

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

Faxing a Document:

To Senators at (775) 684-6522

To Assembly Members at (775) 684-8533

To the Legislative Building (775) 684-6811

Toll-free to the Legislative Building (866) 543-9941

Mailing a Letter:

Address to your legislator's attention at the following address:

Nevada Legislature
Legislative Building
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701-4747

WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS NOT IN SESSION

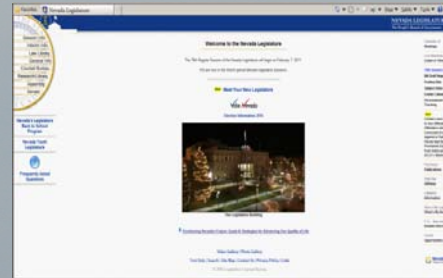
When the Legislature is not in session, you may obtain information about the interim committees and their meeting schedules by visiting the Nevada Legislature website at www.leg.state.nv.us.

You may also contact your legislator at the address and telephone number listed on pages 16 and 17, through the Nevada Legislature website 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)

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



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, *Nevada Revised Statutes* 235.010 was amended by Assembly Bill 157 to make the legal description conform to the actual features of the seal.

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 four 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

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 5, 1864.

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 Colors (NRS 235.025) Silver and Blue

State March (NRS 235.035) "Silver State Fanfare"

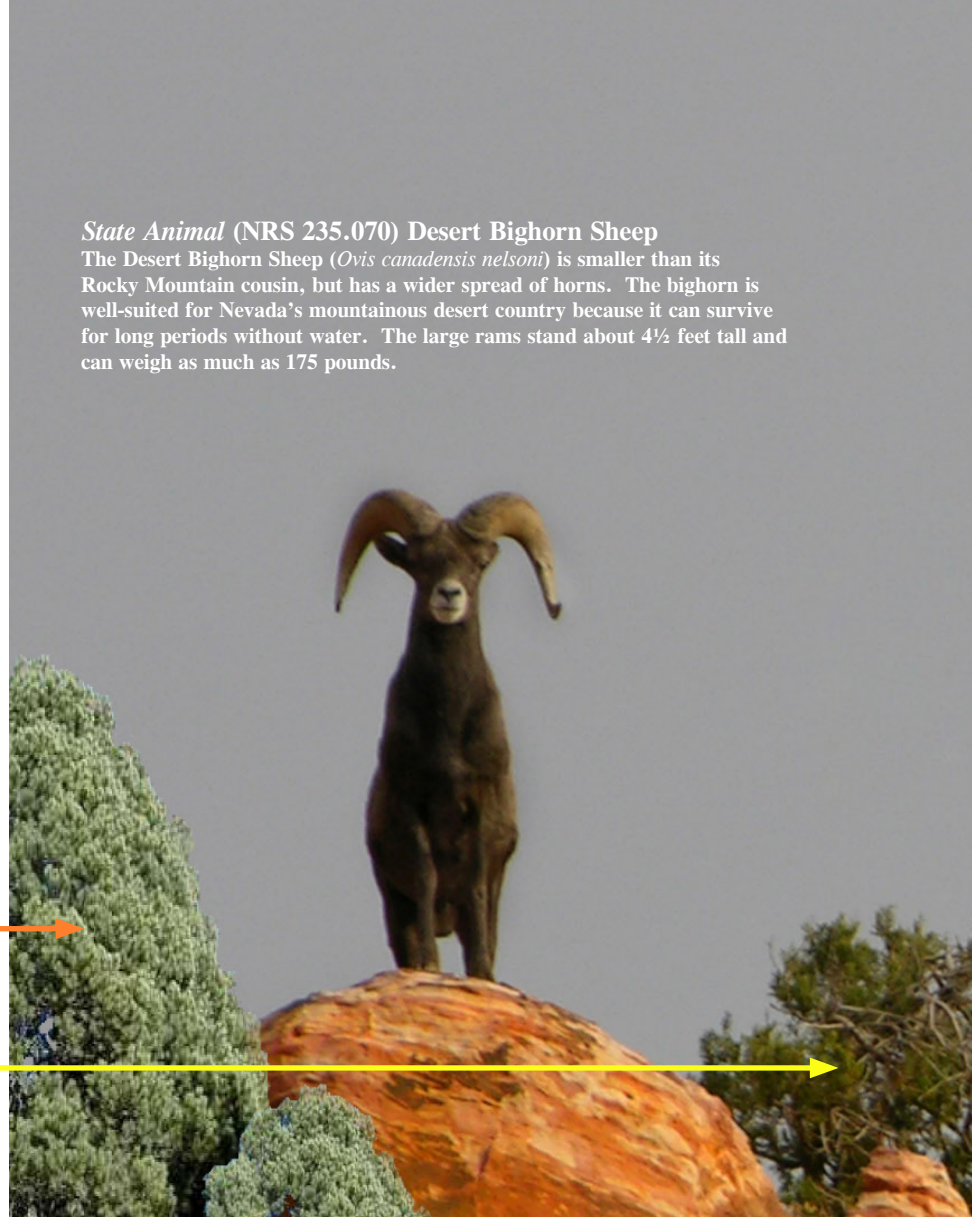
State Trees (NRS 235.040)

The **Single-Leaf Piñon** (*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 Piñon can grow as high as 50 feet under ideal conditions.

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 Animal (NRS 235.070) Desert Bighorn Sheep

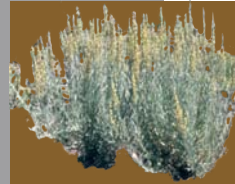
The Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) is smaller than its Rocky Mountain cousin, but has a wider spread of horns. The bighorn is well-suited for Nevada's mountainous desert country because it can survive for long periods without water. The large rams stand about 4½ feet tall and can weigh as much as 175 pounds.



FACTS ABOUT NEVADA

State Song (NRS 235.030) “Home Means Nevada”
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 is 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.



State Flower (NRS 235.050) Sagebrush

The Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* or *trifida*) grows abundantly in the deserts of the western U.S. 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 Grass (NRS 235.055) 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.



State Bird (NRS 235.060) 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.



State Insect (NRS 235.062) Vivid Dancer Damselfly

The Vivid Dancer Damselfly (*Argia vivida*) is abundant in springs and ponds in all four regions of Nevada. The adult male is a rich blue with clear wings that appear silver when rapidly beating in sunlight, while most females are tan or tan and gray.



State Reptile (NRS 235.065) 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.

FACTS ABOUT NEVADA

State Fish (NRS 235.075) 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.



State Fossil (NRS 235.080) The 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. Ichthyosaurs (a name meaning “fish lizards”) were predatory reptiles that filled the same ecological niche as—and quite resembled in body form—the dolphins of today, only many of them were much larger.



State Artifact (NRS 235.085) 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 bundles of bulrush (tule) stems, bound together and shaped to resemble canvasback ducks.



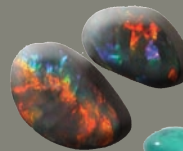
State Metal (NRS 235.090) Silver (Ag)

In 2009, 7.2 million ounces of silver were produced in Nevada.

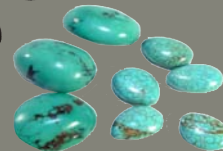


State Gemstones

Precious Gemstone (NRS 235.100) Virgin Valley 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.



Semiprecious Gemstone (NRS 235.110) Nevada Turquoise. Sometimes called the “Jewel of the Desert,” Nevada Turquoise is found in many parts of the State.



FACTS ABOUT NEVADA



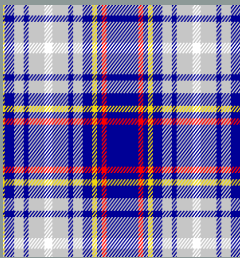
State Soil (NRS 235.115) Orovada Soil Series

Orovada soils are extensive in northern Nevada, where they have an area of more than 360,000 acres. They are common soils on semiarid rangeland with sagebrush-grass plant communities. Orovada soils are arable when irrigated and are considered prime farmland. Alfalfa for hay and seed, winter wheat and barley, and grass for hay and pasture are the principal crops grown on these soils.



State Rock (NRS 235.120) 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 Tartan (NRS 235.130)

Some colors of the tartan represent the following features that make Nevada a unique and bountiful state:

- Blue represents one of the state colors of Nevada, the pristine waters of Lake Tahoe and the Mountain Bluebird, the official state bird;
- Silver represents the other state color, the official state mineral, the granite composition of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range, and the silver country of northern Nevada;
- Red represents the Virgin Valley Black Fire Opal, the official state precious gemstone, and the red rock formations of southern Nevada;
- Yellow represents Sagebrush, the official state flower, and symbolizes the Great Basin Region of central Nevada; and
- White represents the name of this state, meaning snow-covered, which is the translation of the Spanish word “nevada.”

State Locomotives (NRS 235.135) Engine No. 40

The steam locomotive of the Nevada Northern Railway known as Engine No. 40 was built in 1910. Engine No. 40 is currently on display at the East Ely Depot Museum in Ely.

FACTS ABOUT NEVADA

Nevada Nicknames:

Sagebrush State

Silver State

Battle-Born State

The origin of the State's name is Spanish, meaning "snow-capped."

Population Statistics

State of Nevada—2,711,205 (2010 Census)

Capital—Carson City—56,506*

Most populous city—Las Vegas—591,422*

Most populous county—Clark—1,952,040*

(*Estimates as of 2009)

Geographical Data

Area of the 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

Nevada is the seventh largest state in size.

Rivers in the Great Basin do not flow to an ocean, like most other rivers. Instead, the rivers flow inland, either to a lake or into a large sink.

Forests cover some 8.6 million acres, but Nevada is so large that it only represents 12 percent of the State.

Nevada has the most mountain ranges of any U.S. state, and it is the driest state in the nation with an average annual precipitation of nine inches.

There are two national parks in Nevada. Great Basin National Park is wholly located in east-central Nevada. Death Valley National Park straddles the California-Nevada border approximately 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

Nevada leads the nation in gold production, accounting for more than 78 percent of total U.S. production.

Nevada is home to nearly 70 percent of the wild horses believed to be roaming free in the United States.

CREDITS

The 2011-2012 *Guide to the Nevada Legislature* was prepared by the Publications Unit of the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

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