

The Guide to the Nevada Legislature 2017–2018



WELCOME TO THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

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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. Please turn all electronic devices to silent or off. 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



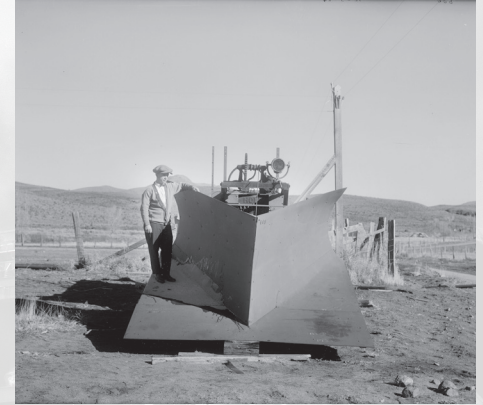
TRANSPORTATION IN NEVADA

A History of Transportation in Nevada

The pioneering spirit first propelled westward travelers across Nevada. Those pioneer trails of the mid-nineteenth century westward expansion served as the footprints on which many modern Nevada roads were built. As we celebrate 100 years of Nevada's transportation department, we reflect on the rich history of the transportation network on which the State relies.

Wagon Tires to Rubber Wheels

Before it was a state, Nevada was traversed by more than 250,000 gold-seekers and farmers traveling across Nevada on the California Trail during the mid-1850s. Pony Express riders and other fortune-and-adventure seekers soon followed, leaving well-established trails that would form the basis of future Nevada roads.



At the dawn of the following century, automobiles took the place of other transportation, leading the Nevada Legislature to create a Department of Highways in 1917. Initially a small agency subsisting on monies from the general fund, racetrack revenues, truck rentals to contractors, and other meager revenue generators, the Department grew to the largest unit of state government in the early 1920s.

About that time, a young Army officer by the name of Dwight D. Eisenhower joined a cross-country military convoy that became mired in the unpaved, frontier roads of the western United States, including Nevada. It was time to surface the dirt roadways of Nevada, and pave the Department did. In 1922, an abandoned railroad was converted into a roadway connecting Las Vegas and Beatty. That same year, the freeway between Reno and Carson City was built in concrete. In 1929, the last Nevada link of the Arrowhead Trail was oiled, paving what was originally a frontier trail to create a smooth highway across southern Nevada. By 1933, there were 2,400 miles of surfaced roads in the State.

TRANSPORTATION IN NEVADA

And that progression continued, as described by W.O. Wright, who started with the Department in 1922 and eventually became state highway engineer:

The people complained about the dust and ruts of the dirt roads and these were replaced by gravel roads. After we had built the gravel roads, we had to turn around and in the following years, replace them with oil and asphalt roads. Finally, we reached the stage of four-lane divided freeways for high-speed transportation.

In 1956, Eisenhower signed his name as president to the Federal-Aid Highway Act. The law established a national highway trust fund to build 41,000 miles of interstate highway across the U.S. And, in that same decade, Nevada had a pivotal role in the completion of the interstate system. When a new section of interstate in Lovelock was completed, it eliminated the last traffic signal between the Pacific and Atlantic coasts on Interstate 80.

Transportation for a Growing State

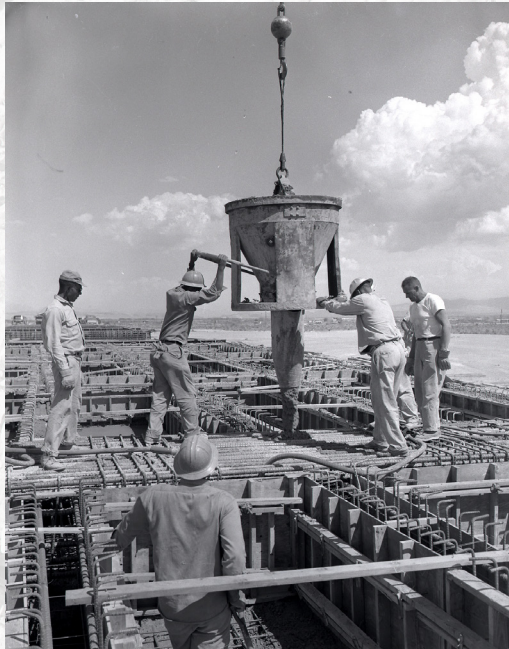
It was only the start to the meteoric growth of a transportation system criss-crossing the State's 109,781 square miles. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, Nevada was the fastest-growing state for five straight decades. In fact, the State experienced a staggering 650 percent population increase between 1950 and 1990. But how to accommodate the transportation needs that come with such rapid growth? The first step was a move to a truly multi-modal transportation system. The State's Department of Highways became Nevada's Department of Transportation (NDOT) in 1979. In the same year, the Nevada Legislature enabled the Department to prepare a state rail plan. Both milestones were indicative of a move toward a truly diverse agency.

And the Department continued to provide an ever diverse array of transportation services, from 511 Nevada Travel Info road conditions and the Freeway Service Patrol to freight, highway safety, bicycle, and other vital planning measures to keep Nevada safely moving into



TRANSPORTATION IN NEVADA

the future. Important road projects to further connect Nevada continued as well. In 2010, the Department's first design-build project used the innovative construction method to complete the I-15 North Design-Build Project in Las Vegas nearly one year ahead of schedule. In 2014, NDOT installed a state-of-the-art lighting system to enhance driver visibility and safety as part of seismic and other roadway improvements made to the Interstate 80 Carlin Tunnels. The lighting installed is anticipated to save more than \$9 million in maintenance and replacement costs over 20 years. In 2016, NDOT broke ground on Project NEON, the largest transportation construction project in the State's history, which will widen 3.7 miles of Interstate 15 in downtown Las Vegas, reducing travel delays by a projected 28 percent.



Today, the Department builds, maintains, and operates 13,000-plus lane miles of state road, roads that have been ranked among the nation's smoothest. More than one-and-a-half million bus rides are provided every year on federal transit money NDOT administers to rural Nevada transit providers. Meanwhile, by rail and air, NDOT supports railroad services and regional and rural aviation to safely heighten Nevada's transportation and tourist options. While we have long moved beyond the days of covered wagons, 100 years later, the pioneering spirit remains in the innovation and single-handed dedication of Nevada's Department of Transportation.



THE LEGISLATURE – BUILDINGS/OFFICES

Legislative Building (Carson City)

Located on the Legislative Mall, which covers an area of seven former city blocks south of the Capitol, the Legislative Building contains 180,000 usable square feet and facilities for the Legislature. The Director and the Administrative and Legal Divisions of the Legislative Counsel Bureau are also housed in this building.

Sedway Office Building (Carson City)

The Sedway Office Building in Carson City, named after former State Assemblyman Marvin M. Sedway, is located southeast 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)

The State Printing Office is located to the east of the Legislative Building and parking garage on the corner of Fifth and Stewart Streets. The State Printing Office serves the printing needs of the three branches of government, in addition to local governments. Additionally, the two-story structure houses Legislative Counsel Bureau staff offices, computer training rooms, and warehouse operations.

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 and videoconferencing capability for the Legislature and 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 – FIRST FLOOR

Senate

Chamber	1216
Committee Hearing Room	1214
Leadership Offices	1219
Secretary of the Senate/Senate Staff	1206
Sergeant at Arms	1209

Assembly

Chamber	1108
Chief Clerk of the Assembly/Assembly Staff	1109
Leadership Offices	1100
Sergeant at Arms	1113

Administrative Division

Accounting Unit	1140
Director's Office	1141
EMT/First Aid	1136
Legislative Police	1144
Lobbyist Room	1120
Lobbyist Registration	1199
Press Room	1200
Public Bill Room	1201

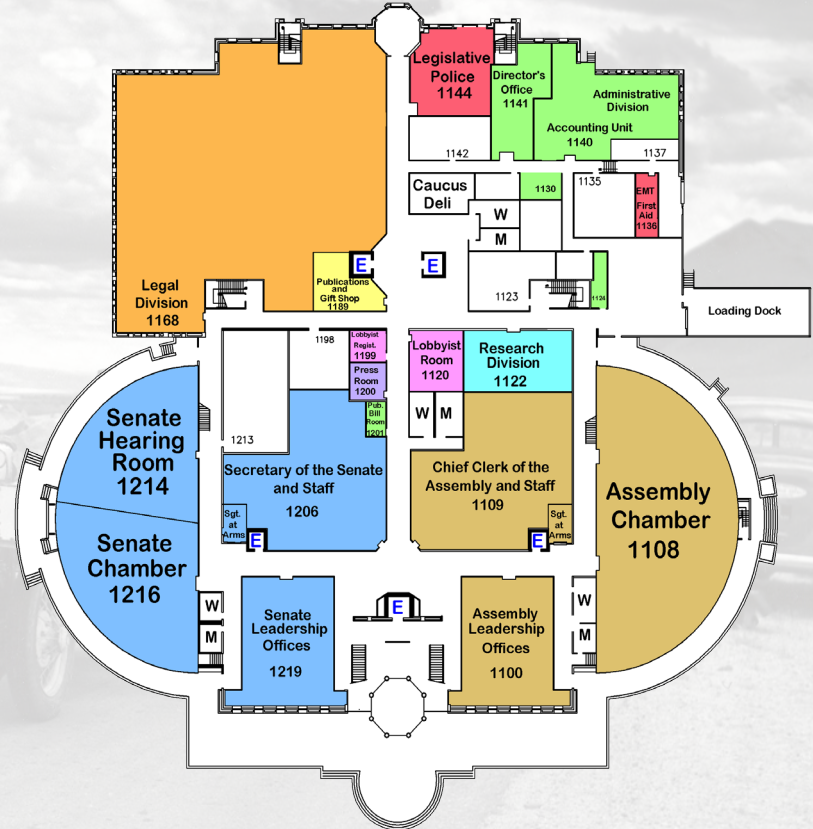
Legal Division

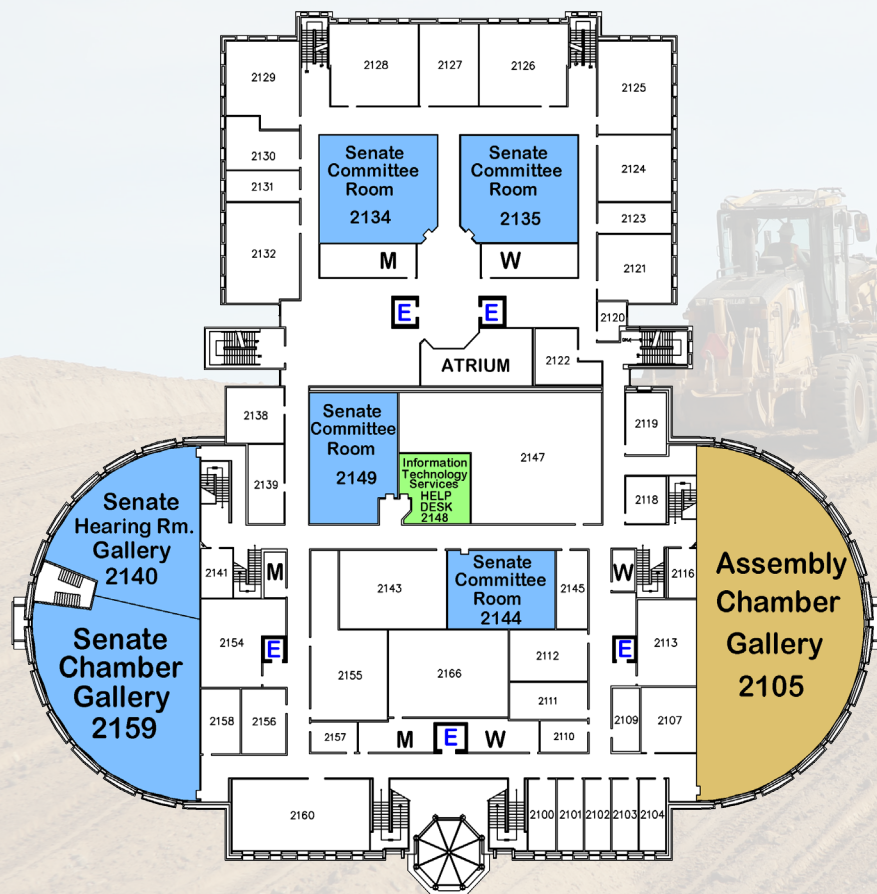
Publications and Gift Shop	1189
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Research Division

Public Restrooms MW

Elevators E





Senate

Committee Hearing Rooms2134, 2135,
2144, 2149

Senators' Offices..... 2100–2104, 2107,
2121, 2124–2129, 2132,
2143, 2145, 2156, 2158

**President of the Senate/
Lieutenant Governor2112**

Senate Minority Leadership	2160
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Audit Division.....2120

Information Technology Services.....2148

Public Restrooms MW

Elevators

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING – THIRD FLOOR

Assembly

Committee Hearing Rooms 3137, 3138,
3142, 3143

Assembly Members' Offices 3116, 3119,
3123–3125, 3127–3134,
3140, 3153, 3156, 3158–3160

Assembly Minority Floor Leadership 3105

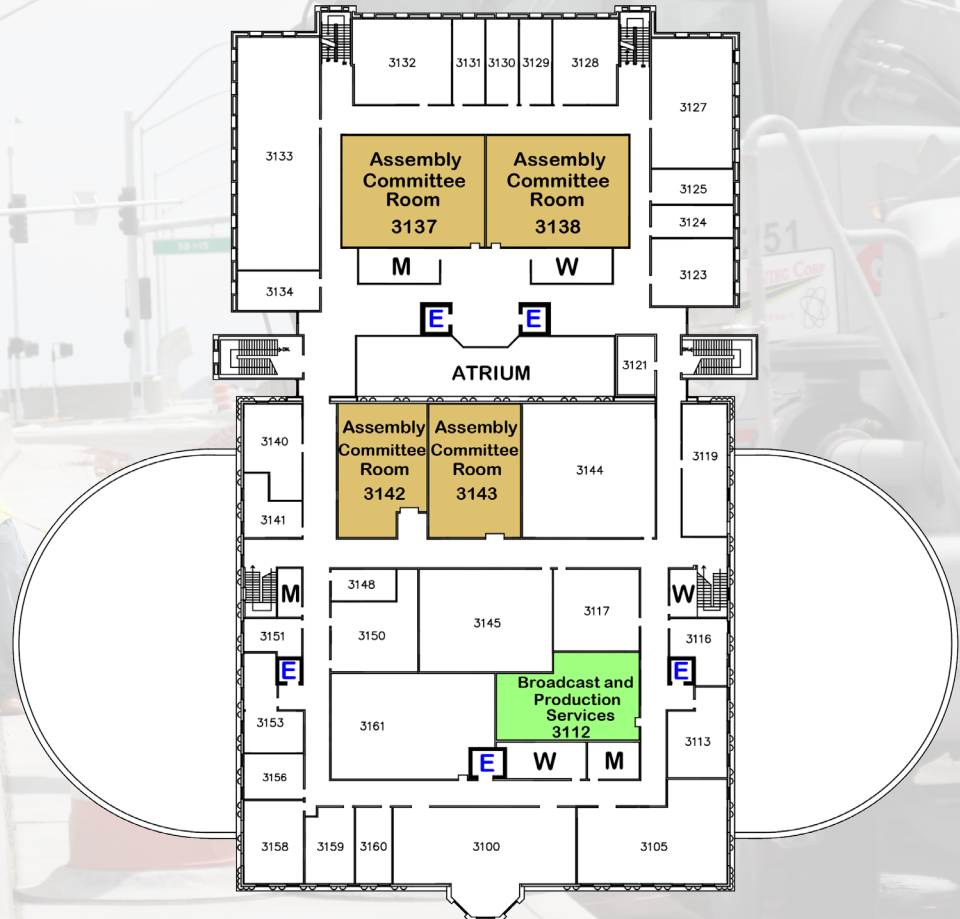
Broadcast and Production Services Unit 3112

Public Restrooms

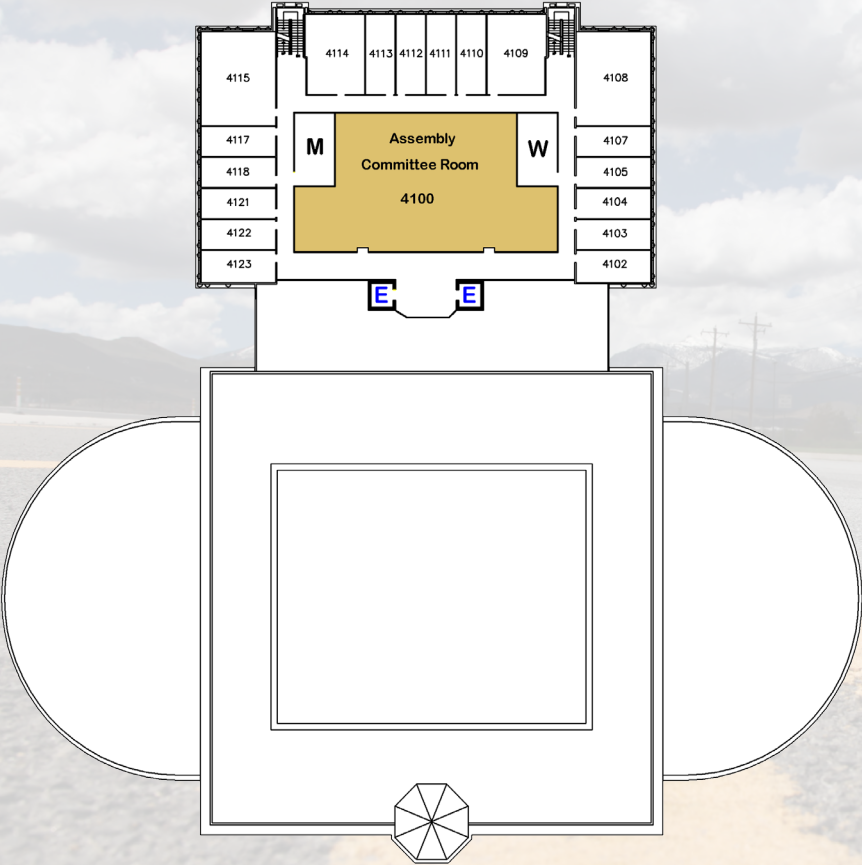
MW

Elevators

E



LEGISLATIVE BUILDING – FOURTH FLOOR



Committee Hearing Room 4100

Assembly Members’ Offices4102–4105,
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 legislators. It further provides that the Senate may not be less than one-third nor more than one-half the size of the Assembly. Since 1983, the Nevada Legislature has had 63 members, 21 in the Senate and 42 in the Assembly.

The *Constitution* requires the Legislature to adjust the boundaries of the legislative districts following each decennial census. Due to an impasse that arose when Governor Brian Sandoval vetoed the redistricting measures approved by the Nevada Legislature, the Legislature was unable to complete the legislative and congressional redistricting process during the 120-day regular session in 2011. Following a number of hearings, judicial briefs, motions, and pleas, District Court Judge James T. Russell, in First Judicial District Case *Guy et al. v. Miller*, appointed three Special Masters to accomplish redistricting. The court-approved maps include four congressional districts (an increase of one), while the size of the Nevada Legislature was retained at 63 members, 21 in the Senate and 42 in the Assembly.

For the first time in Nevada's redistricting history, all districts in both houses are single-member, and two Assembly districts are perfectly nested within each Senate district. The average population of the Assembly districts is 64,299 (based on the 2010 U.S. Census). The Senate districts have an average population of 128,598. The State's population was just over 2.7 million in 2010.

There are now 15 Senate districts wholly within Clark County; 4 districts in the Washoe County/Carson City area, 1 of which includes five counties in western Nevada; and 2 rural districts. One rural district consists of Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties. The other one consists of Elko, Eureka, Lincoln, White Pine, and parts of Nye and northern Clark Counties. The 42 Assembly districts include 30 districts wholly within Clark County, 8 districts in the Washoe County/Carson City/western Nevada area, and 4 Assembly districts within the 2 rural Senate districts.

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."



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 to 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 to two-year terms at the General Election held in November of even-numbered years.

Term Limits

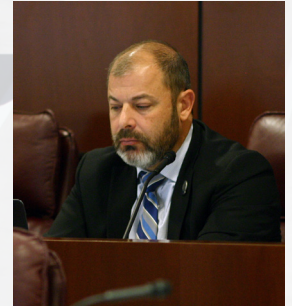
In Nevada, an initiative proposal establishing term limits for State and local elected officers was approved by voters at the 1994 and 1996 General Elections. These limits apply to Senators and Assembly Members (incumbent or not) who filed or ran for office during or after the 1998 election cycle. Assembly Members are limited to 12 years or six terms in office, and Senators are limited to 12 years or three terms in office.

In 2016, two legislators were prohibited from running for reelection due to term limits. Additionally, the 2016 election was the last eligible election year for Senators David Parks and Joyce Woodhouse and Assemblyman James Ohrenschall.

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

Senate District Nos. 1–12, 18, 20, and 21:

Clark County (part)

Senate District Nos. 13 and 15:

Washoe County (part)

(See individual member listings on page 16)

Senate District No. 14 (Gustavson)

Esmeralda, Humboldt, Lander, Mineral, Nye (part), Pershing, and Washoe (part) Counties

Senate District No. 16 (Kieckhefer)

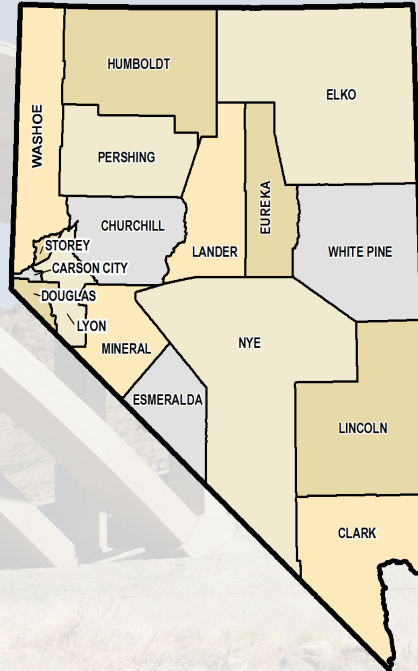
Carson City and Washoe County (part)

Senate District No. 17 (Settelmeyer)

Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties

Senate District No. 19 (Goicoechea)

Clark (part), Elko, Eureka, Lincoln, Nye (part), and White Pine Counties



ASSEMBLY

Assembly District Nos. 1–23, 28, 29, 34, 35, 37, 41, and 42:

Clark County (part)

Assembly District Nos. 24–27, 30, and 31:

Washoe County (part)

(See individual member listings on page 17)

Assembly District No. 32 (Hansen)

Esmeralda, Humboldt, Lander, Mineral, Nye (part), Pershing, and Washoe (part) Counties

Assembly District No. 33 (Ellison)

Elko, Eureka, Lincoln (part), and White Pine Counties

Assembly District No. 36 (Oscarson)

Clark (part), Lincoln (part), and Nye (part) Counties

Assembly District No. 38 (Titus)

Churchill and Lyon (part) Counties

Assembly District No. 39 (Wheeler)

Douglas, Lyon (part), and Storey Counties

Assembly District No. 40 (Kramer)

Carson City and Washoe County (part)

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://mapserve1.leg.state.nv.us/whoRU/>).

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE



Kelvin D. Atkinson
Assistant Majority
Leader
Senate District No. 4
Assembly 2002–2012
Senate 2012–current
Office 1224

D



Yvanna D. Cancela
Senate District No. 10
Senate 2016–current
Office 2127

D



Nicole J. Cannizzaro
Senate District No. 6
Senate 2016–current
Office 2143

D



Moises (Mo) Denis
President Pro Tempore
Senate District No. 2
Assembly 2004–2010
Senate 2010–current
Office 2128

D



Pete Goicoechea
Senate District No. 19
Assembly 2002–2012
Senate 2012–current
Office 2100

R



Donald G. Gustavson
Senate District No. 14
Assembly 1996–2004
and 2008–2010
Senate 2010–current
Office 2104

R



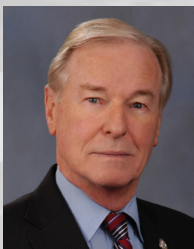
Scott T. Hammond
Co-Minority Whip
Senate District No. 18
Assembly 2010–2012
Senate 2012–current
Office 2102

R



**Joseph (Joe) P. Hardy,
M.D.**
Senate District No. 12
Assembly 2002–2010
Senate 2010–current
Office 2158

R



David R. Parks
Senate District No. 7
Assembly 1996–2008
Senate 2008–current
Office 2125

D



Julia Ratti
Senate District No. 13
Senate 2016–current
Office 2121

D



Michael Roberson
Minority Leader
Senate District No. 20
Senate 2010–current
Office 2160

R



Tick Segerblom
Senate District No. 3
Assembly 2006–2012
Senate 2012–current
Office 2132

D

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE



Patricia Farley
Senate District No. 8
Senate 2014–current
Office 2145

NP



Aaron D. Ford
Majority Leader
Senate District No. 11
Senate 2012–current
Office 1222

D



Heidi S. Gansert
Co-Caucus Policy
Coordinator
Senate District No. 15
Assembly 2004–2010
Senate 2016–current
Office 2103

R

President of the Senate

Mark A. Hutchison
Lieutenant Governor
2014–current
Office 2112

R



Becky Harris
Co-Caucus Policy
Coordinator
Senate District No. 9
Senate 2014–current
Office 2101

R



Ben Kieckhefer
Assistant Minority
Leader
Senate District No. 16
Senate 2010–current
Office 2156

R



Mark A. Manendo
Senate District No. 21
Assembly 1994–2010
Senate 2010–current
Office 2129

D



James A. Settelmeyer
Co-Minority Whip
Senate District No. 17
Assembly 2006–2010
Senate 2010–current
Office 2107

R



Patricia (Pat) Spearman
Co-Majority Whip
Senate District No. 1
Senate 2012–current
Office 2124

D



Joyce Woodhouse
Co-Majority Whip
Senate District No. 5
Senate 2006–2010
and 2012–current
Office 2126

D

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY



D. Paul Anderson (R)
Minority Floor Leader
Assembly District No. 13
Assembly 2012–current
Office 3105



Elliot T. Anderson (D)
Assembly District No. 15
Assembly 2010–current
Office 3125



Nelson Araujo (D)
Assistant Majority Floor
Leader
Assembly District No. 3
Assembly 2014–current
Office 3140



Teresa Benítez-Thompson (D)
Majority Floor Leader
Assembly District No. 27
Assembly 2010–current
Office 1102



Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod (D)
Assembly District No. 34
Assembly 2016–current
Office 3129



Chris Brooks (D)
Assembly District No. 10
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4107



Irene Bustamante Adams (D)
Speaker Pro Tempore
Assembly District No. 42
Assembly 2010–current
Office 4108



Edgar R. Flores (D)
Assembly District No. 28
Assembly 2014–current
Office 4115



Jason Frierson (D)
Speaker
Assembly District No. 8
Assembly 2010–2014 and
2016–current
Office 1104



Ozzie Fumo (D)
Assembly District No. 21
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4118



John Hambrick (R)
Assembly District No. 2
Assembly 2008–current
Office 3160



Ira Hansen (R)
Assembly District No. 32
Assembly 2010–current
Office 4123



Sandra Jauregui (D)
Assembly District No. 41
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4104



Amber Joiner (D)
Assembly District No. 24
Assembly 2014–current
Office 4113



Dina Neal (D)
Assembly District No. 7
Assembly 2010–current
Office 4109



James Ohrenschall (D)
Assembly District No. 12
Assembly 2006–current
Office 3123



James Oscarson (R)
Co-Deputy Minority
Floor Leader
Assembly District No. 36
Assembly 2012–current
Office 3105



Keith Pickard (R)
Assembly District No. 22
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4105



Ellen B. Spiegel (D)
Co-Assistant Majority Whip
Assembly District No. 20
Assembly 2008–2010
and 2012–current
Office 3153



Michael C. Sprinkle (D)
Majority Whip
Assembly District No. 30
Assembly 2012–current
Office 3132



Heidi Swank (D)
Co-Assistant Majority Whip
Assembly District No. 16
Assembly 2012–current
Office 3158

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY



Maggie Carlton (D)
Assembly District No. 14
Senate 1998–2010
Assembly 2010–current
Office 3133



Richard Carrillo (D)
Assembly District No. 18
Assembly 2010–current
Office 3119



Lesley E. Cohen (D)
Assembly District No. 29
Assembly 2012–2014
and 2016–current
Office 3156



Richard (Skip) Daly (D)
Assembly District No. 31
Assembly 2010–2014
and 2016–current
Office 4122



Olivia Diaz (D)
Assembly District No. 11
Assembly 2010–current
Office 3128



Chris Edwards (R)
Assembly District No. 19
Assembly 2014–current
Office 3134



John C. Ellison (R)
Minority Whip Rural
Assembly District No. 33
Assembly 2010–current
Office 3116



Al Kramer (R)
Assembly District No. 40
Assembly 2016–current
Office 3130



Lisa Krasner (R)
Assembly District No. 26
Assembly 2016–current
Office 3124



Jim Marchant (R)
Assembly District No. 37
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4102



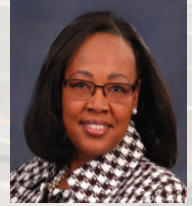
Richard McArthur (R)
Assembly District No. 4
Assembly 2008–2014
and 2016–current
Office 4121



William McCurdy II (D)
Assembly District No. 6
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4112



Brittney Miller (D)
Assembly District No. 5
Assembly 2016–current
Office 3131



Daniele Monroe-Moreno (D)
Assembly District No. 1
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4117



Tyrone Thompson (D)
Chief Deputy Majority Whip
Assembly District No. 17
Assembly 2013–current
Office 4114



Robin L. Titus, M.D. (R)
Assembly District No. 38
Assembly 2014–current
Office 4111



Jill Tolles (R)
Assembly District No. 25
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4103



Justin Watkins (D)
Assembly District No. 35
Assembly 2016–current
Office 4110



Jim Wheeler (R)
Co-Deputy Minority
Floor Leader
Assembly District No. 39
Assembly 2012–current
Office 3105



Melissa Woodbury (R)
Minority Whip
Assembly District No. 23
Assembly 2008–current
Office 3159



Steve Yeager (D)
Assembly District No. 9
Assembly 2016–current
Office 3127

SENATE DIRECTORY

Atkinson, Kelvin D. (D)

Senate District No. 4
4165 Fuselier Drive
North Las Vegas, NV 89032
(702) 457-9995 (H/F)

Cancela, Yvanna D. (D)*†

Senate District No. 10
2807 Geary Place, No. 2506
Las Vegas, NV 89109
(775) 684-1427 (O)

Cannizzaro, Nicole J. (D)

Senate District No. 6
7901 Cocoa Beach Circle
Las Vegas, NV 89128
(775) 684-1475 (O)

Denis, Moises (Mo) (D)†

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

Farley, Patricia (NP)†

Senate District No. 8
1930 Village Center Circle, No. 3-619
Las Vegas, NV 89134
(702) 370-6649 (O)

Ford, Aaron D. (D)

Senate District No. 11
P.O. Box 96003
Las Vegas, NV 89193
(702) 772-5544 (O/C)

Gansert, Heidi S. (R)

Senate District No. 15
316 California Avenue, No. 519
Reno, NV 89509
(775) 684-1419 (O)

Goicoechea, Pete (R)

Senate District No. 19
P.O. Box 97
Eureka, NV 89316
(775) 237-5300 (H)
(775) 237-7383 (O)
(775) 778-1620 (C)
(775) 237-5102 (F)

Gustavson, Donald (Don) G. (R)†

Senate District No. 14
P.O. Box 51601
Sparks, NV 89435
(775) 722-1278 (C)

Hammond, Scott T. (R)

Senate District No. 18
8408 Gracious Pine Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89143
(702) 523-9055 (H)

Hardy, Joseph (Joe) P., M.D. (R)†

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

Harris, Becky (R)†

Senate District No. 9
P.O. Box 401146
Las Vegas, NV 89140
(702) 324-0404 (O)

Kieckhefer, Ben (R)†

Senate District No. 16
10045 Goler Wash Court
Reno, NV 89521
(775) 223-9618 (C)

Manendo, Mark A. (D)†

Senate District No. 21
4030 Beisner Street
Las Vegas, NV 89122
(702) 451-8654 (H)
(702) 451-9060 (F)

Parks, David R. (D)

Senate District No. 7
P.O. Box 71887
Las Vegas, NV 89170
(702) 736-6929 (H)

Ratti, Julia (D)†

Senate District No. 13
P.O. Box 4228
Sparks, NV 89432
(775) 525-0359 (O)

Roberson, Michael (R)†

Senate District No. 20
P.O. Box 530940
Henderson, NV 89053
(702) 575-9112 (H)

Segerblom, Tick (D)

Senate District No. 3
701 East Bridger Avenue, No. 520
Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 388-9600 (O)
(702) 385-2909 (F)

Settelmeyer, James A. (R)†

Senate District No. 17
2388 Highway 395
Minden, NV 89423
(775) 450-6114 (C)
(775) 322-8889 (F)

Spearman, Patricia (Pat) (D)

Senate District No. 1
5575 Simmons Street, No. 1-174
North Las Vegas, NV 89031
(702) 706-5785 (H)
(702) 701-0612 (O)

Woodhouse, Joyce (D)

Senate District No. 5
246 Garfield Drive
Henderson, NV 89074
(702) 896-1453 (H)
(702) 407-9258 (F)



Claire J. Clift
Secretary of the Senate

*Appointed by the Clark County Commission to fill vacancy created by Ruben J. Kihuen's election to Congressional District No. 4 on November 8, 2016.

ASSEMBLY DIRECTORY

Anderson, D. Paul (R)
Assembly District No. 13
7322 South Rainbow Boulevard
No. 51
Las Vegas, NV 89139
(702) 410-6645 (O)
(702) 735-7372 (F)

Anderson, Elliot T. (D)
Assembly District No. 15
3135 South Mojave Road, No. 227
Las Vegas, NV 89121
(702) 733-4073 (H)

Araujo, Nelson (D)
Assembly District No. 3
P.O. Box 295
Las Vegas, NV 89125
(702) 900-2189 (C)

Benitez-Thompson, Teresa (D)
Assembly District No. 27
P.O. Box 5730
Reno, NV 89513
(775) 247-7665 (C)

Bilbray-Axelrod, Shannon (D)
Assembly District No. 34
1608 Hills of Red Drive, No. 203
Las Vegas, NV 89128
(775) 684-8847 (O)

Brooks, Chris (D)
Assembly District No. 10
3540 West Sahara Avenue
No. 188
Las Vegas, NV 89102
(702) 682-1294 (C)

Bustamante Adams, Irene (D)
Assembly District No. 42
3800 Reflection Way
Las Vegas, NV 89147
(702) 542-3900 (H)

Carlton, Maggie (D)
Assembly District No. 14
5540 East Cartwright Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89110
(702) 236-5401 (O)

Carrillo, Richard (D)
Assembly District No. 18
4819 Diza Court
Las Vegas, NV 89122
(702) 273-8786 (H)

Cohen, Lesley E. (D)
Assembly District No. 29
2657 Windmill Parkway
No. 415
Henderson, NV 89074
(702) 715-0772 (O)

Daly, Richard (Skip) (D)
Assembly District No. 31
2180 Fourth Street
Sparks, NV 89431
(775) 359-0731 (H)
(775) 722-6534 (C)

Diaz, Olivia (D)
Assembly District No. 11
P.O. Box 365072
North Las Vegas, NV 89036
(702) 501-8994 (H)

Edwards, Chris (R)
Assembly District No. 19
6088 Riflecrest Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89156
(702) 715-4308 (C)

Ellison, John C. (R)
Assembly District No. 33
P.O. Box 683
Elko, NV 89803
(775) 738-6284 (H/O)
(775) 934-6611 (C)

Flores, Edgar R. (D)
Assembly District No. 28
P.O. Box 42302
Las Vegas, NV 89116
(702) 308-0483 (C)

Frierson, Jason (D)
Assembly District No. 8
7925 West Russell Road
No. 400187
Las Vegas, NV 89140
(702) 280-2981 (C)

Fumo, Ozzie (D)
Assembly District No. 21
601 Las Vegas Boulevard South
Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 683-4806 (H/C)

Hambrick, John (R)
Assembly District No. 2
1930 Village Center Circle
No. 3-419
Las Vegas, NV 89134
(702) 242-8580 (H)
(702) 499-6169 (C)
(702) 242-3406 (F)

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

Jauregui, Sandra (D)
Assembly District No. 41
7582 Las Vegas Boulevard
South, No. 118
Las Vegas, NV 89123
(702) 336-4348 (C)

Joiner, Amber (D)
Assembly District No. 24
P.O. Box 9810
Reno, NV 89507
(775) 338-6733 (C)

Kramer, Al (R)
Assembly District No. 40
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 721-5865 (C)

Krasner, Lisa (R)
Assembly District No. 26
59 Damonte Ranch Parkway
No. B-460
Reno, NV 89521
(775) 420-8411 (C)

Marchant, Jim (R)
Assembly District No. 37
848 North Rainbow Boulevard
No. 464
Las Vegas, NV 89107
(702) 706-1815 (O)
(702) 305-7475 (C)

McArthur, Richard (R)
Assembly District No. 4
4640 Panoramic Court
Las Vegas, NV 89129
(702) 396-1065 (O)
(702) 715-7181 (C)

McCurdy, William, II (D)
Assembly District No. 6
1117 Hart Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89106
(702) 481-8139 (C)

Miller, Brittney (D)
Assembly District No. 5
9030 West Sahara Avenue
No. 364
Las Vegas, NV 89117
(702) 518-0599 (O)

Monroe-Moreno, Daniele (D)
Assembly District No. 1
5575 Simmons Street, No. 154
North Las Vegas, NV 89031
(702) 816-7922 (C)

Neal, Dina (D)
Assembly District No. 7
3217 Brautigan Court
North Las Vegas, NV 89032
(702) 738-5870 (H)
(702) 399-2114 (F)

Ohrenschall, James (D)
Assembly District No. 12
P.O. Box 97741
Las Vegas, NV 89193
(702) 432-6999 (H)
(702) 523-4766 (C)

Oscarson, James (R)
Assembly District No. 36
P.O. Box 1600
Pahrump, NV 89048
(775) 513-7468 (C)

Pickard, Keith (R)
Assembly District No. 22
10120 South Eastern Avenue
No. 140
Henderson, NV 89052
(702) 910-4300 (O)
(702) 910-4303 (F)

Spiegel, Ellen B. (D)
Assembly District No. 20
2764 North Green Valley
Parkway, No. 327
Henderson, NV 89014
(702) 577-2167 (O)

Sprinkle, Michael C. (D)
Assembly District No. 30
P.O. Box 51202
Sparks, NV 89435
(775) 742-5935 (H)

Swank, Heidi (D)
Assembly District No. 16
546 Barbara Way
Las Vegas, NV 89104
(702) 371-6217 (H)

Thompson, Tyrone (D)
Assembly District No. 17
117 Fox Crossing Avenue
North Las Vegas, NV 89084
(702) 561-7976 (C)

Titus, Robin L., M.D. (R)
Assembly District No. 38
P.O. Box 377
Wellington, NV 89444
(775) 465-2587 (H)
(775) 465-2676 (F)

Tolles, Jill (R)
Assembly District No. 25
4790 Caughlin Parkway
No. 180
Reno, NV 89519
(775) 775-815-4237 (O/C)

Watkins, Justin (D)
Assembly District No. 35
10789 West Twain Avenue
No. 100
Las Vegas, NV 89135
(702) 812-0826 (C)

Wheeler, Jim (R)
Assembly District No. 39
P.O. Box 2135
Minden, NV 89423
(775) 546-3471 (C)

Woodbury, Melissa (R)
Assembly District No. 23
7322 South Rainbow Boulevard
No. 51
Las Vegas, NV 89139
(702) 721-0787 (O)
(702) 240-2332 (F)

Yeager, Steve (D)
Assembly District No. 9
10120 West Flamingo Road
No. 4162
Las Vegas, NV 89147
(702) 281-5938 (C)



Susan Furlong
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 one lasted as long as 169 days. The Legislature convened its 79th Regular Session on February 6, 2017. It must adjourn “sine die” (without a day being set for reconvening) no later than June 5, 2017.

The 2015 Regular Session

The 2015 Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature considered 1,013 new bills—498 from the Assembly and 515 from the Senate. Additionally, two initiative petitions were considered, and 18 vetoed bills were returned from the previous session for the 2015 Regular Session to consider. Of these 1,013 bills that were considered, 556 bills were approved. The Governor vetoed 7 bills, all of which will be returned to the 2017 Legislature for possible veto overrides. The Governor signed all of the remaining bills; therefore, 549 bills became law.

The 29th Special Session

The Governor called the Legislature into its 29th Special Session on December 16 through December 19, 2015, to provide incentives for certain businesses to locate to Nevada in alignment with the State’s economic development plan (Faraday Future); revise provisions concerning workforce development programs; and address associated water rights applications and water services. During the 29th Special Session, four bills were introduced, all of which were enacted into State law.

The 30th Special Session

The Governor called the Legislature into its 30th Special Session on October 10 through October 14, 2016, to finance the expansion and renovation of the Las Vegas Convention Center; provide a method to finance the construction and operation of a National Football League stadium project or a college football stadium project in Clark County; and authorize the Clark County Board of Commissioners to increase the sales and use tax in order to employ and equip additional law enforcement officers.



THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE IN ACTION

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, makes fiscal decisions for the Legislature during the period between regular sessions. The Interim Finance Committee considers requests for allocations from its Contingency Account to meet unforeseen financial emergencies.

During the interim, 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.



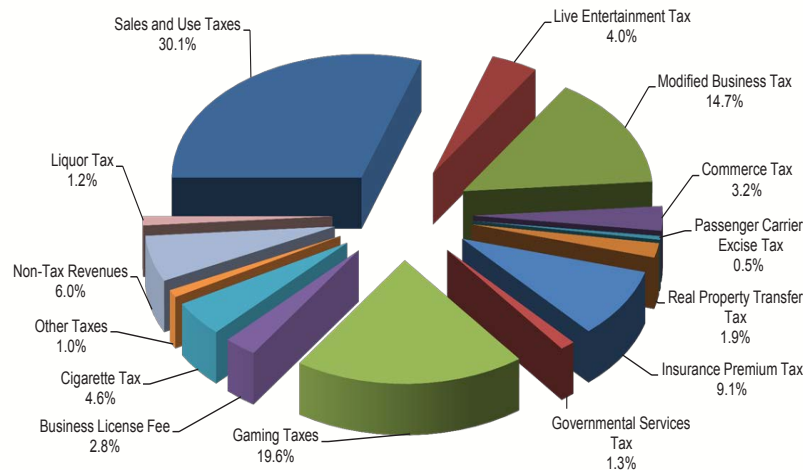
GENERAL FUND BUDGET

The 2015 Legislature approved State General Fund appropriations for the 2015-2017 Biennium of nearly \$7.3 billion. The approved budget for the ongoing operation of State government totals approximately \$20.9 billion.

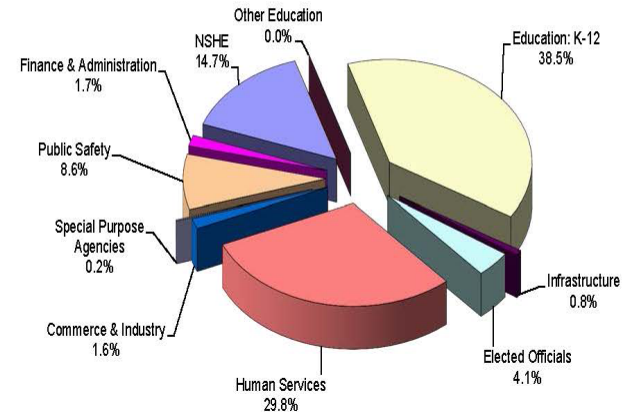
The State General Fund Revenues for the 2015-2017 Biennium were projected in May 2015 to come from the sources as indicated below:

The uses of State General Fund Appropriations for the 2015-2017 Biennium were approved by the 2015 Legislature for expenditure as indicated below:

NEVADA GENERAL FUND REVENUE
ADJUSTED ECONOMIC FORUM FORECAST, 2015-17 BIENNIUM*



NEVADA GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS
LEGISLATURE APPROVED – 2015-17 BIENNIUM



*Adjusted for legislative actions approved by the 2015 Legislature (78th Session).

MBT refers to the Modified Business Tax, and NSHE refers to the Nevada System of Higher Education.

LEADERSHIP OF THE 79TH SESSION

SENATE



*Majority Leader
Aaron D. Ford*



*President Pro Tempore
Moises (Mo) Denis*



*Minority Leader
Michael Roberson*



*Assistant Majority Leader
Kelvin D. Atkinson*



*Assistant Minority Leader
Ben Kieckhefer*



*Co-Majority Whip
Patricia (Pat) Spearman*



*Co-Minority Whip
Scott T. Hammond*



*Co-Majority Whip
Joyce Woodhouse*



*Co-Minority Whip
James A. Settlemeyer*



*Co-Caucus Policy Coordinator
Heidi S. Gansert*



*Co-Caucus Policy Coordinator
Becky Harris*

ASSEMBLY



*Speaker
Jason Frierson*



*Speaker Pro Tempore
Irene Bustamante Adams*



*Minority Floor Leader
D. Paul Anderson*



*Majority Floor Leader
Teresa Benitez-Thompson*



*Co-Deputy
Minority Floor Leader
Jim Wheeler*



*Assistant Majority Floor Leader
Nelson Araujo*



*Co-Deputy
Minority Floor Leader
James Oscarson*



*Majority Whip
Michael C. Sprinkle*



*Minority Whip
Melissa Woodbury*



*Chief Deputy Majority Whip
Tyrone Thompson*



*Minority Whip Rural
John C. Ellison*



*Co-Assistant Majority Whip
Ellen B. Spiegel*



*Co-Assistant Majority Whip
Heidi Swank*

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 general 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 decides 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, it is 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 of 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.

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 is returned to the house of origin for possible consideration to override or sustain 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.



Governor Brian Sandoval

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE 79TH 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 2017 Session, the Senate has 10 standing committees, while the Assembly has 11 standing committees. The listings that follow show the specific committee assignments for the 2017 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**—Atkinson, Spearman, Cancela, Cannizzaro, Gansert, Hardy, Settelmeyer.

•**Education**—Denis, Woodhouse, Segerblom, Spearman, Gustavson, Hammond, Harris.

•**Finance**—Woodhouse, Parks, Denis, Ford, Goicoechea, Harris, Kieckhefer.

•**Government Affairs**—Parks, Manendo, Ratti, Goicoechea, Hardy.

•**Health and Human Services**—Spearman, Ratti, Woodhouse, Hammond, Hardy.

•**Judiciary**—Segerblom, Cannizzaro, Denis, Ford, Gustavson, Harris, Roberson.

•**Legislative Operations and Elections**—Cannizzaro, Segerblom, Atkinson, Gansert, Settelmeyer.

•**Natural Resources**—Cancela, Manendo, Ratti, Goicoechea, Settelmeyer.

•**Revenue and Economic Development**—Ratti, Ford, Parks, Gansert, Kieckhefer, Roberson, Farley.

•**Transportation**—Manendo, Atkinson, Gustavson, Hammond, Farley.

Assembly Standing Committees

•**Commerce and Labor**—Bustamante Adams, Carlton, Araujo, Brooks, Daly, Frierson, Jauregui, Neal, Ohrenschall, P. Anderson, Hansen, Kramer, Marchant, Tolles.

•**Corrections, Parole, and Probation**—Ohrenschall, Yeager, E. Anderson, Cohen, Fumo, Jauregui, Miller, Thompson, Watkins, Hansen, Krasner, Pickard, Tolles, Wheeler.

•**Education**—Thompson, Joiner, E. Anderson, Diaz, Flores, Fumo, McCurdy, Miller, Swank, Edwards, Krasner, Pickard, Tolles, Woodbury.

•**Government Affairs**—Flores, Neal, Bilbray-Axelrod, Brooks, Carrillo, Daly, Joiner, McCurdy, Monroe-Moreno, Ellison, Kramer, Marchant, McArthur, Woodbury.

•**Health and Human Services**—Sprinkle, Joiner, Benitez-Thompson, Carrillo, McCurdy, Miller, Thompson, Yeager, Edwards, Hambrick, Oscarson, Titus.

•**Judiciary**—Yeager, Ohrenschall, E. Anderson, Cohen, Fumo, Jauregui, Miller, Thompson, Watkins, Hansen, Krasner, Pickard, Tolles, Wheeler.

•**Legislative Operations and Elections**—Diaz, Araujo, E. Anderson, Bilbray-Axelrod, Daly, Monroe-Moreno, Ohrenschall, Hambrick, Hansen, McArthur, Oscarson.

•**Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining**—Swank, Cohen, Brooks, Carlton, Jauregui, Watkins, Yeager, Ellison, Krasner, Titus, Wheeler.

•**Taxation**—Neal, Bustamante Adams, Benitez-Thompson, Cohen, Flores, Frierson, Spiegel, P. Anderson, Kramer, Marchant, Pickard.

•**Transportation**—Carrillo, Spiegel, Bilbray-Axelrod, Fumo, Monroe-Moreno, Sprinkle, Watkins, Ellison, McArthur, Wheeler, Woodbury.

•**Ways and Means**—Carlton, Frierson, Araujo, Benitez-Thompson, Bustamante Adams, Diaz, Spiegel, Sprinkle, Swank, P. Anderson, Edwards, Hambrick, Oscarson, Titus.

CONTACTING THE 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 other Nevada areas)

Faxing a Document

To Senators at (775) 684-6522
To Assembly Members at (775) 684-8533
To the Legislative Building at (775) 684-6811
Toll-free to the Legislative Building at (866) 543-9941

Mailing a Letter

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

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

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 of this *Guide*, 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 other Nevada areas)

Any Time of the Year

Constituent Services Unit

Telephone: (775) 684-6740

Toll-free from Las Vegas area: 486-3883

Toll-free from other Nevada areas: (800) 992-0973



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 etched-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 the Republic of China (Taiwan) to the Nevada Legislature. The Republic of China (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 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 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 Colors (NRS 235.025) Silver and Blue



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 4.5 feet tall and can weigh as much as 175 pounds.

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 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.

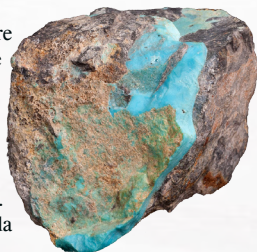
State Fossil (NRS 235.080) Ichthyosaur

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 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 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 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 either tan or tan and gray.

State Locomotives (NRS 235.135) Engine No. 40

The steam locomotive known as Engine No. 40 was built in 1910. Engine No. 40 is currently located in East Ely, Nevada.

State March (NRS 235.035) “Silver State Fanfare”

The March was composed by Gerald Willis and codified by the Nevada Legislature in 2001.

State Metal (NRS 235.090) Silver (Ag)

In 2013, over 8.5 million ounces of silver were produced in Nevada.

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 Rock (NRS 235.120) Sandstone

In its more traditionally recognized form 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 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 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 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 Trees (NRS 235.040)

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.

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.

FACTS ABOUT NEVADA

Nevada Nicknames

Sagebrush State

Silver State

Battle-Born State

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

Population Statistics (2010 Census)

State of Nevada—2,700,551

Capital—Carson City—55,274

Most populous city—Las Vegas—583,756

Most populous county—Clark—1,951,269

Geographical Data

Area of the State—109,781 square miles
(approximately 85 percent of Nevada's
land area is federally managed)

Highest elevation—Boundary Peak
in Esmeralda County—13,140 feet

Lowest elevation—on the Colorado River
in Clark County—470 feet

Did You Know?

1. The first "Nevada State Highway" was created by Assembly Bill 119 in 1913. The route described matches present-day U.S. Highway 50 from Ely to Fernley (named the "Loneliest Road in America" by *Life* magazine in July 1986).
2. Nevadans have a total of 68 license plate designs to choose from when registering a vehicle: 2 standard plates (until the "Sunset" plate inventory is depleted), 26 charitable and collegiate plates, 21 veteran and military plates, 8 classic vehicle plates, 7 organization plates, 3 firefighter and peace officer plates, or the Circa 1982 replica plate (aka the "Blue" plate).
3. When NDOT was created in 1917, as the Nevada Department of Highways, Clark County had 307 registered automobiles. Today, Clark County has more than 1.3 million registered automobiles.
4. The National Automobile Museum in Reno is home to more than 200 vehicles, the majority of which came from the private collection of gaming pioneer Bill Harrah, who once had approximately 1,400 vehicles. The vehicles, along with the library's comprehensive automotive resources dating back to 1895, earned the museum the Society of Automotive Historians' James J. Bradley Distinguished Service Award in 2016.
5. Nevada's Department of Transportation operates a total of 315 traffic cameras in the metro areas of Las Vegas, Reno, and Elko to provide live, streaming views of road conditions to the public.
6. During the busy summer, as many as 20,000 vehicles per day drive across the Hoover Dam despite it being closed to through-traffic since October 2010, when the Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge opened.
7. The Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge is the longest single-span concrete arch bridge in the Western Hemisphere, while the Galena Creek Bridge (I-580) is the world's largest concrete cathedral-arch bridge.

CREDITS

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