

The 2023-2024
GUIDE
to the Nevada Legislature



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WELCOME to the Nevada Legislature

Of the three branches of government, the Legislative Branch is often considered the closest to the people, as it is the branch in which individuals may participate most directly. This *Guide* is intended to provide information about the Nevada Legislature, the legislative process, and facts about the State. The 2023–2024 edition also features one of Nevada’s most treasured and awe-inspiring assets: its state parks.

One of the best ways to learn more about the Legislature is to watch it in action, whether online through the legislative website (www.leg.state.nv.us) or at the Legislative Building in Carson City. If you visit the Building, please abide by a few rules. Please turn all electronic devices to silent or off. If you converse during a committee meeting or in the gallery of the Senate or Assembly, please speak softly so as not to disrupt the legislative process. Finally, if you wish to participate in a hearing by providing testimony, please follow the guidelines provided on the meeting agenda.

Thank you for taking an interest in the Nevada Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH | CREATES THE LAW



EXECUTIVE BRANCH | ENFORCES THE LAW



JUDICIAL BRANCH | INTERPRETS THE LAW



Nevada State Parks

The movement to begin recognizing areas of the public domain for recreational uses began in the early 20th Century; however, it was in 1935 that the Nevada Legislature formally designated the State’s first official “state parks” and created a State Parks Commission to oversee them. The Legislature is proud to feature our State’s rich history of state parks in this *2023–2024 Guide to the Legislature*.

Today, the Division of State Parks—housed within the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources—oversees 27 parks across the State: from Cave Rock at Lake Tahoe and South Fork near Elko, to the Ward Charcoal Ovens near Ely and Big Bend of the Colorado at the southernmost tip of the State. Nevada’s newest state park—Ice Age Fossils—is scheduled to open soon near Las Vegas.

Together, these parks host nearly 4 million visitors a year. They offer not only outdoor activities like camping, fishing, and hiking, but also cultural resources like petroglyphs, museums, and historic structures. This is in keeping with the Legislature’s intent for the Division of State Parks to “...acquire, protect, develop and interpret a well-balanced system of areas of outstanding scenic, recreational, scientific and historical importance for the inspiration, use and enjoyment of the people of the State of Nevada...” (*Nevada Revised Statutes* 407.013)





Nevada's Division of State Parks offers a variety of programs and activities to encourage Nevadans to explore the State's diverse natural and cultural resources. Among others, these include the:

Park Passport Program

The Nevada State Parks Passport booklet—which can be picked up at any State park—offers information about each park, as well as a way for visitors to catalog and commemorate their visits. Visitors who have their booklets stamped at 15 different parks earn a free annual pass to all Nevada State parks.

Junior Ranger Program

Children of all ages can earn Junior Ranger badges by completing a free activity book during a visit to any or all of Nevada's State parks. The activity books are available at each park or may be downloaded from the Division of State Parks website.

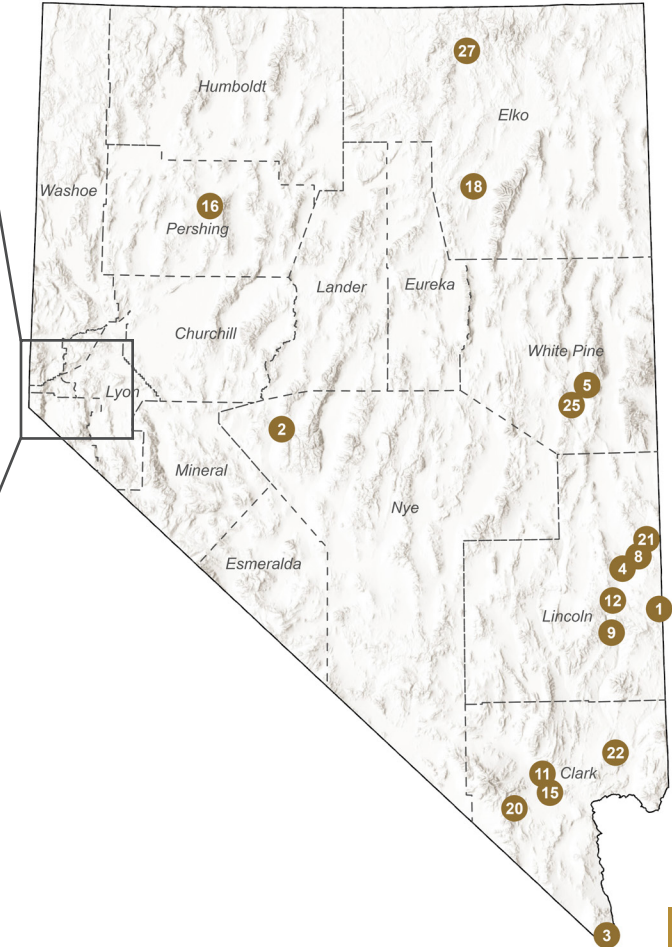
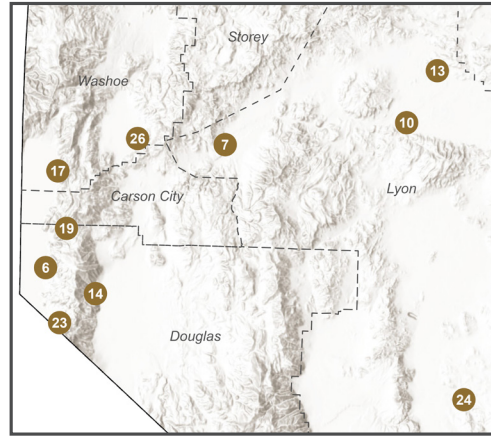
For more information about these and other programs—including the 5th Grade Discovery Pass, Library Park Passes, activity pages, and more—or to plan a visit to one of the parks, be sure to explore the Division of State Parks website at parks.nv.gov.

Making the Most of Nevada's State Parks

From hikes and tours, to cook-offs and journaling workshops, Nevada's State parks host numerous activities to help visitors experience the natural world in innovative ways. A list of upcoming events is available online at parks.nv.gov/events.

Map of Nevada State Parks

- 1 BEAVER DAM
- 2 BERLIN-ICHTHYOSAUR
- 3 BIG BEND OF THE COLORADO
- 4 CATHEDRAL GORGE
- 5 CAVE LAKE
- 6 CAVE ROCK
- 7 DAYTON
- 8 ECHO CANYON
- 9 ELGIN SCHOOLHOUSE
- 10 FORT CHURCHILL / BUCKLAND STATION
- 11 ICE AGE FOSSILS (opening soon)
- 12 KERSHAW-RYAN
- 13 LAHONTAN
- 14 MORMON STATION
- 15 OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT
- 16 RYE PATCH
- 17 SAND HARBOR
- 18 SOUTH FORK
- 19 SPOONER LAKE AND BACKCOUNTRY



- 20 SPRING MOUNTAIN RANCH
- 21 SPRING VALLEY
- 22 VALLEY OF FIRE
- 23 VAN SICKLE
- 24 WALKER RIVER
- 25 WARD CHARCOAL OVENS
- 26 WASHOE LAKE
- 27 WILD HORSE



Overview of the Nevada Legislature

Size and Apportionment

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.”

The *State 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 Nevada’s legislative districts every ten years, after the United States Census. Redistricting was last completed during a special session of the Legislature in November 2021, using data from the 2020 Census. In the resulting maps, two Assembly districts are nested within each Senate district. The average population of each Senate district was 150,406 in 2021, and the average population of each Assembly district was 75,203 (based on population estimates from Nevada’s State Demographer).

Geographically, 15 Senate districts are wholly within Clark County; 2 are wholly within Washoe County; and 4 include multiple counties. For the Assembly, 30 districts are wholly within Clark County; 6 are wholly within Washoe County; and 6 include multiple counties. The current maps will remain in place until the 2032 election cycle, after the Legislature again redraws the district boundaries in 2031.

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 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

All 42 members of the Assembly are elected to two-year terms at the general election held in November of even-numbered years. Members of the Senate are elected to four-year terms, with 10 Senators being elected at one general election and the other 11 at the next.

OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Term Limits

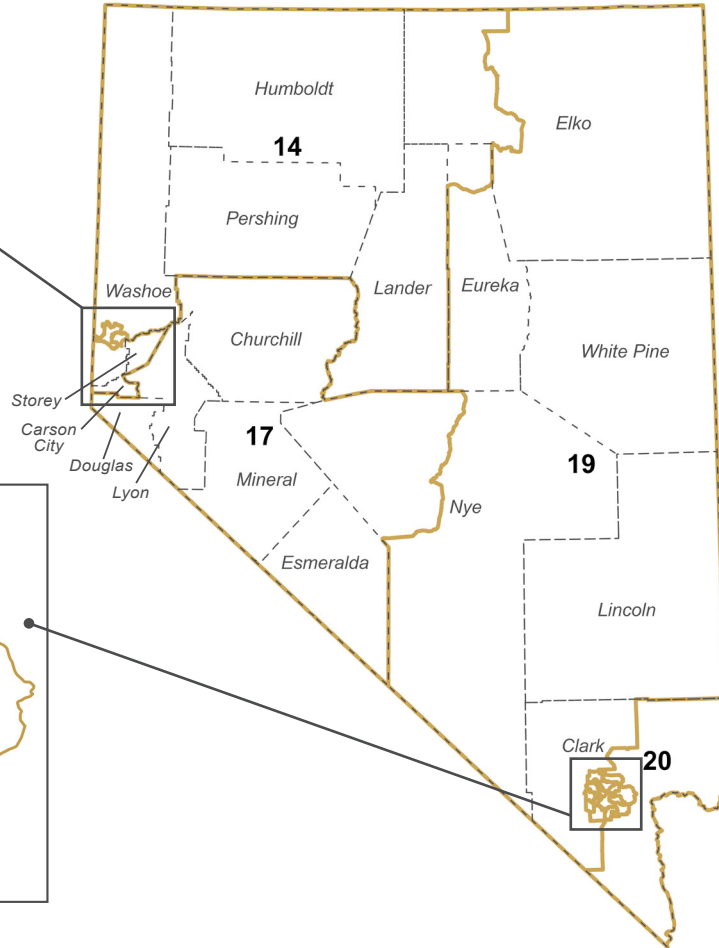
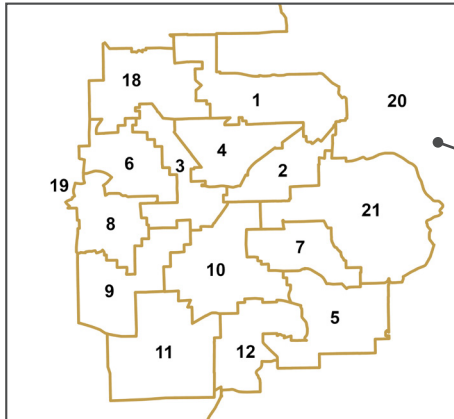
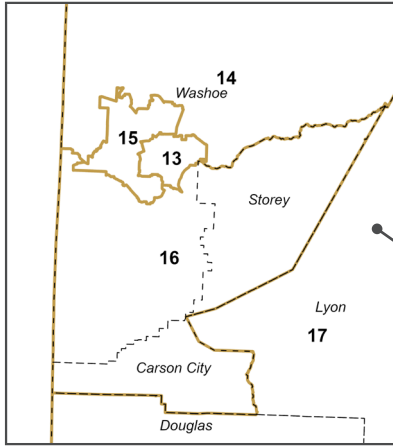
At the 1994 and 1996 General Elections, Nevada voters approved an initiative proposal establishing term limits for state and local elected officers. These limits apply to Legislators (incumbent or not) who filed or ran for office during or after the 1998 election cycle. Legislators are limited to 12 years in each House (six 2-year terms in the Assembly, and three 4-year terms in the Senate), for a total of 24 years.

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. It is supervised by the Legislative Commission, a body of 12 Legislators (6 from each House).



SENATE DISTRICT MAPS



DISTRICTS 1-12, 18, 20, AND 21

Clark County (part)

DISTRICTS 13 AND 15

Washoe County (part)

DISTRICT 14

Elko (part), Eureka (part), Humboldt, Lander, Pershing, and Washoe (part) Counties

DISTRICT 16

Carson City and Storey and Washoe (part) Counties

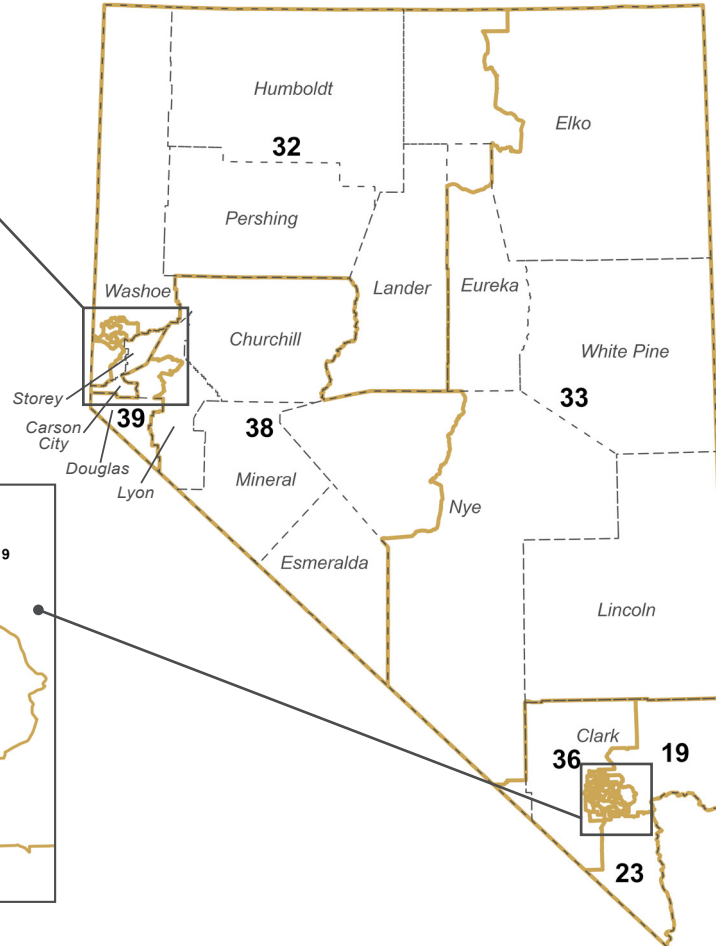
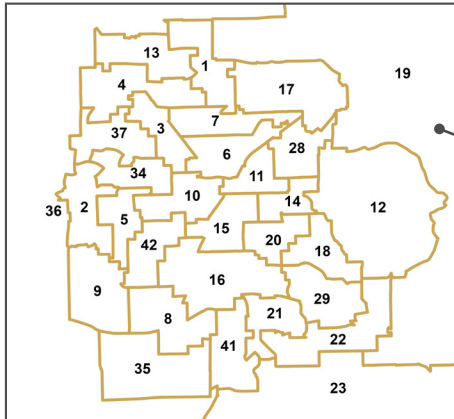
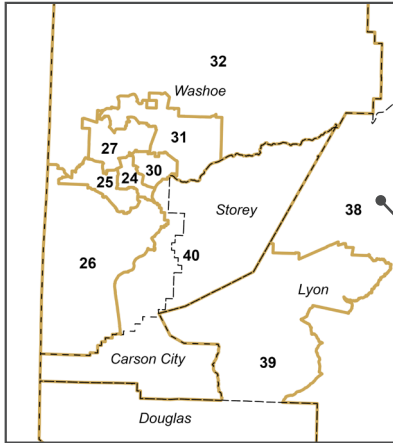
DISTRICT 17

Churchill, Douglas, Esmeralda, Lyon, Mineral, and Nye (part) Counties

DISTRICT 19

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

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAPS



DISTRICTS 1–23, 28, 29, 34, 35, 37, 41, AND 42
Clark County (part)

DISTRICTS 24–27, 30, AND 31
Washoe County (part)

DISTRICT 32
Elko (part), Eureka (part), Humboldt, Lander, Pershing, and Washoe (part) Counties

DISTRICT 33
Elko (part), Eureka (part), Lincoln (part), Nye (part), and White Pine Counties

DISTRICT 36
Clark (part), Lincoln (part), and Nye (part) Counties

DISTRICT 38
Churchill, Esmeralda, Lyon (part), Mineral, and Nye (part) Counties

DISTRICT 39
Douglas and Lyon (part) Counties

DISTRICT 40
Carson City and Storey and Washoe (part) Counties

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE



Carrie A. Buck (R)
Assistant Minority Leader
Senate District 5
Senate 2020–current



Nicole J. Cannizzaro (D)
Majority Leader
Senate District 6
Senate 2016–current



Skip Daly (D)
Senate District 13
Senate 2022–current
Assembly 2010–2014,
2016–2020



Fabian Doñate (D)
Co-Majority Whip
Senate District 10
Senate 2021–current



Ira Hansen (R)
Senate District 14
Senate 2018–current
Assembly 2010–2018



Dallas Harris (D)
Chief Majority Whip
Senate District 11
Senate 2018–current



Lisa Krasner (R)
Co-Minority Whip
Senate District 16
Senate 2022–current
Assembly 2016–2022



Roberta Lange (D)
Assistant Majority Leader
Senate District 7
Senate 2020–current



Melanie Scheible (D)
Co-Majority Whip
Senate District 9
Senate 2018–current



Heidi SeEVERS Gansert (R)
Minority Leader
Senate District 15
Senate 2016–current
Assembly 2004–2010



Pat Spearman (D)
President Pro Tempore
Senate District 1
Senate 2012–current



Jeff Stone (R)
Co-Minority Whip
Senate District 20
Senate 2022–current

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE



Marilyn Dondero Loop (D)

Senate District 8
Senate 2018–current
Assembly 2008–2014



Edgar Flores (D)

Senate District 2
Senate 2022–current
Assembly 2014–2022



Pete Goicoechea (R)

Senate District 19
Senate 2012–current
Assembly 2002–2012



Scott Hammond (R)

Senate District 18
Senate 2012–current
Assembly 2010–2012



Dina Neal (D)

Senate District 4
Senate 2020–current
Assembly 2010–2020



Rochelle T. Nguyen (D)

Senate District 3
Senate 2022–current
Assembly 2018–2022



James Ohrenschall (D)

Senate District 21
Senate 2018–current
Assembly 2006–2018



Julie Pazina (D)

Senate District 12
Senate 2022–current



Robin L. Titus (R)

Senate District 17
Senate 2022–current
Assembly 2014–2022



Lieutenant Governor / President of the Senate

Stavros Anthony (R)
2023–current

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY



Natha C. Anderson (D)
Assembly District 30
Assembly 2020–current



Shea Backus (D)
Assembly District 37
Assembly 2022–current,
2018–2020



Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod (D)
Assembly District 34
Assembly 2016–current



Tracy Brown-May (D)
Assembly District 42
Assembly 2021–current



Max Carter (D)
Assembly District 12
Assembly 2022–current



Lesley E. Cohen (D)
Assembly District 29
Assembly 2016–current,
2012–2014



Venicia Considine (D)
Assembly District 18
Assembly 2020–current



Ken Gray (R)
Assembly District 39
Assembly 2022–current



Bert Gurr (R)
Assembly District 33
Assembly 2022–current



Gregory T. Hafen, II (R)
Assembly District 36
Assembly 2018–current



Alexis Hansen (R)
Assembly District 32
Assembly 2018–current



Melissa Hardy (R)
Assembly District 22
Assembly 2018–current



Brian Hibbetts (R)
Assembly District 13
Assembly 2022–current



Sandra Jauregui (D)
Majority Floor Leader
Assembly District 41
Assembly 2016–current



Daniele Monroe-Moreno (D)
Speaker Pro Tempore
Assembly District 1
Assembly 2016–current



Erica Mosca (D)
Assembly District 14
Assembly 2022–current



Sabra Newby (D)
Assembly District 10
Assembly 2023–current



Duy Nguyen (D)
Assembly District 8
Assembly 2022–current



Philip P.K. O'Neill (R)
Minority Floor Leader
Assembly District 40
Assembly 2020–current,
2014–2016



David Orentlicher (D)
Assembly District 20
Assembly 2020–current



Sarah Peters (D)
Asst. Majority Whip North
Assembly District 24
Assembly 2018–current

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY



Rich DeLong (R)
Minority Whip
Assembly District 26
Assembly 2022–current



Jill Dickman (R)
Deputy Minority Floor
Leader North
Assembly District 31
Assembly 2020–current,
2014–2016



Reuben D'Silva (D)
Assembly District 28
Assembly 2022–current



Bea Duran (D)
Assembly District 11
Assembly 2018–current



Danielle Gallant (R)
Deputy Minority Floor
Leader South
Assembly District 23
Assembly 2022–current



Cecelia González (D)
Assembly District 16
Assembly 2020–current



Michelle Gorelow (D)
Assembly District 35
Assembly 2018–current



Heidi Kasama (R)
Assembly District 2
Assembly 2020–current



Gregory Koenig (R)
Assembly District 38
Assembly 2022–current



Selena La Rue Hatch (D)
Assembly District 25
Assembly 2022–current



Elaine Marzola (D)
Assembly District 21
Assembly 2020–current



Richard McArthur (R)
Assembly District 4
Assembly 2020–current,
2016–2018, 2008–2012



Brittney Miller (D)
Assembly District 5
Assembly 2016–current



Cameron (C.H.) Miller (D)
Asst. Majority Floor Leader
Assembly District 7
Assembly 2020–current



**Shondra Summers-
Armstrong (D)**
Assembly District 6
Assembly 2020–current



Angie Taylor (D)
Assembly District 27
Assembly 2022–current



Clara (Claire) Thomas (D)
Assembly District 17
Assembly 2020–current



Selena Torres (D)
Asst. Majority Whip South
Assembly District 3
Assembly 2018–current



Howard Watts (D)
Majority Whip
Assembly District 15
Assembly 2018–current



Steve Yeager (D)
Speaker
Assembly District 9
Assembly 2016–current



Toby Yurek (R)
Assembly District 19
Assembly 2022–current

Senate

MAJORITY PARTY (D)



Majority Leader
Nicole J. Cannizzaro



President Pro Tempore
Pat Spearman



Asst. Majority Leader
Roberta Lange



Chief Majority Whip
Dallas Harris



Co-Majority Whip
Fabian Doñate



Co-Majority Whip
Melanie Scheible

MINORITY PARTY (R)



Minority Leader
Heidi Seevers Gansert



Asst. Minority Leader
Carrie A. Buck



Co-Minority Whip
Lisa Krasner



Co-Minority Whip
Jeff Stone

Assembly

MAJORITY PARTY (D)



Speaker
Steve Yeager



Speaker Pro Tempore
Daniele Monroe-Moreno



Majority Floor Leader
Sandra Jauregui



Asst. Majority Floor Leader
Cameron (C.H.) Miller



Majority Whip
Howard Watts



Asst. Majority Whip North
Sarah Peters



Asst. Majority Whip South
Selena Torres

MINORITY PARTY (R)



Minority Floor Leader
Philip P.K. O'Neill



**Deputy Minority Floor
Leader North**
Jill Dickman



**Deputy Minority Floor
Leader South**
Danielle Gallant



Minority Whip
Rich DeLong

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**Brendan Bucy**

Secretary of the Senate

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MAY BE SENT TO THE
FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

ATTN: [LEGISLATOR NAME]
NEVADA LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
401 SOUTH CARSON STREET
CARSON CITY, NV 89701

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Additional information about Nevada's Legislators is available at <https://leg.state.nv.us>.

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Yeager, Steve (D)

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Yurek, Toby (R)

Assembly District 19
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Toby.Yurek@asm.state.nv.us



Susan Furlong
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE 82ND SESSION

Committees are the workshops of the Legislature. During committee hearings, interested individuals and groups express their positions, and committees thoroughly analyze and consider proposed legislation.

For the 2023 Session, the Senate and Assembly each have ten standing committees, with membership as shown below. For each committee, the chair is named first and the vice chair second, followed by majority party members in alphabetical order and then minority party members in alphabetical order.

Senate Standing Committees

COMMERCE AND LABOR—Spearman, Lange, Daly, Pazina, Scheible, Buck, Hammond, Stone

EDUCATION—Lange, Flores, Doñate, Neal, Buck, Hammond, Titus

FINANCE—Dondero Loop, Cannizzaro, Harris, Neal, Nguyen, Goicoechea, SeEVERS Gansert, Titus

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS—Flores, Ohrenschall, Daly, Goicoechea, Krasner

GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE—Harris, Spearman, Pazina, Hammond, Hansen

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES—Doñate, Nguyen, Lange, Stone, Titus

JUDICIARY—Scheible, Harris, Dondero Loop, Nguyen, Ohrenschall, Hansen, Krasner, Stone

LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS—Ohrenschall, Daly, Cannizzaro, Krasner, SeEVERS Gansert

NATURAL RESOURCES—Pazina, Scheible, Flores, Goicoechea, Hansen

REVENUE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—Neal, Doñate, Spearman, Buck, SeEVERS Gansert

Assembly Standing Committees

COMMERCE AND LABOR—Marzola, Jauregui, Backus, Carter, Duran, Monroe-Moreno, Torres, Yeager, Hardy, Kasama, O’Neill, Yurek

EDUCATION—Bilbray-Axelrod, Taylor, Anderson, D’Silva, La Rue Hatch, Mosca, Thomas, Torres, Hansen, Hardy, Koenig, McArthur

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS—Torres, Duran, Carter, D’Silva, González, Nguyen, Taylor, Thomas, DeLong, Gurr, Hibbetts, Koenig, McArthur

GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE—Watts, Brown-May, Carter, Marzola, Miller (B.), Miller (C.H.), Peters, Summers-Armstrong, Dickman, Gallant, Gurr, Kasama

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES—Peters, Orentlicher, González, Gorelow, Newby, Nguyen, Taylor, Thomas, Gray, Hafen, Hibbetts, Koenig

JUDICIARY—Miller (B.), Marzola, Bilbray-Axelrod, Cohen, Considine, La Rue Hatch, Mosca, Newby, Orentlicher, Summers-Armstrong, Gallant, Gray, Hansen, Hardy, Yurek

LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS—Gorelow, Miller (B.), D’Silva, González, Miller (C.H.), Monroe-Moreno, Newby, Yeager, DeLong, Dickman, Hibbetts, McArthur

NATURAL RESOURCES—Cohen, Anderson, Bilbray-Axelrod, Brown-May, Considine, Duran, La Rue Hatch, Watts, DeLong, Gurr, Hansen, Yurek

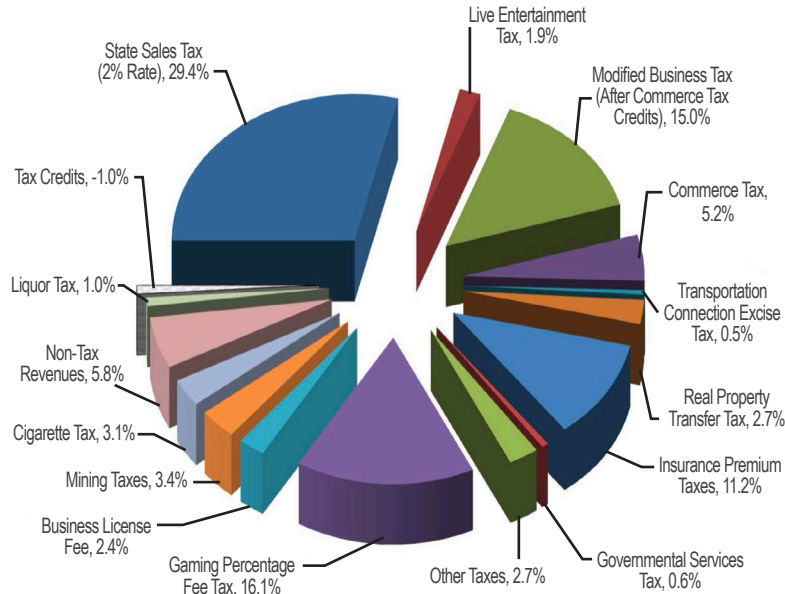
REVENUE—Backus, Considine, Anderson, Cohen, Mosca, Nguyen, Orentlicher, Summers-Armstrong, Gallant, Gray, Hafen, O’Neill

WAYS AND MEANS—Monroe-Moreno, Backus, Anderson, Brown-May, Gorelow, Jauregui, Miller (C.H.), Peters, Watts, Yeager, Dickman, Hafen, Kasama, O’Neill

Nevada General Fund Revenue

The State General Fund Revenues for the 2021–2023 Biennium were projected in May 2021 to come from the sources indicated below:

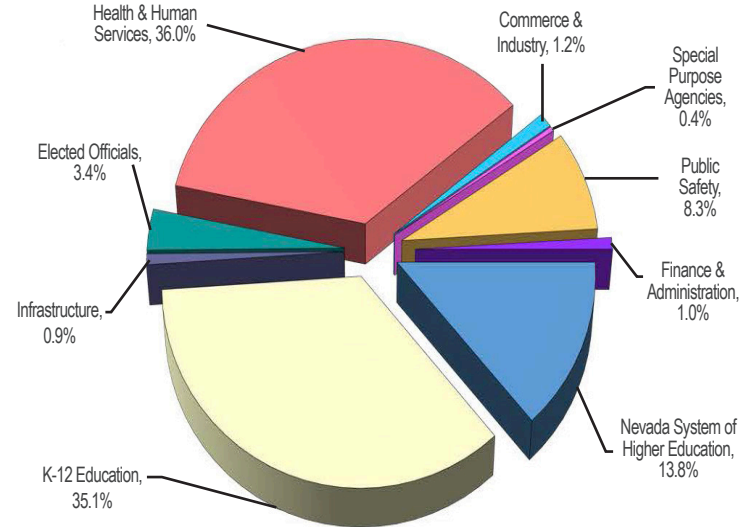
ECONOMIC FORUM MAY 4, 2021, FORECAST, 2021–2023 BIENNIUM
Adjusted for actions approved by the 2021 Legislature (81st Session)



Nevada General Fund Appropriations

The uses of State General Fund Appropriations for the 2021–2023 Biennium were approved by the 2021 Legislature for expenditure as indicated below:

LEGISLATURE APPROVED, 2021–2023 BIENNIUM



HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

1 Initial Steps by the Author

IDEA AND DRAFTING

Ideas for legislation come from state and local governments, elected officials, businesses, organizations, and citizens. Requests for drafting may be made by Legislators, legislative committees, the Governor, constitutional officers, the Nevada Supreme Court, state agencies, local governments, and certain other entities named in statute or legislation. 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 a Legislator or committee chair. It is then numbered, read for the first time in the legislative House of origin, 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 then 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 to refer it to another committee with or without amendments. 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 a final vote. A bill given an “Amend and Do Pass” recommendation is read a second time, and if the amendment is adopted upon Second Reading, the bill 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 measures requires 11 votes in the Senate and 22 in the Assembly. Bills with tax or fee increases require 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. After the vote, a Legislator may make a motion to reconsider the action, pursuant to rules adopted by each House. All bills that are passed by the first legislative House are forwarded to the second House for consideration.

3 Action in the Second House

The method of processing a bill in the second House is nearly 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 amendment.

4 Resolution of Differences, If Necessary

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS

The House of origin decides whether to accept the second House's amendment. If it concurs with the amendment, the bill is enrolled and sent to the Governor. If the amendment is rejected, the bill is returned to the second House for a decision on whether to withdraw the proposed changes.

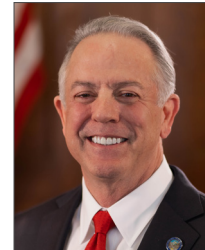
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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 adopt the report, the bill is enrolled and sent to the Governor. The bill fails if the members of the conference committee do not reach agreement 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 (Sundays excepted) if the Legislature is still in session, or within ten days if there are fewer than five days remaining in the session or 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 to consider overriding the veto. An override requires a two-thirds majority of each House. If the Governor vetoes a bill after the session ends, the bill returns to the next regular legislative session. Measures become effective on October 1 following the end of the session, unless otherwise specified in the bill.



**Governor
Joe Lombardo**





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 conduct true biennial sessions.

Following voter approval of a constitutional amendment in 1998, regular sessions are now limited to 120 calendar days. Before this amendment passed, the length of legislative sessions was not limited, and the longest session lasted 169 days. The Legislature convened its 82nd Regular Session on February 6, 2023. It must adjourn “sine die” (without a day being set for reconvening) no later than June 5, 2023.

In addition to regular sessions, special sessions for a specific purpose may be held at the call of the Governor or upon petition of two-thirds of the members of each legislative House. In most cases, special sessions are currently limited in length to 20 consecutive calendar days. As of March 2023, the Nevada Legislature had convened in special session 33 times—the first in 1867, and the most recent in 2021.

The 2021 Regular Session

The 2021 Regular Session of the Nevada Legislature considered 958 new bills—495 from the Assembly and 463 from the Senate. Additionally, one vetoed bill was returned from the previous session for the 2021 Legislature to consider for a possible veto override; however, the Legislature chose to let the veto stand. Of the new bills that were considered, 561 were approved by both Houses of the Legislature. The Governor signed 557 of these bills, which became law. He vetoed four bills after the session ended, and these bills have been returned to the 2023 Legislature for a possible veto override. To put things in perspective, this means about 58 percent of the bills that were introduced in the 2021 Session became law.

The 2021 Legislature also considered 74 resolutions, 48 of which were approved and filed with the Secretary of State. Five of the resolutions were proposed constitutional amendments returned from the 2019 Session and 32nd Special Session for consideration. Two of these were approved for placement on the 2022 General Election ballot and were passed by a vote of the people.

The 33rd Special Session

Governor Steve Sisolak called the Legislature into its 33rd Special Session (November 12 through November 16, 2021) to reapportion and redistrict Nevada's election districts for the U.S. House of Representatives, the Nevada State Senate and Assembly, and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada.

The Legislature Between Sessions

The 12-member Legislative Commission, which consists of 6 Legislators appointed by each House, meets periodically and often acts on behalf of the Legislative Branch of government when the full Legislature is not in session. The Commission assists the Legislature in coordinating with the Executive and Judicial Branches, investigates subjects under the purview of the Legislature, ensures the effective use of the staff and resources of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, and coordinates and oversees interim studies and other legislative committees during the interim between regular sessions.

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 generally during the period between regular sessions. The Interim Finance Committee considers requests for allocations from its Contingency Fund to meet unforeseen financial needs.

Between sessions, Legislators are also assigned to various interim committees to investigate a wide range of issues. After the passage of Assembly Bill 443 in 2021, most of these legislative interim committees mirror similar standing committees that met during the preceding regular session. Additional committees may also be formed to perform specific studies. Interim committees hold public hearings, direct research, and deliberate on proposals for legislation to be considered during the next session of the Legislature.



THE LEGISLATURE – BUILDINGS AND 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 and for some staff of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

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 staff offices for several divisions of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

State Printing Office (Carson City)

The State Printing Office is located to the east of the Legislative Building on the corner of Fifth and Stewart Streets. The Office serves the printing needs of the three branches of government, as well as local governments. The two-story structure also contains warehouse and training facilities, as well as some staff offices.

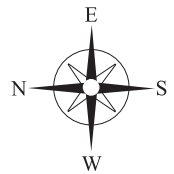
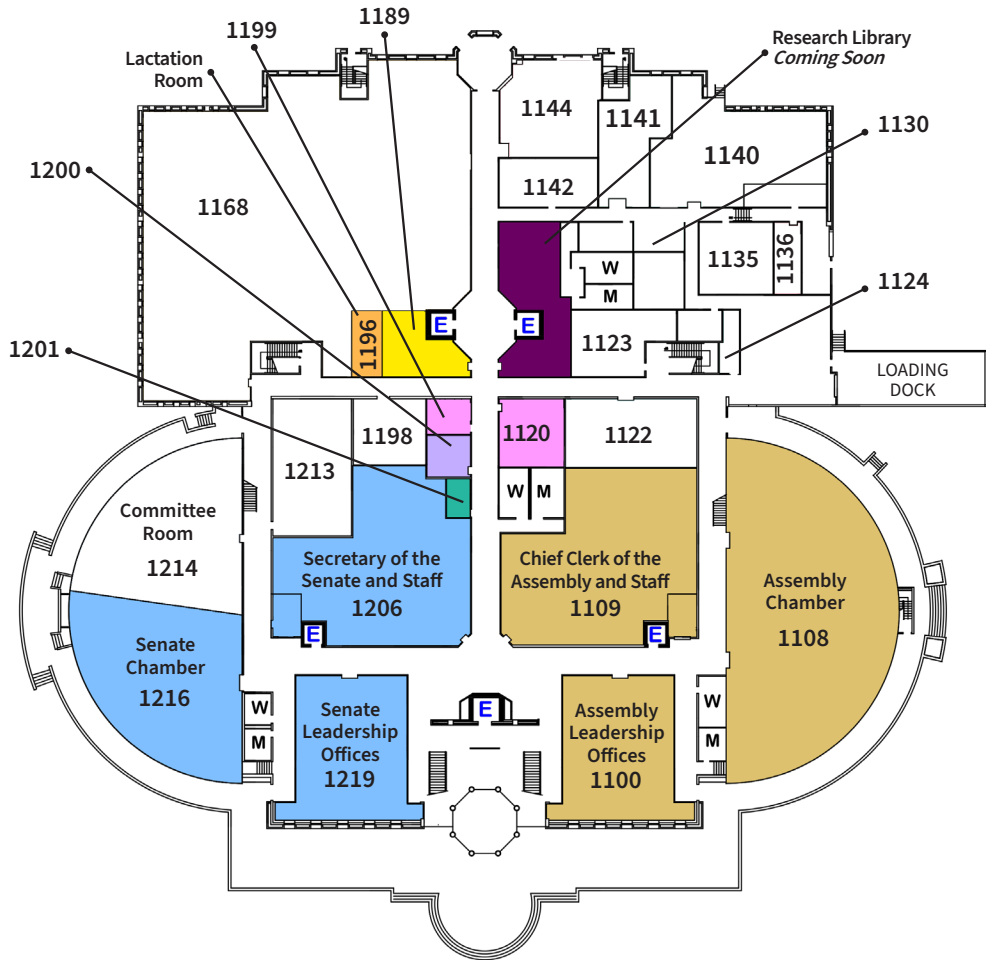
Grant Sawyer State Office Building (Las Vegas)

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.

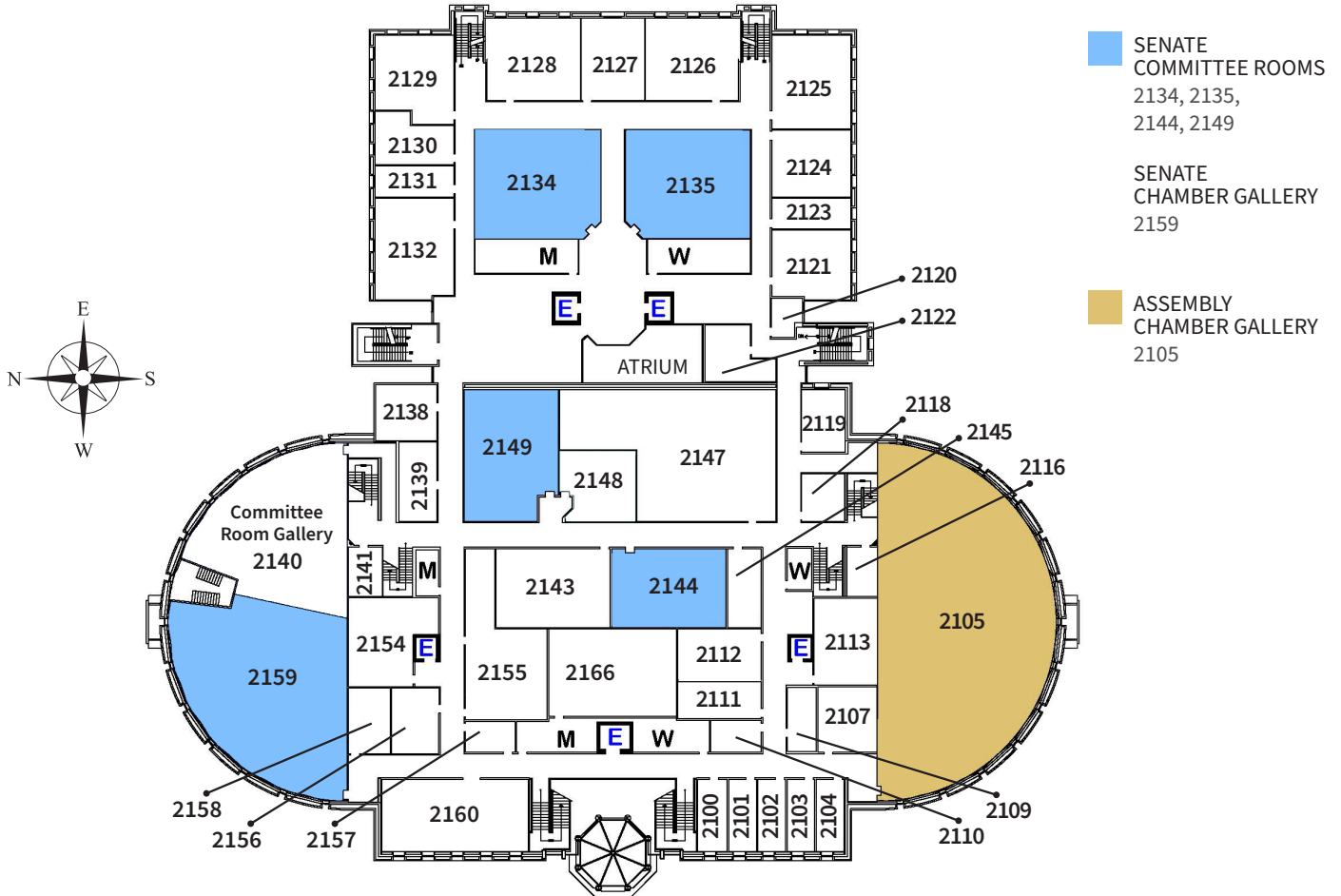
To help you find your way around the Legislative Building, diagrams of the four floors of the Building are included in this Guide. In addition, directories are located at various points throughout the Building. Committee rooms and meeting times are posted in the lobby and elsewhere around the Building, as well. 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

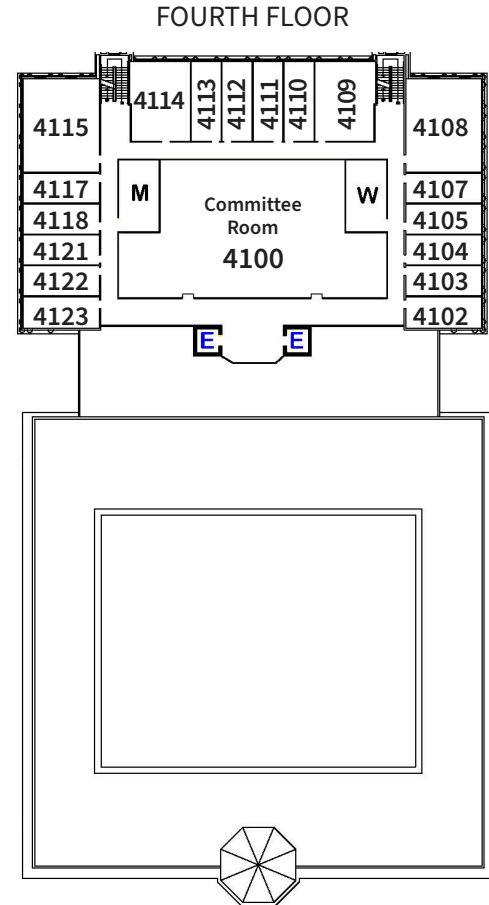
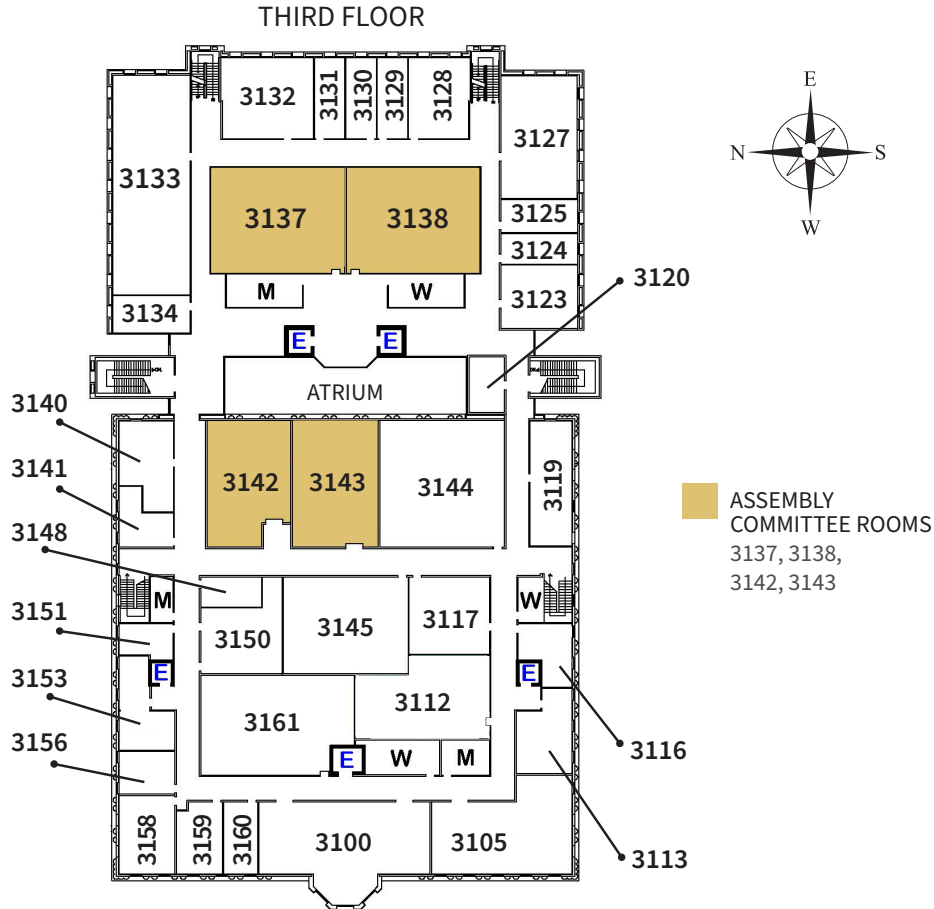
- GIFT SHOP
1189
- PRESS ROOM
1200
- PUBLIC BILL ROOM
1201
- LOBBYIST
REGISTRATION
1199
- LOBBYIST ROOM
1120



LEGISLATIVE BUILDING - SECOND FLOOR



LEGISLATIVE BUILDING - THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS



THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA



The Great Seal of the State of Nevada got its start before statehood, when the Territorial Legislature approved a territorial seal on November 29, 1861. A similar seal was then approved in 1864 at Nevada’s Constitutional Convention.

The original State 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. However, in 1866, the Legislature changed the Seal’s motto to “All for Our Country,” which is what it remains today.

The Seal is currently described in Nevada law as follows:

In the foreground, there must be two large mountains, at the base of which, on the right, there must be 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 must be emblems indicative of the agricultural resources of the State, as follows: A plow, a sheaf and sickle. In the middle ground, there must be a railroad train passing a mountain gorge and a telegraph line extending along the line of the railroad. In the extreme background, there must be a range of snow-clad mountains, with the rising sun in the east. Thirty-six stars and the motto of our state, “All for Our Country,” must encircle the whole group. In an outer circle, the words “The Great Seal of the State of Nevada” must be engraved with “Nevada” at the base of the Seal and separated from the other words by two groups of three stars each. (Nevada Revised Statutes 235.010)

Over the years, the Legislature has enacted various guidelines about how the Seal may be used, and in 1999, its colors were formally designated in statute.

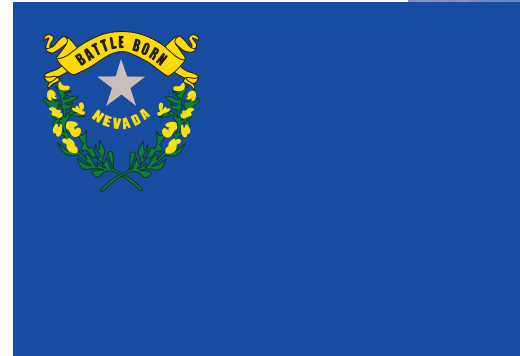
Large etched-metal versions of the Seal may be found on both the north and south exterior faces of the Legislative Building, a gift from the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to the Nevada Legislature. The Republic of China (Taiwan) was designated as Nevada’s sister state in 1985.

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, 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 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, which 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.

The Legislature adopted the design of Don Louis Shellback III for Nevada's 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 most recent change to the State flag happened in 1991, when the Legislature approved a bill to alter the way the name "Nevada" is depicted. Since October 1, 1991, "Nevada" has been positioned underneath the star instead of interspersed between its points. Verne R. Horton created the current design.



FACTS ABOUT NEVADA



Beginning about 12,400 years ago, Nevada's earliest inhabitants left their mark in the form of many petroglyphs and artifacts. Baskets, decoys, and traps found at archaeological sites 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 above 10,000 feet. In contrast, the State's lowest point (along the Colorado River) is only 479 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 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 pine.
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 March (NRS 235.035) **"SILVER STATE FANFARE"**

The march was composed by Gerald Willis and adopted as the State march in 2001.

State Metal (NRS 235.090) **SILVER (Ag)**

In 2021, more than 6.2 million ounces of silver were produced in Nevada.



State Trees (NRS 235.040) SINGLE-LEAF PINON

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



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.



BRISTLECONE PINE

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



State 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 Flower (NRS 235.050) SAGEBRUSH

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 Insect (NRS 235.062) VIVID DANCER DAMSELFLY

The Vivid Dancer Damselfly (*Argia vivida*) is abundant in springs and ponds in all 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.

FACTS ABOUT NEVADA (CONT'D)



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.



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.



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.



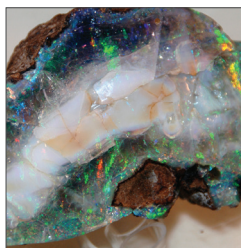
State Fossil (NRS 235.080) ICHTHYOSAUR

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

Discovered by archaeologists in 1924 during an excavation at Lovelock Cave, the 2,000-year-old tule duck decoys were formed of bulrush (tule) stems that were bound together and shaped to resemble canvasback ducks. This replica is housed at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City.



State 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.



State Semiprecious Gemstone (NRS 235.110) NEVADA TURQUOISE

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



State Tartan (NRS 235.130)

The 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 the State, meaning snow-covered, which is the translation of the Spanish word “nevada.”



State Soil (NRS 235.115) OROVADA SOIL SERIES

Orovada soils are found in northern and central Nevada, where they cover 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. The principal crops grown on these soils are alfalfa for hay and seed, winter wheat and barley, and grass for hay and pasture.



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.

FACTS ABOUT NEVADA (CONT'D)



State Locomotive (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.



State Element (NRS 235.140) NEON

From Reno's "Biggest Little City in the World" arch and the "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign, to the bright signage on casinos, hotels, and other businesses in communities across the State, neon lights have long been a defining feature of Nevada's urban landscape.

Nevada Nicknames

- **SAGEBRUSH STATE**
- **SILVER STATE**
- **BATTLE-BORN STATE**

Geographical Data

LAND AREA

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

HIGHEST ELEVATION

13,140 feet, Boundary Peak in Esmeralda County

LOWEST ELEVATION

479 feet, on the Colorado River in Clark County

Population Statistics

STATE OF NEVADA

3,104,614 (2020 Census)
3,204,105 (2022 State Demographer's estimate)

CAPITAL: CARSON CITY

58,639 (2020 Census)
58,314 (2022 State Demographer's estimate)

MOST POPULOUS CITY: LAS VEGAS

641,903 (2020 Census)
660,987 (2022 State Demographer's estimate)

MOST POPULOUS COUNTY: CLARK

2,265,461 (2010 Census)
2,338,127 (2022 State Demographer's estimate)

PHOTO AND IMAGE CREDITS

FRONT AND BACK COVERS

Valley of Fire State Park and Spring Valley State Park, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

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Legislative Building, Capitol Building, and Supreme Court Building, LCB Staff

PAGE 1

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

PAGE 2

Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

PAGE 3

Map of Nevada State Parks, LCB Staff

PAGE 4

Senate Chamber detail, LCB Staff

PAGE 5

Assembly Chamber, LCB Staff

PAGES 6 & 7

Senate and Assembly District Maps, LCB Staff

PAGES 8–15: PORTRAIT CREDITS

Cooks Photography (unless otherwise noted)

Joe Abraham, Unrelenting Media, Inc (Senator Spearman)

Kristina Alexis Photography (Senator Flores, Senator Nguyen, Assemblywoman Duran, Assemblyman Nguyen, and Assemblywoman Torres)

Allusive Images (Assemblyman Burr)

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Charts: Nevada General Fund Revenue and Nevada General Fund Appropriations, LCB Staff

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Legislative Bill, LCB Staff

PAGE 19

Statutes of Nevada (various years), LCB Staff
Governor Joe Lombardo, Courtesy of the Office of the Governor

PAGE 20

Nevada Legislature Flag, LCB Staff

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Committee Room, LCB Staff

PAGES 22–25

Legislative Building and Building Maps, LCB Staff

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Rafter 7 Ranch, Walker River State Recreation Area, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

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Van Sickle State Park, Courtesy of Division of State Parks
Nevada Flag Illustration, LCB Staff

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AtlAtl Rock Petroglyphs, Valley of Fire State Park, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

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Single-Leaf Pinon, Andrey Zharkikh
Bristlecone Pine, LCB Staff

Sagebrush, James Morefield, Courtesy of Nevada’s Division of Natural Heritage

Indian Ricegrass, Matt Lavin

Mountain Bluebird, Tony Hisgett

Vivid Dancer Damselfly, SilenceSeven

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Desert Tortoise, Courtesy of Nevada’s Department of Wildlife
Desert Bighorn Sheep, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, Courtesy of Nevada’s Department of Wildlife

Ichthyosaur, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

Tule Duck Decoy, LCB Staff

Virgin Valley Black Fire Opal, James St. John

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Nevada Turquoise, Suzanne M. Cassidy
Orovada Soil, Paul Marais
Sandstone, James St. John

State Tartan, LCB Staff

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Engine No. 40, Mark Bassett, Courtesy of the Nevada Northern Railway Museum
Fallon’s Lariat Motel Neon Sign, LCB Staff, Courtesy of the Churchill Arts Council

PAGE 33

Cathedral Gorge State Park, Courtesy of Division of State Parks

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The 2023–2024 *Guide to the Nevada Legislature* was prepared by the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.





CONTACT THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

WEBSITE

For more information about the legislative process, or to contact the Legislature, please visit the Nevada Legislature's website at:
<https://leg.state.nv.us>

PHONE

FROM NORTHERN NEVADA:
(775) 684-6800 OR (775) 684-6789

FROM SOUTHERN NEVADA:
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