



Clark County Legislative Report
81st Session of the Nevada Legislature
2021

Background:

The Clark County team monitored more than 1000 measures over the course of the 2021 Legislative Session. The County's positions included opposition, support and neutral. The neutral position encompassed the largest volume of tracked bills. Even though a position was considered neutral, it was carefully monitored as the title/subject was of interest to Clark County and an amendment at any step of the process could have resulted in shifting the County's position to opposition or support.

At the close of the Session, the team worked to move over forty (40) bills from oppose to neutral, generally through successful negotiation of amendatory language to address concerns in previous versions of the bill. Eight (8) bills were moved from oppose to support. Approximately ninety-two (92) of the bills monitored by the team did not survive Sine Die. Additionally, Governor Sisolak vetoed four (4) measures.

In total, Clark County filed 176 fiscal notes during the 2021 Legislative Session. Clark initially identified \$353.8 million in fiscal impacts to the County over the forthcoming biennium from legislation introduced this session. At the close of the session, the fiscal impact to the County was reduced to \$32.86 million over the next biennium. The Clark team worked on amendments to reduce impact where possible, and to support restoration of budget cuts proposed.

County Bill Package

The County received four (4) bills during the 2021 Legislative Session. In addition, two (2) County-lead bills were introduced via work with other sponsors. Four (4) of these six (6) bills were signed into law.

County Sponsored and Supported Bills Signed into Law

- **SB4** - Was signed by the Governor on June 2, 2021 and is effective as of that date.
 - This bill enables counties to raise the fee for violations of fireworks ordinances up to \$10,000, depending on the weight of the fireworks.
- **SB67** – Was signed by the Governor on June 8, 2021 and will be effective on October 1, 2021.
 - SB67 proposes a four-year pilot project for Clark County, Clark County Water Reclamation District and the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Henderson to use the job order contracting method of project delivery.
 - This bill was requested on behalf of the Real Property Management Division to help to address the backlog of minor construction and maintenance projects throughout the County.
- **SB309** - Sponsored by Senator Dina Neal, SB309 was signed by the Governor on May 30, 2021 and will be effective on January 1, 2022.
 - Clark County partnered with Senator Neal on this measure to propose a committee made up of county, city, nonprofit, and DHHS/Division of Welfare and Supportive Services representatives to make recommendations to the State and managed care companies on funding community priorities in housing, homelessness and social determinants of health, using managed care community reinvestment funding.
- **SB376** - sponsored by the Legislative Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice, was signed by the Governor on May 27, 2021 and will be effective on October 1, 2021.

- SB376 allows child welfare agencies to close cases for administrative reasons, such as lack of jurisdiction, or for inability to complete an investigation because of failure to locate a family.

County Sponsored Bills that Failed

- **AB44** (*died at first committee passage deadline*) This bill would have allowed UMC's governing board to go into closed session to discuss physician discipline and peer review cases and would have codified the UMC governing board structure into NRS 450.
- **SB57** (*died at second house passage deadline*) This bill would have given permissive authority to counties to establish by ordinance, for certain unpaid fines and fees for the violation of a county ordinance (STR violations and vacant and abandoned property), to be made a special assessment on the tax roll.

Approved Bill (Highlights)

Assembly Bills

- **AB1** – NACO sponsored bill to mandate local government topics be covered as part of new legislator training.
- **AB126** – Establishes provisions and procedures for conducting a presidential preference primary election for candidates of each major political party. The costs of the election are charges against the State, to be paid from the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account.
- **AB139** – Authorizes the use of Building Enterprise Fund reserves for construction of two fire stations based on public facilities need assessment.
- **AB196** – Requires justice and district courts to designate a hygienic place, other than a bathroom, at each location to be used by mothers to express breast milk.
- **AB321** – Extends the mail ballot procedure for all voters effective January 1, 2022 and includes an appropriation to the Secretary of State for the costs of printing ballot stock, postcard notifications and postage. (*)¹
- **AB335** – An amendment to this bill proposed by the County extends the period for the Clark County redevelopment plan from 30 years to 45 years.
- **AB341** – Provides for the licensure and regulation of cannabis consumption lounges.
- **AB349** – Allows the County, via ordinance, to assess an additional fee assessed on forms certifying emission control compliance. If assessed, the fee is collected by DMV and distributed to counties and may be used by county for local air pollution agency programs to reduce motor vehicle emissions. If the fee is assessed and collected, the County must use 50% of the funding collected to support programs to reduce emissions to benefit historically underserved populations.
- **AB363** – Makes changes to transient lodging. This bill mandated the County to enact an ordinance regulating short term rentals. (*)
- **AB422** – Establishes a "top-down" voter registration system through the Secretary of State's Office. (*)
- **AB480** – Revises provisions relating to the State Department of Indigent Defense Services.
- **AB486** – Allows tenants to sue if evicted while application for rental assistance pending; notice to tenants of available rental assistance; landlord assistance program appropriation to Home Means Nevada of \$5 million to assist landlords.

¹ * Denotes a bill with possible fiscal impact to the County.

Senate Bills

- **SB12** – Gives counties longer notice period before a property loses affordability designation.
- **SB150** – Mandates zoning for tiny homes as accessory dwelling unit, single family residence or tiny home within a tiny home park.
- **SB168** – Authorizes in part the Cannabis Compliance Board to adopt regulations on procedures and requirements for cannabis curbside delivery, but also authorizes local government to prohibit via ordinance curbside pickup based on location characteristics.
- **SB284** – Makes changes to the issuance of tax credits for affordable housing.
- **SB320** – Makes changes to food delivery service platform providers.
- **SB367** – Makes changes to the excise tax on live entertainment, and exempts events provided by or entirely for the benefit of a governmental entity from the imposition of the tax.
- **SB389** – Makes changes to peer-to-peer car sharing programs, requiring state licensure but preserving opportunity for airports and local business licensing to regulate.
- **SB430** – Makes the existing Nevada State Infrastructure Bank effective on July 1, 2021.
- **SB442** – Eliminates the program to provide a partial property tax abatement for energy efficiency standards effective October 1, 2021.
- **SB461** – Establishes priorities for the State's portion of American Rescue Act federal funding, including restoring lost state General Fund revenues and \$54 million to pay back loans to the unemployment compensation fund.

Bills Vetoed by Governor Sisolak

- **AB65** – Would have made procedural changes to how ethics complaints are adjudicated and would have created a separate body in both legislative houses to review complaints against members and a joint commission to investigate claims against legislative staff.
- **AB368** – Would have made changes to tourism improvement districts (TID), permitting TIDs in Southern Nevada only, but would have prohibited use of pledged revenue from a TID to finance stadium projects.
- **SB254** – Would have authorized the Nevada Equal Rights Commission to investigate and enforce fair housing rights under federal law.
- **SB391** – Teledentistry bill which would have created a Committee on Dental Emergency Management within the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

Bills with Possible Fiscal Impact

Assembly Bills

- **AB116** – Establishes civil penalties for certain traffic and related violations.
- **AB230** – Eliminates exclusion of certain offenses from jurisdiction of juvenile court.
- **AB280** – Revises provisions to public restrooms to update signage to be gender neutral.
- **AB336** – Requires an annual wellness visit for peace officers effective January 1, 2023.
- **AB424** – Requires courts to hold a pretrial release hearing, in open court or by means of remote communication, to determine the custody status of a person within 48 hours after the person has been taken into custody,
- **AB432** – Expands automatic voter registration.

Senate Bills

- **SB274** – Shifts the serving of commercially sexually exploited youth (CSEC) via child welfare system instead of through juvenile justice.
- **SB283** – Permits a local government to approve a commercial PACE program in a district to serve purposed of resource conservation, reducing emissions, or increasing resiliency.
- **SB289** – Proposes workers' compensation changes.
- **SB295** – Changes to permanent total disability (PTD) claims for police and fire.
- **SB327** – Changes to requirements for testing regarding promotion of an employee.

Budget Highlights

- Restoration of proposed cut to Family Services Fiscal Incentive account.
- Restoration of 6% Medicaid cuts made in 2020 Special Session via budget amendment.
- \$2.0 million to be reserved for Wetlands Park and \$1 million reserved for Las Vegas Valley Rim Trail in overall \$20 million general obligation bonds to be issued by State Board of Finance as part of the 2021-2023 CIP Program (AB492).