

Assembly Bill No. 140–Assemblywomen
Nguyen, Marzola; and Torres

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to civil actions; requiring certain lessors of vehicles to accept service of process under certain circumstances; requiring such lessors to transmit a copy of the service of process to certain lessees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law authorizes an alternative method of service of process in any action or proceeding where the operator of a motor vehicle that was involved in a crash on the roads, streets or certain other areas where motor vehicles are operated in this State is either a nonresident or a resident that has left or cannot be found in this State. Such process may be effectuated by serving the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles and sending a copy of the process by registered or certified mail to the defendant at the address supplied by the defendant in the crash report, if any, and if not, at the best address available to the plaintiff. (NRS 14.070) This bill authorizes a plaintiff in an action arising from the operation of a vehicle which is leased for a period of 31 days or less, or by the day or trip, to a lessee who is not a resident of the United States and who purchased liability insurance in connection with the lease to serve process upon the lessor. This bill requires such a lessor to accept the service of process and to provide a copy of the process to the lessee by first-class mail, return receipt requested.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 14 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. When a short-term lessor enters into a lease with a short-term lessee who is not a resident of the United States and, as part of or associated with the lease, the short-term lessee purchases liability insurance from the short-term lessor in its capacity as an agent for an authorized insurer, the short-term lessor is authorized to accept and, if served, shall accept, service of a summons and complaint and any other required documents on behalf of the short-term lessee for any crash resulting from the operation of the vehicle within this State during the lease. If the short-term lessor has a registered agent for service of process on file with the Secretary of State, process must be served on the registered agent of the short-term lessor, either by first-class mail, return receipt requested, or by personal service.



2. *Not later than 30 days after acceptance of service of process, the short-term lessor shall provide a copy of the summons and complaint and any other documents served on the short-term lessor to the short-term lessee by first-class mail, return receipt requested.*

3. *Notwithstanding the requirements of NRS 14.070, service of process in compliance with subsection 1 shall be deemed a valid and effective service.*

4. *Notwithstanding any other provision of law, acceptance of service of process pursuant to subsection 1 does not create any duty, obligation or agency relationship other than that provided in subsection 1.*

5. *As used in this section:*

(a) *“Lease,” “short-term lessee” and “short-term lessor” have the meanings ascribed to them in NRS 482.053.*

(b) *“Liability insurance” means insurance, including, without limitation, uninsured motorist coverage, whether offered separately or in combination with any other insurance, that provides coverage to a short-term lessee and any authorized driver pursuant to a lease and is nonduplicative of any standard liability coverage or self-insurance limits provided by the short-term lessor in its lease, for liability arising from the negligent operation of the vehicle during the lease.*

(c) *“Vehicle” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 482.135.*

