

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 16—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL  
RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING

(ON BEHALF OF THE NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 15, 2016

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to cooperative extension  
programs. (BDR 49-440)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to cooperative extension programs; requiring the Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education, in consultation with the President of the University of Nevada, Reno, to submit to the Legislature an annual report regarding cooperative extension work; revising provisions related to the State's cooperative share of the cost of cooperative extension work; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law authorizes the Director of the Agricultural Extension Department  
2 of the Public Service Division of the Nevada System of Higher Education and the  
3 board of county commissioners of each county to enter into a cooperative  
4 agreement to provide certain programs pertaining to agriculture, community  
5 development, health and nutrition, horticulture, personal and family development  
6 and natural resources in the rural and urban communities in this State. (NRS  
7 549.010) **Sections 2-12** of this bill change the name of the agency authorized to  
8 enter into cooperative agreements with the boards of county commissioners from  
9 the Agricultural Extension Department of the Public Service Division of the  
10 Nevada System of Higher Education to the Cooperative Extension Program of the  
11 Nevada System of Higher Education. **Section 1** of this bill requires the Treasurer of  
12 the Nevada System of Higher Education, in consultation with the President of the  
13 University of Nevada, Reno, to submit to the Legislature, if the Legislature is in  
14 session, or to the Interim Finance Committee, if the Legislature is not in session, an  
15 annual report: (1) detailing the cooperative extension work carried out in the  
16 preceding year; (2) specifying any county, state and federal money used to carry



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17 out the cooperative extension work; and (3) updating the status of any cooperative  
18 agreements entered into between the Director of the Cooperative Extension  
19 Program of the Nevada System of Higher Education and a board of county  
20 commissioners.

21 Existing law requires the Director of the Agricultural Extension Department to  
22 prepare and submit to the board of county commissioners for each county  
23 participating in cooperative agricultural extension an annual financial budget  
24 covering the county, state and federal funds cooperating in the cost of cooperative  
25 agricultural extension programs. Existing law: (1) requires each county to levy a tax  
26 to meet the county's share of the cooperative agricultural extension work; and (2)  
27 prescribes the maximum amount of the State's cooperative share of the cost of  
28 agricultural extension work. (NRS 549.020) **Section 4** of this bill revises the  
29 amount of the State's cooperative share of the cost of agricultural extension work.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 549 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *The Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education*  
4 *shall, in consultation with the President of the University of*  
5 *Nevada, Reno, annually on or before April 15, submit to the*  
6 *Legislature, if the Legislature is in session, or to the Interim*  
7 *Finance Committee, if the Legislature is not in session, a written*  
8 *report of:*

9 1. *The cooperative extension work that was carried out*  
10 *pursuant to the provisions of this chapter in the preceding year;*

11 2. *The amounts, if any, of county, state and federal money*  
12 *used to carry out the cooperative extension work in the preceding*  
13 *year, including, without limitation, the amounts, if any, used at*  
14 *each campus of the Nevada System of Higher Education and in*  
15 *each participating county; and*

16 3. *Updating the status of any cooperative agreements entered*  
17 *into between the Director of the Cooperative Extension Program*  
18 *of the Nevada System of Higher Education and a board of county*  
19 *commissioners authorized by NRS 549.010.*

20 **Sec. 2.** NRS 549.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 549.010 To provide for continued educational, research,  
22 outreach and service programs pertaining to agriculture, community  
23 development, health and nutrition, horticulture, personal and family  
24 development, and natural resources in the rural and urban  
25 communities in the State of Nevada, the Director of the  
26 ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative* Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the  
27 ~~{Public Service Division of the}~~ Nevada System of Higher  
28 Education and the boards of county commissioners of any or all of  
29 the respective counties of the State of Nevada may enter into



1 cooperative agreements and activities subject to the provisions of  
2 this chapter.

3 **Sec. 3.** NRS 549.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 549.020 1. The Director of the ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative*  
5 Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the ~~{Public Service Division of~~  
6 ~~the}~~ Nevada System of Higher Education shall prepare and submit  
7 to the board of county commissioners, for each county participating,  
8 an annual financial budget covering the county, state and federal  
9 funds cooperating in the cost of educational, research, outreach and  
10 service programs pertaining to agriculture, community development,  
11 health and nutrition, horticulture, personal and family development,  
12 and natural resources in the rural and urban communities in the State  
13 of Nevada.

14 2. The budget must be adopted by the board of county  
15 commissioners and certified as a part of the annual county budget,  
16 and the county tax levy provided for ~~{agricultural}~~ *cooperative*  
17 extension work in the annual county budget must include a levy of  
18 not less than 1 cent on each \$100 of taxable property. If the  
19 proceeds of the county tax levy of 1 cent are insufficient to meet the  
20 county's share of the cooperative ~~{agricultural}~~ extension work, as  
21 provided in the combined annual financial budget, the board of  
22 county commissioners may, by unanimous vote, levy an additional  
23 tax so that the total in no instance exceeds 5 cents on each \$100 of  
24 the county tax rate.

25 3. The proceeds of such a tax must be placed in the  
26 ~~{agricultural}~~ *cooperative* extension fund in each county treasury  
27 and must be paid out on claims drawn by the ~~{agricultural}~~  
28 *cooperative* extension agent of the county as designated by the  
29 Director of the ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative* Extension ~~{Department}~~  
30 *Program* of the ~~{Public Service Division of the}~~ Nevada System of  
31 Higher Education, when approved by the Director and  
32 countersigned by the Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher  
33 Education.

34 4. A record of all such claims approved and paid, segregated by  
35 counties, must be kept by the Treasurer of the Nevada System of  
36 Higher Education. The cost of maintaining the record must be paid  
37 from state funds provided for by this chapter.

38 5. The State's cooperative share of the cost of such  
39 ~~{agricultural}~~ *cooperative* extension work, as entered in the budget  
40 described in this section, must not be more than a sum equal to the  
41 proceeds of 1 cent of such county tax rate; but when the proceeds of  
42 a 1-cent tax rate are insufficient to carry out the provisions of the  
43 budget previously adopted, the Director of the ~~{Agricultural}~~  
44 *Cooperative* Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the ~~{Public~~  
45 ~~Service Division of the}~~ Nevada System of Higher Education is



1 authorized to supplement the State's cooperative share from the  
2 funds as may be made available in the Public Service Division Fund  
3 of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

4 **Sec. 4.** NRS 549.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 549.020 1. The Director of the Cooperative Extension  
6 Program of the Nevada System of Higher Education shall prepare  
7 and submit to the board of county commissioners, for each county  
8 participating, an annual financial budget covering the county, state  
9 and federal funds cooperating in the cost of educational, research,  
10 outreach and service programs pertaining to agriculture, community  
11 development, health and nutrition, horticulture, personal and family  
12 development, and natural resources in the rural and urban  
13 communities in the State of Nevada.

14 2. The budget must be adopted by the board of county  
15 commissioners and certified as a part of the annual county budget,  
16 and the county tax levy provided for cooperative extension work in  
17 the annual county budget must include a levy of not less than 1 cent  
18 on each \$100 of taxable property. If the proceeds of the county tax  
19 levy of 1 cent are insufficient to meet the county's share of the  
20 cooperative extension work, as provided in the combined annual  
21 financial budget, the board of county commissioners may, by  
22 unanimous vote, levy an additional tax so that the total in no  
23 instance exceeds 5 cents on each \$100 of the county tax rate.

24 3. The proceeds of such a tax must be placed in the cooperative  
25 extension fund in each county treasury and must be paid out on  
26 claims drawn by the cooperative extension agent of the county as  
27 designated by the Director of the Cooperative Extension Program of  
28 the Nevada System of Higher Education when approved by the  
29 Director and countersigned by the Treasurer of the Nevada System  
30 of Higher Education.

31 4. A record of all such claims approved and paid, segregated by  
32 counties, must be kept by the Treasurer of the Nevada System of  
33 Higher Education. The cost of maintaining the record must be paid  
34 from state funds provided for by this chapter.

35 5. The State's cooperative share of the cost of such cooperative  
36 extension work, as entered in the budget ~~{described in this section,}~~  
37 *prepared by the Director of the Cooperative Extension Program of*  
38 *the Nevada System of Higher Education pursuant to subsection 1,*  
39 ~~must {not} be {more than a sum} an amount~~ equal to the *aggregate*  
40 *proceeds of 1 cent of {such} the county tax rate {, but when} of each*  
41 *participating county, and averaged by the Director of the*  
42 *Cooperative Extension Program of the Nevada System of Higher*  
43 *Education for the immediately preceding 5 fiscal years. If the*  
44 *averaged* proceeds of a 1-cent tax rate *from each participating*  
45 *county* are insufficient to carry out the provisions of the budget



1 previously adopted, the Director of the Cooperative Extension  
2 Program of the Nevada System of Higher Education is authorized to  
3 supplement the State's cooperative share from the funds as may be  
4 made available in the ~~{Public Service Division Fund}~~ *appropriate*  
5 *fund* of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

6 **Sec. 5.** NRS 549.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 549.030 1. A certified copy of the county extension work  
8 budget as adopted and approved pursuant to NRS 549.020 must be  
9 filed with the Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education  
10 within 10 days after its approval by the board of county  
11 commissioners.

12 2. Necessary modifications thereof, involving county and state  
13 funds, resulting from leaves of absence without pay, resignations,  
14 changes in salary, dismissals or employment of any cooperative  
15 agent, variations in expense accounts or otherwise, not involving an  
16 increase in the total expenditures provided to be paid from the funds  
17 and consistent with the purposes of this chapter, may be made by  
18 filing with the Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education  
19 and the board of county commissioners a revised budget, approved  
20 by the Director of the ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative* Extension  
21 ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the ~~{Public Service Division of the}~~  
22 Nevada System of Higher Education and countersigned by the  
23 Treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

24 **Sec. 6.** NRS 549.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 549.050 All moneys appropriated pursuant to NRS 549.040  
26 must be expended under the direction of the Director of the  
27 ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative* Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the  
28 ~~{Public Service Division of the}~~ Nevada System of Higher  
29 Education to the extent of the financial budget for cooperation  
30 between the State and the respective counties provided for in  
31 NRS 549.020.

32 **Sec. 6.5.** NRS 549.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 549.060 Any county in the state which has agreed or shall  
34 agree to participate in cooperative work in ~~{agricultural}~~ *cooperative*  
35 extension under the provisions of this chapter or acts previously  
36 passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor shall, by  
37 the provisions hereof, come under this chapter.

38 **Sec. 7.** NRS 550.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 550.010 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
40 requires:

41 1. "Board of Regents" means the Board of Regents of the  
42 University of Nevada.

43 2. "Director" means the Director of the ~~{Agricultural}~~  
44 *Cooperative* Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the ~~{Public~~  
45 ~~Service Division of the}~~ Nevada System of Higher Education.



1 3. "State 4-H Camp" means the State 4-H Camp Institute and  
2 Exhibit.

3 **Sec. 8.** NRS 553.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 553.040 1. Every agricultural demonstration farm or plot  
5 under the provisions of this chapter must be conducted by the  
6 owner, lessee or manager thereof under the supervision of the  
7 ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative* Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of  
8 the ~~{Public Service Division of the}~~ Nevada System of Higher  
9 Education and in accordance with the terms of a written project  
10 agreement entered into with the ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative*  
11 Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the ~~{Public Service Division of~~  
12 ~~the}~~ Nevada System of Higher Education and approved by the board  
13 of county commissioners of the county in which the agricultural  
14 farm or plot is located.

15 2. The agreement must include the keeping by the owner,  
16 lessee or manager of accurate and systematic records and accounts  
17 in the form prescribed by the ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative*  
18 ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the ~~{Public Service Division of the}~~  
19 Nevada System of Higher Education. The records and accounts  
20 must be subject to inspection, use and publication in furtherance of  
21 the purposes of this chapter.

22 **Sec. 9.** NRS 553.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 553.050 1. The purpose of demonstration farms is to  
24 demonstrate the results of improved systems of farm management  
25 and accountancy as prescribed by the ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative*  
26 Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of the ~~{Public Service Division of~~  
27 ~~the}~~ Nevada System of Higher Education and applied to the farm  
28 units.

29 2. The purpose of demonstration plots is to demonstrate the  
30 value and importance of new or improved varieties of crops, soil  
31 management and soil and climate adaptability to certain crops.

32 **Sec. 10.** NRS 553.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 553.070 1. Any county desiring to avail itself of the  
34 provisions of this chapter shall, by resolution of its board of county  
35 commissioners, bind itself to pay to the owner, lessee or manager of  
36 the demonstration farm or plot as follows:

37 (a) For each demonstration farm, the sum of \$10 per acre, but  
38 not exceeding the sum of \$100 for any such demonstration farm  
39 unit.

40 (b) For any demonstration plot, a minimum of \$25 if it is less  
41 than 3 acres, and \$10 per acre if it contains 3 acres or more.

42 2. The sums must be paid annually for each year the  
43 demonstration is to be continued on the certification by the  
44 ~~{Agricultural}~~ *Cooperative* Extension ~~{Department}~~ *Program* of  
45 the ~~{Public Service Division of the}~~ Nevada System of Higher



1 Education that the demonstration has been conducted in accordance  
2 with the agreement.

3 3. A county is not obligated under the provisions of this  
4 section, except with respect to demonstration farms and plots which  
5 have been approved by the board of county commissioners as  
6 provided in NRS 553.040.

7 4. The authority to provide for such expenditure in the county  
8 budget and to disburse the money is hereby granted to the board of  
9 county commissioners and the other officers of the several counties.

10 **Sec. 11.** NRS 553.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 553.090 The ~~Aggricultural~~ *Cooperative* Extension  
12 ~~Department~~ *Program* of the ~~Public Service Division of the~~  
13 Nevada System of Higher Education annually shall prepare the  
14 information resulting from the demonstration in a form serviceable  
15 to aid and advance agricultural welfare of the State. The  
16 ~~Aggricultural~~ *Cooperative* Extension ~~Department~~ *Program* shall  
17 cause to be printed a number of copies thereof as may be deemed  
18 necessary, not exceeding 10,000, and shall distribute the copies  
19 without charge.

20 **Sec. 12.** NRS 284.140 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 284.140 The unclassified service of the State consists of the  
22 following state officers or employees in the Executive Department  
23 of the State Government who receive annual salaries for their  
24 services:

25 1. Members of boards and commissions, and heads of  
26 departments, agencies and institutions required by law to be  
27 appointed.

28 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 223.085, 223.570 and  
29 223.600, all persons required by law to be appointed by the  
30 Governor or heads of departments or agencies appointed by the  
31 Governor or by boards.

32 3. All employees other than clerical in the Office of the  
33 Attorney General and the State Public Defender required by law to  
34 be appointed by the Attorney General or the State Public Defender.

35 4. Except as otherwise provided by the Board of Regents of the  
36 University of Nevada pursuant to NRS 396.251, officers and  
37 members of the teaching staff and the staffs of the ~~Aggricultural~~  
38 *Cooperative* Extension ~~Department~~ *Program* and *the* Experiment  
39 Station of the Nevada System of Higher Education, or any other  
40 state institution of learning, and student employees of these  
41 institutions. Custodial, clerical or maintenance employees of these  
42 institutions are in the classified service. The Board of Regents of the  
43 University of Nevada shall assist the Administrator in carrying out  
44 the provisions of this chapter applicable to the Nevada System of  
45 Higher Education.



1 5. All other officers and employees authorized by law to be  
2 employed in the unclassified service.

3 **Sec. 12.5.** NRS 396.600 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 396.600 The Public Service Division of the System consists of  
5 the following public service departments:

6 1. ~~Agricultural Extension~~

7 ~~—2.~~ Agricultural Experiment Station.

8 ~~3.~~ 2. Bureau of Mines and Geology.

9 ~~4.~~ 3. Such other departments as the Board of Regents may  
10 designate.

11 **Sec. 12.7.** NRS 396.690 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 396.690 The assent of the State of Nevada by its Legislature is  
13 hereby given to the provisions and requirements of an Act of  
14 Congress entitled “An Act to provide for cooperative extension  
15 work between the agricultural colleges in the several States  
16 receiving the benefits of an Act of Congress approved July second,  
17 eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and of Acts supplementary thereto,  
18 and the United States Department of Agriculture,” approved May 8,  
19 1914 (c. 79, 38 Stat. 372), and any acts amendatory thereof and  
20 supplemental thereto. The Board of Regents is hereby authorized  
21 and empowered to receive the grants of money appropriated under  
22 such federal acts, and to organize and conduct ~~agricultural~~  
23 *cooperative* extension work which must be carried on in connection  
24 with the College of Agriculture of the System, in accordance with  
25 the terms and conditions expressed in such Acts of Congress.

26 **Sec. 13.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do  
27 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a  
28 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

29 **Sec. 14.** 1. This section and sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 to 13,  
30 inclusive, of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

31 2. Section 4 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2018.

