SENATE BILL NO. 260—SENATORS PICKARD, HAMMOND; GOICOECHEA AND SETTELMEYER

MARCH 12, 2019

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN COHEN, ROBERTS; HARDY AND LEAVITT

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to domestic relations. (BDR 11-40)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets fomitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to domestic relations; prohibiting law enforcement representatives of investigative agencies and law enforcement officers from providing certain information on behalf of a party in a proceeding relating to the custody and visitation of children; establishing provisions relating to the civil liability of such representatives and officers under certain circumstances; authorizing such representatives and officers to provide information based upon personal knowledge; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides for the custody and visitation of children generally. (Chapter 125C of NRS) This bill prohibits a representative of an investigative agency or a law enforcement officer from providing information on behalf of a party in a court determination regarding the custody or visitation of a child. This bill also provides that a representative or officer who violates the provisions of this bill may incur civil liability for such a violation under certain circumstances. Finally, this bill provides that a representative of an investigative agency or a law enforcement officer may provide information based upon personal knowledge.





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

Section 1. Chapter 125C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a representative of an investigative agency or a law enforcement officer shall not provide information on behalf of a party in a proceeding in which a court is making a determination regarding the legal custody or physical custody of a child or the rights to visitation with a child.
- 2. A representative of an investigative agency or a law enforcement officer who violates subsection 1 outside the ordinary course of his or her duties is not immune from civil liability for any damages resulting from a violation of subsection 1.
 - 3. Nothing in this section:

- (a) Shall be construed as relieving a representative of an investigative agency or law enforcement officer from the duty to report the abuse or neglect of a child pursuant to NRS 432B.220.
- (b) Prohibits a representative of an investigative agency or a law enforcement officer from providing information based upon the personal knowledge of such a representative or officer.
 - 4. As used in this section:
- (a) "Investigative agency" means any public or private agency designated by a law enforcement agency or a prosecuting attorney to obtain information on behalf of the law enforcement agency or prosecuting attorney.
 - (b) "Law enforcement officer" means:
- (1) A prosecuting attorney or representative of a prosecuting attorney;
 - (2) A sheriff of a county or the sheriff's deputy;
- (3) An officer of a metropolitan police department or a police department of an incorporated city; or
- (4) Any other person upon whom some or all of the powers of a peace officer are conferred pursuant to NRS 289.150 to 289.360, inclusive.
- (c) "Personal knowledge" does not include information obtained by a representative of an investigative agency or a law enforcement officer in the ordinary course of his or her duties.

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