

SENATE BILL NO. 270—SENATORS SEEVERS GANSERT, HARDY,
HAMMOND; KIECKHEFER AND SETTELMAYER

MARCH 17, 2021

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Makes changes to provisions governing elections.
(BDR 24-602)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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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 elections; prohibiting certain constitutional officers from soliciting or accepting political contributions during certain periods; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law prohibits a member of the Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor,
2 the Lieutenant Governor-Elect, the Governor and the Governor-Elect from
3 soliciting or accepting monetary contributions for any political purpose during a
4 certain period before and after a legislative session. (NRS 294A.300) **Section 1** of
5 this bill prohibits the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the State Controller
6 and the Attorney General from soliciting or accepting monetary contributions for
7 any political purpose during a certain period before and after a legislative session.
8 **Section 2** of this bill makes conforming changes to prohibit a lobbyist from making
9 or committing or offering to make a contribution during such periods.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 294A.300 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:
3 294A.300 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it
4 is unlawful for a member of the Legislature, the Lieutenant
5 Governor, the Lieutenant Governor-Elect, the Governor , ~~for~~ the
6 Governor-Elect , *the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the*
7 *State Controller or the Attorney General* to solicit or accept any
8 monetary contribution, or solicit or accept a commitment to make



1 such a contribution for any political purpose during the period
2 beginning:

3 (a) Thirty days before a regular session of the Legislature and
4 ending 30 days after the final adjournment of a regular session of
5 the Legislature;

6 (b) Fifteen days before a special session of the Legislature is set
7 to commence and ending 15 days after the final adjournment of a
8 special session of the Legislature, if:

9 (1) The Governor sets a specific date for the commencement
10 of the special session that is more than 15 days after the date on
11 which the Governor issues the proclamation calling for the special
12 session pursuant to Section 9 of Article 5 of the Nevada
13 Constitution; or

14 (2) The members of the Legislature set a date on or before
15 which the Legislature is to convene the special session that is more
16 than 15 days after the date on which the Secretary of State receives
17 one or more substantially similar petitions signed, in the aggregate,
18 by the required number of members calling for the special session
19 pursuant to Section 2A of Article 4 of the Nevada Constitution; or

20 (c) The day after:

21 (1) The date on which the Governor issues the proclamation
22 calling for the special session and ending 15 days after the final
23 adjournment of the special session if the Governor sets a specific
24 date for the commencement of the special session that is 15 or fewer
25 days after the date on which the Governor issues the proclamation
26 calling for the special session; or

27 (2) The date on which the Secretary of State receives one or
28 more substantially similar petitions signed, in the aggregate, by the
29 required number of members of the Legislature calling for
30 the special session and ending 15 days after the final adjournment of
31 the special session if the members set a date on or before which the
32 Legislature is to convene the special session that is 15 or fewer days
33 after the date on which the Secretary of State receives the petitions.

34 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person shall
35 not make or commit to make a contribution or commitment
36 prohibited by subsection 1.

37 3. This section does not prohibit the payment of a salary or
38 other compensation or income to a member of the Legislature, the
39 Lieutenant Governor, ~~for~~ the Governor, *the Secretary of State, the*
40 *State Treasurer, the State Controller or the Attorney General*
41 during the period set forth in subsection 1 if it is made for services
42 provided as a part of his or her regular employment or is additional
43 income to which he or she is entitled.

44 4. This section does not apply to any monetary contribution or
45 commitment to make such a contribution that may be given to or



1 accepted by a person pursuant to NRS 294A.115. The provisions of
2 this subsection do not authorize:

3 (a) A person to accept or solicit a contribution, or solicit or
4 accept a commitment to make such a contribution, other than a
5 contribution authorized pursuant to NRS 294A.115.

6 (b) A person to make or commit to make a contribution other
7 than a contribution authorized pursuant to NRS 294A.115.

8 5. As used in this section, "political purpose" includes, without
9 limitation, the establishment of, or the addition of money to, a legal
10 defense fund.

11 **Sec. 2.** NRS 218H.930 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 218H.930 1. A lobbyist shall not knowingly or willfully
13 make any false statement or misrepresentation of facts:

14 (a) To any member of the Legislative Branch in an effort to
15 persuade or influence the member in any legislative action.

16 (b) In a registration statement or report concerning lobbying
17 activities filed with the Director.

18 2. A lobbyist shall not knowingly or willfully give any gift to a
19 member of the Legislative Branch or a member of his or her
20 immediate family or otherwise directly or indirectly arrange,
21 facilitate or serve as a conduit for such a gift, whether or not the
22 Legislature is in a regular or special session.

23 3. A member of the Legislative Branch or a member of his or
24 her immediate family shall not knowingly or willfully solicit or
25 accept any gift from a lobbyist, whether or not the Legislature is in a
26 regular or special session.

27 4. A client of a lobbyist shall not make that lobbyist's
28 compensation or reimbursement contingent in any manner upon the
29 outcome of any legislative action.

30 5. Except during the period permitted by NRS 218H.200, a
31 person shall not knowingly act as a lobbyist without being registered
32 as required by that section, unless the person qualifies for an
33 exemption or exception from the requirements to register as a
34 lobbyist pursuant to any regulations adopted in accordance with
35 NRS 218H.500.

36 6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a member of
37 the Legislative or Executive Branch of the State Government and an
38 elected officer or employee of a political subdivision shall not
39 receive compensation or reimbursement other than from the State or
40 the political subdivision for personally engaging in lobbying.

41 7. An elected officer or employee of a political subdivision
42 may receive compensation or reimbursement from any organization
43 whose membership consists of elected or appointed public officers.



1 8. A lobbyist shall not instigate the introduction of any
2 legislation for the purpose of obtaining employment to lobby in
3 opposition to that legislation.

4 9. A lobbyist shall not make, commit to make or offer to make
5 a monetary contribution to a Legislator, the Lieutenant Governor,
6 the Lieutenant Governor-elect, the Governor , ~~or~~ the Governor-
7 elect , *the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the State*
8 *Controller or the Attorney General* during the period set forth in
9 subsection 1 of NRS 294A.300 unless such act is otherwise
10 authorized pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 294A.300.

