

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to electronic transactions; recognizing blockchain technology as a type of electronic record for the purposes of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act; prohibiting a local government from taxing or imposing restrictions upon the use of a blockchain; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law gives legal recognition to electronic records, signatures and contracts that comply with certain requirements and allows an electronic record or signature to satisfy a requirement for a written record or signature in certain circumstances. (NRS 719.240-719.350) **Section 1** of this bill defines the term “blockchain,” and **section 3** of this bill includes blockchain within the definition of electronic record for similar purposes. **Sections 4 and 6** of this bill prohibit a local government from: (1) imposing a tax or fee on the use of a blockchain; (2) requiring a certificate, license or permit to use a blockchain; and (3) imposing any other requirement relating to the use of a blockchain.

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 719 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

“Blockchain” means an electronic record of transactions or other data which is:

- 1. Uniformly ordered;*
- 2. Redundantly maintained or processed by one or more computers or machines to guarantee the consistency or nonrepudiation of the recorded transactions or other data; and*
- 3. Validated by the use of cryptography.*

Sec. 2. NRS 719.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

719.020 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 719.030 to 719.180, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 3. NRS 719.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:

719.090 “Electronic record” means a record created, generated, sent, communicated, received or stored by electronic means. *The term includes, without limitation, a blockchain.*



Sec. 4. Chapter 244 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. *A board of county commissioners shall not:*

(a) Impose any tax or fee on the use of a blockchain by any person or entity;

(b) Require any person or entity to obtain from the board of county commissioners any certificate, license or permit to use a blockchain; or

(c) Impose any other requirement relating to the use of a blockchain by any person or entity.

2. *Nothing in this section prohibits a county from using a blockchain in the performance of its powers or duties in a manner not inconsistent with the provisions of chapter 719 of NRS.*

3. *As used in this section, "blockchain" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.*

Sec. 5. NRS 244.335 is hereby amended to read as follows:

244.335 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2, 3 and 4, and NRS 244.33501, ***and section 4 of this act***, a board of county commissioners may:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 244.331 to 244.3345, inclusive, 598D.150 and 640C.100, regulate all character of lawful trades, callings, industries, occupations, professions and business conducted in its county outside of the limits of incorporated cities and towns.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 244.3359 and 576.128, fix, impose and collect a license tax for revenue or for regulation, or for both revenue and regulation, on such trades, callings, industries, occupations, professions and business.

2. The county license boards have the exclusive power in their respective counties to regulate entertainers employed by an entertainment by referral service and the business of conducting a dancing hall, escort service, entertainment by referral service or gambling game or device permitted by law, outside of an incorporated city. The county license boards may fix, impose and collect license taxes for revenue or for regulation, or for both revenue and regulation, on such employment and businesses.

3. A board of county commissioners shall not require that a person who is licensed as a contractor pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS obtain more than one license to engage in the business of contracting or pay more than one license tax related to engaging in the business of contracting, regardless of the number of classifications or subclassifications of licensing for which the person is licensed pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS.



4. The board of county commissioners or county license board shall not require a person to obtain a license or pay a license tax on the sole basis that the person is a professional. As used in this subsection, “professional” means a person who:

(a) Holds a license, certificate, registration, permit or similar type of authorization issued by a regulatory body as defined in NRS 622.060 or who is regulated pursuant to the Nevada Supreme Court Rules; and

(b) Practices his or her profession for any type of compensation as an employee.

5. The county license board shall provide upon request an application for a state business registration pursuant to chapter 76 of NRS. No license to engage in any type of business may be granted unless the applicant for the license:

(a) Signs an affidavit affirming that the business has complied with the provisions of chapter 76 of NRS; or

(b) Provides to the county license board the business identification number of the applicant assigned by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 225.082 which the county may use to validate that the applicant is currently in good standing with the State and has complied with the provisions of chapter 76 of NRS.

6. No license to engage in business as a seller of tangible personal property may be granted unless the applicant for the license:

(a) Presents written evidence that:

(1) The Department of Taxation has issued or will issue a permit for this activity, and this evidence clearly identifies the business by name; or

(2) Another regulatory agency of the State has issued or will issue a license required for this activity; or

(b) Provides to the county license board the business identification number of the applicant assigned by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 225.082 which the county may use to validate that the applicant is currently in good standing with the State and has complied with the provisions of paragraph (a).

7. Any license tax levied for the purposes of NRS 244.3358 or 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive, constitutes a lien upon the real and personal property of the business upon which the tax was levied until the tax is paid. The lien has the same priority as a lien for general taxes. The lien must be enforced:

(a) By recording in the office of the county recorder, within 6 months after the date on which the tax became delinquent or was



otherwise determined to be due and owing, a notice of the tax lien containing the following:

- (1) The amount of tax due and the appropriate year;
- (2) The name of the record owner of the property;
- (3) A description of the property sufficient for identification;

and

(4) A verification by the oath of any member of the board of county commissioners or the county fair and recreation board; and

(b) By an action for foreclosure against the property in the same manner as an action for foreclosure of any other lien, commenced within 2 years after the date of recording of the notice of the tax lien, and accompanied by appropriate notice to other lienholders.

8. The board of county commissioners may delegate the authority to enforce liens from taxes levied for the purposes of NRS 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive, to the county fair and recreation board. If the authority is so delegated, the board of county commissioners shall revoke or suspend the license of a business upon certification by the county fair and recreation board that the license tax has become delinquent, and shall not reinstate the license until the tax is paid. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.0115 and 244.3357, all information concerning license taxes levied by an ordinance authorized by this section or other information concerning the business affairs or operation of any licensee obtained as a result of the payment of such license taxes or as the result of any audit or examination of the books by any authorized employee of a county fair and recreation board of the county for any license tax levied for the purpose of NRS 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive, is confidential and must not be disclosed by any member, officer or employee of the county fair and recreation board or the county imposing the license tax unless the disclosure is authorized by the affirmative action of a majority of the members of the appropriate county fair and recreation board. Continuing disclosure may be so authorized under an agreement with the Department of Taxation or Secretary of State for the exchange of information concerning taxpayers.

Sec. 6. Chapter 268 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The city council or other governing body of an incorporated city, whether organized under general law or special charter, shall not:

(a) Impose any tax or fee on the use of a blockchain by any person or entity;



(b) Require any person or entity to obtain from the incorporated city any certificate, license or permit to use a blockchain; or

(c) Impose any other requirement relating to the use of a blockchain by any person or entity.

2. Nothing in this section prohibits an incorporated city from using a blockchain in the performance of its powers or duties in a manner not inconsistent with the provisions of chapter 719 of NRS.

3. As used in this section, "blockchain" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.

Sec. 7. NRS 268.095 is hereby amended to read as follows:

268.095 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 and NRS 268.0951, **and section 6 of this act**, the city council or other governing body of each incorporated city in this State, whether organized under general law or special charter, may:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and NRS 268.0968 and 576.128, fix, impose and collect for revenues or for regulation, or both, a license tax on all character of lawful trades, callings, industries, occupations, professions and businesses conducted within its corporate limits.

(b) Assign the proceeds of any one or more of such license taxes to the county within which the city is situated for the purpose or purposes of making the proceeds available to the county:

(1) As a pledge as additional security for the payment of any general obligation bonds issued pursuant to NRS 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive;

(2) For redeeming any general obligation bonds issued pursuant to NRS 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive;

(3) For defraying the costs of collecting or otherwise administering any such license tax so assigned, of the county fair and recreation board and of officers, agents and employees hired thereby, and of incidentals incurred thereby;

(4) For operating and maintaining recreational facilities under the jurisdiction of the county fair and recreation board;

(5) For improving, extending and bettering recreational facilities authorized by NRS 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive; and

(6) For constructing, purchasing or otherwise acquiring such recreational facilities.

(c) Pledge the proceeds of any tax imposed on the revenues from the rental of transient lodging pursuant to this section for the payment of any general or special obligations issued by the city for a purpose authorized by the laws of this State.



(d) Use the proceeds of any tax imposed pursuant to this section on the revenues from the rental of transient lodging:

(1) To pay the principal, interest or any other indebtedness on any general or special obligations issued by the city pursuant to the laws of this State;

(2) For the expense of operating or maintaining, or both, any facilities of the city; and

(3) For any other purpose for which other money of the city may be used.

2. The city council or other governing body of an incorporated city shall not require that a person who is licensed as a contractor pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS obtain more than one license to engage in the business of contracting or pay more than one license tax related to engaging in the business of contracting, regardless of the number of classifications or subclassifications of licensing for which the person is licensed pursuant to chapter 624 of NRS.

3. The proceeds of any tax imposed pursuant to this section that are pledged for the repayment of general obligations may be treated as "pledged revenues" for the purposes of NRS 350.020.

4. The city council or other governing body of an incorporated city shall not require a person to obtain a license or pay a license tax on the sole basis that the person is a professional. As used in this subsection, "professional" means a person who:

(a) Holds a license, certificate, registration, permit or similar type of authorization issued by a regulatory body as defined in NRS 622.060 or who is regulated pursuant to the Nevada Supreme Court Rules; and

(b) Practices his or her profession for any type of compensation as an employee.

5. The city licensing agency shall provide upon request an application for a state business registration pursuant to chapter 76 of NRS. No license to engage in any type of business may be granted unless the applicant for the license:

(a) Signs an affidavit affirming that the business has complied with the provisions of chapter 76 of NRS; or

(b) Provides to the city licensing agency the business identification number of the applicant assigned by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 225.082 which the city may use to validate that the applicant is currently in good standing with the State and has complied with the provisions of chapter 76 of NRS.

6. No license to engage in business as a seller of tangible personal property may be granted unless the applicant for the license:



(a) Presents written evidence that:

(1) The Department of Taxation has issued or will issue a permit for this activity, and this evidence clearly identifies the business by name; or

(2) Another regulatory agency of the State has issued or will issue a license required for this activity; or

(b) Provides to the city licensing agency the business identification number of the applicant assigned by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 225.082 which the city may use to validate that the applicant is currently in good standing with the State and has complied with the provisions of paragraph (a).

7. Any license tax levied under the provisions of this section constitutes a lien upon the real and personal property of the business upon which the tax was levied until the tax is paid. The lien has the same priority as a lien for general taxes. The lien must be enforced:

(a) By recording in the office of the county recorder, within 6 months following the date on which the tax became delinquent or was otherwise determined to be due and owing, a notice of the tax lien containing the following:

(1) The amount of tax due and the appropriate year;

(2) The name of the record owner of the property;

(3) A description of the property sufficient for identification;

and

(4) A verification by the oath of any member of the board of county commissioners or the county fair and recreation board; and

(b) By an action for foreclosure against such property in the same manner as an action for foreclosure of any other lien, commenced within 2 years after the date of recording of the notice of the tax lien, and accompanied by appropriate notice to other lienholders.

8. The city council or other governing body of each incorporated city may delegate the power and authority to enforce such liens to the county fair and recreation board. If the authority is so delegated, the governing body shall revoke or suspend the license of a business upon certification by the board that the license tax has become delinquent, and shall not reinstate the license until the tax is paid. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.0115 and 268.0966, all information concerning license taxes levied by an ordinance authorized by this section or other information concerning the business affairs or operation of any licensee obtained as a result of the payment of those license taxes or as the result of any audit or examination of the books of the city by any authorized employee of a county fair and recreation board for any license tax levied for the



purpose of NRS 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive, is confidential and must not be disclosed by any member, official or employee of the county fair and recreation board or the city imposing the license tax unless the disclosure is authorized by the affirmative action of a majority of the members of the appropriate county fair and recreation board. Continuing disclosure may be so authorized under an agreement with the Department of Taxation or the Secretary of State for the exchange of information concerning taxpayers.

9. The powers conferred by this section are in addition and supplemental to, and not in substitution for, and the limitations imposed by this section do not affect the powers conferred by, any other law. No part of this section repeals or affects any other law or any part thereof, it being intended that this section provide a separate method of accomplishing its objectives, and not an exclusive one.

Sec. 8. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

