League of Women Voters of Nevada
Legislative Advocacy Guide 2019

Visit League of Women Voters of Nevada at www.lwvnv.org

Visit the League of Women Voters of Nevada Blog at: www.lwvnvblog.org
Life Cycle of Advocacy

- We often divide democracy into elections & advocacy
- Yet advocacy is a never-ending process

This Guide will look at advocacy:

- During the election cycle
- During the legislatives session
Advocacy Process Overview:

1. Create a working group
2. Clearly identify an issue to be addressed
3. Thoroughly research your issue using academic standards
4. Look for existing models in other states that address your issue
5. Contact a legislator who has shown interest in your issue
6. Meet with the legislator to discuss your issue, research, and solutions
7. Work to help create legislation, including a search for funding
8. Commit to testifying for your legislation
9. Organize an advocacy team
10. Track the implementation of your legislation & ask for assessment data
Starting the Advocacy Conversation: Elections
Speak to Representatives during Elections
Candidates want votes
You need their help
Collaborate

Attend Candidate:
Meeting and Greets
Forums
Rallies
House parties

Communication:
Be respectful
Use helping words, not telling words
Listen as much as you speak
Be willing to focus on common ground
• Post-Election & Pre-Legislative Session
  • November to February
  • Assess the political landscape
  • Work on coalition building
  • Contact similar issue groups

• Bills and Committees
  Did your candidates win?
  • Yes, congratulate & continue working on your issues
  • No, offer condolences & extend an invitation to join your working group

Bills
  • Keep working to help with drafting
  • If bills aren’t drafted yet, contact new legislators to offer help

Committees
  • Create a spreadsheet of Senate & Assembly Committee members
  • Create a system for turning out bill supporters to testify

• Learn to use the Legislative Website
Navigating the Legislative Website

https://www.leg.state.nv.us/
Session Info includes access to essential links.

During the session you can track meetings, watch live-streamed hearings, review video archives of hearings, share your opinion on bills, and receive notifications.

If you need help with any website feature, you can go to the FAQ page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>NELIS</td>
<td>Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personalized Legislative Tracking</td>
<td>Personalized Legislative Tracking (PLT) provides BDR, Bill and Budget tracking throughout the Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>BDR List</td>
<td>A list of Bill Draft Requests</td>
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<tr>
<td>BDR Forms</td>
<td>Bill Draft Request Forms for Assembly, Constitutional Officer, Executive Branch, Judicial Branch, Local Government, and Senate</td>
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<td>BDR Fact Sheet</td>
<td>Information about the number of legislative measures that can be requested for drafting, by entity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Information (NELIS)</td>
<td>Browse bills, resolutions, and reports with NELIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Information (classic)</td>
<td>Browse bills, resolutions, and reports through the legacy pages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Text Search</td>
<td>Full-text search of all bills of the 80th (2019) Session</td>
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<td>Legislator Information: Senate</td>
<td>Legislators of the 80th (2019) Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Legislator Orientation and Training</td>
<td>New Legislator Orientation and Training Schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Information</td>
<td>Committee information, Agenda, Minutes, and Exhibits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed 120 Day Calendar</td>
<td>120-Day Legislative Calendar including deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Histories</td>
<td>A cumulative list of actions on all measures in the houses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports Submitted to the Nevada Legislature: 2017-2019 Biennium</td>
<td>Reports submitted to the Legislature: 2017-2019 Biennium (list with links to reports)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share Your Opinion on Legislative Bills</td>
<td>Share Your Opinion on Legislative Bills</td>
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<tr>
<td>View Opinions on Legislative Bills</td>
<td>View Opinions on Legislative Bills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Press Accreditation and General Information</td>
<td>Information for the Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>Events Calendar</td>
<td>View events scheduled in the Legislative Building and request an event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lobbyist Information</td>
<td>Lobbyist Information, Registration and Reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Search</td>
<td>Search 80th (2019) Session information and Documents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This is the best place to find answers to important questions.
On the day of a hearing, you’ll see View under the time. Click on View to watch online.

If you would like to testify in-person, you’ll see the room to go to at the legislature and the Grant Sawyer Building in Las Vegas.
You can track legislation through the NELIS System.
Above is the 2017 Nevada Electronic Information System (NELIS) end-of-session page where you can see all the bills and reports.

On the right is the 2019 NELIS page, which will be populated as the session nears. You can search BDR’s, Bills, and Committees from this page.
Before the session, Bill Draft Requests are searchable through NELIS.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>BDRs Divided List (544)</th>
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<tr>
<td>BDRs 1 to 99</td>
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<tr>
<td>BDRs 100 to 199</td>
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<tr>
<td>BDRs 200 to 299</td>
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<tr>
<td>BDRs 300 to 399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDRs 400 to 499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDRs 500 to 544</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Requests as of 11/2/18: BDRs 539 to 544 (6)

**BDR Naming:** A bill draft request (BDR) is assigned a two-part name. The first part can be the title number of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) which encompasses the main subject of the request - OR - a letter denoting the type of request, as defined below:

- **C** - A joint resolution amending the Nevada Constitution
- **R** - A resolution
- **S** - A special act

The second part is a unique sequence number for a session.
As Bill Draft Requests become bills they receive Bill numbers, such as SB155. This means Senate Bill 155.
If you go to a committee page, you can view each committee’s membership, meeting videos, and bills.
Nevadans can sign-up for a personalized tracking account to receive notifications for up to 10 bills for free. Through PLT, you will receive emails when your bills are scheduled for hearings.

### What is Personalized Legislative Tracking (PLT)?
- PLT allows you to subscribe to BDRs, bills, and budgets that are of interest to you, and subsequently tag and create notes on your subscriptions.
- The advantage of PLT is that you will receive immediate notifications of hearings, a daily status notification, and have access to tailored, exportable reports for the subscriptions you have chosen to track.
- PLT is an optional, upgraded feature of the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS) and of the Nevada Legislature website. All of the information is available for free on NELIS.

### How can I sign up for PLT?
- If you are a Legislator, LCB Staff member, State Agency or Nevada Local Government Entity, **Sign in**, click on the Personalized Legislative Tracking button, then click Sign Up for PLT.
- If you are a member of the public and have already registered with the Nevada Legislature, **Sign in**, click on the Personalized Legislative Tracking button, then click Sign Up for PLT.
- If you have never registered with the Nevada Legislature, **click here to register**. After you have registered, click on the Personalized Legislative Tracking button, then click on the NELIS and open the PLT menu to sign up for PLT.
- Please direct any Personalized Legislative Tracking questions to Publications@lcbo.state.nv.us or call 775-684-6835 or (long distance within Nevada) 877-873-2648.

### PLT Pricing Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1</td>
<td>S275: Track a maximum of 100 BDRs, bills, and budgets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 2</td>
<td>S650: Track an unlimited number of BDRs, bills, and budgets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 3</td>
<td>S55: Track a maximum of 25 BDRs, bills, and budgets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 4</td>
<td>Free: Track a maximum of 10 BDRs, bills, and budgets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 5</td>
<td>S195: Legislator Constituent Account.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Unlimited</td>
<td>Nevada State Agencies and Local Government Entities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Once you create a Personalized Legislative Tracking Account and subscribe to a bill, it will appear on the first page of your account when a hearing is scheduled.
To track a bill you’ll need to subscribe first.
To subscribe to a bill, check the box and then click on the Subscribe to selected items. That bill will then grey-out.

To manage your subscribed bills go to Manage Subscriptions.
You can add tags and notes to bills.
You can create tags, add tags to bills, and add notes to bills. Click close when done.

A zombie bill is one created when someone has amended a dead bill into the language of a live bill.
Welcome to the Nevada Legislature


The Legislative Building

NOW AVAILABLE – 2015 NEVADA REVISED STATUTES
You can watch recordings of hearings for current and past legislative sessions.
Find the committee hearing and click on video.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Video</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Response to Governor Sandoval's State of the State Address</td>
<td>Jan 17, 2017</td>
<td>00h 09m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/17/2017 Governor’s State of the State Address (17211) - Room Assembly</td>
<td>Jan 17, 2017</td>
<td>01h 31m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/23/2015 Governor’s Drought Summit (5220) - Room Assembly</td>
<td>Sep 23, 2015</td>
<td>06h 09m</td>
<td>Video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/22/2015 Governor’s Drought Summit (5219) - Room Assembly</td>
<td>Sep 22, 2015</td>
<td>06h 12m</td>
<td>Video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/14/2015 Governor’s Drought Summit (5218) - Room Assembly</td>
<td>Sep 21, 2015</td>
<td>06h 28m</td>
<td>Video</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You can fast-forward by clicking on parts of the agenda below the video image.

You can see the whole agenda on the side.
Welcome to the Nevada Legislature


The Legislative Building

NOW AVAILABLE – 2015 NEVADA REVISED STATUTES
During the legislative session you can share your opinion about bills on this page.
You can find your legislators by typing in your address.
Welcome to the Nevada Legislature


The Legislative Building

NOW AVAILABLE – 2015 NEVADA REVISED STATUTES
To send mail to legislators at the capital during session, the address is:
c/o Nevada Senate
401 South Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701-4747

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislator</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atkinson, Kelvin</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>No. 4</td>
<td>Clark (Part)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Majority Leader</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4165 Fuselier Drive</td>
<td>702-457-9995</td>
<td>(Home) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>Nov 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Las Vegas, NV 89002</td>
<td>(Fax) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>(Home) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>Nov 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Leg, Bldg.) 776-864-1429</td>
<td>(Cell) 1224</td>
<td>(Cell) 1224</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancela, Yvanna D.</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>No. 10</td>
<td>Clark (Part)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2807 Geary Place, #2506</td>
<td>(Home) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>(Home) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>Nov 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas, NV 89109</td>
<td>(Fax)</td>
<td>(Fax) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>Nov 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Leg, Bldg.) 776-864-1427</td>
<td>(Cell) 2127</td>
<td>(Cell) 2127</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannizzaro, Nicole J.</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>No. 6</td>
<td>Clark (Part)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7901 Cocoa Beach Circle</td>
<td>(Home) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>(Home) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>Nov 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas, NV 89126</td>
<td>(Fax)</td>
<td>(Fax) 702-457-9995</td>
<td>Nov 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Leg, Bldg.) 776-864-1475</td>
<td>(Cell) 2143</td>
<td>(Cell) 2143</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denis, Moises (Mo)</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>Clark (Part)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President pro Tempore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Communication

## Directly with a Legislator
- Please be polite & civil
- Form letters are not effective
- Email or call & identify as a constituent
- Provide a personal story (how does this effect me)
- Put Yes or No in the subject line

## Through Social Media
- Tagging: Please be polite
- Hashtag: Use #nvleg as the legislative hashtag
- Images: Share pictures that convey important information
- Curate a good feed with diverse & expert sources
- Follow legislative reporters

## Testifying
- Stay under two minutes
- Use helpful words, not yelling or telling words (no one likes to be yelled at or told what to do)
Providing Public Comments

- Watch archived hearings to see what others do
- Send exhibits & testimony the day before through NELIS
- Be concise & don’t ramble
- Be clear if you are for or against and why
- If there are a lot of you, don’t repeat each other
- Possibly have a couple speak and have others stand up
- Fill the room with your team for impact
How a bill becomes a law in Nevada

1. AB bills begin in the Assembly, while SB bills start in the Senate
   - Find your bill’s committee assignment
   - This is the first opportunity to testify
   - Contact committee members by email

2. If the bill has committee support, it will be scheduled for a “Work Session”
   - The committee will discuss the bill and possible amendments
   - If a majority of the committee approves, the bill moves to a floor vote
   - Public testimony is not allowed during a Work Session

3. The bill moves to the floor of the originating legislative house
   - This is the step where having a Personalized Legislative Tracking account helps
   - This is the time to contact all house members by email

4. If the bill passes the first house, it will move to the second house
   - The same process repeats in the second house
   - Advocacy must be sustained through the second house

5. The Governor Must Sign
   - Politely contact the Governor's office to advocate for signing.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implementation</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Know which agencies will manage your bill</td>
<td>• Track outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ask your legislative partner to request status reports</td>
<td>• Start planning for follow-up legislation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ensure that data is reported</td>
<td>• Big issues require lots of fixes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• If you found this Advocacy Guide useful, please consider:
  • Donating to LWVNV through our PayPal Account on this page:
    • http://lwvsn.org/membership.html

Or
• Joining the League of Women Voters of Southern Nevada:
  • http://lwvsn.org/membership.html

• OR
• Joining the League of Women Voters of Northern Nevada
  • http://lwvnn.org/joinorpayannualdues.html