

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE OPEN PUBLIC EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS – OPEN MEETING LAW INITIATIVE

FINANCIAL IMPACT – CANNOT BE DETERMINED

OVERVIEW

The Open Public Employee Negotiations – Open Meeting Law Initiative (Initiative) proposes to amend NRS 288.220, which exempts certain negotiations, informal discussions, mediations, investigations, and meetings between local governments and public employees from the state's Open Meeting Law, to remove several of the exemptions provided in the statute to the requirements of the Open Meeting Law.

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE INITIATIVE

Under the provisions of Chapter 288 of the *Nevada Revised Statutes*, which governs relations between local governments and public employees, complaints arising out of the interpretation of, or performance under, the provisions of that chapter by any local government employer, local government employee or employee organization may be heard by the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board, which is created under the Nevada Department of Business and Industry. Based on information the Fiscal Analysis Division received from the Department of Business and Industry, the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board anticipates that enactment of the provisions of the Initiative would have no financial impact upon state government.

Under the state's Open Meeting Law, all meetings of public bodies must be open and public unless otherwise exempted in specific statute. The provisions of the Initiative would remove the exemptions for certain negotiations, informal discussions, mediations, investigations, and meetings between local governments and public employees from the Open Meeting Law; therefore, there may be an increase the number of public meetings that are held by local governments. This may require additional preparation expenses for these public meetings, including, but not limited to, document reproduction and staff costs, for each meeting of a local government that would become subject to the state's Open Meeting Law. However, the timing and frequency of meetings that would be subject to these provisions cannot be estimated. Thus, the effect of passage of this Initiative upon local governments cannot be determined with any reasonable degree of certainty.

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