TO: Nevada Commission for Women members

FROM: Elisa Cafferata, Chair

RE: Agenda Item 7: BDR proposal to clarify work of NV Commission for Women

DATE: August 29, 2016

We’ve discussed submitting a Bill Draft Request (BDR) to update the statute creating the Commission for Women and to clarify its mission. I have prepared the following draft BDR language for the Commission’s feedback and approval.

**Purpose**: Update the Nevada Revised Statute creating the Nevada Commission for Women in order to clarify the Commission’s mission and to allow for the efficient operations of this volunteer Commission.

**Details:**

**NRS 233I.020  Creation; membership; designation of Chair and Vice Chair; terms of officers**:

* Add a requirement that the members of the commission reflect the varied demographics of the women in the state.
* Add that the officers of the Commission may be reappointed for a second 1 year term.

**NRS 233I.060  Powers and duties:**

Clarify the power and duties of the commission:

* Add a mission statement: The mission of the Commission is to advance women toward full equality in all areas.
* Clarify duties the Commission is empowered to undertake:
  + Study, review and report on the status of women in Nevada;
  + Advise executive and legislative bodies on the effect of proposed legislation on women;
  + Inform leaders of business, education, health care, state and local governments and the communications media of issues pertaining to women;
  + Provide referrals and serve as a resource of information on issues pertaining to women;
  + Identify and recommend qualified women for positions at all levels of government; Promote and facilitate collaboration among local women's commissions and among women’s organizations in the state;
  + Recognize and promote the contributions that Nevada women make to their community, state and nation;

**NRS 233I.080  Department of Administration to provide staff assistance; volunteer workers and consultants.**

Clarify the operations of the Commission by changing sub-section 2 to read:

      2.  The Commission may engage the services of volunteer workers and project-specific consultants ~~without salary~~ as is necessary from time to time.

* Add a limitation that this does not give the Commission the authority to create staff positions.
* Add any additional language required to allow the Commission to develop and execute an annual work program, including any clarification needed regarding contracting authority.

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CHAPTER 233I - NEVADA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

[**NRS 233I.010**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec010)**“Commission” defined.**

[**NRS 233I.020**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec020)**Creation; membership; designation of Chair and Vice Chair; terms of officers.**

[**NRS 233I.030**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec030)**Members: Terms of office; reappointment; vacancies.**

[**NRS 233I.040**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec040)**Members: Reimbursement for certain expenses.**

[**NRS 233I.050**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec050)**Meetings; quorum.**

[**NRS 233I.060**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec060)**Powers and duties.**

[**NRS 233I.070**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec070)**Appointment of committees.**

[**NRS 233I.080**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec080)**Department of Administration to provide staff assistance; volunteer workers and consultants.**

[**NRS 233I.090**](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec090)**Gifts, grants and contributions.**

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**NRS 233I.010  “Commission” defined.**As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, “Commission” means the Nevada Commission for Women.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1910](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1910); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))

**NRS 233I.020  Creation; membership; designation of Chair and Vice Chair; terms of officers.**

      1.  The Nevada Commission for Women, consisting of 10 members appointed by the Governor, is hereby created.

      2.  The members appointed to the Commission must reflect varied political philosophies regarding issues of concern to women.

      3.  The Governor shall designate one member of the Commission to serve as Chair and one member of the Commission to serve as Vice Chair.

      4.  Each Chair, Vice Chair and other officer of the Commission shall serve for a term of 1 year.

      5.  No more than five members of the Commission may be from the same political party.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1910](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1910); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))

**NRS 233I.030  Members: Terms of office; reappointment; vacancies.**Except for the initial members, the term of office of each member of the Commission is 3 years and commences on July 1 of the year of appointment. The members shall continue in office until their successors are appointed. Members are eligible for reappointment, except that no member may serve for any part of more than two consecutive terms. Vacancies must be filled by appointment for the unexpired terms by the Governor.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1910](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1910); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))

**NRS 233I.040  Members: Reimbursement for certain expenses.**Members of the Commission receive no compensation for their services, but are entitled to be reimbursed for all travel and other expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties, within the limits of money available from gifts, grants, contributions and other money received pursuant to [NRS 233I.090](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-233I.html#NRS233ISec090).

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1910](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1910); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))

**NRS 233I.050  Meetings; quorum.**The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair as frequently as required to perform its duties, but no less than quarterly. A majority of the members of the Commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of those present at any meeting is sufficient for any official action taken by the Commission.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1911](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1911); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921); [2013, 1617](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/77th2013/Stats201310.html#Stats201310page1617))

**NRS 233I.060  Powers and duties.**

      1.  The Commission shall study the changing and developing roles of women in society, including the recognition of socioeconomic factors that influence the status of women, and recommend proposed legislation.

      2.  The Commission may collect and disseminate information on activities, programs and essential services available to women in Nevada.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1911](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1911); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))

**NRS 233I.070  Appointment of committees.**The Chair of the Commission may, with the approval of the Commission, appoint committees from its members to assist in carrying out any of the functions or duties of the Commission.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1911](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1911); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))

**NRS 233I.080  Department of Administration to provide staff assistance; volunteer workers and consultants.**

      1.  The Director of the Department of Administration shall provide staff assistance to the Commission as the Governor deems appropriate.

      2.  The Commission may engage the services of volunteer workers and consultants without salary as is necessary from time to time.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1911](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1911); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))

**NRS 233I.090  Gifts, grants and contributions.**The Commission may apply for and receive gifts, grants, contributions or other money from the Federal Government, private agencies, affiliated associations and other persons for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this chapter and for defraying expenses incurred by the Commission in the discharge of its duties.

      (Added to NRS by [1991, 1911](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/66th/Stats199109.html#Stats199109page1911); A [1995, 1921](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/68th/Stats199510.html#Stats199510page1921))