

FISCAL NOTE

Financial Impact - Cannot be determined. The proposal would provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds to carry out certain conservation projects in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The fiscal effect would be subject to the terms and conditions of the issuance of the bonds and the state's overall bonded indebtedness at that time.

FULL TEXT OF THE MEASURE

AN ACT relating to natural resources; requiring the submission to a vote of the people of a proposal to issue state general obligation bonds to provide grants to local governments and the department of transportation to carry out projects for the control of erosion and the restoration of natural watercourses in the Lake Tahoe Basin; requiring the state land registrar to adopt regulations necessary to carry out a program for awarding such grants and to report to the interim finance committee concerning the program if the proposal is carried; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Section 1. 1. At the general election to be held in the State of Nevada in 1996, there must be submitted to the voters of the state, in the manner prescribed by chapter 349 of NRS, a proposal to issue general obligation bonds of the state to provide grants to local governments and the department of transportation to carry out projects for the control of erosion and the restoration of natural watercourses in the Lake Tahoe Basin in an amount of not more than \$20,000,000.

2. If the proposal is carried, the state board of examiners shall issue general obligation bonds of the State of Nevada in a total face amount of not more than \$20,000,000. The bonds may be issued at one time or from time to time. The expenses related to the issuance of bonds pursuant to this section must be paid from the proceeds of the bonds, and must not exceed 2 percent of the face amount of the bonds sold.

3. The provisions of the State Securities Law, contained in chapter 349 of NRS, apply to the issuance of bonds pursuant to this section.

Sec. 2. If the proposal is carried, the state land registrar shall:

1. Adopt regulations necessary to carry out a program for awarding grants pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of this act. The regulations must:

(a) Set forth the procedure for applying for a grant;

(b) Set forth the criteria that will be considered in awarding a grant; and

(c) State whether and to what degree an applicant must match any money awarded.

2. Report semiannually to the interim finance committee concerning the establishment and administration of the program and the expenditure of money for the program.

Sec. 3. After deducting the expenses relating to the issuance of the bonds, the state land registrar may use the proceeds from any bonds issued pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of this act to defray the costs of administering the program for awarding grants.

Sec. 4. The legislature finds and declares that the issuance of securities and the incurrence of indebtedness pursuant to this act are for the protection and preservation of the natural resources of this state and for the purpose of obtaining the benefits thereof, and constitute an exercise of the authority conferred by the second paragraph of section 3 of article 9 of the constitution of the State of Nevada.

QUESTION NO. 12

Proposal to Issue Bonds

Assembly Bill 13 of the 68th Session

CONDENSATION (ballot question)

Shall the State of Nevada issue general obligation bonds in an amount of not more than \$20,000,000 to carry out projects for the control of erosion and the restoration of natural watercourses in the Lake Tahoe Basin?

Yes

No

EXPLANATION

If this proposal is approved, the State of Nevada will issue general obligation bonds in an amount of not more than \$20,000,000 to provide grants to local governments and Nevada's Department of Transportation to carry out projects for the control of erosion and the restoration of natural watercourses in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Also, the State Land Registrar will be required to adopt regulations to carry out the program for awarding grants and to report to the Legislature's Interim Finance Committee concerning the program.

ARGUMENTS FOR PASSAGE

Lake Tahoe is a natural and scenic resource of statewide and national significance. However, the clarity of the lake's water continues to deteriorate because of human activities on lands within the Lake Tahoe Basin. Projects now being conducted to protect the quality of the water are helping, but are not adequate to prevent the continued deterioration of water quality and loss of water clarity. Therefore, it is necessary that additional projects be constructed to prevent storm water and sediment from entering the waters of the lake. The State of California provides funding for, and the Federal Government supports, projects to protect the clarity of the lake. Approval of this proposal will provide money for projects specifically located on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST PASSAGE

The state and local governments in Nevada have already invested in a number of improvement projects needed to preserve the environmental quality of the Lake Tahoe Basin. Although Lake Tahoe is acknowledged to be a resource of statewide importance, some residents of Nevada may not have the opportunity to enjoy the scenic and recreational benefits of the lake.

