

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 162—ASSEMBLYMEN MUNFORD,  
WHEELER; OHRENSCHALL AND SHELTON

FEBRUARY 13, 2015

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the use of portable event recording devices by law enforcement. (BDR 23-443)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to peace officers; authorizing certain peace officers to wear a portable event recording device while on duty; requiring certain law enforcement agencies to adopt policies and procedures governing the use of portable event recording devices; providing that, with certain limitations, records made by portable event recording devices are public records; exempting the use of portable event recording devices from the provisions governing the interception of certain communications; exempting the use of portable event recording devices upon certain property; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 **Section 1** of this bill: (1) authorizes certain peace officers to wear a portable  
2 event recording device while on duty; and (2) requires certain law enforcement  
3 agencies to adopt policies and procedures relating to the use of portable event  
4 recording devices. **Section 1** also establishes that any record made by a portable  
5 event recording device is a public record which may be: (1) requested only on a per  
6 incident basis; and (2) inspected only at the location where the record is held if the  
7 record contains confidential information.

8 Existing law authorizes investigative or law enforcement officers to intercept  
9 wire or oral communications, subject to certain requirements. (NRS 179.410-  
10 179.515) **Section 2** of this bill exempts a portable event recording device worn by a  
11 peace officer from the definition of an “electronic, mechanical or other device”  
12 used to intercept wire or oral communication. Existing law also prohibits the  
13 surreptitious electronic surveillance on: (1) the grounds of any facility owned or



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14 leased by the State of Nevada; (2) the property of a public school; or (3) a campus  
15 of the Nevada System of Higher Education. (NRS 331.200, 393.400, 396.970)  
16 **Sections 3-5** of this bill create an exception from certain unauthorized electronic  
17 surveillance conducted pursuant to **section 1**.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 289 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *1. A law enforcement agency may require uniformed peace*  
4 *officers that it employs to wear a portable event recording device*  
5 *while on duty. If a law enforcement agency so requires, the law*  
6 *enforcement agency shall adopt policies and procedures governing*  
7 *the use of portable event recording devices, which must include,*  
8 *without limitation:*

9 *(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d), requiring*  
10 *activation of a portable event recording device whenever a peace*  
11 *officer is responding to a call for service or at the initiation of any*  
12 *other law enforcement or investigative encounter between a*  
13 *uniformed peace officer and a member of the public;*

14 *(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d), prohibiting*  
15 *deactivation of a portable event recording device until the*  
16 *conclusion of a law enforcement or investigative encounter;*

17 *(c) Prohibiting the recording of general activity;*

18 *(d) Protecting the privacy of persons:*

19 *(1) In a private residence;*

20 *(2) Seeking to report a crime or provide information*  
21 *regarding a crime or ongoing investigation anonymously; or*

22 *(3) Claiming to be a victim of a crime;*

23 *(e) Limiting the period for which a video recorded by a*  
24 *portable event recording device must be retained; and*

25 *(f) Establishing disciplinary rules for peace officers who:*

26 *(1) Fail to operate a portable event recording device in*  
27 *accordance with any departmental policies;*

28 *(2) Manipulate a video recorded by a portable event*  
29 *recording device; or*

30 *(3) Prematurely erase a video recorded by a portable event*  
31 *recording device.*

32 *2. Any record made by a portable event recording device*  
33 *pursuant to this section is a public record which may be:*

34 *(a) Requested only on a per incident basis; and*

35 *(b) Available for inspection only at the location where the*  
36 *record is held if the record contains confidential information that*  
37 *may not otherwise be redacted.*



1 **3. As used in this section:**

2 (a) "Law enforcement agency" means:

3 (1) The sheriff's office of a county;

4 (2) A metropolitan police department;

5 (3) A police department of an incorporated city; or

6 (4) The Nevada Highway Patrol.

7 (b) "Portable event recording device" means a device issued to  
8 a peace officer by a law enforcement agency to be worn on his or  
9 her body and which records both audio and visual events  
10 occurring during an encounter with a member of the public while  
11 performing his or her duties as a peace officer.

12 **Sec. 2.** NRS 179.425 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 179.425 "Electronic, mechanical or other device" means any  
14 device or apparatus which can be used to intercept a wire or oral  
15 communication other than:

16 1. Any telephone instrument, equipment or facility, or any  
17 component thereof:

18 (a) Furnished to the subscriber or user by a communications  
19 common carrier in the ordinary course of its business and being used  
20 by the subscriber or user in the ordinary course of its business; or

21 (b) Being used by a communications common carrier in the  
22 ordinary course of its business, or by an investigative or law  
23 enforcement officer in the ordinary course of his or her duties.

24 2. A hearing aid or similar device being used to correct  
25 subnormal hearing to not better than normal.

26 **3. A portable event recording device, as defined in section 1**  
27 **of this act.**

28 **Sec. 2.5.** NRS 239.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 239.010 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section and  
30 NRS 1.4683, 1A.110, 49.095, 62D.420, 62D.440, 62E.516,  
31 62E.620, 62H.025, 62H.030, 62H.170, 62H.220, 62H.320, 76.160,  
32 78.152, 80.113, 81.850, 82.183, 86.246, 86.54615, 87.515, 87.5413,  
33 87A.200, 87A.580, 87A.640, 88.3355, 88.5927, 88.6067, 88A.345,  
34 88A.7345, 89.045, 89.251, 90.730, 91.160, 116.757, 116A.270,  
35 116B.880, 118B.026, 119.260, 119.265, 119.267, 119.280,  
36 119A.280, 119A.653, 119B.370, 119B.382, 120A.690, 125.130,  
37 125B.140, 126.141, 126.161, 126.163, 126.730, 127.007, 127.057,  
38 127.130, 127.140, 127.2817, 130.312, 159.044, 172.075, 172.245,  
39 176.015, 176.0625, 176.09129, 176.156, 176A.630, 178.39801,  
40 178.4715, 178.5691, 179.495, 179A.070, 179A.165, 179A.450,  
41 179D.160, 200.3771, 200.3772, 200.5095, 200.604, 202.3662,  
42 205.4651, 209.392, 209.3925, 209.419, 209.521, 211A.140,  
43 213.010, 213.040, 213.095, 213.131, 217.105, 217.110, 217.464,  
44 217.475, 218E.625, 218F.150, 218G.130, 218G.240, 218G.350,  
45 228.270, 228.450, 228.495, 228.570, 231.069, 233.190, 237.300,



1 239.0105, 239.0113, 239B.030, 239B.040, 239B.050, 239C.140,  
2 239C.210, 239C.230, 239C.250, 239C.270, 240.007, 241.020,  
3 241.030, 242.105, 244.264, 244.335, 250.087, 250.130, 250.140,  
4 250.150, 268.095, 268.490, 268.910, 271A.105, 281.195, 281A.350,  
5 281A.440, 281A.550, 284.4068, 286.110, 287.0438, 289.025,  
6 289.080, 289.387, 293.5002, 293.503, 293.558, 293B.135,  
7 293D.510, 331.110, 332.061, 332.351, 333.333, 333.335, 338.070,  
8 338.1379, 338.1725, 338.1727, 348.420, 349.597, 349.775, 353.205,  
9 353A.085, 353A.100, 353C.240, 360.240, 360.247, 360.255,  
10 360.755, 361.044, 361.610, 365.138, 366.160, 368A.180, 372A.080,  
11 378.290, 378.300, 379.008, 386.655, 387.626, 387.631, 388.5275,  
12 388.528, 388.5315, 388.750, 391.035, 392.029, 392.147, 392.264,  
13 392.271, 392.652, 392.850, 394.167, 394.1698, 394.447, 394.460,  
14 394.465, 396.3295, 396.405, 396.525, 396.535, 398.403, 408.3885,  
15 408.3886, 412.153, 416.070, 422.290, 422.305, 422A.320,  
16 422A.350, 425.400, 427A.1236, 427A.872, 432.205, 432B.175,  
17 432B.280, 432B.290, 432B.407, 432B.430, 432B.560, 433.534,  
18 433A.360, 439.270, 439.840, 439B.420, 440.170, 441A.195,  
19 441A.220, 441A.230, 442.330, 442.395, 445A.665, 445B.570,  
20 449.209, 449.245, 449.720, 453.1545, 453.720, 453A.610,  
21 453A.700, 458.055, 458.280, 459.050, 459.3866, 459.555,  
22 459.7056, 459.846, 463.120, 463.15993, 463.240, 463.3403,  
23 463.3407, 463.790, 467.1005, 467.137, 481.063, 482.170, 482.5536,  
24 483.340, 483.363, 483.800, 484E.070, 485.316, 503.452, 522.040,  
25 534A.031, 561.285, 571.160, 584.583, 584.655, 598.0964,  
26 598.0979, 598.098, 598A.110, 599B.090, 603.070, 603A.210,  
27 604A.710, 612.265, 616B.012, 616B.015, 616B.315, 616B.350,  
28 618.341, 618.425, 622.310, 623.131, 623A.353, 624.110, 624.265,  
29 624.327, 625.425, 625A.185, 628.418, 629.069, 630.133,  
30 630.30665, 630.336, 630A.555, 631.368, 632.121, 632.125,  
31 632.405, 633.283, 633.301, 633.524, 634.212, 634.214, 634A.185,  
32 635.158, 636.107, 637.085, 637A.315, 637B.288, 638.087, 638.089,  
33 639.2485, 639.570, 640.075, 640A.220, 640B.730, 640C.400,  
34 640C.745, 640C.760, 640D.190, 640E.340, 641.090, 641A.191,  
35 641B.170, 641C.760, 642.524, 643.189, 644.446, 645.180, 645.625,  
36 645A.050, 645A.082, 645B.060, 645B.092, 645C.220, 645C.225,  
37 645D.130, 645D.135, 645E.300, 645E.375, 645G.510, 645H.320,  
38 645H.330, 647.0945, 647.0947, 648.033, 648.197, 649.065,  
39 649.067, 652.228, 654.110, 656.105, 661.115, 665.130, 665.133,  
40 669.275, 669.285, 669A.310, 671.170, 673.430, 675.380, 676A.340,  
41 676A.370, 677.243, 679B.122, 679B.152, 679B.159, 679B.190,  
42 679B.285, 679B.690, 680A.270, 681A.440, 681B.260, 681B.280,  
43 683A.0873, 685A.077, 686A.289, 686B.170, 686C.306, 687A.110,  
44 687A.115, 687C.010, 688C.230, 688C.480, 688C.490, 692A.117,  
45 692C.190, 692C.420, 693A.480, 693A.615, 696B.550, 703.196,



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1 704B.320, 704B.325, 706.1725, 710.159, 711.600, *and section 1 of*  
2 *this act*, sections 35, 38 and 41 of chapter 478, Statutes of Nevada  
3 2011 and section 2 of chapter 391, Statutes of Nevada 2013 and  
4 unless otherwise declared by law to be confidential, all public books  
5 and public records of a governmental entity must be open at all  
6 times during office hours to inspection by any person, and may be  
7 fully copied or an abstract or memorandum may be prepared from  
8 those public books and public records. Any such copies, abstracts or  
9 memoranda may be used to supply the general public with copies,  
10 abstracts or memoranda of the records or may be used in any other  
11 way to the advantage of the governmental entity or of the general  
12 public. This section does not supersede or in any manner affect the  
13 federal laws governing copyrights or enlarge, diminish or affect in  
14 any other manner the rights of a person in any written book or  
15 record which is copyrighted pursuant to federal law.

16 2. A governmental entity may not reject a book or record  
17 which is copyrighted solely because it is copyrighted.

18 3. A governmental entity that has legal custody or control of a  
19 public book or record shall not deny a request made pursuant to  
20 subsection 1 to inspect or copy or receive a copy of a public book or  
21 record on the basis that the requested public book or record contains  
22 information that is confidential if the governmental entity can  
23 redact, delete, conceal or separate the confidential information from  
24 the information included in the public book or record that is not  
25 otherwise confidential.

26 4. A person may request a copy of a public record in any  
27 medium in which the public record is readily available. An officer,  
28 employee or agent of a governmental entity who has legal custody  
29 or control of a public record:

30 (a) Shall not refuse to provide a copy of that public record in a  
31 readily available medium because the officer, employee or agent has  
32 already prepared or would prefer to provide the copy in a different  
33 medium.

34 (b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.030, shall, upon  
35 request, prepare the copy of the public record and shall not require  
36 the person who has requested the copy to prepare the copy himself  
37 or herself.

38 **Sec. 3.** NRS 331.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 331.220 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, it is  
40 unlawful for a person to engage in any kind of surreptitious  
41 electronic surveillance on the grounds of any facility owned or  
42 leased by the State of Nevada without the knowledge of the person  
43 being observed.

44 2. Subsection 1 does not apply to any electronic surveillance:



1 (a) Authorized by a court order issued to a public officer, based  
2 upon a showing of probable cause to believe that criminal activity is  
3 occurring on the property under surveillance;

4 (b) By a law enforcement agency pursuant to a criminal  
5 investigation; ~~(c)~~

6 (c) *By a peace officer pursuant to section 1 of this act; or*

7 (d) Which is necessary as part of a system of security used to  
8 protect and ensure the safety of persons on the grounds of the  
9 facility.

10 **Sec. 4.** NRS 393.400 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 393.400 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, it is  
12 unlawful for a person to engage in any kind of surreptitious  
13 electronic surveillance on any property of a public school without  
14 the knowledge of the person being observed.

15 2. Subsection 1 does not apply to any electronic surveillance:

16 (a) Authorized by a court order issued to a public officer,  
17 based upon a showing of probable cause to believe that criminal  
18 activity is occurring on the property of the public school under  
19 surveillance;

20 (b) By a law enforcement agency pursuant to a criminal  
21 investigation;

22 (c) *By a peace officer pursuant to section 1 of this act;*

23 (d) Which is necessary as part of a system of security used to  
24 protect and ensure the safety of persons on the property of the public  
25 school; or

26 ~~(d)~~ (e) Of a class or laboratory when authorized by the teacher  
27 of the class or laboratory.

28 **Sec. 5.** NRS 396.970 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 396.970 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, it is  
30 unlawful for a person to engage in any kind of surreptitious  
31 electronic surveillance on a campus of the System without the  
32 knowledge of the person being observed.

33 2. Subsection 1 does not apply to any electronic surveillance:

34 (a) Authorized by a court order issued to a public officer, based  
35 upon a showing of probable cause to believe that criminal activity is  
36 occurring on the property under surveillance;

37 (b) By a law enforcement agency pursuant to a criminal  
38 investigation;

39 (c) *By a peace officer pursuant to section 1 of this act;*

40 (d) Which is necessary as part of a system of security used to  
41 protect and ensure the safety of persons on the campus; or

42 ~~(d)~~ (e) Of a class or laboratory when authorized by the teacher  
43 of the class or laboratory.

44 **Sec. 6.** (Deleted by amendment.)



1     **Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective on January 1, 2016.

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