### SENATE BILL NO. 444-COMMITTEE ON REVENUE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### MARCH 27, 2023

## Referred to Committee on Revenue and **Economic Development**

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the excise tax on live entertainment. (BDR 32-602)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Yes.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets formitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to taxation; imposing an excise tax on certain resales of admission to live entertainment events; repealing the exemption for certain athletic events involving a professional team based in this State from the excise tax on live entertainment; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law provides for the imposition of an excise tax at a rate of 9 percent of the admission charge on admission to certain facilities where live entertainment is provided. (NRS 368A.200) Existing law additionally provides that such a tax must be collected from the purchaser at the time of purchase, whether or not the admission is purchased for resale. Existing law exempts from this tax an athletic contest, event or exhibition conducted by a professional team based in this State if such a team is a participant in the contest, event or exhibition. (NRS 368A.200) Section 6 of this bill eliminates the exemption from the tax of such an athletic event. **Section 6** requires the excise tax imposed on admission to live entertainment events to also be imposed on each resale of admission by a reseller, other than an occasional sale. Section 6 requires a reseller to retain certain records and to provide a credit to a purchaser on the amount of tax owed on the resale of an admission based on the amount of tax paid by the reseller at the time of the initial purchase of the admission. Sections 2, 3 and 5 of this bill define certain terms relevant to resellers. Section 4 of this bill makes a conforming change to indicate the proper placement of sections 2 and 3 in the Nevada Revised Statutes.





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

- **Section 1.** Chapter 368A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.
- Sec. 2. "Resale" or "resell" means a transaction for the sale of the admission to a facility in this State where live entertainment is provided which occurs after the initial purchase of the admission. The term includes, without limitation, a sale made in person or by telephone, Internet website or any other means of communication or exchange.
- Sec. 3. "Reseller" means any person who resells the admission to a facility in this State where live entertainment is provided.
  - **Sec. 4.** NRS 368A.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 368A.010 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 368A.020 to 368A.115, inclusive, *and sections 2 and 3 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
  - **Sec. 5.** NRS 368A.110 is hereby amended to read as follows: 368A.110 "Taxpayer" means:
- 1. Except as otherwise provided in [subsection] subsections 4 [] and 5, if live entertainment that is taxable under this chapter is provided at a licensed gaming establishment, the person licensed to conduct gaming at that establishment.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 3, [and] 4 [,] and 5, if live entertainment that is taxable under this chapter is not provided at a licensed gaming establishment, the owner or operator of the facility where the live entertainment is provided.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in [subsection] subsections 4 [.] and 5, if live entertainment that is taxable under this chapter is provided at a publicly owned facility or on public land, the person who collects the taxable receipts.
- 4. If live entertainment that is taxable under this chapter is provided by an escort, the escort or, if the escort works as an employee, agent or independent contractor for an escort service, the owner or operator of the escort service.
- 5. With respect to any tax which is due for the resale of the admission to a facility in this State where live entertainment is provided, the reseller.
  - **Sec. 6.** NRS 368A.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 368A.200 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, there is hereby imposed an excise tax on admission to any facility in this State where live entertainment is provided and on the charge for



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live entertainment provided by an escort at one or more locations in this State. The rate of the tax is:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), for admission to a facility in this State where live entertainment is provided, 9 percent of the admission charge to the facility.
- (b) For live entertainment provided by an escort who is escorting one or more persons at a location or locations in this State, 9 percent of the total amount, expressed in terms of money, of consideration paid for the live entertainment provided by the escort.
  - 2. Amounts paid for:

- (a) Admission charges collected and retained by a nonprofit religious, charitable, fraternal or other organization that qualifies as a tax-exempt organization pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 501(c), or by a nonprofit corporation organized or existing under the provisions of chapter 82 of NRS, are not taxable pursuant to this section, only if the number of tickets to the live entertainment which are offered for sale or other distribution to patrons, either directly or indirectly through a partner, subsidiary, client, affiliate or other collaborator, is less than 7,500.
- (b) Gratuities directly or indirectly remitted to persons employed at a facility where live entertainment is provided are not taxable pursuant to this section.
- (c) Fees imposed, collected and retained by an independent financial institution in connection with the use of credit cards or debit cards to pay the admission charge to a facility where live entertainment is provided are not taxable pursuant to this section. As used in this paragraph, "independent financial institution" means a financial institution that is not the taxpayer or an owner or operator of the facility where the live entertainment is provided or an affiliate of any of those persons.
- 3. The tax imposed by this section must be added to and collected from the purchaser at the time of purchase, whether or not the admission for live entertainment is purchased for resale.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, in addition to the tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 with respect to the initial sale of admission to any facility in this State where live entertainment is provided, the tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 shall also be collected by a reseller from the purchaser at the time of resale of the admission to a facility in this State where live entertainment is provided. A reseller must maintain records documenting the admission charge and tax paid by the reseller for the initial purchase of the admission and the admission charge and tax collected when the reseller resells the admission. The reseller shall pass through to the purchaser the amount of the tax imposed pursuant to this section which was paid by the reseller at





the time of the initial purchase by giving the purchaser a credit on the amount of tax owed pursuant to this section on the resale, except that the amount of the credit may not exceed:

(a) The amount of tax paid pursuant to this section on the

initial purchase of the admission by the reseller; or

(b) The amount of tax owed pursuant to this section on the resale of the admission.

→ If the resale or admission to any facility in this State where live entertainment is provided is an occasional sale, as defined in NRS 372.035, such a resale is exempt from the payment of any additional amount of excise tax pursuant to this subsection.

5. The tax imposed by subsection 1 does not apply to:

- (a) Live entertainment that this State is prohibited from taxing under the Constitution, laws or treaties of the United States or the Nevada Constitution.
- (b) Live entertainment that is governed by the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association pursuant to chapter 385B of NRS or is provided or sponsored by an elementary school, junior high school, middle school or high school, if only pupils or faculty provide the live entertainment.
- (c) An athletic contest, event, tournament or exhibition provided by an institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education, if students of such an institution are contestants in the contest, event, tournament or exhibition.
- (d) Live entertainment that is provided by or entirely for the benefit of a nonprofit religious, charitable, fraternal or other organization that qualifies as a tax-exempt organization pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 501(c), or a nonprofit corporation organized or existing under the provisions of chapter 82 of NRS, only if the number of tickets to the live entertainment which are offered for sale or other distribution to patrons, either directly or indirectly through a partner, subsidiary, client, affiliate or other collaborator, is less than 7,500.
- (e) Any boxing contest or exhibition governed by the provisions of chapter 467 of NRS.
- (f) Live entertainment that is not provided at a licensed gaming establishment if the facility in which the live entertainment is provided has a maximum occupancy of less than 200 persons.
- (g) Live entertainment that is provided at a licensed gaming establishment that is licensed for less than 51 slot machines, less than 6 games, or any combination of slot machines and games within those respective limits, if the facility in which the live entertainment is provided has a maximum occupancy of less than 200 persons.
  - (h) Live entertainment that is provided at a trade show.





- (i) Music performed by musicians who move constantly through the audience if no other form of live entertainment is afforded to the patrons.
- (j) Live entertainment that is provided at a licensed gaming establishment at private meetings or dinners attended by members of a particular organization or by a casual assemblage if the purpose of the event is not primarily for entertainment.
- (k) Live entertainment that is provided in the common area of a shopping mall, unless the entertainment is provided in a facility located within the mall.
- (1) Food and product demonstrations provided at a shopping mall, a craft show or an establishment that sells grocery products, housewares, hardware or other supplies for the home.
- (m) Live entertainment that is incidental to an amusement ride, a motion simulator or a similar digital, electronic, mechanical or electromechanical attraction. For the purposes of this paragraph, live entertainment shall be deemed to be incidental to an amusement ride, a motion simulator or a similar digital, electronic, mechanical or electromechanical attraction if the live entertainment is:
  - (1) Not the predominant element of the attraction; and
- (2) Not the primary purpose for which the public rides, attends or otherwise participates in the attraction.
- (n) A race scheduled at a race track in this State and sanctioned by the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, if two or more such races are held at that race track during the same calendar year.
- (o) [An athletic contest, event or exhibition conducted by a professional team based in this State if the professional team based in this State is a participant in the contest, event or exhibition.
- <del>(p)</del> Live entertainment that is provided by or entirely for the benefit of a governmental entity.
  - [5.] 6. As used in this section:
  - (a) "Affiliate" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 463.0133.
- (b) "Maximum occupancy" means, in the following order of priority:
- (1) The maximum occupancy of the facility in which live entertainment is provided, as determined by the State Fire Marshal or the local governmental agency that has the authority to determine the maximum occupancy of the facility;
- (2) If such a maximum occupancy has not been determined, the maximum occupancy of the facility designated in any permit required to be obtained in order to provide the live entertainment; or
- (3) If such a permit does not designate the maximum occupancy of the facility, the actual seating capacity of the facility in which the live entertainment is provided.





(c) "Operator" includes, without limitation, a person who operates a facility where live entertainment is provided or who presents, produces or otherwise provides live entertainment.

**Sec. 7.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.

- 2. Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, of this act become effective:
- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
  - (b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.





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