How to Read a Bill:

Bill Components

Bill Number
The first letter in a bill number indicates the bill’s House of Origin:

‘A’ for Assembly
AB

‘S’ for Senate
SB

Heading
Contains information on who requested the bill, to which committee the bill was referred, a summary and BDR number, Fiscal Note status, and certain other information as needed.

Legislative Digest
Summarizes how the bill changes current law

Note: The digest is not part of the bill and does not become part of the law.

Enacting Clause
The part of a statute stating the legislative authority by which it is made and often the date when it will take effect. “Enacting Clause.” Black’s Law Dictionary, 11th ed., Thompson Reuters, 2019. p. 315.

Nevada’s Enacting Clause:
The enacting clause of every law shall be as follows: “The people of the State of Nevada represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows,” and no law shall be enacted except by bill. Nevada Constitution, Article 4, Section 23.

Section

Colors
Section Headings Identify new statutory provisions being added or amended

Italicized & Bolded Language New wording to be added to statute

[Bracketed & Crossed Out Language] Proposed for deletion from statute

Effective Date
The date on which a statute becomes enforceable or otherwise takes effect. “Effective Date.” Black’s Law Dictionary, 11th ed., Thompson Reuters, 2019. p. 496.

• Bills without a specific effective date become law on October 1 after the session.
• Bills effective on “passage and approval” become law when signed by the Governor.
• Bills may be made effective on July 1 of a certain year (to coincide with the start of a fiscal year) or January 1 - or any other date desired.