

## STATE:

# Meet your new Legislative Chair: Jared Rossi, LP Insurance

I want to take a moment to introduce myself as the Chair of the Nevada Independent Insurance Agents' Legislative Committee.

We are a committee that meets monthly to review legislative items which may influence or impact our industry. The monthly meetings are on a virtual platform, along with our association leadership and lobbyists who analyze and discuss changes in the legislative atmosphere from both a state and federal aspect. Our goal as a committee is to advocate on behalf of the independent agents on the basis of reviewing policy from the perspective of both our industry expertise and for that or our policy holders.

I would like to invite all members who have an interest in these issues to join us for one of our upcoming meetings, which occurs on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM. For call in credentials, contact membershipservices@niia.org.

The Committee is currently working on meetings with current legislators and candidates to advise them of the items we as an industry feel should be addressed in the upcoming legislative session. A couple of the topics include the current wildfire and homeowner issue, third-party litigation funding, and the previous legislation (AB398) that changed the defense limits.

We are looking forward to the opportunity the 2025 legislative session provides our advocacy group to work with our state lawmakers on both new and previous legislation.

Please feel free to reach out either to myself or one of the board members if you would like any additional information regarding this committee or if you have any questions.

Jared Rossi

NIIA Legislative Committee Chair

Government Relations News, from Black & Wadhams...

#### **New and Proposed Laws in Nevada**

July 1 was a big day for Nevada laws, present and future – nearly 20 bills that passed from the 2023 Legislative Session went into effect and <u>Bill Draft Requests</u> for the 2025 Legislative Session became public. Many of the new laws centered on education and health care.

On the education front, AB65 has children enrolling in school by the time they are six years old. Previously, school enrollment for children was mandated for ages 7 and older. Through AB264, students missing school for religious holidays will no longer be penalized from attendance-required awards and recognitions. And through AB241, Nevada public school students, with some exceptions, must be enrolled in courses and credits that qualify for a college or career-ready high school diploma.

For health care, AB7 requires health care providers to use electronic health records that are easier to access by patients and shareable among providers. It also allocated grant funding for certain provider types to implement the program. And behavioral health treatment sees an increase under AB138. Medicaid must pay the non-federal share of expenses for certain treatments, including mental health services and substance use disorders.

For a complete list of bills that went into effect on July 1, 2024, click here.

#### **Nevada Legislature and Election Season**

Most of the Nevada Legislative Joint Interim Committee meetings are winding down and will be ending in August. Committees will now secure bill draft requests (BDRs) based on these 2024 meetings considering issues recommended by stakeholders and those cultivated by legislators. BDRs for the 2025 Nevada Legislative Session are now available <a href="here">here</a> for viewing. BDRs are placeholders for legislation and most topics at this point are vague addressing high level issues such as health care, education, housing, and economic development. Some are more specific and include topics on firearms, nursing instruction and daylight savings time.

And now that the Nevada Primary Election is over, the focus is on the General Election on November 5. The Black & Wadhams Government Relations Team is meeting with candidates across all parties involved in local and state government and education races to ensure issues align with client initiatives. And while our focus is at the state level, we participate in meetings with our federal delegation throughout the year.

# **Regulations of Interest – Annuity Regulations**

On Thursday, July 11, the Nevada Division of Insurance held a hearing on the intent to amend R109-23 – Annuity Suitability and Best Interest – to better align Nevada rules with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) model. The Division anticipates that by requiring insurers or producers of insurance to better assess the suitability of the annuity products being recommended, the regulation will have a beneficial impact on consumers.

For context on the proposed regulations, the Division did not feel that the previous version met standards compatible with the NAIC model. The Division then provided a new draft to the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) that kept some of the previous language and fit better with the NAIC model. LCB then redrafted the resulting R109-23 based on the NAIC model.

In addition to the hearing, the Division received public comment on the proposed regulations. If there is a substantive change, LCB may need to make further amendments which could delay the process. And while the bulk of the amendments are not considered substantive – clarity, typos, etc. - there has been some discussion around the NAIC forms. The Division is hoping to avoid this by posting the NAIC forms on the Division website after the Commissioner adopts the regulations and prior to them going into effect. The forms are slated to go live on the Division website under the Required Industry Reports Page.

The current proposed version has much more clarity and is more in line with changing times. Annuities are sold by producers on multiple channels (several license types with many ethical standards). The amendment still holds ethical and fiduciary requirements.

With adoption of the regulation, Nevada will join 45 other states. The regulation goes into effect with the Nevada Secretary of State's signature, and with no grace period, carriers will have to adopt the regulations as soon as possible to be in compliance.

# **Election 2024: Tracking Nevada legislative candidate announcements**

Who's my Legislator/What's My District Current Legislators Contact Information: Senate Assembly

Legislative Session Important Dates



# **Nevada Division of Insurance Meetings**

Nov/Dec 2024- Property & Casualty Advisory Committee Meeting TBD- Producers & Brokers Insurance Advisory Committee Meeting TBD- Life & Health Advisory Committee Meeting



# The Big "I" speaks with a megaphone on Capitol Hill.

Our government affairs teams work around the clock in Washington, D.C. and in state capitals to protect your clients and your livelihood. Combine our expertise and the weight of a multimillion-dollar political action committee (InsurPac) with the voice of independent agents and we have the power to protect your independence year-round. We are advocating around the clock for agents while they advocate for their communities.

# FEDERAL:

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We made some big traction in DC on wildfire. Senator Cortez-Masto has a bill called the Western Wildfire Support Act. It was introduced in the last Congress and re-introduced this Congress as well. I have attached a copy of the summary for review. It is mostly focused on mitigation efforts and funding as well as recovery. We are working with her team to introduce an amendment that would authorize FEMA to create a definition of wildfire. I will keep you posted on updates as they become available.

## Senate

There is only 1 senate seat up in this election, currently occupied by Democratic Senator Jacky Rosen. She will be challenged by Republican Sam Brown. This will be one of the most watched Senate races.

### **House of Representatives**

All 4 seats are up in this election with all incumbents seeking re-election. The Democratic incumbents are Dina Titus, Susie Lee, and Steven Horsford on the National Republican Congressional Committee's target list. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) has identified Susie Lee and Steven Horsford as their front runners to defend competitive seats. Mark Amodei is the sole Republican seeking re-election.





# Additional Reading (State & Federal):

Nevada Supreme Court upholds voter ID ballot initiative (kolotv.com)

The three most interesting Assembly primaries in Nevada (newsbreak.com)

Proposed bills would make changes to Nevada's election rules

"Main Street Tax Certainty Act" (section '199 A) scheduled to expire September 2025

Court Halt DOLs Expanded Fiduciary Definition

FTC Ban on non-compete agreements Struck Down



