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STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
Division of Human Resource Management
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MEMORANDUM
HR# 56-23

August 22, 2023

TO: DHRM Listserv Recipients

FROM: Mandee Bowsmith, Administrator *Mandee Bowsmith*
Division of Human Resource Management

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACT UPON A REGULATION – Permanent
Amendment of Regulations that Pertain to NAC 284

The regulation changes included with this memorandum are being proposed for amendment at the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Human Resources Commission. This meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. at the Nevada State Library and Archives Building, Room 110, 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada with videoconferencing to the Grant Sawyer Building, Room 1400, 555 E. Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Please circulate and post the attached *Notice of Intent to Act Upon A Regulation* along with the text of the proposed regulations.

Attachments

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACT UPON A REGULATION
Notice of Hearing for the Permanent Amendment of
Regulations of the Human Resources Commission

The Human Resources Commission will hold a public hearing at 9:00 a.m. on September 22, 2023, at the Nevada State Library and Archives Building, Room 110, 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada with videoconferencing to the Grant Sawyer Building, Room 1400, 555 E. Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from all interested persons regarding the permanent amendment of regulations that pertain to Chapter 284 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.0603:

- These regulations do not have a direct economic effect on any business or the public.
- Enforcement of these regulations will not result in an increased cost.
- To our knowledge, these regulations do not overlap or duplicate the regulations of other State or local governmental agencies.
- These regulations do not establish any new fee or increase an existing fee.

<u>LCB File:</u>	<u>Section:</u>	<u>NAC:</u>	<u>Leadline or Description</u>
R138-22	Sec. 1	284.589	Administrative leave with pay.
R141-22	Sec. 1	284.524	Reporting for work; workweeks and workdays; periods for meals and rest.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed action of the Human Resources Commission may appear at the scheduled public hearing or may address their comments, data, views, or arguments, in written form, to the Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management, 209 East Musser Street, Suite 101, Carson City, Nevada 89701, Attention: Michelle Garton. Written submissions must be received by the Division of Human Resource Management on or before September 22, 2023. If no person who is directly affected by the proposed action appears to request time to make an oral presentation, the Human Resources Commission may proceed immediately to act upon any written submissions.

A copy of this notice and the regulations to be adopted or amended will be on file at the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records, 100 North Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada, for inspection by members of the public during business hours. Additionally, copies of this notice and the regulations to be adopted or amended will be available at the Division of Human Resource Management, 100 North Stewart Street, Suite 200, Carson City, Nevada, and 555 East Washington Avenue, Suite 1400, Las Vegas, Nevada; and in all counties in which an office of the agency is not maintained, at the main public library, for inspection and copying by members of the public during business hours. This notice and the text of the proposed regulations are also available in the

State of Nevada Register of Administrative Regulations, which is prepared and published monthly by the Legislative Counsel Bureau pursuant to NRS 233B.0653, and on the internet at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us>. Copies of this notice and the proposed regulations will also be mailed to members of the public upon request. A reasonable fee may be charged for copies if it is deemed necessary.

Upon adoption, amendment or repeal of any regulation, the agency, if requested to do so by an interested person, either before adoption, amendment or repeal, or within 30 days thereafter, will issue a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against its adoption, amendment or repeal, and incorporate therein its reason for overruling the consideration urged against its adoption, amendment or repeal.

This notice of hearing has been posted at the following locations:

Carson City

Blasdel Building, 209 East Musser Street
Nevada State Library & Archives Building, 100 North Stewart Street
Nevada State Capitol Building, 101 North Carson Street
Legislative Counsel Bureau, 401 South Carson Street

Las Vegas

Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue

Websites

Legislative Counsel Bureau website: www.leg.state.nv.us
Nevada Public Notice website: <http://notice.nv.gov>
Division of Human Resource Management website: www.hr.nv.gov

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE
Permanent Regulations

LCB File No. R138-22

Explanation of Proposed Change: The following amendment, proposed by the Division of Human Resource Management (DHRM), will require an appointing authority to grant administrative leave to newly hired veterans for use to attend medical appointments.

The State of Nevada values veterans and recognizes the talent and variation of skills and experience acquired while in the service. Veterans are encouraged to apply for employment within state service and it is recognized that in most instances newly separated service members are still undergoing medical evaluation by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to determine if the individual has a service-connected disability. These evaluations through the VA are time-sensitive and newly separated service members may have to wait months to be scheduled for an evaluation. Any delays in attending those evaluations could be detrimental to their physical or mental well-being and cause financial hardship as those individuals will not receive compensation from the VA until their claim has been processed and approved. Additionally, veterans who have established service-connected disabilities through the VA may have physical and mental health needs that are addressed on a reoccurring basis, and it could be injurious for an individual to delay medical appointments until such a time they are able to accrue sufficient sick leave as a new state employee.

**REVISED PROPOSED REGULATION OF
THE PERSONNEL COMMISSION**

LCB File No. R138-22

August 15, 2022

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

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 284.065 and 284.345.

A REGULATION relating to state personnel; requiring an appointing authority or the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration to grant administrative leave with pay to an employee who is a veteran for purposes of attending certain appointments related to determining whether the veteran has a service-connected disability or receiving health care services related to such a disability; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Personnel Commission of the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration to adopt regulations necessary to carry out provisions of law relating to the state personnel system, including regulations for attendance and leave with or without pay for state employees. (NRS 284.345) Existing regulations require an appointing authority to grant administrative leave with pay to an employee who receives counseling through an employee assistance program for purposes of attending certain appointments relating to participation in the program. (NAC 284.589) This regulation requires an appointing authority or the Division to grant up to 96 hours of administrative leave with pay to an employee who is a veteran during the first 12 months of his or her employment for: (1) attending an appointment with a provider of health care for purposes of determining whether the veteran has a service-connected disability; or (2) receiving health care services relating to a service-connected disability. This regulation provides that such leave is in addition to any leave to which the employee is entitled for purposes of attending certain appointments relating to participation in an employee assistance program.

Section 1. NAC 284.589 is hereby amended to read as follows:

284.589 1. An appointing authority may grant administrative leave with pay to an employee:

(a) To relieve the employee of his or her duties during the active investigation of a suspected criminal violation or the investigation of alleged wrongdoing;

(b) For up to 30 days when the appointing authority initiates the leave to obtain the results of an examination concerning the ability of the employee to perform the essential functions of his or her position;

(c) For up to 30 days to remove the employee from the workplace when he or she has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence; or

(d) To relieve the employee of his or her duties until the appointing authority receives the results of a screening test pursuant to NRS 284.4065.

2. The appointing authority, upon approval of the Risk Management Division, may extend administrative leave with pay granted to an employee for a purpose set forth in paragraph (b) or (c) of subsection 1.

3. If an employee is granted administrative leave with pay pursuant to subsection 1 or 2, the employee must be available:

(a) By telephone to the supervisor of the employee; and

(b) To report to a work site or another location, as directed by the supervisor of the employee, ↪ during regular business hours.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, an appointing authority or the Division of Human Resource Management may grant administrative leave with pay to an employee for any of the following purposes:

(a) His or her participation in, or attendance at, activities which are directly or indirectly related to the employee's job or employment with the State but which do not require him or her to participate or attend in an official capacity as a state employee.

(b) His or her safety during an emergency when employees have been authorized by the Governor not to report to work or to leave work before the end of their shifts during the emergency, including, without limitation, emergencies relating to enemy attacks or other hostile actions, natural causes or other catastrophes, except for employees who are designated as essential and notified that they are required to report to work or remain at work.

(c) Closure of the employee's office or work site caused by a natural disaster, pandemic or other similar adverse condition when the employee is scheduled and expected to be at work. An appointing authority may designate certain employees as essential and notify them that they are required to report to work.

(d) Closure, as a result of a pandemic, of a school or a center or facility that provides day care services which is attended by the employee's dependent child or the temporary cancellation, as a result of a pandemic, of a program attended by the employee's dependent child. An appointing authority may designate certain employees as essential and notify them that they are required to report to work.

(e) Up to 2 hours for participating in Veterans Day at the Legislature established pursuant to NRS 236.047, if the employee is a veteran.

(f) Up to 2 hours for donating blood.

(g) For attending a general employee benefits orientation or an educational session relating to employee benefits, including, without limitation, retirement and deferred compensation.

(h) His or her appearance as an aggrieved employee, an employee who filed a complaint described in NAC 284.658 or a witness at a hearing of the Committee.

(i) His or her appearance as a witness at a hearing regarding a matter described in subparagraph (1), (2) or (3) of paragraph (f) of subsection 7.

(j) His or her appearance to provide testimony at a meeting of the Commission.

5. To the extent not already covered in subsection 4, during any period in which a state of emergency or declaration of disaster has been proclaimed pursuant to NRS 414.070, an appointing authority may grant administrative leave with pay to an employee for purposes related to health and safety.

6. An appointing authority or the Division of Human Resource Management shall grant administrative leave with pay to an employee for a purpose set forth in paragraph (h), (i) or (j) of subsection 4 if:

(a) The employee requests the administrative leave for a period of time that is reasonably needed to testify at the hearing or meeting;

(b) The employee requests the administrative leave at least 2 weeks before the leave is needed, unless such notice is impractical; and

(c) The absence of the employee will not cause an undue hardship to the operations of the appointing authority or adversely impact the provision of services to clients or to the public.

7. An appointing authority shall grant administrative leave with pay to an employee for any of the following purposes:

(a) The initial appointment and one follow-up appointment if the employee receives counseling through an employee assistance program, including, without limitation, consultations provided in person or telephonically.

(b) His or her attendance at a health fair or related event coordinated by the Public Employees' Benefits Program.

(c) His or her participation in an official capacity as a member of a committee or board created by statute on which he or she serves as a representative of state employees, including,

without limitation, any time spent reviewing materials submitted in connection with any agenda item or otherwise preparing for the meeting. Such leave must be in lieu of other fees provided for attendance at meetings and participation in official functions of the committee or board.

(d) Up to 8 hours for preparation for any predisciplinary review.

(e) Up to 8 hours for preparation for any hearing described in paragraph (f).

(f) The appearance of the employee as a party at a hearing regarding:

(1) An alleged reprisal or retaliatory action against the employee for disclosing an improper governmental action as provided in NRS 281.641;

(2) An involuntary transfer of the employee as provided in NRS 284.376; or

(3) A suspension, demotion or dismissal of the employee as provided in NRS 284.390 and at a predisciplinary review as provided in NAC 284.6561.

8. In addition to any leave to which an employee is entitled pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 7, an appointing authority or the Division of Human Resource Management shall grant up to 96 hours of administrative leave with pay to an employee who is a veteran during the first 12 months of his or her employment for:

(a) Attending an appointment with a provider of health care for purposes of determining whether he or she has a service-connected disability; or

(b) Receiving health care services relating to a service-connected disability.

9. As used in this section:

(a) "Health care services" means services for the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, care or relief of a health condition, illness, injury or disease, including, without limitation, mental health services.

(b) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE
Permanent Regulations

LCB File No. R141-22

Explanation of Proposed Change: This amendment is in response to a recent decision out of the First Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada remanding the decision back to the Employee-Management Committee (EMC) to determine which activities performed before or after a regularly scheduled shift are compensable, however, pursuant to NRS 284.065, the authority to adopt regulations lies with the Human Resources Commission, and as such, the administrative regulation making process is appropriate to address the court's decision.

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
PERSONNEL COMMISSION**

LCB File No. R141-22

September 8, 2022

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

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 284.065, 284.155 and 284.345.

A REGULATION relating to the state personnel system; specifying when the work shift of certain employees in the Executive Department of the State Government begins for purposes of determining compliance with requirements relating to attendance; providing that the workday of certain employees in the Executive Department of State Government includes certain work-related activities; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Personnel Commission of the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration to adopt regulations relating to the attendance of certain state employees at work. (NRS 284.345) Existing regulations require an employee in the Executive Department of the State Government to report for a work shift on time and ready to perform the duties assigned to his or her position. (NAC 284.524) This regulation provides that, for purposes of determining whether an employee is in compliance with the requirement that an employee report for a work shift on time, the work shift of an employee who is not working remotely begins when the employee arrives at the entrance to the physical location at which the employee performs his or her duties or responsibilities.

Existing regulations prescribe requirements relating to the workday for certain employees in the Executive Department of State Government. (NAC 284.524) This regulation provides that the workday for such an employee who is not working remotely includes the time it takes the employee to: (1) travel to and from the entrance to the physical location at which the employee performs his or her duties and responsibilities and to a location designated as his or her assigned workstation within that location; (2) conduct a mandatory pre- or post-shift briefing between arriving and departing staff; and (3) perform any other activities required by the appointing authority.

Section 1. NAC 284.524 is hereby amended to read as follows:

284.524 1. An employee shall report for a work shift on time and ready to perform the duties and tasks assigned to his or her position. *For purposes of determining whether an employee is in compliance with the requirement that an employee report for a work shift on time, the work shift of an employee who is not working remotely begins when the employee arrives at the entrance to the physical location at which the employee performs his or her duties or responsibilities.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the workweek for state employees is 40 hours. A workweek of a different number of hours may be established to meet the needs of state agencies in compliance with the provisions of NRS 281.100, 281.110 and 284.180.

3. The workday for a state employee who is not working remotely begins at the time specified in subsection 1 and includes, without limitation, the time it takes the employee to:

(a) Travel to and from the entrance to the physical location at which the employee performs his or her duties or responsibilities and to a location designated by his or her employer as his or her assigned workstation within that location;

(b) Conduct a mandatory pre- or post-shift briefing between arriving and departing staff; and

(c) Perform any other activities required by an appointing authority.

4. The workday for a full-time state employee who works a standard or nonstandard work schedule consists of two work periods separated by a 1/2- to 1-hour meal period. Insofar as practicable, the meal period must occur in the middle of the work shift. A rest period of 15 minutes must be granted for each 4-hour period of work and, except as otherwise provided in NAC 284.5242 and insofar as practicable, must occur in the middle of the period of work.

~~13.1~~ 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsections ~~14.1~~ 6 and ~~15.1~~ 7, an appointing authority shall provide a meal period and rest period to an employee who has an innovative work schedule during each workday as follows:

(a) A 1/2- to 1-hour meal period must be provided during each period of work that exceeds 6 hours. Insofar as practicable, the meal period must occur in the middle of the work shift.

(b) A rest period of 15 minutes must be provided for each 4-hour period of work and, except as otherwise provided in NAC 284.5242 and insofar as practicable, must occur in the middle of the period of work.

~~14.1~~ 6. The requirement to relieve an employee for a 1/2- to 1-hour meal period does not apply to an employee who receives a paid meal period.

~~15.1~~ 7. The requirement for a rest period does not apply to an employee who works:

(a) Directly with the inmates at a correctional institution.

(b) For the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services and who:

(1) Maintains or monitors the equipment in a heat plant which operates 24 hours a day;

and

(2) Works a straight 8-hour work shift.

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Regulation Small Business Impact Statement

Section 15 of Article 15 of the Nevada Constitution requires the Legislature to provide for a State merit system governing the employment of employees in the Executive Branch of State government and in 1969 the Legislature provided for such in NRS 284. Additionally, NRS 284.013 provides limitations to which employees of the Executive Branch are covered by NRS 284. NRS 284.065 authorizes the Human Resources Commission to adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

Due to the limitations of the Nevada State Constitution and NRS 284, the Division of Human Resource Management staff has determined that the adoption of this proposed regulation does not affect small businesses, impose a significant economic burden on small businesses, nor will it restrict the formation, operation or expansion of small business. This regulation only impacts employees moving into the nonclassified, classified, or unclassified service of the Executive Branch.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge or belief, a concerted effort was made to determine the impact of the proposed regulation on small business and that the information contained in this statement was prepared properly and is accurate.

Mandee Bowsmith
Mandee Bowsmith, Administrator

8/23/2023
Date