## June 7, 2021 Board Update

Division of Consumer Equitability



## **Division Overview**

- Livestock scale inspection season
  - The division will begin annual inspections of livestock scales the week of June 7,
    2021. Barring weather delays, equipment failure and/or staffing limitations, these inspections are expected to be completed by the end of September 2021.
- Initiation of regulation-making process State Sealer of Consumer Equitability
  - Ouring the summer of 2021, the division will initiate the regulation-making process required by the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act to update regulations under the authority of the State Sealer of Consumer Equitability. These regulation updates are necessary to carry out certain provisions of the following bills of the 81<sup>st</sup> Session of the Nevada Legislature:
    - Assembly Bill 75 Approved by the Governor May 21, 2021; Effective May 21, 2021
      - Amend Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) chapter 581 to reflect current information on how to obtain a copy of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)105-Series Handbooks and Training Materials from the NIST Office of Weights and Measures.
    - Senate Bill 400 Pending approval by the Governor; Effective upon approval by the Governor
      - Amend NAC chapter 590 to establish a schedule of civil penalties for violation of the provisions of the Nevada Petroleum Products Inspection Act (Nevada Revised Statutes 590.010 to 590.150, inclusive).
    - Senate Bill 404 Pending approval by the Governor; Effective July 1, 2021
      - Amend NAC chapter 581 to adopt regulations for the submission for approval of types and designs of cannabis weighing and measuring equipment; and, to establish an annual license fee for all cannabis weighing and measuring equipment, other than equipment that is used for a non-commercial purpose by a cannabis independent testing laboratory, as defined in Nevada Revised Statutes 678A.115.

## **Program Updates**

- Metrology As of May 24, 2021
  - o FY21 total items calibrated: 1,342
- Petroleum Technology As of May 24, 2021
  - o FY21 total samples tested: 2,057
  - o FY21 sample failures: 58
  - o FY21 fuel quality consumer complaints: 15

- Weights and Measures As of May 10, 2021
  - o FY21 devices inspected: 31,691
  - o FY21 package and price verification inspection hours: 73.5
  - o FY21 repair orders issued: 464
  - o FY21 stop-use orders issued: 206
  - o FY21 weights and measures consumer complaints: 58

## **Industry Impact**

- Throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, routine inspections of certain weighing and measuring devices were periodically suspended at locations where inspection of the device(s) could not be completed while maintaining social distancing requirements and/or where the presence of inspection personnel would cause a business to exceed capacity limitations imposed to address the COVID-19 pandemic. These devices are primarily located in retail establishments such as grocery stores, hardware stores and big box stores. Others are in warehouses and distribution centers. Additionally, some businesses which use commercial weighing and measuring equipment closed their facilities or a portion thereof during the pandemic, preventing agency personnel from accessing the location to perform routine inspections.
- The division has now resumed its full scope of inspection activities. However, the prior circumstances resulted in a backlog of approximately 2,340 commercial weighing and measuring devices that have not been inspected within the last twelve months as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- O To address this backlog, a work program has been submitted to the Interim Finance Committee for consideration at their June 22, 2021 meeting. The work program requests allocation of Coronavirus Relief Funds in the amount of \$63,901 to fund up to 1,666 hours of overtime to perform inspection and testing of backlogged devices during the period of June 2021 through September 2021. 17 inspector positions will be eligible to work these overtime hours on a voluntary basis. Actual backlog reduction will be dependent upon the number of employees who elect to work this overtime and how many overtime hours they elect to work.