

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2017
MEETING OF THE
INTERIM FINANCE COMMITTEE
Carson City, Nevada

Chair Joyce Woodhouse called a regular meeting of the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) to order at 8:06 a.m. on April 4, 2017, in Room 4100 of the Nevada Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Chair
Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Vice Chair
Senator Moises Denis
Senator Aaron Ford
Senator Pete Goicoechea
Senator Becky Harris
Senator Ben Kieckhefer
Senator David Parks
Assemblyman Paul Anderson
Assemblyman Nelson Araujo
Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams
Assemblyman Chris Edwards
Assemblyman Jason Frierson
Assemblyman James Oscarson
Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel
Assemblyman Michael Sprinkle
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank
Assemblywoman Robin Titus

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz
Assemblyman John Hambrick

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Rick Combs, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau
Mark Krmpotic, Fiscal Analyst, Senate
Cindy Jones, Fiscal Analyst, Assembly
Alex Haartz, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Sarah Coffman, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Brenda Erdoes, Legislative Counsel
Eileen O'Grady, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel
Cheryl Harvey, Fiscal Analysis Division Secretary
Carla Ulrych, Fiscal Analysis Division Secretary

EXHIBITS:

- Exhibit A: Meeting Packet – Volume I
- Exhibit B: Meeting Packet – Volume II
- Exhibit C: Meeting Packet – Volume III
- Exhibit D: Public Testimony – Lynda Tache
- Exhibit E: Public Testimony – Korri Ward
- Exhibit F: ABA Access to Services Survey – May 2016
- Exhibit G: ABA Access to Services Survey – February 2017
- Exhibit H: Public Testimony – Stephanie Hill
- Exhibit I: Public Testimony – Steven Cohen
- Exhibit J: Public Testimony – The Lovaas Center
- Exhibit K: Autism Treatment Assistance Program Handout (Not Discussed)

A. ROLL CALL.

Rick Combs, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau and Secretary, Interim Finance Committee, called the roll; all members were present, except Assemblywoman Diaz and Assemblyman Hambrick, who were excused. Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson and Senator Denis joined the meeting in progress.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Lynda Tache said she was a single mother of a son named Grant, who had autism and other neurodevelopmental conditions. She said the difficult process of diagnosis and treatment began when Grant was 9 months old. Prior to Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy through the Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP), Grant was very aggressive and violent during tantrums, to the point that Ms. Tache thought her son may have to be institutionalized. She said Grant stopped receiving invitations to friends' houses and the family endured offensive remarks in public due to Grant's tantrums. As a result, the family often felt captive to their home during that time period. She said Grant began ABA therapy when he was 8 years old, and after three years, he was a different person, which had a significant impact on the family. Ms. Tache said her son was now a thriving 15 year old with friends. He was in mainstream classes and wanted to get a part-time job when he turned 16. Overall, she said Grant had a bright future and the family felt a sense of hope.

Ms. Tache said ATAP and Medicaid services allowed the family to remain in Nevada instead of relocating to another state for her son to receive services. She said the services in Nevada had improved through the support of the Governor and past and present Legislatures; however, there was still more work to be done to change the outcome for thousands of autistic individuals in the state. She said improving the outcome of autistic individuals would provide them with maximum independence and a purpose in life, while saving the state more than \$3 million over each autistic individual's lifetime. Ms. Tache urged the Committee to maintain the current ATAP funding, because there were more than 500 children on the waitlist for services. Additionally, if ABA treatment was made available to the 872 autistic children on Medicaid, openings would become available on the ATAP waitlist and more children would receive early

intervention, which has been proven to result in greater outcomes. Ultimately, more children on the ATAP waitlist would be served with the same funds. Ms. Tache said Medicaid's provider capacity must increase, which could be accomplished with higher reimbursement rates for Registered Behavior Technicians (RBT). She said the Medicaid system needed to become more efficient at covering legitimate claims so autistic children could have a future.

Ms. Tache thanked the Committee for allowing her to be a voice for her son and other autistic children. She also thanked Committee members for their support, which would allow every child in Nevada to reach their full potential.

A copy of Ms. Tache's comments were provided for the record ([Exhibit D](#)).

Kimberly Ortega said she was the mother of a blended family with eight children, five of which were her own. She said two of her five children had extremely rare genetic disorders. Her daughter was 1 of 100 in the world diagnosed with her genetic disorder, her son was 1 of 400 in the world diagnosed with his genetic disorder, and both children were the only people in Nevada with those specific genetic disorders. Ms. Ortega said ABA therapy was not available when her daughter, now 17, was a child. Because of that, her daughter did not have the same outcome as Ms. Tache's son, Grant. She strongly urged the Committee to maintain ATAP funding so that others would not have to suffer like her daughter. Ms. Ortega said her son also had autism. She said a total of 21 specialists provided treatment to her son and daughter. Additionally, her children had battled cancer, vision loss and other issues.

Ms. Ortega said ABA therapy alone would allow children to thrive, grow and be part of the community. She said she worked with children who received ABA therapy, and it was an honor. She said there were no words to describe how much children improved with treatment. She hoped the Committee understood the significance of ATAP for children and their families.

Yolanda Covington introduced her son, Jamarae. She said, four years ago, Jamarae was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome, a mild form of autism. She had heard of autism, but did not understand it and was unsure how to proceed after receiving her son's diagnosis. She learned about the Grant a Gift Autism Foundation from a flyer for a community event. The Grant a Gift Autism Foundation helped her son get on a waitlist for services; however, there were still hurdles to overcome once he began receiving those services. Ms. Covington said many providers did not accept her health insurance; therefore, she had to pay out of pocket, which she could not always afford. Although there was funding, the waitlists were often long. Additionally, she spent a great deal of time traveling to various appointments for her son's treatment. Regardless of the challenges, she continued pursuing services for her son. Ms. Covington said her son was now receiving therapy through ATAP. She said it was a tremendous help for her and her son, and she no longer had to pay for his services out of pocket. She urged the Committee to continue ATAP funding, because there were many people in need of services.

Valerie Soto introduced her son, Albert Diaz. Through the assistance of an iPad, Albert introduced himself to the Committee and stated that he was 9 years old. Ms. Soto said her son was 16 months old when he began receiving therapy through ATAP, and he was one of the first recipients. She said her son was a Medicaid recipient and had been on the ATAP waitlist for two years since his services were discontinued. She said the Desert Regional Center picked up her son's case, and he was receiving limited treatment of approximately six hours per week while waiting on Medicaid.

Ms. Soto said Albert was able to communicate basic wants and needs using his iPad. She said her son went from being non-communicative to facilitating his own communication, which was a significant improvement. Ms. Soto said the efforts of prior Legislatures gave her hope that her son would eventually be self-sufficient, live independently and have a career. She said ATAP services were effective and funding was helpful. She said the waiting period and the limited number of RBTs was a significant problem that needed to be addressed. Providers had waitlists of one to two years due to lack of staff and a reimbursement rate below the national average.

Ms. Soto said she attended the meeting today to show the Committee what her son had accomplished. She said her son desperately needed the Legislature's help.

Janissa Macon said her son, Isaiah, was on the autism spectrum. She said the main reason she attended the meeting today was because of organizations such as the Lovaas Institute, Grant a Gift Autism Foundation and Families for Effective Autism Treatment that helped her son receive ABA treatment. Ms. Macon said her son was adopted and was not diagnosed with autism until three years ago. She said he was able to sit calmly among a group of people in the meeting today because of ABA services, occupational therapy, speech therapy, equine assisted therapy and physical therapy. She said her son was finally in a mainstream classroom. Although he did not have friends, he was trying, which was something he worked on during ABA therapy. Ms. Macon said she applauded the Legislature for providing support that gave her son the opportunity to receive services.

Rey Arredour said his daughter, Valerie, was nine years old and currently in a fourth-grade mainstream classroom. He said his family waited three years for assistance and those were difficult years. He said ABA therapy significantly helped his daughter. Mr. Arredour urged the Committee to help.

Frank Schenk said his son, now nine years old, was adopted as a baby. He said his son's autism was challenging for their family. He thought it was important to attend the meeting today to share some of those challenges with the Committee, particularly the challenge of finding child care for a special needs child. He said the City of Reno did not provide this service, and home day cares were ineligible as a tax deduction. Mr. Schenk urged the Committee to provide funding for before/after school care for special needs children. Additionally general education and strategy programs were necessary for teachers and teacher aides due to the growing autism population.

Mr. Schenk said he was desperate for the state's help. He suggested using medical marijuana tax revenue to fund more special education teachers and provide training for teachers and staff. He said he would also like medical marijuana tax revenue to help fund day care for special needs children, preferably at the schools. Mr. Schenk contacted the legislators in his district as well as the Governor. He spoke with one of his legislators; however, he was told it was too late to propose that type of bill. He said there needed to be an easier way to get Medicaid to approve services such as ABA therapy, because it took more than a year to obtain ABA services for his son.

Mr. Schenk said he would like to see the regulations changed regarding adjusted diplomas so recipients could qualify for federal grants and funding for higher education. He said higher education would help students with special needs obtain better employment.

Mr. Schenk noted that the services and assistance his son received through Easter Seals, such as ABA therapy, were wonderful.

Korri Ward, resident of Elko, Nevada, said she had 23-year-old twin boys who were autistic. Her son, Derek, was a graduate student at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he was studying for a master's degree in Education. She said her other son, Douglas, had a more severe form of autism, as well as cerebral palsy and a seizure disorder, which were lifelong disabilities without a cure.

Ms. Ward said Douglas' disabilities could be managed with appropriate medical intervention and behavioral support. She said Douglas received supported living assistance through the Home and Community Based Waiver (HCBW); however, the main challenge was finding and retaining qualified staff to assist him with daily activities. She said home care workers for adults typically lacked adequate training. Ms. Ward said there were seven different home care workers assigned to Douglas in 2016, which involved a considerable amount of training and turnover. She said there were several reasons for high staff turnover, the first of which was the low rate of pay. The starting wage for home care providers was \$9 per hour compared to \$11 per hour at Walmart in Elko.

Ms. Ward said the second reason for the high staff turnover rate was inadequate training. She said Douglas' services were covered through ATAP and his private health insurance until he reached the age of 22, when he transitioned to adult-based services. Ms. Ward said, prior to the age of 22, the staff that cared for Douglas were provided training and ongoing support by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and there was minimal staff turnover during that time. However, adult home care workers lacked behavioral-based training, and the natural response to certain behaviors could be damaging and cause setbacks in a patient's progress. She said the adult home care workers responded to Douglas' behavior in a manner that encouraged him to continue that behavior, which often resulted in staff being bitten or having their hair pulled. She said there were also occasions when Ms. Ward or her husband could not go to work, because staff was not available to care for Douglas. Ms. Ward thought those situations

were largely attributed to lack of training and pay. She said it took a very special person to work with disabled people.

Ms. Ward said it was her understanding that the reimbursement rate for BCBAs for children was higher than the reimbursement rate for adults, which was senseless. She said lifelong disabilities did not lessen or disappear when an individual reached adulthood. Ms. Ward said it was time to provide equal support and treatment for all persons suffering from lifelong disabilities. She encouraged the Committee to support legislation that required an annual review of Medicaid rates for supported living assistance through the HCBW and for Personal Care Services.

A copy of Ms. Ward's comments were provided for the record ([Exhibit E](#)).

Derek Ward said he was the brother of Douglas Ward and son of Korri Ward, the previous speaker. He recalled visiting the Legislature in 2009 as a guest of Senator Goicoechea for Autism Awareness Day.

Mr. Ward said there was a high turnover rate with his brother's staff. He said there was a different home care worker every time he came home from college. He thought Douglas deserved better; he deserved staff that would care for him. He said staff would be more comfortable with Douglas if they stayed longer and became familiar with him. Mr. Ward stated that autism still affected his brother as an adult. He encouraged the Committee to consider supporting legislation that required an annual review of Medicaid rates for supported living assistance through the HCBW and for Personal Care Services.

Michelle Scott Lewing, Executive Director, Autism Coalition of Nevada; Board Member, Renown Hospital Child Health Institute; and Board Member, University of California, Davis, Mind Institute, said she was thankful for the Legislature's attention to autism funding.

Ms. Lewing stated that her son was autistic. Initially he was very low functioning, nonverbal and self-injurious. He had extremely high fevers every few weeks during his childhood. She said her son was fortunate to receive Early Intervention Services (EIS), which had a critical window of time. She noted that many people were attending the meeting today in support of EIS. Ms. Lewing said her son, now 16 years old, was high functioning due to EIS. She said her son had anxiety and obsessive/compulsive disorders, but it was difficult to tell he was autistic. Ms. Lewing said the statewide autism community was very large. She said the autism community was single-minded in asking the Legislature to hear and understand the critical nature of EIS.

Ms. Lewing agreed with Mr. Ward's comments regarding continuity of care. She said stability was extremely important for people with autism and change was highly disruptive. She said a change in an ABA or RBT therapist caused a significant setback for people with autism. She said those setbacks should be an indication to the Legislature that the goal of the funding had not been met. Ms. Lewing said it was

important to focus on the goal and make a difference in the lives of autistic children and their families, even if it required additional funding.

Thomas Reynolds said his son was 12 years old and autistic. As an educational advocate from Reno, Nevada, he spent a significant amount of time advocating for autistic children in Washoe County School District (WCSD) and Lyon County School District (LCSD).

Mr. Reynolds said the ABA program made it possible for schools to be proactive, which was less costly than being reactive. He said the majority of his time was spent in the WCSD. As an advocate, the largest problem he witnessed was the tendency for the district to be reactive rather than proactive. For example, his son had been in the wrong strategy program for two years. Mr. Reynolds sued the school and won the case. Subsequently, his son was placed in the ABA program. In the past four years, his son's educational abilities increased tenfold because of the ABA program. He said two weeks ago another family with an autistic child won their lawsuit against the State of Colorado. Mr. Reynolds said the federal courts ruled that low standards were no longer acceptable. He said historically, several steps were required before a case reached the federal courts, but the revised federal rules and regulations permitted a case to go directly to the federal level, which was not cost effective. Programs such as the ABA program ultimately saved money for the counties and the state. He said maintaining the ABA program in its current state helped the program meet its goal, as well as the goals of Individualized Education Programs. The federal courts agreed that the counties and the state had a responsibility to educate autistic children. Mr. Reynolds encouraged the Committee to maintain the ABA program.

Ken Macaulay, Licensed and Board Certified Behavioral Analyst, thanked the families in attendance. He said many came from Las Vegas to Carson City to present their testimony in person. He said it meant a great deal to families to attend the meeting today for such an important cause. Mr. Macaulay said he understood the Legislature was tasked with reconciling a large budget, but many people needed access to services. He said there were serious concerns about ATAP funding, because it was an essential program in Nevada. Mr. Macaulay agreed that ATAP needed to be properly funded. He also agreed Medicaid rates needed to be increased to match the national average so that providers could recruit and retain professionals, especially graduates of Nevada universities.

Mr. Macaulay said a mother recently came to him in tears, because she wanted to quit her job, but was concerned her son would lose access to ABA services when her health insurance coverage ended. He said the family qualified for ATAP as an insurance assistance client, which was an innovative way to leverage health insurance dollars by helping clients meet high deductibles or out-of-pocket maximums. He said, after contacting ATAP, it was discovered that a program had been developed to assist families without health insurance. The program allowed families to continue receiving treatment by funding the services until the family could obtain health insurance. Mr. Macaulay said the mother was relieved to find out that she could seek other

employment without losing ABA services for her son. He said ATAP was valuable and the funding was important.

Sarah Billings, Private Speech Language Pathologist and Speech Language Pathologist for the Carson City School District, said she was invited to the meeting today by a parent of one of her students. She said she had been working as a child speech language pathologist since 2008. She also ran parent training programs for parents of special needs children, specifically children with autism.

Ms. Billings thought the approach to autism services in Nevada was antiquated. Although there were amazing professionals throughout Nevada school districts, the issue of service wait times needed to be brought to the attention of the Legislature. She said the average caseload for speech language pathologists was 50 children; however, that number could increase to 55 as the population continued to grow. She said the waitlist for the services of speech pathologists, occupational therapists, psychologists and physical therapists in the schools did not reflect the individual and unique needs of each child. For example, gifted and talented students, who required approximately 20 minutes of services per week, were waiting as long as autistic students who required services on a daily basis. Ms. Billings noted that other states were changing to a workload approach, where the unique needs of each student dictated how many clients a therapist could handle each day so that students received the necessary services throughout the public education system.

**C. WORK PROGRAM REVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH NRS 353.220(5)(b).
INFORMATIONAL ONLY – REQUIRED EXPEDITIOUS ACTION WITHIN
15 DAYS.**

Mark Krmpotic, Senate Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), said Agenda Item C was an informational item, which required expeditious action. He said Agenda Item C-1 requested the addition of \$4.6 million in Title XIX funds to allow for retroactive and current claim payments to the Clark County School District. Fiscal staff had no questions or concerns, and no action was required.

- 1. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$4,602,472 in federal Title XIX funds to allow retroactive and current claim payments to Clark County School District for the School Based Administrative Claiming program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Pass Through to Local Governments category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C39076**

D. APPROVAL OF GIFTS, GRANTS, WORK PROGRAM REVISIONS AND POSITION CHANGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 353 OF NRS.

The Committee expressed interest in hearing testimony on the following items: Agenda Items D-12, Department of Education; D-62, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation; and D-66, Department of Corrections.

Mr. Krmpotic noted that Agenda Item D-5, Office of the Treasurer, was withdrawn by the Governor's Finance Office (GFO) on March 30, 2017.

Mr. Krmpotic noted that Agenda Item D-89, Department of Motor Vehicles, was revised to increase the transfer from Personnel Services from \$142,747 to \$155,327. Additionally, Agenda Item D-116, Department of Veterans Services, was revised to eliminate the transfer from the Reserve category, and instead, add \$106,836 in federal Veterans Affairs reimbursements for the same expenditure item; Agenda Item D-117, Department of Veterans Services, was revised to eliminate the transfer from the Reserve category, and instead, add \$145,572 in federal Veterans Affairs reimbursements to cover only emergency and unanticipated building maintenance projects; and Agenda Item D-118, Department of Veterans Services, was revised to eliminate the transfer from the Reserve category, and instead, add \$1,175,413 in federal Veterans Affairs reimbursements.

Assemblywoman Titus requested further testimony on Agenda Item D-112, Department of Wildlife.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams requested further testimony on Agenda Items D-13, Department of Education; D-63, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation; and D-64, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE
THE REMAINING WORK PROGRAM REVISIONS AND
POSITION RECLASSIFICATIONS IN AGENDA ITEM D.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 1. Office of the Attorney General - Administrative Fund - FY 2017 -** Transfer of \$1,689,337 from the Reserve category to the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative category to fund contracts with Washoe County Sheriff's Office and Las Vegas Metro Police for the testing of rape kits. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38689**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

2. **Office of the Attorney General - Forfeitures - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$43,956 from the Reserve category to the Equitable Distribution Expenditures category for training, equipment purchases and officer safety items for law enforcement activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the Equitable Distribution Expenditures category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38991**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

3. **Office of the Secretary of State - FY 2017** - Deletion of \$298,806 in Miscellaneous Program Fees revenue due to a shortfall in fee revenue. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount reduced from the Information Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38902**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

4. **Office of the Secretary of State - Help America Vote Act Election Reform - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$5,000 from the Reserve Title II category to the Personnel Services category, \$10,678 from the Reserve Title II category to the Statewide Voter Registration category, \$36,473 from the Reserve Title II category to the Administration of Elections category, and \$12,566 from the Reserve Title II category to the Information Services category to cover expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Administration of Elections category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38117**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

5. **Office of the Treasurer - State Treasurer - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$30,232 from the Education Savings Account (ESA) category to the ESA Information Technology category to pay database hosting for the ESA program for the balance of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the ESA Information Technology category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38892. WITHDRAWN 3-30-17.**

6. **Department of Administration - Enterprise Information Technology Services - Application Support - FY 2017** - Addition of \$200,000 in Transfer from Public Safety to support programmer hours needed for the Division of Parole and Probation for the replacement of the Offender Tracking Information System (OTIS). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Contract Developers category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38737**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

7. **Department of Administration - Enterprise Information Technology Services - Computer Facility - FY 2017** - Addition of \$117 in Prior Year Revenue and \$6,680 in Prior Year Refunds, and transfer of \$35,165 from the Reserve category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category to fund computer facility repairs and maintenance for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38407**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

8. **Department of Administration - Enterprise Information Technology Services - Network Transport Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$82,028 from the Reserve category to the Digital Microwave category to fund operating expenditures for the Digital Microwave Project for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Digital Microwave category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38662**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

9. **Department of Administration - Fleet Services - FY 2017** - Addition of \$51,103 in Outside Vehicle Rental to fund an increase in vehicle rental services from outside vendors. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Outside Vehicle Rental category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for the category. **Work Program #C38723**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

10. **Department of Administration - Fleet Services Division - Fleet Services Capital Purchase - FY 2017** - Transfer \$108,800 from the Reserve category to the Vehicle Purchase category for the replacement of three vehicles totaled in accidents. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Vehicle Purchase category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38777**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

11. **Department of Administration - Risk Management Division - Insurance and Loss Prevention - FY 2017** - Addition of \$10,720 in Insurance Recoveries revenue and transfer of \$236,460 from the Reserve category to the Property Claims category to pay anticipated property claims for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Property Claims category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C39001**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

12. **Department of Education - Educator Licensure - FY 2017** - Addition of \$6,738 in License Fees and transfer of \$643,262 from the Reserve category to the Licensure System category to fund a replacement educator licensure system. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Licensure System category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C35625**

Steve Canavero, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nevada Department of Education (NDE), introduced Jason Dietrich, Educator Licensure Director, NDE, and Andrea McCalla, Administrative Services Officer, NDE.

Chair Woodhouse asked the agency to provide a brief overview of the replacement licensure system, including efficiencies that may occur as a result of the new system.

Mr. Dietrich said the Office of Educator Licensure currently had an antiquated, flat-file database system. He said the new system would be online, which would allow applicants to apply for licensing from any location. The new licensure system would provide real-time, up-to-date information regarding the status of a license. Mr. Dietrich said the new system would eventually be integrated with the Department of Public Safety so the results of background checks would be received in a more timely manner. Additionally, the new system would include updated accounting functions, which would reduce processing time and paper usage.

Chair Woodhouse asked if the information provided in phase four of the licensing requirement study would impact any system requirements for the replacement of the educator licensure system.

Mr. Dietrich stated that the 2015 Legislature approved the commission of a four-phase licensure study, three phases of which were complete. He said phase four had been submitted to the vendor for revisions. The first three phases of the licensure study discussed the inefficiencies of the office based on the agency's statutory and regulatory parameters, licensing fee structures, methodologies for conducting licensure, and how Nevada compared to other jurisdictions in the country. Mr. Dietrich said phase four was an additional component to the licensure study. He said phase four was originally designed to assist the department with bill draft requests; however, due to the late start on the contract, the work was performed in-house by the agency. He said phase four would address the role of educator licensure as it related to recruitment and retention within Nevada school districts and how that compared nationally. Mr. Dietrich said the office was hopeful the revisions would be finished soon, but as it stood, phase four of the licensure study had no impact on the educator licensure system.

Assemblywoman Carlton said she was concerned about implementing the new system during the heaviest annual workload, when system issues could affect a

large number of applicants. She was also concerned about increasing educator licensure fees.

Mr. Dietrich said, with regard to the implementation of the new licensure system, the contract had been approved by the Board of Examiners pending funding approval by the Interim Finance Committee (IFC). He said the vendor start date was May 1, 2017. The preliminary work would begin during the summer, which included a needs assessment, establishing business rules, and system design and development. The new licensure system was estimated to go live in September 2017 for user acceptance testing and to correct minor system issues. Mr. Dietrich said the new system would go live and be available to the public by December 2017, which would allow several months to correct any glitches prior to the heavy workload in the summer of 2018.

Mr. Dietrich said the office, representing the NDE, met with the Commission on Professional Standards in Education and introduced a proposed \$19 increase to the license fee structure. He said the regulations were passed by the Commission on Professional Standards in Education after workshops and public hearings were held, but the regulations still required the approval of the Legislative Commission. Mr. Dietrich said the \$19 fee increase would gross approximately \$200,000 to \$225,000 per annum. He said revenue would be earmarked and allocated for ongoing maintenance and system housing expenses for the licensure system, which would equate to approximately \$144,000 per annum. Additionally, in the future, the license fee revenue could potentially fund a Business Process Analyst position to manage the educator licensure system. Mr. Dietrich said the office had not requested a Business Process Analyst position yet, because the need was undetermined; however, there may be a need in the future, because the new educator licensure system would be completely outsourced. The new system would be housed or maintained by the NDE or the Division of Enterprise IT Services.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked for clarification regarding the outsourcing of the new educator licensure system. Mr. Dietrich replied that many jurisdictions around the country were discovering that new licensing systems and the entities that provided those systems were coming online as a sole-source provider, thereby removing the responsibility from state governments. He said the entities providing the licensing systems offered data security and 24/7 support. Mr. Dietrich said every vendor that submitted a proposal had a similar infrastructure.

In response to a question from Assemblyman Sprinkle, Mr. Dietrich replied that the Office of Educator Licensure was required by the Governor's Finance Office to maintain a three-month operating reserve, which was approximately \$525,000. He said the office would have an operating reserve of approximately seven to eight months after expending \$650,000 for the new licensing system.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked why the agency was implementing a fee increase when there was a sizeable balance in the Reserve category.

Mr. Dietrich replied that the office currently had an adequate level of reserves; however, infrastructure costs rose annually. He said the office was responsible for rent, utilities and other expenditures. Also, the majority of the Office of Educator Licensure staff still qualified for salary step increases; therefore, their salaries increased annually, which also had to be included in the budget. Mr. Dietrich said the office could support the \$144,000 in annual expenditures for the licensing system for two to three years; however, reserves would be depleted to an inadequate level, causing the Office of Educator Licensure to request state funds to cover system costs. He said the office was being proactive and hopeful the \$19 fee increase would help cover the cost of the annual expenditures. Mr. Dietrich stated that the office would use reserves to pay the annual expenditures if it was the will of the Committee.

Assemblyman Sprinkle thought it was preferable to see how things transpired during the 2017-19 biennium before placing the financial burden on applicants.

Mr. Canavero said the change in the licensing fee structure was at the discretion of the Commission on Professional Standards in Education. He thought the adoption of the new fee structure would help the office sustain the new licensure system. He said he was unsure if additional costs would be incurred in the next 12 to 18 months, but IT systems were typically costly. He said the selected vendor was less expensive than other vendors, but the agency was hopeful the vendor would deliver as promised.

Mr. Canavero said the NDE was working on building a sustainable path for the Office of Educator Licensure. He said the office was fully fee-based, so it was important to ensure there was adequate funding to support the system and staff. Mr. Canavero said the FBI background check was a limiting factor in the turnaround time of license applications, but the agency was working to improve the process. He thought Mr. Dietrich was considering the long-term success of the licensure system and the office. He said the department would provide updates to the IFC on a regular basis if the Committee chose to approve something different from what the agency requested. He thought keeping the Committee apprised of expenses and costs would help avoid problems in the future and ensure there was a sustainable system that included fee-based revenue to support the Office of Educator Licensure staff and the new licensure system.

Assemblyman Sprinkle said he would appreciate being kept apprised of the agency's progress; however, he was still concerned about the \$19 fee increase, because it placed a burden on a group of people that earned a low wage.

Chair Woodhouse noted that the proposed increase in licensure fees still needed to be approved by the Legislative Commission.

Senator Denis asked if the new licensure system was cloud-based, and Mr. Dietrich said that was correct. He said the system would be accessible by staff through a secure Internet connection. He said the data would be stored offsite and data security would be provided by the vendor.

In response to a question from Senator Denis, Mr. Dietrich said the initial cost of the new system was approximately \$600,000 and the annual costs would be \$144,000, based on the vendor that had been approved by the Board of Examiners. He said the annual costs would include continued system licensing, 24/7 support, and data housing and security; however, the office could select a different vendor in the future for data housing. He said there were other state entities that used Switch for data housing, but he was unsure if utilizing Switch would provide a true cost savings for the office. Mr. Dietrich said the agency would pursue any measure that would provide a cost savings while maintaining the same quality of service.

Senator Denis said Switch could provide data housing; however, the agency would need to employ someone to maintain the system, because Switch did not provide that service. Mr. Dietrich said that was correct.

In answer to a question from Senator Denis, Mr. Dietrich replied that the \$650,000 for the new licensure system would establish the system from the ground up, as well as provide two months of 24/7 support. He said the implementation contract would run from May 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018. He said programming staff would be available until March 2018, and housing and maintenance would extend through May 2018. Mr. Dietrich said the annual fee of \$144,000 would begin in June 2018.

Senator Denis asked when the proposed \$19 fee increase would begin. Mr. Dietrich replied that the implementation date of the increased fees was undetermined. He said the NDE would begin discussing the fee implementation date upon approval by the Legislative Commission.

In answer to a question from Senator Denis, Mr. Dietrich replied that the increased fees would generate between \$200,000 and \$225,000 in additional revenue.

Senator Denis asked if the revenue from the increased fees would also fund a position to run the new system. Mr. Dietrich replied that a Business Process Analyst may be needed in the future to act as the system manager. He said the Business Process Analyst would manage the day-to-day operation of the system, work with the vendor on system issues, and manage data.

In answer to a question from Senator Denis, Mr. Dietrich said the NDE considered a phased fee implementation schedule or a differentiated fee structure; however, the Commission on Professional Standards in Education elected to institute a \$19 increase across the board to avoid modifying fees in the future.

Senator Denis asked what the current fees were for a teaching license. Mr. Dietrich replied that most states had a differentiated fee structure, where the fee varied depending on the length and type of license; however, Nevada had a flat license fee. He said the initial cost of a license was currently \$161, which included a \$38 fee for the FBI background check. The cost of a license renewal was \$131, which also included the FBI background check processing fee. He said the state offered three, five, six, eight and ten-year licenses, but the cost per year was the same regardless of the length of the license. Mr. Dietrich said the department could have instituted a differentiated fee structure based on the length of the license rather than implementing a \$19 increase across the board; however, the Commission on Professional Standards in Education elected not to do so.

Mr. Krmpotic said staff identified an adjustment for the Committee's consideration. He said the work program proposed to bring in revenues and expenditures that would occur in both FY 2017 and FY 2018. However, the department indicated that the projected FY 2017 expenditures for the new licensure system totaled \$108,000. Staff recommended an adjustment to reduce expenditures and transfer from reserve by \$542,000. He said the remainder could be addressed as a technical adjustment for FY 2018 expenditures during the budget closing.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO
APPROVE AGENDA ITEM D-12.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 13. Department of Education - Career and Technical Education - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$1,950,000 in private Council of Chief State School Officers grant funds to implement the New Skills for Youth Initiative grant, which includes two new positions effective through the term of the grant. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount added to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38983**

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked if there was a single staff member responsible for revamping the requirements of the state plan for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) office.

Mr. Canavero replied that Kris Nelson, Director, Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options, was available to answer questions regarding CTE.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked if Ms. Nelson would fill the Career Readiness Strategy Officer position. Ms. Nelson replied that Work Program C38983 included two proposed positions that would be responsible for administering the program and would fill the role of Career Readiness Strategy Officer.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked who would be responsible for providing progress reports on the program. Ms. Nelson replied that the Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options would be responsible for preparing progress reports, which she would oversee.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked how often updates would be provided to the Legislature. Ms. Nelson replied that the frequency of reporting was not defined in the *Nevada Revised Statutes* or regulations. She said her office would be responsible for determining the protocols and processes for reporting.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams noted that the agency intended to reduce or phase out certain career technical programs. She said she would like to meet with the agency offline to discuss how underserved populations would benefit.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUSTAMANTE ADAMS
MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM D-13.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE
MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. **State Public Charter School Authority - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$26,182 from the Reserve category to the Operating category to expand academic testing of English Language Learner students in state-sponsored charter schools to provide reliable, valid measures of academic achievement. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38634**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

15. **State Public Charter School Authority - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$30,000 from the Reserve category to the Operating category to fund the cost of contracted external reviewers for the charter school application process. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount added to the Operating category exceeds

10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38832**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 16. Department of Agriculture - Administration - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$12,100 from the Personnel Services category to the Operating category and \$33,000 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category to cover operating and facility maintenance costs for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38949**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 17. Department of Agriculture - Nutrition Education Programs - FY 2017** - Addition of \$173,296 in federal Commodity/Cash in Lieu grant funds and \$4,572,607 in federal Child/Adult Care Program grant funds to continue sponsor reimbursements for serving nutritious meals to eligible children and adults. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Child/Adult Care Food Program category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38702**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 18. Department of Agriculture - Commodity Food Program - FY 2017** - Addition of \$2,004,159 in Direct Sales - Processing revenue to continue food commodity services through the end of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Food Processing Program category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38747**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 19. Department of Business and Industry - Insurance Division - Self Insured - Workers Compensation - FY 2017** - Addition of \$82,995 in examination fees to conduct self-insured employer examinations for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since amount added to the Self Insured Company Exams category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38928**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 20. Department of Business and Industry - Industrial Relations Division - Occupational Safety and Health Enforcement - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$41,026 from the In-State Travel category to the Mechanical Section category to cover Fleet Services vehicle leasing expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Mechanical Section category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38943**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

21. **Department of Business and Industry - Housing Division - Weatherization - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$220,198 from the Reserve category to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEA) Subgrants category, \$1,259 from the Reserve category to the Department of Energy (DOE) Subgrants category, \$13,839 from the Reserve category to the Southwest Low Income Energy Conservation (LIEC) Subgrantees category, and \$60,040 from the Reserve category to the Governor's Office of Energy (GOE) Senior Energy Program category to continue funding energy saving measures for qualified Nevada homeowners. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the LIHEA Subgrants category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38635**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

22. **Governor's Office of Economic Development - Nevada Knowledge Fund - FY 2017** - Addition of \$56,521 in Treasurer's Interest Distribution revenue and transfer of \$3,268,603 from the Reserve category to the Knowledge Fund category to make anticipated payments for Knowledge Fund projects for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Knowledge Fund category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38884**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

23. **Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Federal Programs and Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$916,874 in federal Title III-B Projects grant funds, \$3,412 in federal Title III-C Training grant funds, \$1,745,915 in federal Title III-C Nutrition grant funds, \$51,360 in federal Title III-D Prevention/Health grant funds, and \$252,157 in federal Title III-E Caregiver grant funds to continue to provide services to senior citizens to maintain health, independence and quality of life. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Title III-C Nutrition category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38813**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

24. **Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Federal Programs and Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$268,274 in federal Nutrition Services Incentive Program grant funds to continue to provide meals to senior citizens. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Nutrition Services Incentive Program category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38843**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

25. **Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Federal Programs and Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$89,844 in federal

Alzheimer's grant funds to continue to provide services related to dementia or Alzheimer's. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Alzheimer's grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38846**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

26. **Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community Based Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$120,000 from the Personnel Services category to the Operating category to cover expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38823**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

27. **Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community Based Services - FY 2017** - Addition of \$131,214 in federal Assistive Technology grant funds to continue providing assistive technology to individuals with disabilities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Technology Related Assistance category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38844**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

28. **Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Early Intervention Services - FY 2017** - Addition of \$1,996,709 in Medicaid Administration Charges and transfer of \$103,291 from the Personnel Services category to the Medical Contracts/Payments category, \$1,451,971 from the Personnel Services category to the Private Community Sector category, \$48,000 from the Personnel Services category to the In-State Travel category, \$176,738 from the Personnel Services category to the Cost Allocation category, and \$240,000 from the Operating category to the Cost Allocation category to cover costs related to caseload growth. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Medical Contract/Payments category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38810**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

29. **Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Administration - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$336,680 from the Utilization Review category to the Operating category to fund additional contractor services to assist with onboarding the four Managed Care Organizations and a Dental Prepaid Ambulatory Health Plan, and fund a business process reengineering study. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C39087**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

30. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Consumer Health Protection - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$6,614 from the Reserve category to the Information Services category to purchase equipment required for the implementation of the Centralized Licensing, Inspections and Complaints System. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount added to the Information Services category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38861**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

31. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Communicable Diseases - FY 2017** - Addition of \$70,095 in federal Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant funds to continue providing housing assistance for HOPWA eligible clients. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the HOPWA category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38746**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

32. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Communicable Diseases - FY 2017** - Addition of \$14,798,872 in Rebate funds to continue to provide essential services for individuals diagnosed with HIV. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Comprehensive Care category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38804**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

33. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Public Health Preparedness Program - FY 2017** - Addition of \$53,909 in federal Bio Watch Program grant funds and transfer of \$25,703 from the Division Cost Allocation category to the Bio Watch category to continue environmental air sampling in Southern Nevada. Requires Interim Finance approval since amount added to the Bio Watch category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38733**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

34. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Biostatistics and Epidemiology - FY 2017** - Addition of \$2,398,425 in federal Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) for Infectious Diseases grant funds to continue enhancement of the electronic reporting system allowing local jurisdictions and districts to submit reports electronically, surveillance of various diseases and outbreaks, and provide training to prevent health facility acquired infections. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ELC grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38768**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

35. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Biostatistics and Epidemiology - FY 2017** - Addition of \$32,827 in federal Viral Hepatitis Prevention and Surveillance grant funds to prevent and control adult viral hepatitis within the state. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Hepatitis grant category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38774**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

36. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Biostatistics and Epidemiology - FY 2017** - Addition of \$189,933 in federal Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention grant funds to improve safe prescribing practices and prevent prescription drug overuse, misuse, abuse and overdose. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the RX Drug Overdose Prevention category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38883**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

37. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Chronic Disease - FY 2017** - Addition of \$47,626 in federal Tobacco Use Prevention and Public Health Approaches for Ensuring Quitline Capacity grant funds to continue efforts to prevent tobacco usage and promote cessation among youth and adults. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Quitline Capacity category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38888**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

38. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Office of Health Administration - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$75,919 from the Reserve category to the Operating category and \$9,270 from the Reserve category to the Information Services category to fund Master Service Agreement programmer services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38513**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

39. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Emergency Medical Services - FY 2017** - Addition of \$95,031 in federal Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Partnership grant funds to continue funding of pediatric training and materials to local emergency medical service agencies. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the EMSC grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38865**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

40. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Marijuana Health Registry - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$680,150 from the Reserve category to the Medical Marijuana Operating category and \$66,655 from the Reserve category to the Division Cost Allocation category to cover expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Medical Marijuana Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38805**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

41. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Rural Clinics - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$135,017 from the Indigent Drug and Lab Program to the State Transitional Home Care category to continue housing support for behavioral health clients in rural areas. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the State Transitional Home Care category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38858**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

42. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Rural Clinics - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$5,544 from the Indigent Drug and Lab Program category to the Training category to continue staff professional development and training of four psychology interns to develop skills of peer consultation and support. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred from the Indigent Drug and Lab Program category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38912**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

43. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$840,560 from the Personnel Services category to the Transitional Living category to cover an unanticipated projected shortfall due to a higher acuity level and cost per client of residential placements. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Transitional Living category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38899**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

44. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$301,973 from the Personnel Services category to the Community Diversion category to cover higher than anticipated residential placement costs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Community Diversion category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38923**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

45. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$964,357 from the Personnel Services category to the Professional Services category to continue funding temporary and contracted staff to meet the needs of the clients. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Professional Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38854**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

46. **Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$424,988 from the Medications category to the Transitional Living category to cover expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Transitional Living category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38872**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

47. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$173,602 in federal John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program grant funds to continue to provide services to current and former foster youth between the ages of 16 and 21 to achieve self-sufficiency prior to and after exiting the foster care system. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Independent Living category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38547**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

48. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$334,582 in federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act grant funds to continue direct services statewide to promote awareness of victims of family violence, domestic violence and dating violence, as well as their dependents. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Family Violence category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38642**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

49. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$3,864,417 in federal Victims of Crime Act grant funds to provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the U.S. Crime Victims category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38648**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

50. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$341,278 in federal Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program, Title IV-B Subpart II grant funds to continue services statewide that address family support, family preservation services, time-limited family reunification services, and adoption promotion and support services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Title IV-B Subpart II category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38650**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

51. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$778,736 in federal Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program grant funds to find permanent homes for children in foster care through adoption or legal guardianship. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Adopt/Legal Guard Incentive category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38692**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

52. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$176,342 in federal Children's Justice Act grant funds to improve the investigation, prosecution and judicial handling of child abuse and neglect cases. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Children's Justice Act grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38859**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

53. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$20,918 from the Personnel Services category to the Operating category to cover expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the Operating category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38862**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

54. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Rural Child Welfare - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$354,601 from the Child Welfare category to the Adoption Subsidy category, \$122,585 from the Temporary Contract Staffing category to the Adoption Subsidy category and \$2,415 from the Temporary Contract Staffing category to the Respite category to cover expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Adoption Subsidy category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38771**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

55. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Rural Child Welfare - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$49,100 from the Reserve category to the Elks Activities category to continue to serve abused and neglected children. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the Elks Activities category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38828**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

56. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Rural Child Welfare - FY 2017** - Addition of \$250,000 in federal Title IV-E funds to implement the revenue maximization contract. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38997**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

57. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Juvenile Correctional Facility - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$111,500 from the Personnel Services category to the Operating category, \$20,000 from the Maintenance of Building and Grounds category to the Operating category, \$10,500 from the Uniform Allowance category to the Operating category and \$8,000 from the Utilities category to the Operating category to cover several unexpected hospital, ambulance and emergency medical bills, unanticipated temporary staffing, and additional mental health care treatment needs at the facility. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38822**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

58. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Caliente Youth Center - FY 2017** - Addition of \$156,750 in federal Title I Education grant funds transferred from the Department of Education to provide education needs for the youth housed at the Caliente Youth Center. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Title I Education grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38799**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

59. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Youth Parole Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$141,295 from the Personnel Services category to the Transitional Community Re-Integration category to fund critical youth medical and placement needs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Transitional Community Re-Integration category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38878**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

60. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Southern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services - FY 2017** - Addition of \$2,520,729 in federal System of Care grant funds to continue to expand the system of care for youth with serious emotional disorders. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the System of Care grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C39056**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

61. **Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Southern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$54,112 from the Personnel Services category to the Temporary Contract Staffing category to cover expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Temporary Contract Staffing category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38917**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

62. **Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - Employment Security - FY 2017** - Addition of \$200,000 in federal Apprenticeship Accelerator Planning grant funds and \$799,765 in federal Technical Readiness and Apprenticeship in Nevada grant funds to provide programs to produce highly skilled Nevada workers who can meet the needs of employers in a competitive and global economy. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Apprenticeship grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38898**

Dennis Perea, Deputy Director, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), introduced Erin Hasty, Executive Grants Analyst, Grants Office, Department of Administration; Jennifer McEntee, Administrative Services Officer, DETR; and Manny Lamarre, Executive Director, Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN).

Mr. Perea said Nevada was awarded two ApprenticeshipUSA grants between June and November 2016 totaling \$999,765. He said the funds were for the establishment of a Technical Readiness Apprenticeship in Nevada (TRAIN) program, which would expand registered apprenticeship programs in the state over a two-year period. He said the Accelerator and Expansion grants were awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to expand apprenticeships in various occupations and industries and diversify populations in registered apprenticeship programs. Mr. Perea said the overall goal of registered apprenticeship programs was to produce highly-skilled workers to meet the needs of employers in a competitive and global economy. He said there were three primary goals:

1. Advance registered apprenticeship as a workforce development strategy and postsecondary education career pathway to promote a strong, adaptable and highly-skilled workforce;

2. Support statewide apprenticeship strategies and state capacity to engage industry and meet the demand for new programs in both traditional and non-traditional industries, such as technology, health care, advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity and education; and
3. Significantly increase apprenticeship opportunities for all Nevada workers, particularly low-income individuals and underrepresented populations in apprenticeship, including youth, women, communities of color, Native Americans, and persons with disabilities, and take steps to facilitate successful completion of a registered apprenticeship program.

Mr. Perea said, as the grantee, DETR would handle the administrative functions of the grants, while the strategic direction in the TRAIN program delivery would be managed by OWINN. In conjunction with OWINN, the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance (LVGEA) would manage outreach to employers and present at the Governor's Workforce Development Board and Industry Sector Council meetings. Mr. Perea said a part-time consultant in Northern Nevada would work with the regional development authorities as well. He said the OWINN Director, LVGEA and consultant would meet regularly to align the employer feedback with industry recommendations. He said the TRAIN program would eventually expand to include statewide regional economic development agencies and apply for additional resources for the expected three cycles of funding in the future.

Assemblywoman Carlton noted that the Accelerator grant was awarded in July 2016. She asked why the grants were just now being brought before the Committee. She also asked why the grant funds were not included in the budget for the 2017-19 biennium.

Mr. Perea replied that \$200,000 in ApprenticeshipUSA grant funds were for costs associated with quarterly meetings held throughout the grant period. Additionally, policy discussions regarding the vision of apprenticeship in Nevada were scheduled to occur throughout the grant period. He said the quarterly meetings had been changed to a single meeting at the end of the fiscal year, which Mr. Lamarre was organizing in cooperation with the labor unions and employers. Mr. Perea said the second grant was delayed from October 2016 to November 2016.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked why the TRAIN program was not included in discussions concerning OWINN and apprenticeship programs.

Manny Lamarre, Executive Director, OWINN, reiterated that the ApprenticeshipUSA Expansion grant was awarded in November 2016. He said the funds would help expand infrastructure to increase apprenticeship in Nevada, particularly in emerging diverse industries.

Assemblywoman Carlton said there were many different methods of addressing the grants within the budget, such as a budget amendment.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson asked how the funds in the Travel and Other categories would be used (page 68, [Exhibit B](#)).

Mr. Perea replied that a large portion of in-state travel was included in the ApprenticeshipUSA Accelerator grant to help facilitate travel for the meetings mentioned previously.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson asked for more detailed information, such as the number of people that would require travel and the number of conferences. Erin Hasty, Executive Grants Analyst, Grants Office, Department of Administration, replied that the Summit conference was originally scheduled in FY 2018, but was postponed until FY 2019. The Summit conference would include one meeting and six roundtable events, three in Las Vegas and three in Reno. She said the cost of travel for six staff members included airfare, ground transportation, lodging and per diem. Travel expenditures also included the cost of a facilitator and conference facilities, as well as meeting materials and mileage for 55 participants.

Ms. Hasty said the grants had two purposes: employer outreach, and outreach to underrepresented populations through job fairs, community events, etc. She said the \$81,000 in the Other category would be used for outreach to families, as well as meetings and presentations to engage stakeholders.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson asked the agency to provide a breakdown of the expenditures for outreach and travel.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked how training would help expand registered apprenticeship programs in Nevada.

Mr. Lamarre replied that the TRAIN program would help expand the infrastructure of registered apprenticeship programs through employer outreach as well as outreach to underrepresented populations. He said expanding the infrastructure would help stakeholders gain a better understanding of apprenticeship in Nevada and increase awareness of registered apprenticeship programs. He said, overall, expanding the infrastructure would help recruit employers and apprentices.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked how expanding infrastructure would help expand less formal apprenticeships, such as those in the health care and information technology industries. Mr. Lamarre replied that health care and information technology were two of the key industries. He said part of the expansion included employer outreach, because employers were essential in building the infrastructure of apprenticeship. He said outreach and marketing

would be used to build curriculum and help unemployed and underemployed individuals enter into a full-time registered apprenticeship program. Mr. Lamarre said marketing was critical to the success of expanding the infrastructure.

Assemblyman Sprinkle said the goals of the grants and the goals of workforce development were very similar. He asked why the grant information was not included in the budget, especially the Accelerator grant, which was awarded in July 2016.

Mr. Perea said the department was amenable to a technical adjustment in the budget or establishing authority in the current fiscal year to work on the grants.

Chair Woodhouse asked when the agency anticipated bringing new registered apprenticeship programs online.

Mr. Lamarre replied that the ApprenticeshipUSA Expansion grant was an 18-month grant. Within that 18-month period the focus would involve employer outreach and engagement, and marketing to underrepresented populations to build the infrastructure. He said there were several goals included in the grant for the 18-month period, including diversifying registered apprenticeships, increasing underrepresented populations in apprenticeships, and increasing employer demand of apprenticeship programs. Mr. Lamarre said part of OWINN's strategic engagement was to help coordinate and connect the pieces of apprenticeship in the state. He said the grant would help facilitate that work and break down silos by bringing agencies and entities together to implement the grant.

Assemblywoman Carlton said apprenticeships were typically industry-based. She asked if there were particular employers in the state with apprenticeship needs. She noted that registered apprenticeship programs included a work component, not just an educational component. She said a work component must be included to qualify as a true apprenticeship and allow an apprentice to advance to the journeyman level.

Assemblywoman Carlton added that a number of existing apprenticeship programs in the state would appreciate help with recruitment. She asked if the current industries would receive assistance recruiting underrepresented populations.

Mr. Lamarre replied that the agency was looking at specific key industries that were included in the grants, such as health care, information technology, manufacturing and logistics, mining and materials, natural resources, tourism, and gaming and entertainment. He said the agency would reach out to a variety of employers within those industries.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked how the agency was going to combine the education and work components for new registered apprenticeship programs.

Mr. Lamarre agreed that a work component was an essential aspect of apprenticeship programs, in fact, he thought it was the most fundamental part of apprenticeship. He reiterated that the grants would build on the apprenticeship infrastructure by focusing on the goals mentioned earlier. He said, in terms of recruitment, outreach to employers and individuals was critical to the TRAIN program. Mr. Lamarre said 91 percent of people who completed an apprenticeship program earned an average of \$60,000 per year. He said the average stakeholder was not aware of that information.

Assemblywoman Carlton reiterated there were current apprenticeship programs that could use assistance and resources to reach underserved populations. She thought the focus should include current programs, not just new apprenticeship programs. She said underserved populations were in need of jobs now, not several years from now, and they needed to be aware that those opportunities currently existed.

Mr. Lamarre said the framework for reaching the three goals mentioned previously were included in the grants. He said outreach efforts were part of OWINN's overall engagement. He said the Governor's strategic planning framework and priorities were focused on registered apprenticeships. Mr. Lamarre said OWINN would be marketing registered apprenticeship programs to interested people within existing industries. He said OWINN's work was not mutually exclusive. For example, the apprenticeship conferences that OWINN planned to host would be open to people in all industries.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked how the contract Registered Apprenticeship Consultant position would differ from the new Apprenticeship Director position.

Mr. Lamarre replied that the Apprenticeship Director position, which was included in the Governor's recommended budget for OWINN, would be a statewide position that would oversee and support the council and employers going through the apprenticeship process. He said contract positions were included in the ApprenticeshipUSA Expansion grant. The Registered Apprenticeship Consultant position would be based in Southern Nevada and supported by the LVGEA. Additionally, the grant included a Project Manager position to manage compliance reporting, tracking, and process and support, as well as a part-time position to assist with outreach in Northern Nevada. Mr. Lamarre said the positions included in the grant were 18-month contract positions; therefore, the funding for those positions would expire when the grant expired. He said the Apprenticeship Director position, however, was a long-term position, which would allow for ongoing apprenticeship work. He said the positions included in the grant would help expand the infrastructure and support the overall vision of the

apprenticeship programs in the state by performing outreach and resolving problems during the 18-month grant period.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked what the LVGEA funds would be used for. Mr. Lamarre replied that the funds provided by the LVGEA would be used for employer outreach and marketing. He said a large number and variety of employers would be necessary to dramatically increase the scale of apprenticeship in Nevada.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked how the success of the TRAIN program would be measured.

Mr. Lamarre replied that the number of registered apprenticeships in the state would be used to measure the success of the TRAIN program. He said there were 81 apprenticeship programs and 2,833 apprentices in Nevada as of June 2016 when the grants were written. Of those apprentices, there were 137 females and 1,315 minorities. The goal of the TRAIN program was to increase those numbers by approximately 5 to 10 percent. He explained there was not a set goal for number of employers, because the focus was on increasing the number of apprentices and apprenticeship programs.

Ms. Hasty confirmed that the goal of the TRAIN program was to increase the number of registered apprentices by 5 percent, which equated to 142 additional apprentices by the end of the 18-month period. The 5 percent was broken down further by females, minorities, veterans, youth (ages 16-24), individuals with disabilities, and the statewide completion rate. Additionally, the agency planned to add 10 new businesses and expand the total number of existing registered apprenticeship programs. Ms. Hasty said the DOL was striving to double the number of apprentices on a national level and increase outreach efforts to underrepresented populations. She said the ApprenticeshipUSA Expansion grant was in line with those efforts. She said an evaluation was a component of the grant; therefore, an outside evaluator would review the agency's policies, barriers, and how additional funding could be utilized. Additionally, the evaluator would visit JobConnect locations and interview various individuals within underrepresented populations receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Ms. Hasty said implementing the recommendations of the evaluator would be another measure of the TRAIN program's success.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked the agency to provide the Committee with the specific performance metrics for the TRAIN program.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked what the consequences would be if the Committee deferred the agency's request until it could be discussed in conjunction with workforce development and OWINN during the legislative session.

Mr. Perea replied that deferring the request would delay the agency's ability to contract with the LVGEA, which was critical for implementing the grants. He said the LVGEA believed in the apprenticeship concept, and it had the necessary connections to make the TRAIN program successful. He said the agency needed to begin establishing relationships with employers through outreach efforts as soon as possible due to the grants' short timeframe. Mr. Perea said if OWINN was not established during the legislative session, it would be incumbent upon DETR solely to deliver on the grants. He said the DOL and the Department of Employment actually housed the Apprenticeship Council in certain instances. Regardless of the outcome, DETR would need to work with the Apprenticeship Council.

Assemblyman Sprinkle said he understood that it would be best to avoid delaying approval, because the grants were beneficial for the state; however, the grants needed to be part of a larger discussion, because there were many agencies and entities involved.

Mr. Perea said federal consortium grants were difficult, because they involved four to six different partners to help deliver the grants. He said the grants specifically requested that the grantee work with regional development authorities and economic development to deliver the grants, because the federal government was aware those entities had the necessary connections. He said it was important to begin working on the ApprenticeshipUSA grants soon, however, because of the 18-month grant timeframe.

Assemblywoman Carlton said one measure of success for the TRAIN program was the 5 percent increase in the number of apprentices. She asked what the goal was for registered apprenticeship programs.

Ms. Hasty replied that every grant performance measure had to relate to registered apprenticeship. In order to be approved, registered apprenticeship programs had to meet certain guidelines. She said the DOL was working with the agency to create registered apprenticeship programs that incorporated all of those components.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked if the 142 new registered apprentices would be enrolled in new registered apprenticeship programs only. Ms. Hasty said new apprentices could be enrolled in new or existing programs.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked what the goal was for the number of new apprenticeship programs. Ms. Hasty replied that the agency was aiming to reach ten new businesses during the 18-month grant period. She thought that would include the expansion of five existing programs.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked if there was a specific goal for new registered apprenticeship programs. Ms. Hasty said the agency lined up the TRAIN

program goals with the Nevada Unified Plan to include all the industries previously mentioned by Mr. Lamarre. She said the number of new businesses recommended by the DOL was ten, and the number of new registered apprenticeship programs was nine.

Assemblywoman Carlton said it was important to differentiate between people and programs, because programs typically received more attention. She was glad the agency was also working to expand existing programs.

Chair Woodhouse asked how the agency would collect and utilize apprenticeship data to improve data-driven decision making. Mr. Lamarre replied that one method of collecting and utilizing data would involve the use of focus groups made up of an appropriate sample size to provide a better view of apprenticeship from both the employer and apprentice sides. The information would help the agency look at the first stage of apprenticeship and determine whether the perception of apprenticeship had changed. He said the agency would also review registration numbers to determine who was registering for apprenticeship programs and how, and evaluate quantitative and qualitative feedback from employers and stakeholders regarding their experience with registered apprenticeship programs. Mr. Lamarre said the agency would use that data to improve decision making for statewide apprenticeship programs. He said the data would show different variables and allow the agency to see correlations between those variables. He said the agency had not begun collecting data aside from the number of apprentices and the demographic breakdown. He said the majority of discussions had been focused on industry data.

Mr. Perea said money was included in the grants to add apprenticeship programs to the Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System (NPWR). He said the funds would assist in identifying data points that could be run through the NPWR to test the effectiveness of those apprenticeship programs. He said there was money set aside in the OWINN NPWR budget to examine other agencies and groups. He said it was an area the agency could consider adding to the NPWR system.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked if grant-funded NPWR improvements would overlap with, or duplicate, NPWR data partner planning activities recommended by the Governor for the 2017-19 biennium.

Mr. Perea replied that the budget took into consideration potential state agency partners, such as the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Corrections and Department of Motor Vehicles. He said the budget did not include funds for apprenticeship, because that was the intention for the grant funds.

In answer to a question from Assemblywoman Carlton, Mr. Perea replied that the NPWR system improvements would work in conjunction with the NPWR data partner planning activities; he did not think there would be an overlap.

Assemblywoman Carlton said the labor unions were a very important partner in apprenticeship. She said there were non-union apprenticeships, which the state supported, but the agency made no mention of the labor unions in its testimony, which she found concerning. She said it was important that the agency reach out to the labor unions, because they represented employees. She hoped the agency would keep that in mind for the future.

Mr. Lamarre replied that various reports had been sent to the Legislature regarding conversations with the labor unions. He said the bill that created the OWINN office also transferred the Apprenticeship Council from the Office of the Labor Commissioner to the OWINN office, which would help OWINN and the Apprenticeship Council work together as one entity. He said there had been numerous conversations with the labor unions regarding the bill that transferred the Apprenticeship Council to OWINN, and he thought the labor unions were amenable to the change.

Mr. Lamarre said a critical piece of the outside evaluation mentioned previously was to secure a variety of stakeholders. He said the unions would have the opportunity to provide insight concerning the grants during the evaluation process. He thought the grants and the transfer of the Apprenticeship Council to OWINN would allow workforce development to become more streamlined.

Assemblywoman Carlton said she appreciated the work that was being done with the Apprenticeship Council, but that was not a component of this particular grant, the data and what the agency was trying to accomplish. She hoped those same conversations would happen with the labor unions, because they had significant knowledge of apprenticeship and it was unnecessary to recreate the wheel.

Mr. Krmpotic said the grant would provide for expenditures in FY 2017 and extend into FY 2018. Staff recommended an adjustment that would reduce the amount of the grant and the expenditures to reflect only those expenditures that would occur in FY 2017. The adjustment would include a reduction to the Apprenticeship Grants category by \$595,861, which would result in authority of \$219,664; a reduction to the Reserve category by \$140,855, which would result in authority of \$43,385; and a decrease to the Apprenticeship Grants revenue line item by \$736,316 for a total of \$263,049.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUSTAMANTE ADAMS
MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM D-62.

SENATOR FORD SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 63. Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - Employment Security - Workforce Development FY 2017** - Addition of \$1,100,000 in federal Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) National Dislocated Worker grant funds to fund the interface with Silver State Solution and the Statewide Automated Workforce System. In addition, this grant funds the implementation of integrating the data systems with other partner agencies to address the WIOA requirements. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the SARA-Reemployment and System Integration category exceeds \$75,000.
RELATES TO AGENDA ITEM D. 64. Work Program #C38989

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked which agencies were in partnership with DETR for the implementation of integrating data systems to address the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) requirements.

Shelly Hendrin, Administrator, Rehabilitation Division, DETR, said the SARA-Reemployment and System Integration program was presented to the division by the federal Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). She said the RSA was involved in the program's development and supported the SARA pilot project. DETR made the SARA program a priority and brought together the core partners from the WIOA. Ms. Hendrin said the partners in the SARA project included Title I, both local workforce development boards; Title II, Adult Basic Education and Literacy; Title III, DETR Employment Security Division and the Wagner-Peyser Program; and Title IV, Vocational Rehabilitation Program. The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, TANF Employment and Training program would also be a partner on the SARA project.

In response to a question from Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams, Ms. Hendrin replied that the SARA program worked in conjunction with the case management system. She said the SARA program was a virtual assistant. For example, SARA could be programmed to contact a client via text, e-mail, or both, and remind the client when training was scheduled to begin or inquire whether the individual needed to meet with their caseworker or counselor. Ms. Hendrin said SARA would enter notes of that two-way conversation into the case management system where the client resided. She said the SARA program reduced the amount of time staff would typically spend on data entry and follow-up correspondence, which would provide staff more time for higher-level activities.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked the agency to provide additional information regarding how the SARA program would benefit constituents in her district. Ms. Hendrin said she would provide additional information to the Committee. Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams replied that the information would help her communicate to constituents in her district how the process would make it easier for them to receive training and gain employment.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUSTAMANTE ADAMS MOVED
TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM D-63.

SENATOR FORD SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 64. Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - Administrative Services - Information Development and Processing - FY 2017** - Addition of \$443,500 in federal Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) National Dislocated Worker grant funds transferred from Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Employment Security Division to provide funding for Master Service Agreement contracts for the implementation of integrating the data systems with other partner agencies to address the WIOA requirements. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the SARA-Reemployment and System Integration category exceeds \$75,000.
RELATES TO AGENDA ITEM D. 63. Work Program #C38980

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked if the partnered agencies involved in Work Program C38989 were also involved in Work Program C38980.

Ms. Hendrin replied that part of the funding request in Work Program C38980 was for DETR's Information Development Processing (IDP) department. The funds would allow the IDP to establish master service agreements to implement the SARA project, which would cost approximately \$43,000. She said the remainder of the funds would be used for implementation as it related to the Silver State Solutions and Statewide Automated System (SAWS).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUSTAMANTE ADAMS MOVED
TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM D-64.

SENATOR FORD SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 65. Department of Corrections - Director's Office - FY 2017** - Addition of \$140,829 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$31,071 from the Personnel Services category to the Training category, \$12,809 from the Video Conference category to the Inmate Transportation category, \$11,863 from the Personnel Services category to the In-State Travel category, \$9,722 from the Personnel Services category to the Inmate Transportation category, \$9,547 from the Personnel Services category to the Operating category, \$4,690 from the Uniform Allowance category to the Employee Drug Testing category, \$979 from the Video Conference category to the Information Services category, \$787 from the Utilities category to the Information Services category, \$736 from the Uniform Allowance

category to the Information Services category, and \$390 from the Beds/Mattresses/Footlockers category to the Information Services category to fund a projected shortfall for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Information Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38254**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 66. Department of Corrections - Prison Medical Care - FY 2017** - Addition of \$637,701 in Budgetary Transfers and \$794,403 in Transfer from Programs revenue and transfer of \$144 from the Maintenance category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund projected expenditures for qualifying inmate medical claims through the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO AGENDA ITEM D. 88. Work Program #C38978**

John Borrowman, Deputy Director, Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC), said Work Program C38978 requested authority for the addition of \$637,701 in Budgetary Transfers, \$794,403 in Transfer from Programs revenue and the transfer of \$144 from the Maintenance category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund projected expenditures for qualifying inmate medical claims. He said inmates were financially responsible for medical care costs for injuries caused by their own actions, such as an injury resulting from athletics or an altercation. He said all other medical care was provided by the department as a state expense. Inmates were not eligible for Medicaid unless the inmate was admitted to an outside medical facility after 24 hours of care.

Mr. Borrowman said approximately one year ago, the department received IFC approval to change accounting methodologies and move stale claims into current claims, because all claims were considered current in the cash basis method of accounting. He said the department's billing had become more efficient, which reduced the expenditures the department received. He said the cash basis of accounting was generally transparent; however, claims no longer went into the Stale Claim Fund; every new claim was treated as a current claim, regardless of when it was received.

Mr. Borrowman said the department had experienced an increased inmate population as well as increased inflation, which resulted in a prison medical care shortfall. He said the department was addressing the shortfall through budgetary transfers. The net balances would continue to show a shortfall; however, a supplemental appropriation to address the remaining amount would be considered by the 2017 Legislature.

In answer to a question from Assemblyman Sprinkle, Mr. Borrowman replied that the department expected a trend increase in FY 2018 and FY 2019. He said the inmate population continued to increase, and it was unlikely there would be a

reduction in costs. He said the NDOC did not have access to the State Claims Fund in FY 2017; therefore, there would be a material shortfall for the fiscal year. Mr. Borrowman said the department would not have access to the State Claims Fund in FY 2018 and FY 2019 either, so the supplemental appropriation would provide funds to pay prison medical care costs in the 2017-19 biennium. He said there had been discussions between the Budget Division and the LCB Fiscal Division about how to address the department's understated budget in FY 2018 and FY 2019. One option under consideration was a "carry back," which would allow the NDOC to access FY 2019 authority in FY 2018 if needed, and FY 2019 could be accessed as a supplemental if necessary.

Assemblyman Sprinkle said the agency's response regarding medical care cost projections for FY 2018 and FY 2019 was more in line with what he assumed. However, a discrepancy in the projections or a lack of funding for projected costs was concerning and would require immediate discussion.

Assemblyman Sprinkle said he was aware that some hospitals were delaying admittance for inmates or categorizing them in a manner that allowed the inmate to be at the hospital longer than 24 hours, but bypass Medicaid reimbursement.

Mr. Borrowman said that was correct. He said inmates were not eligible for Medicaid unless they were admitted to a hospital after 24 hours. He said a hospital could keep an inmate in observation status for more than 24 hours, which avoided formal admittance. He said the practice was compliant with Medicaid rules and regulations, but it confused the definition of 24-hour Medicaid eligibility.

Assemblyman Sprinkle recalled discussions in subcommittee meetings concerning hospital contract negotiations. He found it disconcerting that hospitals were sidestepping the 24-hour Medicaid rule. He requested further discussion with the agency offline.

Assemblywoman Carlton agreed with Assemblyman Sprinkle regarding hospitals sidestepping the 24-hour Medicaid rule. She wanted additional information about the various ways hospitals were billing services for inmates and the financial impact on the state. She thought it would be helpful for the Committee to see exactly what was happening and how much was being spent. Assemblywoman Carlton asked the agency to provide that information to the Committee.

Assemblyman Oscarson recalled similar discussions about hospitals circumventing the 24-hour Medicaid rule during his time as the Chair of the Legislative Committee on Health Care during the 2015-16 Interim. He agreed it was disconcerting that hospitals were sidestepping Medicaid rules.

Assemblyman Oscarson recalled that many medical claims were submitted more than a year after the date of service, or not reported at all. He asked if that issue had been resolved.

Mr. Borrowman replied that prior to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), all provider expenditures were billed to the NDOC. When the ACA was implemented, inmates became eligible for Medicaid if they were admitted to the hospital after 24 hours of care. He said providers would attempt to bill the NDOC first, but were redirected to Medicaid. However, Medicaid often rejected the claim on the basis that the inmate was at the hospital less than 24 hours and not formally admitted; therefore, providers were required to bill the NDOC's third-party administrator. As a result, billing claims were often delayed. Mr. Borrowman said providers were becoming more efficient about submitting invoices and they understood the nuance of the delayed billing process.

Mr. Borrowman said, when the department initially met with LCB Fiscal staff to discuss the transition from accrual to cash basis of accounting, the department had approximately seven months to receive and pay 90 percent of the claims from FY 2016. Because of the improved efficiencies in providers' billing methods and the increased knowledge of Medicaid rules and regulations, the number of months decreased from seven to four. Mr. Borrowman said it was unlikely the department would reach 3 months due to Medicaid, but the billing time had improved substantially, which accelerated the payment of claims. For example, services provided in March 2017 would have historically been paid in FY 2018; however, payment for those services would now be made in FY 2017. Mr. Borrowman said the new accounting method reduced the number of claims that would have been considered stale claims. He said the department experienced an 8 percent increase in payments in FY 2017, because of the accelerated billing process. He said some providers were less efficient at billing, but the NDOC did not have control over those circumstances. The department had a contract with a third-party administrator and could discuss the importance of timely billings with providers; however, there would always be outliers that did not bill for services in a timely manner. Mr. Borrowman said the department had done as much as possible to improve billing times.

Assemblyman Oscarson noted the NDOC had reduced its billing processing time from 12 to 18 months to approximately 4 months. The department was also maintaining an accurate assessment of outstanding bills. He thought the recent changes were an improvement.

Chair Woodhouse said the agency expected a shortfall of approximately \$1.7 million in HIV and hepatitis C costs and \$1.2 million in pharmacy costs. She asked about the historical cost of treatment and the reason for the increased costs.

Mr. Borrowman replied that in 2013 there were 108 HIV/AIDS patients within the NDOC, and currently there were 136. He said the price of medications to treat HIV/AIDS had increased from \$11,000 per patient in 2013 to almost \$18,000 to date. He said new medications had been developed that were better tolerated by patients; however, those medications were more expensive. Oftentimes patients were already on the newer medications prior to entering the NDOC system, and it was not in the best interest of the patient to revert to the older medications.

Mr. Borrowman said in FY 2013 there were 5 inmates receiving treatment for hepatitis C compared to 34 inmates in FY 2017. The cost of treatment in FY 2013 was approximately \$23,000 per patient, which totaled \$117,000 per year. He said the older medications were much harder on the body; therefore, fewer people were eligible for the treatment. The newer medications were better tolerated by patients and more efficient at treating hepatitis C; therefore, more patients were eligible for treatment. However, newer medications were more expensive. The department expended approximately \$1.5 million in hepatitis C medication costs to date in FY 2017, which was a significant increase from FY 2013.

Mr. Borrowman said there were other expensive medications required by inmates. For example, one inmate required a drug that cost \$600,000 per year, and the NDOC was constitutionally required to provide the medication. He said the overall increase in medical costs was due to the high cost of newer medications as well as increased caseloads.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO
APPROVE AGENDA ITEM D-66.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 67. Department of Corrections - Correctional Programs - FY 2017** - Deletion of \$645,866 in Budgetary Transfers, addition of \$32,686 in Transfer from Public Safety and \$23,527 in Transfer from Inmate Welfare Account, and transfer of \$8,038 from the Personnel Services category to the Substance Abuse Program North (SANO) category and \$3,126 from the Personnel Services category to the Substance Abuse Programs South (SASO) category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year and continue the operation of the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount reduced in the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38981**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

68. **Department of Corrections - Ely State Prison - FY 2017** - Deletion of \$94,197 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$173,393 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category, \$49,650 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category, \$49,468 from the Utilities category to the Operating category and \$7,957 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance Contracts category to fund projected shortfalls within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Utilities category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38938**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

69. **Department of Corrections - High Desert State Prison - FY 2017** - Addition of \$161,222 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$778,607 from the Utilities category to Inmate Drivens category, \$39,285 from the Utilities category to the Operating category, \$2,852 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance Contracts category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Utilities category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38964**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

70. **Department of Corrections - Northern Nevada Correctional Center - FY 2017** - Deletion of \$146,611 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$35,331 from the Utilities category to the Operating category, \$88,830 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category, and \$31,124 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Utilities category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38936**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

71. **Department of Corrections - Southern Desert Correctional Center - FY 2017** - Addition of \$207,318 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$20,829 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category, \$4,710 from the Utilities category to the Operating category, and \$3,805 from the Maintenance Contracts category to the Operating category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38945**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

72. **Department of Corrections - Lovelock Correctional Center - FY 2017** - Deletion of \$357,346 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$58,416 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category, \$29,946 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category and \$20,113 from

the Utilities category to the Operating category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Utilities category exceeds \$75,000 category. **Work Program #C38966**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

73. **Department of Corrections - Southern Nevada Correctional Center - FY 2017** - Reduction of \$25,132 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$2,260 from the Maintenance Contracts category to the Personnel Services category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since this work program includes a budgetary transfer that balances against other work programs. **Work Program #C38965. WITHDRAWN 3-21-17.**

74. **Department of Corrections - Warm Springs Correctional Center - FY 2017** Deletion of \$16,205 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$2,964 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category and \$2,421 from the Maintenance Contracts category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since this work program includes a budgetary transfer that balances against other work programs. **Work Program #C38906. WITHDRAWN 3-21-17.**

75. **Department of Corrections - Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center - FY 2017** - Addition of \$160,608 in Budgetary Transfers to fund projected shortfalls for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38948**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

76. **Department of Corrections - Casa Grande Transitional Housing - FY 2017** Addition of \$16,452 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$28,890 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category, \$3,419 from the Maintenance Contracts category to the Inmate Drivens category, \$88 from the Maintenance Contracts category to the Personnel Services category, and \$160 ~~\$159~~ from the Equipment category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38955. REVISED 3-22-17.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

77. **Department of Corrections - Northern Nevada Transitional Housing - FY 2017** - Addition of \$9,534 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$2,697 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall within

the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since this work program includes a budgetary transfer that balances against other work programs. **Work Program #C38931. WITHDRAWN 3-21-17.**

78. **Department of Corrections - Stewart Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$17,468 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$31,492 from the Personnel Services category to the Inmate Drivens category and \$9,291 from the Utilities category to the Operating category to fund projected shortfalls for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38937**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

79. **Department of Corrections - Pioche Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$109,026 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$20,019 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category, \$1,827 from the Utilities category to the Operating category and \$209 from the Equipment category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund projected shortfalls for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38953**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

80. **Department of Corrections - Three Lakes Valley Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Deletion of \$86,719 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$87,532 from the Personnel Services category to the Inmate Drivens category and \$2,943 from the Maintenance Contracts category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38939**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

81. **Department of Corrections - Wells Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Deletion of \$19,949 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$1,609 from the Personnel Services category to the Operating category, \$1,173 from the Personnel Services category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category, \$25,904 from the Personnel Services category to the Inmate Drivens category, and \$12,427 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38944**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 82. Department of Corrections - Humboldt Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$362 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$13,931 from the Utilities category to the Personnel category, \$17,968 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category, and \$7,032 from the Utilities category to the Maintenance Buildings and Grounds category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Utilities category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38946**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 83. Department of Corrections - Ely Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$18,536 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$11,497 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category and \$1,653 from the Utilities category to the Operating category and \$209 from the Equipment category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund projected shortfalls for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38954**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 84. Department of Corrections - Jean Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Deletion of \$12,818 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$18,287 from the Personnel Services category to the Inmate Drivens category, \$15,737 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category and \$4,313 from the Maintenance Contracts category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Inmate Drivens category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38947**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 85. Department of Corrections - Carlin Conservation Camp - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$28,772 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$38,387 from the Personnel Services category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category and \$16,905 from the Personnel Services category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount. **Work Program #C38957**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

86. **Department of Corrections - Tonopah Conservation Camp - FY 2017** - Deletion of \$102,985 in Budgetary Transfers and transfer of \$26,157 from the Utilities category to the Inmate Drivens category to fund a projected shortfall within the department for the remainder of the state fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount deducted from the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38956**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

87. **Department of Corrections - Offenders' Store Fund - FY 2017** - Addition of \$2,986,881 in Store Sales and \$5,650 in Treasurer's Interest Distribution revenue due to higher than expected store and merchandise sales and treasurer's interest. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Inventory Purchase for Resale category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO AGENDA ITEM D. 88. Work Program #C38659.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

88. **Department of Corrections - Inmate Welfare Account - FY 2017** - Addition of \$794,403 in Transfer from Offenders Store, \$36,529 in Treasurer's Interest and \$4,965 in Miscellaneous Revenue to fund projected shortfalls for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Transfer Medical Co-Pays category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO AGENDA ITEMS D. 66 and 87. Work Program #C38576**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

89. **Department of Motor Vehicles - Automation - FY 2017** - Transfer of ~~\$142,747~~ **\$155,327** from the Personnel Services category to the Enterprise IT Services (EITS/DOIT) Facility Charges category to cover increased computer mainframe costs. Requires Interim Finance approval since amount transferred to the DOIT Facility Charges category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38781. REVISED 3-27-17.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

90. **Department of Public Safety - Forfeitures - Law Enforcement - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$7,062 from the Reserve category to the K-9 Program category to fund the purchase of a K-9 kennel insert and truck vault. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the K-9 Program category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38802**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

91. **Department of Public Safety - Highway Patrol - Highway Safety Grants Account -FY 2017** - Addition of \$367,186 in federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration - Motor Carrier Safety Assistance grant funds to align the state and federal grant authority. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Motor Carrier Safety category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38736**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

92. **Department of Public Safety - Parole and Probation - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$55,000 from the Personnel Services category to the Offender Tracking Information System category to cover estimated expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Offender Tracking Information System category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38735**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

93. **Department of Public Safety - Parole and Probation - FY 2017** - Addition of \$30,590 in federal U.S. Marshal Service Reimbursement revenue to support U.S. Marshal Service task force operations to locate and monitor fugitives. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the U.S. Marshal Service Reimbursement category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38998**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

94. **Department of Public Safety - Division of Investigations - FY 2017** - Addition of \$817,819 in federal Homeland Security Program grant funds to align state and federal grant authority and continue support of law enforcement and public entities statewide with the collection, analysis and dissemination of criminal and threat information at the Nevada Threat Analysis Center. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) Fusion Center grants category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38958**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

95. **Department of Public Safety - Division of Investigations - FY 2017** - Deletion of \$15,500 in federal Marijuana grant funds and transfer of \$46,077 from the Federal Reserve category to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Marijuana grant category to align state and federal grant authority for the Marijuana Eradication Program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the DEA Marijuana grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38977**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

96. **Department of Public Safety - Emergency Management Division - FY 2017** - Addition of \$73,911 in Governor's Office of Nuclear Projects Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) funding and deletion of \$23,989 in Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) to align state and federal authority. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Program category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38067**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

97. **Department of Public Safety - Emergency Management Assistance Grants - FY 2017** - Transfer \$77,191 from the Federal Reserve category to the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Aid to Locals category, \$1,384 from the Federal Reserve category to the Pre-Disaster Mitigation category, \$46 from the Federal Reserve category to the FEMA 4202 Moapa Disaster category **and** \$40,765 from the Federal Reserve category to the Federal Funds category **and** ~~\$38,397 from the Federal Reserve category to the Reserve for Reversion to the General Fund category~~ to align state and federal authority to support the various programs. and revert qualifying reimbursements. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the EMPG Aid to Locals category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38066. REVISED 3-21-17**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

98. **Department of Public Safety - General Services - FY 2017** - Transfer of \$105,000 from the Reserve category to the Information Services category to replace routers and switches that have reached the end of their useful service life. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Information Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38982**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

99. **Department of Public Safety - Fire Marshal - State Emergency Response Commission - FY 2017** - Addition of \$180,330 in federal Department of Transportation (USDOT) Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant funds and transfer of \$45,083 from the Reserve category to the USDOT/HEMP Grant category to support emergency planners and first responder personnel throughout the state in training and planning for hazardous materials emergencies. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the USDOT/HEMP Grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C37789**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

100. **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - State Parks - FY 2017** - Addition of \$66,003 in Recreational Trails Administration grant funds to support administrative costs for the Recreational Trails Program. Requires Interim Finance

approval since the amount added to the State Trails category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38773**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 101. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Forestry - FY 2017 -** Deletion of \$12,317 in U.S. Forest Service Consolidated Payment Grant (FED USFS CPG) FY 2012 funds, \$148,968 in FED USFS CPG FY 2013 funds and \$96,062 in FED USFS CPG FY 2014 funds, and addition of \$1,223,498 in FED USFS CPG FY 2015 funds to align grant authority for ongoing federal funding received for forest management and stewardship, fire protection, insect and disease control, reforestation and stand improvement, and urban forestry. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the CPG FY 2015 category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38375**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 102. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Environmental Protection - Water Pollution Control - FY 2017 -** Transfer of \$126,213 from the Reserve category to the Water Permit Fees category to fund contracts assisting communities and small public water systems in developing and implementing water protection plans. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Water Permit Fees category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38911**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 103. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Environmental Protection - Water Pollution Control - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$48,708 in Transfer from State Revolving Fund Administration grant funds to support a multi-year contract to assist in the development and implementation of Community Source Water/Wellhead Protection Plans. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Wellhead Protection Program category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **RELATES TO AGENDA ITEM D. 105. Work Program #C38172**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 104. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Environmental Protection - Waste Management and Corrective Action - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$310,382 in Dumping Fees to continue the collection and distribution of fees related to the disposal of tires. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Solid Waste category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38921**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 105. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Environmental Protection - State Revolving Fund Administration - FY 2017** - Addition of \$48,724 in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund grant funds to support a multi-year contract to assist communities and small public water systems in developing and implementing protection plans for community source waters/wellheads. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Well Head Program category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **RELATES TO AGENDA ITEM D. 103. Work Program #C38673**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 106. Department of Wildlife - Operations - FY 2017** - Addition of \$41,295 in Transfer of Application Fees to fund the Nevada Wildlife Database System program for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount added to the Nevada Wildlife Database System category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38849**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 107. Department of Wildlife - Fisheries Management - FY 2017** - Addition of \$40,125 in federal U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish grant funds and \$13,375 in Transfer of Sportsmen Revenue to provide warm water fish for fishery restoration and to continue sport fish management activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Sport Fish Management category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38794**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 108. Department of Wildlife - Fisheries Management - FY 2017** - Addition of \$22,650 in federal Sport Fish Restoration grant funds and \$7,550 in Transfer of Sportsmen Revenue to continue fish production activities, administration of medicated fish food to treat emergent disease issues and repair the current phone system. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount added to the Sportfish Production/Distribution category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38839**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 109. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2017** - Addition of \$87,500 in Community Foundation of Western Nevada grant funds to support habitat projects in burned areas with a focus on the Overland Fire which burned 7,700 acres in the late summer of 2016. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Dream Tag Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38829**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 110. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2017** - Addition of \$47,540 in federal Fish and Wildlife Service Restoration Program grant funds, \$10,119 in federal Fish and Wildlife Sport Fish Restoration grant funds and \$19,220 in Transfer of Sportsmen Revenue to continue wildlife management area activities and to replace the shop building roof at the Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Wildlife Management Area System category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38796**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 111. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2017** - Addition of \$50,000 in federal Fish and Wildlife Service Restoration Program grant funds to continue wildlife habitat water developments. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Wildlife Water Development category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C38868**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 112. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2017** - Addition of \$350,000 in federal Bureau of Land Management grant funds to continue wildlife habitat restoration projects. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Nevada Partners for Conservation and Development Program category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38870**

Assemblywoman Titus said the Department of Wildlife (NDOW) Habitat Division was requesting approval to accept an additional \$350,000 in federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) grant funds for habitat restoration. She noted the current balance of the Nevada Partners for Conservation and Development Program category was approximately \$1.5 million. She said a portion of the \$350,000 in BLM grant funds would be used for habitat restoration in the Pine Nut Mountains, which was in her district. Assemblywoman Titus asked if the \$200,000 for seeds would be used solely for wildlife habitat restoration projects.

Tony Wasley, Director, NDOW, introduced Alan Jenne, Habitat Division Administrator, NDOW. He said Mr. Jenne would speak about the wildlife habitat restoration projects and how the seeds would be used for various projects. He noted there were at least five areas slated for some form of restoration activity.

Mr. Jenne said the seed referenced in Work Program C38870 also included bareroot stock seedlings. He said there were two different grants, one for Ely and one for the bi-state area. He said the majority of seed funds would be used for sagebrush and bitterbrush bareroot stock to restore a burn area in the Steptoe Bench.

Assemblywoman Titus asked if the grant funds would be used for pinion and juniper thinning projects, and Mr. Jenne said that was correct. He said \$150,000 in grant funds as well as additional funds would be used for pinion and juniper thinning projects. He noted that some thinning projects would take place in Assemblywoman Titus' district. Assemblywoman Titus asked for a breakdown of how the grant funds would be spent.

Assemblywoman Titus asked for the status of sage grouse habitat restoration. Mr. Wasley replied that pinion and juniper invasion in sage grouse habitat areas were separated into three categories. He said the agency focused its efforts in areas with the greatest opportunity for success. Mr. Wasley explained that pinion and juniper trees near sage grouse habitat areas provided perches for raptors; therefore, sage grouse avoided those areas. He said there was an immediate response and expansion of suitable habitat for sage grouse after the removal of pinion and juniper trees. However, the extent to which sage grouse used the area was determined by the quality of the remaining habitat. He said some areas required reintroduction of native seeds and time for recovery; however, sage grouse no longer completely avoided those areas after the trees were removed.

Mr. Wasley stated that the department would provide the Committee with an analysis regarding lek (gathering of male sage grouse during mating season) attendance in restored habitat areas.

Assemblywoman Titus remarked that she had not seen an improvement recently in sage grouse habitat areas.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEM D-112.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER SECONDED THE
MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Woodhouse asked the agency to provide a copy of the report to the Committee.

113. **Office of the Military - FY 2017** - Addition of \$48,961 awarded under the federal Master Cooperative Agreement with the National Guard Bureau funding to align state and federal grant authority supporting the Army National Guard fire protection activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Air Fire Program category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C39013**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

114. **Department of Veterans Services - Office of Veterans Services - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$100,000 in federal Transportation for Veterans in Highly Rural Areas grant funds to provide transportation services in Elko and Nye Counties. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Elko County Transportation Services category exceeds 10 percent of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C39055**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

115. **Department of Veterans Services - Office of Veterans Services - FY 2017 -** Addition of \$344,160 in federal AmeriCorps Program grant funds to increase statewide outreach, awareness and access to services in underserved communities throughout Nevada. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Americorps grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C39057**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

116. **Department of Veterans Services - Veterans Home Account - FY 2017 -** ~~Transfer of \$240,218 from the Reserve category to the Food Service category~~ **Addition of \$106,836 in federal Veterans Affairs Reimbursements** to support an increase in the price of food services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred **added** to the Food Service category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38645. REVISED 3-27-17.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

117. **Department of Veterans Services - Veterans Home Account - FY 2017 -** ~~Transfer of \$633,060 from the Reserve category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category to fund ongoing~~ **Addition of \$145,572 in federal Veterans Affairs Reimbursements to cover emergency and unanticipated** building maintenance projects. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred **added** to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C38994. REVISED 3-27-17.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

118. **Department of Veterans Services - Veterans Home Account - FY 2017 -** ~~Transfer of \$1,175,413 from the Reserve category to the Operating category~~ **Addition of \$1,175,413 in federal Veterans Affairs Reimbursements** to fund increased medical and dental health care contracts and increased costs for medical and dental services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred **added** to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C39058. REVISED 3-27-17.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

RECLASSIFICATIONS

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

AGENCY	AGENCY/ACCOUNT NUMBER	POSITION NUMBER	PRESENT CLASS, CODE, GRADE, SALARY	PROPOSED CLASS, CODE, GRADE AND SALARY
Department of Agriculture – Food and Nutrition	550/1362	0009	Social Service Program Specialist 2 Code: 12.318 Grade 35/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement \$46,938.24	Administrative Services Officer 2 Code: 7.217 Grade 39/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement \$55,833.12
Department of Health and Human Services – Child and Family Services	409/3145	0201	Clinical Program Planner 2 Code: 10.128 Grade 40/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement \$58,338.72	Social Services Chief 2 Code: 12.301 Grade 39/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement \$55,833.12
Public Employees Benefits Program	950/1338	0910	Public Information Officer 2 Code: 07.804 Grade 37/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement \$51,197.00	Education and Information Officer Code: 05.160 Grade 35/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement \$46,938.24

E. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SALARY FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS – Assembly Bill 489, Section 2, Subsection 1 (Chapter 472, Statutes of Nevada 2015), NRS 233C.091(8).

Peter Long, Administrator, Division of Human Resource Management (DHRM), said the Governor's Finance Office requested a review of the unclassified Administrator position for the Nevada Arts Council (NAC) to determine the appropriate salary. He said a number of positions, primarily Division Administrators and Deputy Division Administrators, were moved from the classified to unclassified service in 2005. At that time, the NAC Administrator was in the Department of Cultural Affairs and the position was included in the classified Pay Bill (A.B. 577, 2005 Session). Mr. Long said the position dropped out of the classified Pay Bill sometime between 2005 and 2015, likely when the Department of Cultural Affairs merged with the Department of Tourism. He said the Administrator position was moved to the unclassified service; however, the incumbent had the option to remain in the classified service.

Mr. Long said the DHRM was recently informed that the incumbent in the NAC Administrator position would be retiring; therefore, the position needed to be transferred to the unclassified service in the Pay Bill to properly recruit for the position. He said the DHRM recommended aligning the NAC Administrator position with the

Administrator for the Division of Museums and History, which was the position it was aligned with in 2005. The NAC Administrator position still met the criteria associated with other Tier 8 positions. He said an Administrator at Tier 8 earned a salary of \$100,858 and had authority over a small or medium-size division that provided internal or external services. Examples of Tier 8 Administrators included Administrators for the Purchasing Division, Division of Tourism, and the Division of Museums and History.

Chair Woodhouse said a technical adjustment would be required in the NAC budget to increase the salary of the Administrator if the Committee approved the agency's request.

Assemblywoman Carlton said the salary for the NAC Administrator position had not been an issue in the past, because the incumbent had remained in the classified service. She understood that an adjustment to the unclassified Pay Bill would be necessary, because the NAC Administrator position would be transferred to the unclassified service.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEM E.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES – DIVISION OF STATE LANDS – Request approval for the exchange of land and payment of \$125,000 between the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services and Surebrec Holdings, LLC pursuant to NRS 323.100.

Jim Lawrence, Deputy Director, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), said the agency was seeking approval for a land exchange with a private entity for a portion of state property. He said the 475-acre parcel was located east of Elko, along Interstate 80. He said the exchange would involve about 62 acres of that parcel, which was largely unusable, because it was a significant distance from the Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC), Division of Forestry and the Department of Wildlife. He said the private owner had 62 acres located closer to the state facilities, which was more beneficial for the state. Mr. Lawrence said the properties were appraised, and for equalization of value, the state would receive \$125,000 upon effectuation of the exchange, which would be deposited into the General Fund.

Senator Goicoechea said he was concerned the land was less valuable than the property the state currently owned. He asked if the land was located between the NYTC and Interstate 80. Mr. Lawrence said that was correct. He said the land was located almost adjacent to the access road near the Department of Wildlife and NYTC properties, which made the land more usable for the state.

Senator Goicoechea said the land would probably be valuable for the state, because there was talk of adding an interchange in that area.

In response to a question from Assemblyman Sprinkle, Mr. Lawrence replied that the state would acquire 62 acres on two parcels. He said the property was beneficial for the state, because it was adjacent to the access road into state property, which allowed the state to consolidate ownership. The land would act as a buffer between the NYTC and the interstate. He said the state would also have more control over how the property was used.

Assemblywoman Titus asked if the agency initiated contact with the property owner. Mr. Lawrence replied that the property owner contacted the state during the summer of 2016, because the property did not meet the needs of the owner. He said the owner realized that the state-owned property was not usable for state purposes, because the land was located on the far western portion of the 475-acre parcel and a ravine separated the property from the state facilities. Mr. Lawrence said the state's property better suited the needs of the property owner.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEM F.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SWANK SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

G. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND GRANTS PURSUANT TO NRS 353.335 – Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs – Division of Museums and History.

1. Request approval to accept the donation of \$68,111.20 from the Vera Silberstein Gift Trust for the Nevada State Railroad Museum.
2. Request approval to accept the donation of \$700,000 from the NV150 foundation for new interpretive exhibits at the Battle Born Hall (Old Senate Chamber).
3. Request approval to accept the donation of \$2,107,161.46 from the David J Tacchino Trust to support the Nevada Historical Society.

Peter Barton, Division Administrator, Division of Museums and History, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs (DTCA), said the last several months had been very successful for the division, which demonstrated public trust. He said the division was requesting the Committee's approval to accept three donations. The first donation of \$68,111.20 was from the Vera Silberstein Gift Trust to the Nevada State Railroad Museum, which was a portion of what the division anticipated receiving from the trust. He said the trust was being distributed among a number of museums, mostly in California.

Mr. Barton said the second donation of \$700,000 was from the NV150 foundation for new interpretive exhibits at the Battle Born Hall (Old Senate Chamber) in the Nevada State Capitol. He said the Division of Museums and History was required by statute to maintain a government museum in the State Capitol Building. He said the exhibits presently on display were more than 30 years old, lacked a cohesive theme and were painted a strong color. Mr. Barton said the exhibits needed to be replaced to meet current learning and accessibility standards. He said the \$700,000 donation would enable the division to fulfill that obligation.

Mr. Barton said the third donation of \$2,107,161.46 was the single largest donation in the history of the division. The donation was from the David J. Tacchino Trust to support the Nevada Historical Society. To date, the division had received just over \$1 million of that trust.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SWANK MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEM G.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

H. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

There was no discussion on Agenda Item H.

- 1. OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE** – Semiannual report on the progress of the eSoS replacement project for the period ending December 31, 2016 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).
- 2. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION** – Quarterly reports on the status of Class-Size Reduction Variances for the periods ending June 30, 2016, of the 2015-16 school year, and September 30, 2016, of the 2016-17 school year, pursuant to NRS 388.700(5).
- 3. NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**
 - a) Quarterly report on the progress made by the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine in obtaining federal approval for the research program on the medical use of marijuana, as well as the status of activities and information received through the program, for the period ending December 31, 2016, pursuant to NRS 453A.600.
 - b) Semiannual report on the accomplishments of the Nevada Center for Biomedical Research, previously known as the Whittemore Peterson Institute, for the period ending December 31, 2016 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).
 - c) Semiannual report identifying the development efforts, progress made, and milestones established and achieved in the implementation of the new medical

school at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas for the period ending December 31, 2016 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).

- d) Biannual report on Registration Fees and Non-Resident Tuition Fees pursuant to A.B. 490 (2015 Legislature) for the period ending December 31, 2016.

4. DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS – Division of Museums and History – Museum Dedicated Trust Funds – Semiannual report regarding the investment and expenditure of private funds, for the period ending December 31, 2016, pursuant to NRS 381.0033(b).

5. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- a) Aging and Disability Services Division – Quarterly report for the Senior Rx and Disability Rx Prescription Caseload Data, for the period ending December 31, 2016, pursuant to NRS 439.630(1)c.
- b) Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
 - 1) Semiannual report on the progress of meeting Nevada's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program timeliness and quality standards for the period ending December 31, 2016 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).
 - 2) Annual reports concerning the SFY 2015 and SFY 2016 evaluation of programs of energy assistance required pursuant to NRS 702.280(2)c.
- c) Division of Child and Family Services
 - 1) Semiannual report on the progress of reopening and management of the Summit View Youth Correctional Center for the period ending December 31, 2016 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).
 - 2) Annual report on the Specialized Foster Care program including information related to expenditures for implementation of the Specialized Foster Care/Advanced Family Foster Care programs statewide for the period ending June 30, 2016 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).

6. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES – System Modernization – Semiannual report on the status of the system modernization project for the period of October 2016 through April 2017 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).

7. NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- a) Nevada Division of Environmental Protection – Semiannual report on the implementation of the new Bureau of Industrial Site Cleanup budget and oversight of the Nevada Environmental Response Trust for the period ending December 31, 2016 (letter of intent, 2015 Legislature).
- b) Parks Division – Notice to add one full-time equivalent (FTE) Retail Storekeeper position due to increased workload duty changes.

8. Reports on the use of consultants for the July 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016, reporting period:

- a) Reports from school districts pursuant to NRS 391.155.
- b) Reports from boards and commissions pursuant to NRS 333.705(7).

- c) Reports from the Nevada System of Higher Education, pursuant to NRS 333.705(7)

I. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Stephanie Hill said she and her son left Las Vegas very early in the morning to travel to Carson City for the IFC meeting. She said the cost of their trip was \$800 and the family was foregoing spring break and Universal Studios, because they were passionate about supporting autism services.

Ms. Hill said her son was a miraculous “show and tell” for the Committee and ATAP. She said, although she would love to share the amazing story of her son and the benefits of ABA therapy, she first wanted to express concern about the \$9 million reduction in ATAP funding. She said it was expected that Medicaid would soon absorb the cost, but that was untrue. She said Medicaid was supposed to be serving 1,872 autistic children; however, Medicaid served less than 300 autistic children last year. Ms. Hill asked the Committee to maintain the current ATAP funding until Medicaid was solidly and reliably serving the autism community.

Ms. Hill said in May 2016, she and Jan Crandy crafted a survey that was distributed through many sources to approximately 150 people ([Exhibit F](#)). The results of the survey indicated that Medicaid was ineffective, among other things. She noted the survey results had been submitted for the Committee’s review. Ms. Hill said the survey was replicated in February 2017 with essentially the same results ([Exhibit G](#)). The survey results also indicated that Medicaid children were waiting too long for services, which was due in part to the dismally low RBT population in Nevada. She said there were currently 387 RBTs serving a community of over 8,000 affected children in the state, and only about half of those RBTs were enrolled Medicaid. She said the RBT population in Nevada needed to increase as soon as possible, and increasing the reimbursement rate was the quickest way to do that. As a fiscal conservative, that made her nervous, but needed to be considered. Ms. Hill said the number of times claims had to be resubmitted watered down the revenue required for providers to remain in business.

Ms. Hill stated that three years ago it was expected her son would never speak. However, he began receiving ABA therapy and was now in mainstream education. She said she had to pester him to work on his merit badges to become an Eagle Scout.

Ms. Hill thanked the Committee and urged members to review the survey results. She said the survey was carefully crafted and the results contained important information.

A copy of Ms. Hill’s comments were provided for the record ([Exhibit H](#)).

Chair Woodhouse thanked Ms. Hill for her comments and providing the survey results, which the Committee would review.

Barbara Atkinson, Founding Dean, UNLV School of Medicine, said her grandson was diagnosed with autism at the age of 13 months. She said he was living in Missouri at the time of his diagnosis and received aggressive therapy at an early age. Her grandson met with four therapists a week, two of which he met with twice per week. Dean Atkinson said her grandson did not speak until he was about 3 years old, which was only a whisper for the first six months. By kindergarten, he was mainstreamed in school with some special assistance, and by first grade he was fine. She said her grandson was currently 10 years old, and it was difficult to tell he was ever diagnosed with autism. Dean Atkinson thought it was amazing what could be accomplished through aggressive therapy.

Dean Atkinson said when she came to Nevada to found the UNLV School of Medicine, one of her first projects was to work with Grant a Gift Autism Foundation to set up an autism center. Based on what had been accomplished through the autism center to date, she hoped the survey results would improve in 2018. Dean Atkinson said the autism center opened to ATAP children in June 2016 to help reduce the ATAP waitlist. The autism center was open to the public in October 2016. She said there was no advertising for the autism center except by word of mouth. As of February 2017 there had been 3,986 patient visits for 926 individual patients at the autism center. Dean Atkinson said the autism center was making great progress; however, there was already a waitlist ranging from three to six months depending on the required services. For example, neuropsychologist Julie Beasley, had 135 patients on the waitlist, the neurologist had 98 patients on the waitlist, and the developmental pediatrician had 358 patients on the waitlist. Dean Atkinson said the autism center had three providers who were physician providers as well as pediatricians. The autism center provided full diagnostic services as well as treatment services. She said clearly the autism center was ready to expand, but as of February 2017 there was still a deficit in the budget. She said it was difficult to begin a practice, because patients were needed in order to generate revenue. Dean Atkinson said the start-up process for the autism center had been a long process, and at the end of seven months there was a deficit of approximately \$150,000.

Dean Atkinson said there were several things that would help with the expansion of the autism center. She thought ABA Medicaid funds were not spent over the last two years, because patients were not being seen. She said continued funding was necessary for ABA services. Dean Atkinson said the autism center recently implemented the Early Start Denver model (ESDM), which were services for the youngest patients who benefitted most from ABA treatment. She said ESDM ABA services were not currently covered by Medicaid, but she thought it would be helpful if they were. Dean Atkinson said the autism center was working very closely with ATAP to treat as many children as possible. Overall, she thought the autism center was successful. She said the state was in need of autism services, and she hoped the autism center would help meet the need in Las Vegas.

Katherine Alberato said her son was diagnosed with autism in 2015. She said she stopped working to care for and monitor her son. After six months of ATAP and

ABA therapy, her son was enrolled in golf. She said he could smile in front of a camera; say “I love you mom and dad” by himself; and engage and play with his brother. Ms. Alberato thought early services should be provided to children as the need was identified. She understood it was challenging to increase early services, because there were minimal providers available and it was difficult to meet the requirements. She said she asked her son’s providers if they were happy working with her child; if they were given enough attention; and if they were happy with their work. Ms. Alberato said the ABA provider community had much to offer and their skills should be respected. She said it took a village to raise a child, which was why it was important to have providers and staff, such as BCBAs and RBTs, in the community. She said it would help provide services to children who needed early intervention.

Ms. Alberato said her son had a good future, but she could not care for him alone. She needed the assistance of the state health care system. Providers needed a healthy, happy environment. She encouraged the Committee to meet those needs, because it changed lives.

Steven Cohen, Adult Self Advocate for Autism, Las Vegas, said the autistic adult population was just as important as the autistic youth population, because eventually the children being served by programs such as ATAP would reach adulthood.

A copy of Mr. Cohen’s comments were provided for the record ([Exhibit I](#)).

Erik Lovaas, President, The Lovaas Center, provided written comments for the record ([Exhibit J](#)).

J. ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Woodhouse adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Chair
Interim Finance Committee

Rick Combs, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau,
and Secretary, Interim Finance Committee