

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2022
MEETING OF THE
INTERIM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair Moises Denis called a regular meeting of the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) to order at 9:14 a.m. on October 20, 2022, online, and in Room 4100 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Moises Denis, Chair
Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Vice Chair
Senator Nicole Cannizzaro
Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop
Senator Pete Goicoechea
Senator Scott Hammond
Senator Dallas Harris
Senator Dina Neal
Senator Heidi Seevers Gansert
Senator Don Tatro
Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson
Assemblywoman Jill Dickman for Assemblyman Glen Leavitt
Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow
Assemblyman Gregory Hafen
Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller
Assemblyman C.H. Miller for Assemblywoman Sarah Peters
Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno
Assemblywoman Robin Titus
Assemblywoman Jill Tolles
Assemblyman Howard Watts
Assemblyman Steve Yeager

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Assemblyman Glen Leavitt
Assemblywoman Sarah Peters

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Brenda Erdoes, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau
Wayne Thorley, Fiscal Analyst, Senate
Sarah Coffman, Fiscal Analyst, Assembly
Alex Haartz, Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Brody Leiser, Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Cathy Crocket, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Karen Hoppe, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Bryan Fernley, Legislative Counsel
Eileen O'Grady, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel

Jessica Dummer, Deputy Legislative Counsel
Melissa Garvin, Fiscal Analysis Division Secretary
Tom Weber, Fiscal Analysis Division Secretary

EXHIBITS:

<u>Exhibit A:</u>	Categorical Summary
<u>Exhibit B:</u>	New State and Contracted Positions
<u>Exhibit C:</u>	Meeting Packet – Volume I
<u>Exhibit D:</u>	Meeting Packet – Volume II
<u>Exhibit E:</u>	Meeting Packet – Volume III
<u>Exhibit F:</u>	Meeting Packet – Volume IV, Part 1
<u>Exhibit G:</u>	Meeting Packet – Volume IV, Part 2
<u>Exhibit H-1:</u>	Public Comment – Carissa Pearce, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
<u>Exhibit H-2:</u>	Public Comment – Char Frost, Nevada Parents Encouraging Parents
<u>Exhibit H-3:</u>	Public Comment – David Savarese, M.D.
<u>Exhibit H-4:</u>	Public Comment – Chris Daly, Nevada State Education Association
<u>Exhibit H-5:</u>	Public Comment – Jamelle Nance, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
<u>Exhibit H-6:</u>	Public Comment – Leann McAllister, Nevada Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
<u>Exhibit H-7:</u>	Public Comment – Brett Salmon, Nevada Health Care Association
<u>Exhibit H-8:</u>	Public Comment – Maynard Friesz, Cure SMA
<u>Exhibit H-9:</u>	Public Comment – Karim Mekhid, Bombora
<u>Exhibit H-10:</u>	Public Comment – Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Clark County Children’s Mental Health Consortium
<u>Exhibit H-11:</u>	Public Comment – Karla Perez, Valley Health System of Hospitals
<u>Exhibit H-12:</u>	Public Comment – Michael Jacobs, Nevada Health Care Association
<u>Exhibit H-13:</u>	Public Comment – Terri Laird, Retirement Public Employees of Nevada
<u>Exhibit H-14:</u>	Public Comment – Lisa Meyer, Marquis Plaza Regency
<u>Exhibit H-15:</u>	Public Comment – Christopher Lalli, Clark County
<u>Exhibit H-16:</u>	Public Comment – Christopher Hicks, Washoe County
<u>Exhibit H-17:</u>	Public Comment – Patrick D. Kelly, Nevada Hospital Association
<u>Exhibit H-18:</u>	Public Comment – Robert Burns, Early Intervention Community Providers Association
<u>Exhibit H-19:</u>	Public Comment – Dr. Thomas Graf, Renown Health
<u>Exhibit H-20:</u>	Public Comment – Terri Chandler, Future Smiles
<u>Exhibit H-21:</u>	Public Comment – Mike Kazmierski, Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada
<u>Exhibit H-22:</u>	Public Comment – Adam Kiefer, Talage
<u>Exhibit H-23:</u>	Public Comment – Dr. Tara C. Raines, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
<u>Exhibit H-24:</u>	Public Comment – Mauricia M. M. Baca, The Nature Conservancy
<u>Exhibit H-25:</u>	Public Comment – Mayor Hillary L. Schieve, City of Reno
<u>Exhibit H-26:</u>	Public Comment – Steven Rieder, Oxford Valley Health
<u>Exhibit H-27:</u>	Public Comment – Terrence Thornton, Special Olympics Nevada
<u>Exhibit H-28:</u>	Public Comment – Alan Kessinger, Marquis Centennial Hills
<u>Exhibit I:</u>	Proclamation – Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson
<u>Exhibit J:</u>	Proclamation – Senator Moises Denis
<u>Exhibit K:</u>	Proclamation – Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton

A. ROLL CALL.

MELISSA GARVIN (Secretary, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau [LCB]), called the roll; all members were present except Assemblyman Leavitt and Assemblywoman Peters, who were excused.

GOVERNOR STEVE SISOLAK:

I would note this is the last IFC meeting before the 2022 General Election. The state appreciates the service that IFC members have given to Nevada. I would like to acknowledge three IFC members who have served their time in the Nevada Legislature and reached term limits. This is a double-edged sword because Nevada is losing some of the best and brightest legislators who have given much to the state at a time when it is desperately needed.

Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson was first elected to Assembly District 27 in 2011 and has served in the Nevada Legislature for 12 years. She became the first Latina Majority Leader of the State Assembly in 2016. Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson is a graduate of McQueen High School and the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). She was Miss Nevada in 2002 and third runner up for the Miss America pageant in 2003. She is also a licensed social worker. Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson is married to Jeff Thompson and has four children. I do hereby proclaim October 20, 2022, as a day in honor of Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson ([Exhibit I](#)).

Senator Moises “Mo” Denis has served in the Nevada Legislature for 18 years. He was elected to the State Assembly in 2004, elected to the State Senate in 2010, and was the first Latino to serve as both Senate Majority Leader and President Pro Tempore. Senator Denis worked as a computer technician for the private and public sectors, including the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada. His parents immigrated to the United States from Cuba. Senator Denis graduated from Rancho High School and is married to Susan Cook. I do hereby proclaim October 20, 2022, as a day in honor of Senator Mo Denis ([Exhibit J](#)).

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton has served in the Nevada Legislature for 24 years. She was elected to the State Senate in 1998 and elected to the State Assembly in 2010. She is the first member of the Legislature to serve the maximum number of terms in both the Assembly and Senate. Assemblywoman Carlton served as the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means from 2017 through 2022. She has strong labor roots and was a member of Culinary Union Local 226. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the United Labor Agency of Nevada. Assemblywoman Carlton is married to Merritt Carlton and has two daughters. I do hereby proclaim October 20, 2022, as a day in honor of Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton ([Exhibit K](#)).

I want to thank all members of the IFC and their families. Your families have made enormous sacrifices to share you with the State of Nevada.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT.

CONNIE McMULLEN (Personal Care Association of Nevada [PCAN]):

I am speaking in support of Agenda Item D.33, which would develop a program to address the shortage of personal caregivers in Nevada. The state is currently suffering a critical shortage of direct workforce caregivers throughout the state, especially in rural Nevada. Personal care workers aid the aged and disabled, including children, who cannot provide care for themselves. This is a vital service that allows people to live independently and avoid more costly premature institutionalization.

PCAN not only supports the use of this allocation for training and retention of caregivers, but PCAN would also like to see annual training of personal care agency administrators who directly impact and set the culture for their workers. Investing in training and elevating the skillsets of the 300 administrators working for licensed care agencies in Nevada will positively impact caregiver turnout and improve declining care.

Additionally, PCAN supports Agenda Item D.19, which would reduce waitlists and expand capacity for homemaker and chore assistance services for older adults. Lastly, PCAN supports Agenda Item D.26, which would provide more home-delivered meals to home-bound aged and disabled people aged 60 and older.

CARISSA PEARCE (Health Policy Coordinator, Children's Advocacy Alliance) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-1](#)).

JOHN ARRASCADA (Public Defender, Washoe County):

The Washoe County Public Defender's Office stands in support of Agenda Items D.130 and D.131 to allocate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to renovate space at the City of Las Vegas Detention Center to create additional bed space for the forensic treatment and care of incompetent people facing criminal charges. The Washoe County Public Defender's Office would like to thank the Office of the Governor for spearheading this effort and taking the first step in addressing treatment capacity at forensic hospitals, which has reached a crisis state. The Washoe County Public Defender's Office looks forward to continuing to address the issues Nevada faces regarding forensic hospitals and treatment.

MENDY ELLIOTT (Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, Flynn Giudici Government Affairs):

I represent the 300 members of the Nevada Housing Coalition (NHC). The NHC supports Agenda Item D.9, the transfer of the \$250 million final tranche for the Home Means Nevada Initiative. On behalf of the NHC Board of Directors, I want to express gratitude to the Office of the Governor and the Committee in approving the first tranche of funds, as well as Terry Reynolds, Director, Department of Business and Industry (B&I), Stephen Aichroth, Administrator, Housing Division, B&I, and their team in working through the mechanics of the Home Means Nevada Initiative. This initiative will change the lives of many Nevadans. With the second tranche of funds, the initiative is overallocated. The NHC urges the Committee's support of this item.

On a personal note, concerning Agenda Items D.116 and D.117, my father was the 8th heart transplant recipient in the United States (November 22, 1968) and the 86th recipient in the world. A transplant institute in Nevada is very important. This issue is near and dear to me; it changed my life. I appreciate the Committee's consideration of these items.

CHAR FROST (Statewide Family Network Director, Parents Encouraging Parents [Nevada PEP]) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-2](#)).

ANDY BELANGER (Director of Public Services, Southern Nevada Water Authority [SNWA]): The SNWA supports Agenda Items D.3 and D.4 and Agenda Items D.63 and D.64.

The SNWA is the largest water purveyor in Nevada. There has been a 24-year drought and aridification on the Colorado River, and the SNWA has done many things to help the community endure the changing circumstances on the river. The ARPA funding is necessary to address the significant challenges ahead. The funding will help amplify programs that will reduce consumptive water uses in Southern Nevada. The SNWA is focused on reducing outdoor water use. During the 2021 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed Assembly Bill 356, which removed non-functional turf and enhanced related programs.

The Nevada Water Conservation and Infrastructure Initiative (NWCII) will allow the SNWA to apply for funding to reduce other consumptive uses, including helping businesses convert evaporative cooling technology, as well as address septic system conversions. Those are the two other large uses of water consumption that must be addressed. There has been significant effort at the local levels to reduce water consumption, and the NWCII will help at the state level.

The SNWA thanks the Governor and state legislators who have focused on water conservation. It is an important issue, thus the SNWA encourages the Committee's support of these agenda items.

DOUG BUSSELMAN (Executive Vice President, Nevada Farm Bureau):

My comments are related to Agenda Items D.3, D.4 and D.63. These items in their respective ways deal with funding for water, an extremely important and worthy investment for Nevada. Agenda Items D.3 and D.4 speak to committing \$6.4 million to fund the water resources initiative to update data that will inform water resource management. Agenda Item D.63 authorizes \$100 million for a water conservation and infrastructure initiative, which would operate under the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Division of Water Resources.

The Nevada Farm Bureau supports the priority of the Division of Water Resources in conducting a meaningful program to use the most current and comprehensive science to evaluate the state's 256 groundwater basins to determine the status of their respective perennial yield capability. Nearly 40% of Nevada's groundwater basins are classified as overcommitted. Of that amount, 19% to 20% are also overpumped based on current estimates.

The Nevada Farm Bureau maintains that before any changes in Nevada water law are even considered, the state needs to know the situation for each basin. The Nevada Farm Bureau supports a complete study and evaluation that produces a responsible baseline inventory. From this perspective, while the Nevada Farm Bureau does not believe that the \$6.4 million is sufficient to carry out the in-depth analysis that is needed, the bureau supports funding to accomplish this important work.

The details of the NWCII are unclear. The Nevada Farm Bureau would like to understand what this program will accomplish and the expectations for the funding. There is even less information on Agenda Item D.63, and the details of the two additional positions are vague.

There are many requirements to bring Nevada's water resources and management up to the level the state needs to address existing and future challenges. The Nevada Farm Bureau is not opposed to these types of investments. That level of support and attention is necessary; however, there should be more assurance of what will be delivered for the money.

JEFF FONTAINE (Executive Director, Central Nevada Regional Water Authority and Humboldt River Basin Water Authority):

The Central Nevada Regional Water Authority is a regional government comprised of nine member counties. The Humboldt River Basin Water Authority is also a regional government comprised of five member counties.

Nevada is an arid state and one of the fastest growing states, but its water resources are managed with outdated information and technology as well as inadequate staffing. I am encouraged to see Agenda Items D.4, D.63 and D.74 on the agenda. The Central Nevada Regional Water Authority and Humboldt River Basin Water Authority support Agenda Item D.4 to fund the water resource initiative to update data to inform water resource management because existing baseline studies are 50 to 70 years old. However, the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority and Humboldt River Basin Water Authority question whether \$6.4 million will be enough to complete the studies and yield useful information about the basins, including the perennial yield, which is the maximum amount of groundwater that can be salvaged each year over the long term without depleting the groundwater reservoir. Much has changed since those baseline studies were completed in the 1950s and 1960s. There are better modern and scientific methods to assure the accuracy of the information, and climate change has disrupted hydrologic conditions impacting groundwater basins.

Of Nevada's 256 groundwater basins, half are fully committed or overcommitted and 55 are overpumped. The conditions in many of these basins are reaching a critical point. There are basins in urban and rural portions of the state that are overpumped. Therefore, accurate basin information is essential to resolving existing conflicts and fundamental to effective management and preservation of water resources for the future.

The Central Nevada Regional Water Authority and Humboldt River Basin Water Authority urge the Committee to ensure there is sufficient funding to complete this important work.

Regarding Agenda Item D.63, the transfer of \$100 million to the DCNR to support the NWCII would be a substantial and much needed investment; however, it raises questions about how the money will be spent, the priorities, and what projects would be eligible. The Central Nevada Regional Water Authority and Humboldt River Basin Water Authority support water conservation but ask the Committee to consider allowing the funds to be used for other important projects and programs such as cloud-seeding, retiring water rights on a voluntary basis, addressing overpumped groundwater basins, and updating local water plans to address both existing conditions and prevent future water shortages.

Lastly, the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority and Humboldt River Basin Water Authority support Agenda Item D.74, which would add \$283,083 to the Division of Water Resources to fund much needed modernization and digitization of the state's water records.

In summary, the ARPA funding provides an unprecedented opportunity to increase funding, which is needed to effectively manage the state's limited water resources for sustainable growth and prosperity.

JIM JIMMERSON (Board Member, Nevada Donor Network Foundation):

My wife, Carol, and I are both members of the Nevada Donor Network Foundation Board. We are privileged to be here to join with the Committee in support of Agenda Items D.116 and D.117. A common goal in the state is to have transplants available to all residents of the State of Nevada, and for those transplants to occur within the state. People should not have to travel out of state for a transplant.

Our son, Jacob, donated his organs when he passed four years ago. We have lived with his sacrifice and endured by recognizing that our son contributed his own body to give a second chance to donor recipients. It reminds us that it is important for life to go on. We have learned through our experience with our son that the opportunity to lead a new life is very important. It gives hope to everyone in need of a transplant.

The Committee has an opportunity to support the program and it is very much appreciated. There are many worthy projects before the Committee today, but none more worthy than the Nevada Transplant Institute and the Nevada Donor Network.

LAUREN MOLASKY FIERST:

I am a double-lung transplant recipient and I serve on the Nevada Donor Network Foundation Board. I received my lifesaving transplant 2 years ago after declining rapidly on the waitlist for 11 months and living in the hospital for 4 ½ months. I lived in Las Vegas my entire life until the day I made the decision to move myself and my young children out of state so that when the time came for a transplant, I would be near the University of California, Los Angeles. With a lifelong knowledge that a lung transplant was in my future, the idea that such a lifechanging medical need was not possible near my home and family had steep disadvantages and heartache. Without access to any type of transplants other than kidney transplants, these hardships are felt by many in Nevada.

A transplant is not reserved for the critically ill. While it might not be personal for everyone, it can become personal in an instant. I am grateful every day for my donor's selflessness and the people who work to keep me healthy.

The community and the residents of Nevada should not have to make the difficult decision to move out of state to save their own lives. The physical, emotional, financial, and mental burden of doing so is felt by all involved and for long after care is received. As I struggle with side effects and the constant difficulty of obtaining medications, I know that some of these burdens would be far less difficult if my care center was local. Transplant care is lifelong and plays a significant part in one's life, even after incisions are healed and a second chance at life begins. Every nine minutes another person is added to the national transplant waitlist. Six thousand people in the United States died in 2021 while waiting for a transplant, and each day, 17 people die waiting for a transplant. I knew some of those people. With 1 donor's potential of saving 75 lives or more through organ, eye and tissue donation, the change needs to happen now, so Nevadans do not need to leave their homes to receive care in another state.

SHELLEY BERKLEY (former Nevada Assemblywoman [1982-1984], former U.S. Representative [1999-2013]):

As a previous Nevada Legislator, I want to thank the three Committee members who are retiring from state service. I know how much they have committed to public service and the sacrifices they have made. There are many Nevada citizens whose lives have been improved by their service to the state.

I am here today to express support for the Nevada Donor Network, the creation of the Nevada Transplant Institute, and the resulting impact on the medical community. I am very supportive of this endeavor and have been for the past 20 years. I have had the privilege of knowing both the Jimmerson and Molasky families for most of my life, so it is very personal to see them going through the donor process. I believe many on the Committee know people in a similar situation.

The Veterans Administration Hospital was brought to Southern Nevada because I worked with many veterans that had to leave the state to seek medical care. At a difficult time when in need of family support, they were forced to relocate and go through the journey alone. The same is true for the Nevada Transplant Institute, it is very important to have an institute like this in Nevada so that residents do not have to travel out of state during a time when they need their family more than ever.

I am also here as head of the largest medical school in the state, Touro University. Think of the possibilities that the Nevada Transplant Institute will present to the medical community with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Medicine, the UNR School of Medicine, and Touro University Medical School working in collaboration and coordination. Rotations can be established so that medical students work alongside transplant physicians and the rest of the transplant support team. It will also create residency programs. Nevada could be creating generations of transplant physicians, medical physicians, scientists, nurses, physical therapists, social workers, and pharmacists who will work collaboratively to ensure the health and wellbeing of transplant recipients.

This proposal before the Committee is very important. I urge the Committee to support Agenda Items D.116 and D.117. This money will make a significant difference and move Nevada forward in an exponential way. The proposal is good for Nevada, its citizens, and the medical community.

MASON VANHOUEWELING (Chief Executive Officer, University Medical Center [UMC], and former Chair, Nevada Hospital Association):

On behalf of the largest public hospital in the state, the UMC, and the 65 member hospitals in the Nevada Hospital Association, please accept our support in development of the Nevada Transplant Institute. Agenda Items D.116 and D.117 are extremely important to the state.

Many Nevadans leave the state to relocate for months at a time to be closer to a transplant facility. It is an even larger sacrifice for the families. The dollars requested of the state will be a crucial part of a \$35 million campaign called *End the Wait*, which the Nevada Donor Network Foundation established to develop a transplant institute in Nevada. The funding will expand current kidney transplant programs at the UMC in Las Vegas, and more importantly, it will establish a liver transplant program in the initial two years. The foundation and partnership with the Nevada Donor Network and Nevada hospitals statewide will recruit qualified physicians, nurses, and support staff to Nevada to implement a successful transplant program.

It is estimated that within 12 months, the program could be fully operational, and self-sustaining within 25 months. Nevada residents will no longer have to seek lifesaving care in surrounding states. Patients will be evaluated, transplanted, and cared for locally. The Nevada Transplant Institute has the potential to transform Nevada's entire health care system. Not only will the institute benefit Nevadans in need of organ transplants, but it will also attract more specialized health care professionals, foster medical research, and expand Nevada's economic development efforts in health care.

DR. TIFFANY TYLER-GARNER (Executive Director, Children's Advocacy Alliance):

Today, many historic investments are proposed that will improve conditions for children and families. Investments in children's mental health, early intervention services, and independent living support are proposed at a critical time in the state's history. In the wake of the U.S. Department of Justice investigation and findings, record inflation during a time when children are transitioning from the child welfare system, and historic challenges like modernization in the unity system, the Committee has an opportunity to take several great steps for children.

I encourage and implore the Committee to give strong consideration to supporting these efforts while thinking through the ways in which Nevada has the opportunity to transform a number of safety nets for children, including investment in early intervention services, where there is a focus on increasing services; addressing workforce issues at a time when workforce issues abound across a number of systems including child care, Medicaid, and other critical supports offered by the state; looking at ways in which Nevada has an opportunity to consider some of the most vulnerable youth, such as those transitioning from the child welfare system; and shoring up supports in John H. Chafee Foster Care

Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood funding. The Committee can make change happen today by supporting these items.

JASON MILLS (President Elect, Nevada Justice Association):

I am here in support of Agenda Item D.65, which would implement an e-filing system for the Department of Administration, Hearings and Appeals Division. As the Committee is aware, the Hearings and Appeals Division covers industrial injured workers adjudication among other things. It is a very important agency in the state. Currently, the Hearings and Appeals Division is beset with many challenges, problems, and procedural issues. The Nevada Justice Association believes this e-filing system is desperately needed so that the process of filing court documents will be similarly matched statewide in district, municipal, and judicial courts. The system will also be more efficient, allowing members of the public and their counsel to more adequately and quickly submit documentation to the courts.

I would like to thank the Governor and his staff for advancing this expenditure. I urge the Committee's support for this much needed funding.

On a personal note, and on behalf of the Nevada Justice Association, I want to thank Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, Assemblywoman Carlton, and Chair Denis for their service to Nevada.

RITA VASWANI (Senior Vice President, Nevada State Bank):

Two months ago, my husband of 52 years passed away from Alzheimer's disease. He suffered for five years. In the last months of his life, he expressed a desire to die at home with family around him, which he did. His second wish was for his organs to be donated. He donated everything, brain, limbs, skin, etc. This was accomplished with the help of the Nevada Donor Foundation. This would not have happened without the help and care of the foundation. I did not hesitate. My husband and I were honored to do as much as we could to save lives. Because of that, I am here to share with the Committee and ask, if one of you were in this position, would you go out of state to donate organs? Is it helpful for Nevadans to have to go to other states to donate or receive organs? The Nevada Transplant Institute is very important to residents. I made it my mission, dedication and compassion to help others understand what my husband and I experienced. Words cannot convey the blessings received from the people who received my husband's organs and tissues. I encourage the Committee to support Agenda Items D.116 and D.117.

DR. DAVID SAVARESE (Academic Pediatrician, Las Vegas):

I am here to discuss the children's mental health crisis in Nevada. My practice has been focused on treating children with developmental, behavioral, and emotional problems. I have also been attempting to connect with and reach out to other pediatricians in Las Vegas to treat these patients in their offices instead of referring them to a specialist. A child referred to an autism specialist can expect a two-year wait before being seen for an initial visit.

I have held conferences and educational sessions with other pediatricians in the community, and the feedback I received is that they understand what I am saying and what to do, but they cannot provide these services in their offices because case management for these patients consumes the time and resources of office staff. With the current reimbursement structure, doctors must still refer these children to a specialist. My own organization has spoken to me about the visits I am conducting to evaluate children with behavioral and developmental problems. I have been encouraged to do fewer of these evaluations because it costs the company money. Nevada needs to address this problem by reconsidering the Medicaid reimbursement rates for behavioral health visits conducted at a primary care pediatrician's office. Currently, a pediatrician caring for these patients loses money because of the amount of time it takes to care for these children properly, which is not compensated for in the current reimbursement structure.

Dr. Savarese provided additional public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-3](#)).

DARIN IMLAY (Public Defender, Clark County):

I am speaking in support of Agenda Items D.130 and D.131 for the renovation of the Las Vegas Detention Center. I echo the comment that Nevada is currently at a critical stage. The delay in transporting someone found to be incompetent has increased from approximately seven days to more than two months. Some of those delays have led to tragic results within the detention centers. Las Vegas is desperately in need of additional bed space to treat those found incompetent. Many of the problems in the state would be alleviated with the Committee's approval of Agenda Items D.130 and D.131.

DAVE DOYLE (Chair, Family Focused Treatment Association [FFTA]):

The FFTA serves 600 vulnerable youth residing in specialized foster care who have been categorized as severely emotionally disturbed. These are the children who have been through a multitude of foster homes and few placement options are available for them. I represent those children who cannot be here today. I am also the Director of Eagle Quest. However, my most important role has been as a continuous foster parent for 20 years for children who are severely emotionally disturbed, which was very challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I support Dr. Cindy Pitlock at the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) and her vision to enhance the system of care for children and families in Nevada. The FFTA truly appreciates the Committee's support of the DCFS ARPA requests. Unfortunately, many foster children and parents will not have access to these funds and services. As the Committee is aware, Nevada is experiencing a severe foster parent recruitment and retention crisis, down by 20% and losing more and more beds. This results in children accumulating in congregate care facilities such as Child Haven, with some of those children even going to juvenile detention centers. The specialized foster care agencies that support these families are experiencing skyrocketing costs from unprecedented inflation, labor wage rate hikes, and the lingering effects that COVID-19 has brought upon the community. Unfortunately, without an increase in room and board rates, specialized foster care agencies will be unable to operate and serve new children effective January 1, 2023. The FFTA has been working with the Office of the Governor and Clark County, but there is a desperate need for the Committee's support.

In the light of the findings by the U.S. Department of Justice, the skyrocketing population at Child Haven, and the increasing number of youth placed in juvenile detention facilities, Nevada desperately needs the Committee's help and attention to this matter. Nevada's children belong in less restrictive community-based placements, which specialized foster care affords. These children do not belong in out-of-state facilities where they are away from their families and local support.

ANYA EARLE (Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth):

Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth is a member of the FFTA. I would like to echo my colleague's comments and add some historical context to the looming situation Nevada is experiencing.

Currently, FFTA members contract with the state for rural counties, and Washoe and Clark Counties provide placement services. The state currently provides room and board for rural placements only, while Clark and Washoe Counties manage room and board locally. In addition, the FFTA bills Medicaid for some, but not all the medically necessary services that foster parents provide. Several years ago, the state significantly changed the Medicaid model with the promise to eventually offer a full array of eight billable services. So far, only two of those services are available to specialized foster care families.

The counties increased the room and board rate to assist the specialized foster care families during this transition, which happened nearly five years ago. At that time, the Department of Health and Human Services committed to assist with room and board as well, but that has not occurred. The continuum of care will be in crisis if placements cannot be accepted beginning January 1, 2023, but there is no other choice. The FFTA remains committed to continuing to work with the state to find a solution, but the FFTA thought this message also needed to be conveyed to the Committee as the youth and families are constituents in jeopardy. The most immediate way to provide relief to exhausted foster families is through the room and board rate. The FFTA requests that the Committee and the Executive Branch find bridge funding immediately to support the most vulnerable in the community.

CHRISTINA VELA (Chief Executive Officer, St. Jude's Ranch for Children, and Representative, FFTA):

The FFTA is incredibly grateful for the ongoing partnership with the DCFS as well as Clark and Washoe Counties for ongoing commitment to care for child victims of abuse and neglect in Nevada.

The FFTA understands there are many competing priorities for funding; however, the FFTA is here to ask for the Committee's support to care for Nevada's most vulnerable, the children, through ARPA funds and bridge funding through the next fiscal year. As mentioned previously, the FFTA will continue to work with the Executive Branch to find a solution for the looming January 1, 2023, date, but the FFTA also wanted to bring this to the attention of the Committee.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, foster care families have been asked to do more with less. Along the way, children had to be kept at home for more than a year while schools in the Clark County School District remained closed for in-person instruction. Foster care families have been asked to transport youth to medical and behavioral health appointments, and school activities, and also provide normal and stable lives for children who are living through the tragedy of being removed from their homes due to abuse. Meanwhile, inflation is rising at an alarming rate; food, gas, clothes, movies, and the daily cost of living is weighing heavily on foster families. The FFTA is asking the Committee to engage with providers and FFTA members to find a solution for foster families. Foster families need a small increase to the room and board rate as an investment in the families who quietly and lovingly care for the children. No one wants disruptions, and the FFTA is committed to maintaining the youth in foster homes, but unfortunately, if the state is unable to support additional funding, this will create additional burdens on placements. It is uncertain whether placements will remain open. The FFTA is hopeful that a reasonable solution can be found.

PAUL MORADKHAN (Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce):

The Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce supports the Nevada Donor Network and the Nevada Transplant Institute as it relates to Agenda Item D.116. The work that the organizations will be able to do with the support of these funds will improve health care in Nevada. It will help save the lives of Nevadans. The work the organizations will do is truly admirable and their leadership in Southern Nevada and throughout the state is well respected. I ask that the Committee consider this funding request for all the families that will be impacted.

CHRIS DALY (Nevada State Education Association) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-4](#)).

BARRY GOLD (Director of Government Relations, American Association of Retired Persons [AARP] Nevada):

The AARP is in strong support of Agenda Items D.12, D.18, D.19, D.20, D.24, D.26, D.33, D.34, D.50, D.91, D.92, and D.93. On behalf of the 346,000 AARP members across Nevada, I strongly urge the Committee to approve the funding for these items that will increase the independence and quality of life to older adults and families across Nevada.

JAMELLE NANCE (Director, Prenatal to Three Initiatives, Children's Advocacy Alliance) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-5](#)).

LEANN MCALLISTER (Executive Director, Nevada Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-6](#)).

SARAH HUNT (Director of Financial Services, Nevada Hospital Association [NHA]):

The Medicaid rates paid to hospitals in Nevada are very low. The NHA is working with Nevada Medicaid to establish a hospital Medicaid provider fee program to raise reimbursement rates. To complete the work, Nevada Medicaid needs additional funding to validate the model and assess the impact to other Medicaid supplemental payment

programs. The NHA respectfully requests the Committee's support for Agenda Items D.110 and D.111.

The NHA also recognizes that Nevada Medicaid needs additional staff to fulfill its duties; therefore, the NHA asks that the Committee give thoughtful consideration to Agenda Items D.108 and D.109.

ANNA MARIE BINDER:

I am the mother of six children, three of which have special needs. I am a parental member of the Children's Advocacy Alliance, a member of the Early Education Advisory Data Subcommittee, an appointed member to the Governor's Behavioral and Mental Health Advisory Council, and a proud volunteer for the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA).

I am speaking today to advocate for the funding for the historical investments on the agenda today, which are many and vast. My youngest son would not be able to speak at seven years old if it were not for early intervention services that began for him at age one. My 13-year-old has been diagnosed with derangement disorder among other issues. Mental health and wellbeing are very important to our family as we are directly affected by the resources. When we help those who need it most, we are doing the work of the people, and I advocate for them.

I would also like to thank Tesla for the generous donation to education through Agenda Item H. I echo the thanks for all that is being done for the communities with these investments. I also echo Mr. Daly's *Time for 20*.

SASHA SUTCLIFFE-STEPHENSON (Board Member, Governor's Office of Economic Development [GOED], and Chair, GOED Advisory Subcommittee on Startups and Venture Capital):

Over the last decade, GOED has played a significant role in fostering growth in the state's entrepreneurial ecosystems in Las Vegas and Reno; however, with substantial progress in the sector brings the need for programs aimed at developing and enriching science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) talent for the state.

I want to commend the Committee for its consideration of GOED's proposed talent retention program to create internship opportunities for Nevada students. The goal of the program is to increase retention of the thousands of talented graduates at Nevada universities aligning directly with the Governor's administration and economic development goals. Additionally, the program aims to identify and amplify the talent of historically underrepresented populations, including women and first-generation college students, who have an aptitude and interest in STEM fields. The proposed program will create new paths for obtaining necessary training, social capital, and equitable opportunities in their chosen fields. This infrastructure will not only make Nevada more attractive to startup technology companies, but also encourage graduates to remain in and contribute to Nevada's economic growth. The sooner the state can increase talent retention for Nevada, the better.

I applaud GOED for working closely with the Office of the Attorney General to use settlement funds to empower businesses to retain talent within the state, especially in the communities that are typically underserved.

ANGEL BARBOZA (Student, UNR):

I echo the comments of the previous speaker in supporting the talent retention program. For students like me, this really helps to find ways to enter the workforce and a professional career while having an opportunity to learn and get paid. It will improve my development, refine my skills, and help me gain experience in the real workforce before finishing my degree. Internships like this are amazing for students. I highly suggest them to underclassman as well. I strongly encourage the passage of this program.

JAN JONES BLACKHURST:

I would like to thank Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, Assemblywoman Carlton, and Chair Denis. Many Nevadans have benefitted from the legislation you have passed over the years. I will miss you all; you will be hard to replace.

Also, I serve as the chairwoman for the Nevada Donor Network. The request before the Committee today will provide organs for all Nevadans, but particularly underserved Nevadans who currently have no opportunity. It will also generate \$356 million in annual revenue, 3,000 jobs, and \$15 million in tax revenue. I appreciate the Committee's support of Agenda Items D.116 and D.117.

BILL ARNDT (Deputy Director, City of Las Vegas):

I also speak in support of Agenda Item D.21 regarding GOED's talent retention program. This program is very important for the startup community. I also support the request for the Nevada Donor Network.

SHELLY SPECK:

I am a resident of Gardnerville, Nevada. I am providing testimony today on behalf of the Children's Advocacy Alliance and the Nevada Strong Start Coalition. Autism affects 1 in 50 people. With early intervention, a sizable number of children diagnosed with autism can achieve normal educational and intellectual functioning by seven years old. These children can be mainstreamed into regular classrooms and can be indistinguishable from their peers and social and emotional functioning. Others with more severe cases can improve their quality of life with therapy and early intervention.

Although Medicaid covers the primary therapy for many children with autism, Nevada is serving far fewer children because of a workforce shortage, slow and low reimbursement rates, and disputes over how much to pay therapists. As children languish on waitlists, their progress and potential hang in the balance.

If children with autism and developmental delays are treated early, they have a better chance of becoming an independent, taxpaying citizen. If they are not provided treatment, they will require some level of support for the rest of their lives. There is a significant cost savings incentive by providing early intervention.

Many children who are receiving services for the first time have spent an average of 310 days on a waitlist. This is in part because Nevada does not have enough therapists, especially in the rural areas. With the provision of an early intervention personnel center, Nevada can provide specialists with adequate training opportunities and ensure providers are supported. This will ensure less burnout for when providers are most needed, which is at the critical stage for children ages zero to five years. Then the children will be on the right trajectory for entering kindergarten so that support staff in the school districts will not be overburdened and teacher retention will be obtainable.

I believe that overall, increased early intervention support will help children, teachers, schools, and communities. I urge the Committee to ask what can be done to prevent another child from waiting another day for services and support. Please make a commitment to provide funding for early intervention services and support for children, specifically through Agenda Items D.1, D.45, D.46, D.89, and D.90.

BRETT SALMON (President and Chief Executive Officer, Nevada Health Care Association and the Nevada Center for Assisted Living):

I am speaking in support of Agenda Item D.91. The Nevada Health Care Association and the Nevada Center for Assisted Living represent assisted living and nursing facilities throughout Nevada. I want to thank Governor Sisolak and his staff, and Department of Health and Human Services Director Richard Whitley and his staff, for working closely with Nevada Health Care Association agencies and Nevada Center for Assisted Living agencies on this issue.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everyone and fortunately, many have not been on the frontlines having to fight to protect others from the virus. Long-term caregivers stepped directly into the fray to protect Nevada's most vulnerable populations throughout the pandemic. Nevada has had one of the lowest COVID-19 related nursing home mortality rates in the nation because of the dedicated work of caregivers.

Fighting and recovering from the pandemic has created caregiver shortages in long-term care. Recovery will require a lot of resources that Nevada does not have. This workforce funding opportunity will help Nevada continue to provide care for residents until more stable funding can be addressed during the 2023 Legislative Session.

Mr. Salmon provided additional public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-7](#)).

JACOB ATWOOD (Administrator, Marquis Centennial Hills):

Marquis Centennial Hills is a skilled-nursing facility in Las Vegas. I understand the Committee is considering many important topics today, and I thank the Committee for hearing and understanding my support for Agenda Item D.91.

I am proud to have been born and raised in Nevada. Home will always mean the hills, sage, and pines of Nevada. Nevada has a lot to be proud of, but I know the state can do better when it comes to ensuring that the health care of the most vulnerable populations is properly funded. I am unaware of any other industry where the infrastructure is more in need of rescuing than that of the long-term care industry.

Like everyone, skilled-nursing facilities were adversely impacted financially over the past two years, but even more so. Not only did skilled-nursing facilities experience increased costs in all aspects of the industry because of COVID-19, but unfunded mandates were implemented, which caused facilities to spend hundreds of thousands more without any increase in revenue. It does not require an accounting degree to understand that in an industry with already very small margins, large increases in costs with no increase in revenue is a recipe for failure. With these circumstances, it is no wonder that hundreds of nursing homes across the country have closed for good. Is this really the state that Nevada wants to perpetuate for the industry that cares for the most vulnerable populations? I am hoping that Nevada has the foresight to not let this happen.

I am truly thankful for the Committee's consideration of Agenda Item D.91, but if I am being honest, the amount requested is not even half of what is truly needed and what I know the health care association has requested. Unfortunately, this desperately needed short-term fix is not even close to covering the lasting wounds of the last two years. Please avoid shortsightedness related to the needs of the skilled-nursing facility industry. Historically speaking, Nevada's skilled-nursing facility Medicaid rate has only had minor increases over the past 20 years, with most years seeing no increases, even though costs have increased every year.

Looking ahead to the 2023 Legislative Session, please add more than a few percentages; fully fund the current Medicaid cost gap and plan for automatic much-needed annual increases. Skilled-nursing facilities care for the often forgotten. Please do not forget about the vulnerable senior population.

ANDRE WADE (State Director, Silver State Equality):

I am speaking about Agenda Item D.118. The pulse of the study was checked by several researchers and homelessness advocates across the nation for fidelity. The reason for the request is to pragmatically address the issue of youth experiencing homelessness across Nevada. After spending months speaking with state department heads and county officials and administrators, it is unfortunately clear that Nevada does not understand the real prevalence of youth homelessness in schools, which departments and agencies have jurisdiction over this population, or the amount of housing and funding needed to end homelessness among youth.

Without information on how to provide housing and services to youth experiencing homelessness, Nevada will never be able to solve the issue. This study will provide stakeholders, researchers, advocates, and other decisionmakers with better insight into the problems that annual reporting, point-in-time counts, and other studies based on characteristics of these youth do not address. Nevada needs to know how youth are navigating or avoiding systems, their experiences when they do navigate the systems, and the true housing inventory across the state compared with the number of youth in need of housing and shelter. This study can give Nevada this information.

In short, this is a small amount of money to conduct a two-year study that can provide information on what interventions are necessary and at what scale to implement them to further address the issue of youth homelessness. A study of this scope and magnitude has not been conducted and is necessary to provide much needed data to help young

people experiencing homelessness and those at-risk of homelessness now and in the future. I appreciate the Committee's time and consideration of this item.

JEFF SALING (Co-Founder and Executive Director, StartupNV):

Ditto in support of Agenda Item D.21. I am coming at this from four perspectives: co-founder and Executive Director of StartupNV, Nevada's statewide nonprofit accelerator; partner in three venture capital funds that make investments in Nevada high-growth companies; member of the Advisory Subcommittee on Startups and Venture Capital; and as an educator at the UNR College of Engineering. From all four perspectives, I cannot say it loudly or earnestly enough that I appreciate the Committee's consideration and support of Agenda Item D.21.

MAYNARD FRIESZ (Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, Cure Spinal Muscular Atrophy [SMA]):

Cure SMA represents Nevada residents affected by the rare disease spinal muscular atrophy. Cure SMA supports the proposal to fund newborn screening and urges the Committee and the Department of Health and Human Services to earmark these and other available funds to immediately implement newborn screening of SMA.

I know this Committee deals with numbers all the time. I would like to emphasize four numbers today.

- 2 years old – Babies born with SMA Type 1, the most common form of the disease, often die before reaching age two. This devastating disease severely weakens muscles in every part of the body, to the point where the disease shuts down the ability to swallow, move, and breathe.
- 62,000 – The number of Nevada residents who are estimated carriers of SMA. If both parents are SMA carriers, every child they have together has a 25% chance of having SMA.
- 3 – The number of lifesaving SMA treatments the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved that are now available. If a baby with SMA is diagnosed at birth and begins treatment before symptoms appear, the baby can survive and live a full life.
- 48 – The number of states that currently screen for SMA through newborn screenings. In those states, babies receive an immediate diagnosis, which allows treatment to start before irreversible muscle damage begins.

There are success stories in 48 states. Nevada is one of two states that does not screen for SMA despite a 2019 Nevada law that should have meant SMA screenings would begin in July 2022. Please take whatever action necessary to implement newborn screening of SMA. The health and wellbeing of Nevada babies born with SMA depends on it.

Mr. Friesz provided additional public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-8](#)).

DOUG ERWIN (Senior Vice President of Entrepreneurial Development, Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada [EDAWN]):

I am speaking about Agenda Item E.21. I have been working in the startup and technology community in Northern Nevada for almost a decade. This is one of the most significant programs in which Nevada can invest to support the startup community.

Startups are responsible for all new net job growth. Startups are the engines of innovation through creating jobs of the future that will help Nevada develop a resilient and thriving Northern Nevada economy. However, Nevada is competing globally for top talent. One way to help the community grow and retain talent is through internships. This is especially true in technical fields, which are in the highest demand. It is also critical that Nevada create opportunities for all citizens, especially women and underrepresented groups.

Internships are critical in developing the talent pipelines for the community. Nevada has a great group of people. I have worked with Katia Albright on the UNR Pack Internship Grant Program for many years. Many interns have been placed in early-stage companies over the past seven years. This new initiative will expand Ms. Albright's work throughout the state and help Nevada focus on its greatest need, which is technology jobs.

One example of this type of work is a company called Bombora, which started with only a few employees many years ago. Bombora worked with the UNR Pack Internship Grant Program and now has over 50 staff, 18 of which are data scientists that came through the intern program. A letter of support from Bombora was provided to the Committee ([Exhibit H-9](#)).

In summary, this program addresses a critical need to provide key talent for the area. On a personal note, when I was in college, I was fortunate enough to have a mother who worked at Motorola, so I had an inroad. I worked at Motorola and Microsoft every summer, which provided me an opportunity in the technology field. I thank the Committee for consideration of Agenda Item E.21.

[INAUDIBLE] (Resident of North Las Vegas):

I am testifying in support of the proposal to transfer funding to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) for newborn screening, testing and reporting. I urge the DPBH to use these funds to implement newborn screening of SMA.

My son, Aiden, was born in 2021 with SMA, a rare genetic disease that causes debilitating muscle loss and is usually fatal by age two if not treated properly or on time. Because Nevada is one of only two states that does not screen newborns for SMA, we did not receive our son's diagnosis until he was 23 days old. As we were anxiously awaiting the test results, with each day that passed, we were unsure if our son was going to survive. Timing is critical with this disease. Every day that passes with SMA, babies like my son lose motor neurons for muscle strength. Once lost, those motor neurons will never be regenerated. When my son was born, his breathing and arm and leg movements were fine; however, within a few days, Aiden lost his ability to swallow, his breathing grew labored, and he stopped moving his arms and legs.

There are now treatments for SMA. The treatments do not reverse SMA damage caused prior to treatment, which is why newborn screening is critical. Early diagnosis allows babies to receive the treatment they need to thrive. Aiden is doing better since receiving treatment at one month old. He can now sit independently, has decent upper body strength, and no longer requires permanent ventilation or a G-tube for feeding. However, he lost a lot of strength before receiving his diagnosis. This could have been prevented had he been screened for SMA at birth. Muscle loss happens quickly with the disease, and no child should have to suffer at the beginning of their life.

I hope the funds can be used to implement newborn screening of SMA. It will give children born with SMA their best shot.

DORA MARTINEZ:

I want to thank the 2021 Legislature for passing Assembly Bill 121. This Saturday, during early voting, I am going to help a young man with cerebral palsy go to the polls to vote. Even though there is an option to vote from home, he does not have Internet access. I am helping him because I know how to work the system and his personal care attendant will not be able to take him to vote.

I ditto the comments of the Personal Care Association of Nevada and the AARP. I also want to thank my representative, Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, from District 27.

YINGTAO JIANG (Associate Dean, UNLV College of Engineering):

I am commenting on the startup technology talent retention program. This program will implement internships. Internship experience provides valuable opportunities for computer science engineering students to develop real world technical and teamwork skills, work with professionals, and find mentors. Students who complete internships often enter the workforce after graduation with the relevant experience they need, which they can highlight during their job search.

This program will employ students to work for 14 to 16 weeks depending on the semester. The program will provide students exposure to computer science engineering while enabling local Nevada employers to fill short-term project needs. For example, this past summer, a local 3D printing company was ready to take on interns to do programming and engineering work for their machines and perform customer service duties. Additionally, a local vehicle company and autonomous driving company was ready to take on interns to perform computer science engineering work.

Last year, almost 400 students graduated from UNLV, half of which majored in computer science, electrical engineering, and computer engineering. That number is anticipated to exceed 400 this year. Of the students scheduled to graduate in the fall of 2022, 11 students are majoring in computer engineering, 81 in computer science, 16 in electrical engineering, and 200 in other engineering disciplines.

The goal is to give every student an opportunity to gain internship experience before graduation. This much needed and appreciated financial support will empower the universities to make that a reality. It will have a significant impact on students pursuing STEM degrees, the local high-tech economy, and Nevada as a whole. Also, this program

takes diversity and inclusiveness into consideration. I am certain this program will serve female and underrepresented groups very well. I thank the Committee for consideration of this item.

KARIM MEKHID (Bombora) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-9](#)).

AMANDA HABOUSH-DELOYE, PHD (Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-10](#)).

KARLA PEREZ (Valley Health System of Hospitals) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-11](#)).

MICHAEL JACOBS (Nevada Health Care Association) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-12](#)).

TERRI LAID (Retired Public Employees of Nevada) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-13](#)).

LISA MEYER (Marquis Plaza Regency) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-14](#)).

CHRISTOPHER LALLI (Assistant District Attorney, Clark County) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-15](#)).

CHRISTOPHER J. HICKS (District Attorney, Washoe County) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-16](#)).

PATRICK D. KELLY (Nevada Hospital Association) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-17](#)).

ROBERT BURNS (Early Intervention Community Providers Association) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-18](#)).

DR. THOMAS GRAF (Renown Health) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-19](#)).

TERRI CHANDLER (Future Smiles) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-20](#)).

MIKE KAZMIERSKI (EDAWN) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-21](#)).

ADAM KIEFER (Talage) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-22](#)).

DR. TARA C. RAINES (Children's Advocacy Alliance) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-23](#)).

MAURICIA M. M. BACA (The Nature Conservancy) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-24](#)).

MAYOR HILLARY L. SCHIEVE (City of Reno) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-25](#)).

STEVEN RIEDER (Oxford Valley Health) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-26](#)).

TERRENCE THORNTON (Special Olympics Nevada) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-27](#)).

ALAN KESSINGER (Marquis Centennial Hills) provided public comment for the record ([Exhibit H-28](#)).

C. STATEMENT OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND OBLIGATIONS AND REMAINING RESERVE BALANCES WITHIN THE COVID-19 RELIEF PROGRAMS BUDGET ACCOUNT.

BRODY LEISER (Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB):
I will discuss Agenda Item C, the Statement of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF) obligations and remaining reserve balances. The statement begins with the summary sheet on page 7 in Volume I of the meeting packet ([Exhibit C](#)).

If all items submitted for consideration, which total approximately \$754.3 million, are approved, the remaining unobligated balance of the CSFRFs will be approximately \$96.9 million. If approved, the remaining \$250 million reserved for the Home Means Nevada Initiative would be fully allocated, the remaining loss revenue reserve balance will be approximately \$48.9 million, and the main reserve balance will be approximately \$48.0 million.

Pages 8 through 13 detail the obligations approved to date ([Exhibit C](#)). There were 143 work programs facilitating 77 requests submitted for the Committee's consideration today. Those requests begin on page 14 in Volume I of the meeting packet. If approved, that would obligate approximately \$754.3 million in funding authority. However, I would note that Agenda Items D.124 and D.125, shown on page 16 ([Exhibit C](#)), were requested to be withdrawn by the Governor's Finance Office (GFO). The withdrawal request was received after the statement had been finalized and will be removed from the version presented at the next meeting of the IFC.

On pages 18 through 23 ([Exhibit C](#)), the breakdown statement for select obligations of the CSFRFs is presented. There are five items on page 22 under the section for allocations of the \$100 million in authority for state agencies that were approved by the Governor's Office and did not require approval of the IFC as indicated on the statement. These five items are on the list with dates of September 12 through October 7, 2022.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

Of the funds already obligated, how much has been spent?

MR. LEISER:

The Fiscal Analysis Division is currently working on reconciling the total obligations and the amounts that have already been spent through FY 2022. There were lingering transactions posted for FY 2022, but of the \$2.7 billion, approximately \$447 million was expended in FY 2022. That does not reflect expenditures that have occurred in FY 2023 to date. Those expenditures would need to be added to that amount. I would note that the Fiscal Analysis Division is working with the GFO to reconcile the final FY 2022 expenditures as there may have been amounts obligated for expenditure in FY 2022 that were not fully needed; therefore, there is potentially some savings that could be reobligated or repurposed from those initial obligations.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

These funds are time sensitive. I want to ensure the state is putting the funds to the best use, and I want to avoid letting any of the funds expire, if possible.

MR. LEISER:

I would add that at the December 15, 2022, meeting of the IFC, the Fiscal Analysis Division intends to provide updates for some of those items in FY 2022 to reconcile actual expenditures compared to amounts obligated.

D. APPROVAL OF WORK PROGRAM REVISIONS FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NRS 353.220.

CHAIR DENIS:

Due to the significant number of requests to allocate CSFRFs under Agenda Item D, the Fiscal Analysis Division has prepared two tables that provide high-level summary information in ([Exhibit A](#)) and ([Exhibit B](#)). The tables are available on the meeting webpage (<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/InterimCommittee/REL/Interim2021/Committee/1773/Meetings>). List D, which is the ARPA Work Programs List, includes 143 individual work programs. When related work programs are combined, List D includes 77 separate requests to allocate a total of \$757.1 million in CSFRFs. This represents 27.6% of the \$2.7 billion that was provided to the State of Nevada through the CSFRF. ([Exhibit A](#)) organizes the 77 distinct ARPA requests into 8 broad categories to see at a high level how the requested CSFRF allocations would be used. ([Exhibit B](#)) shows the number of positions that are being requested to support the various programs recommended to be funded with the CSFRFs. In total, 217 positions are being requested, of which 160 would be permanent state positions, while 57 would be temporary contract positions. The position table provides information about the types of positions requested and the purpose for the positions.

BRODY LEISER (Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB):

As noted by Chair Denis, ([Exhibit A](#)) is a summary of all the requests before the Committee today. Fiscal staff prepared the table to summarize the requests in a broader manner that may provide Committee members, state agencies, and the public with a more digestible format than the agenda item list.

As noted, items have been summarized under eight categories. Page 1 of ([Exhibit A](#)) includes a summary table. Before the Committee today, the categories and approximate totals are as follows:

- Housing - \$250 million
- Computer System and Hardware Modernization - \$164 million
- Healthcare Programs and Services - \$116.6 million
- Water Resource Management - \$108 million
- Capital Projects - \$41.6 million
- Workforce and Economic Development - \$41.4 million
- State Government, Tribal and Miscellaneous - \$24.3 million
- Studies/Assessments - \$11 million

Beginning on page 1 of ([Exhibit A](#)), there is a detailed breakout of each category in which the items submitted for consideration have been categorized. The table includes a category description, related agenda items, and a brief description of each item, along with the dollar amount.

As previously noted, Agenda Items D.124 and D.125 were requested to be withdrawn by the GFO. These items are listed on page 4 of ([Exhibit A](#)) under the Studies/Assessments category.

I would like to clarify for those that may compare ([Exhibit A](#)) to the ARPA statement discussed previously, specifically regarding the difference between the total amounts on the two tables. ([Exhibit A](#)) shows a total of approximately \$757 million, whereas I referenced a figure of \$754.3 million when presenting the ARPA statement. There are nine requests before the Committee to allocate funds under the \$100 million of authority that was already set aside for state agency allocations at the April 7, 2022, meeting of the IFC. Since that authority has already been shown as an obligation on the ARPA summary statement, the nine requests do not impact the balance on that statement; however, they are accounted for on ([Exhibit A](#)). Those requests total approximately \$2.7 million and account for the difference between the totals presented on ([Exhibit A](#)) and the amount reflected on the ARPA statement for consideration by the Committee.

([Exhibit B](#)) is a summary of the 217 new positions that are requested to be established through the work programs submitted under Agenda Item D. Given the interest previously expressed by the Committee in positions being funded with ARPA dollars, and again, due to the number and magnitude of the requests before the Committee today, this table was compiled to illustrate the total number of positions being requested to be established, as well as to demonstrate that other funding sources may be required in the future if these new positions are needed beyond the date in which ARPA funding would be obligated.

I will briefly discuss a summary of the New State and Contracted Positions table ([Exhibit B](#)), going through the columns from left to right. First is a reference to the agenda item number on list D. The next column is the department/division in which the positions are being requested along with the budget account and name, a position title column, the number of positions being requested, whether the position is a state position or contract position, and a brief description of the position. The column titled *Date In Which Funding Has Been Allocated Through* is based on supporting information submitted with these work programs, the date in which ARPA dollars have been identified to fund these positions, and is specific to ARPA CSFRFs. The final column represents the fiscal year through which position funding is anticipated to be needed, or how long the position is expected to be needed.

To walk through an example of how those two columns work, refer to the second row in ([Exhibit B](#)), Agenda Item D.38, GFO, regarding the request for an Administrative Services Officer 4 position. The date in the column titled *Date In Which Funding Has Been Allocated Through* is June 30, 2023. Based on the information submitted with the work program, the ARPA funding has been designated to support that position through the end of FY 2023. Regarding the column to the right, *Fiscal Year in Which Position Funding is Anticipated to be Needed Through*, while the ARPA funding has been identified to fund the position through the end of FY 2023, this position has been identified as being needed through FY 2025. At some point, if that position continues, a funding source will need to be identified, whether that is the use of additional ARPA dollars or another funding source.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

What was the methodology used by the GFO to determine whether there will be sufficient unobligated funds moving forward to support a number of these ongoing projects?

AMY STEPHENSON (Director, GFO):

For most of the ARPA projects, the GFO created work programs for the full amount of the projects to ease tracking and provide transparency. On some of the projects, the GFO created work programs for the current biennium amount with the direction that anything beyond FY 2024 would be included in the 2023-25 biennium budget. The GFO is tracking these items and coordinates the tracking with Fiscal staff.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I am glad the GFO is looking for ways to sustain the ARPA projects. Has the GFO confirmed that ARPA funding will be available for these projects through both biennia? Will the GFO be tracking these projects throughout the process?

MS. STEPHENSON:

Yes.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

Regarding ([Exhibit B](#)), the Committee understands that state agencies have struggled with staff recruitments and high vacancy rates, and I appreciate the GFO investing in employee recruitment efforts. The state needs to be very careful about moving forward on these positions. Please discuss under what authority or policy payroll costs incurred after December 31, 2024, would be considered previously obligated by December 31, 2024,

and therefore, are allowable expenditures under the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) guidelines.

MS. STEPHENSON:

It is the GFO's understanding that costs for positions funded with ARPA dollars are allowable during the performance period up to December 2026, and the existence of positions that are budgeted against that funding source constitutes obligation of the funds. The GFO continually monitors the guidance and work with its federal and audit partners to ensure compliance. The GFO also collaborates with other states. The GFO documents the commitment of these funds through the notice of awards that are provided to agencies.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

The authority the GFO is using is based on the federal frequently asked questions (FAQs) and the actions of other states. Has the federal government confirmed in writing this is an allowable use? What authority or policy is on record that states that as these dollars are allocated and obligated for these employees, they can be used beyond December 2024?

SHAUNA TILLEY (Executive Branch Budget Officer, GFO):

The GFO does not have a specific written statement that states this is an allowable use. The agency is working with the FAQs, the Treasury's Final Rule, and the guidance regarding compliance and reporting that is released quarterly. The Treasury's Final Rule includes several references to payroll costs and associated benefits. It mentions the time between December 31, 2024, and December 31, 2026, in relation to those position costs, so it is very clear that the Treasury intends there to be position-related costs incurred by recipients of these funds during that performance period timeframe. Based on that information, the GFO considers the funds to be obligated when there is a position that is budgeted, but it is further cementing that obligation by issuing notices of allocation to the agencies where funds are being allocated for the positions. The GFO believes that constitutes an obligation and has no reason to believe there is any contradiction. The agency is working with other states and federal partners in an effort to ensure compliance.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I think there is still going to be a difference of opinion. One thing that comes to mind is that the Committee is obligating a future legislature, which it cannot do. The policies and monies that are spent now are going to be obligated beyond the 2021-23 biennium. I have concerns that the FAQs could change, and I want to make certain the FAQs are monitored.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

It appears there are three contracts that run through 2027. Is the GFO comfortable that these contracts are running past the 2026 guideline?

MS. STEPHENSON:

Yes. The contracts are going forward in the 2023-25 biennium budget, and the GFO recognizes that other funding sources will be necessary and is actively working on that issue.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I want to follow up with what Assemblywoman Carlton mentioned about obligating future legislatures. If the Committee approves this, is there a clawback if the money is not expended or if future legislative bodies decide these positions are no longer needed? If so, what would be the timeframe? I am specifically concerned about the possibility of obligating future legislatures and the possibility for clawbacks on this funding.

WAYNE THORLEY (Senate Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB):

The 2023 Legislature will establish the budget for the 2023-25 biennium. The Legislature, through its power to establish the budget, could vote on a budget that includes a reallocation of this funding. If the funding is already spent, the funds could not be reallocated, but if the funds were obligated somewhere else and the Legislature decided to reobligate the funds for another purpose or agency, that could occur through the legislative process. Also, during the interim process, work program revisions could be submitted by the Executive Branch to reallocate the money for a different purpose.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

What is the current vacancy rate in the state? I have heard it is approximately 35%.

MS. STEPHENSON:

As of October 2, 2022, the average vacancy rate across the state was 24%.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

That is an improvement.

JESSICA DUMMER (Legislative Deputy Counsel, Legal Division, LCB):

In terms of clawback funding, the answer is generally yes, unless it is prohibited by a provision of the United States or Nevada Constitutions. The Nevada Supreme Court has generally held that one legislature cannot by ordinary legislation bind or control in any manner subsequent legislatures. In addition, the Nevada Legislature is free to enact any law that is not clearly prohibited by some provision of the United States Constitution or the Nevada Constitution. Subject only to the federal and state constitutions, it is within a given legislature's province to enact measures as it sees fit from session to session without being limited by the acts of previous legislatures.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I understand the current Legislature cannot pass a bill that obligates future legislatures; however, is there a difference as it relates to a budget item?

MS. DUMMER:

Even if it is a budget item, I believe the Legislature could act in that regard.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

It looks like ([Exhibit B](#)) is a snapshot of the items that are on today's agenda versus the other funds that were spent. How many positions were included in ARPA funds previously spent?

MR. LEISER:

This is not limited to the CSFRFs because there are other buckets of money that were approved through the ARPA. Fiscal staff has been trying to track this after each meeting of the IFC. Prior to today's meeting, I believe that 384 positions have been established with ARPA funding during the 2021-22 Interim. Of the 384 positions, 107 are state positions and 166 are contract staff. The remaining 111 positions are for the Nevada System of Higher Education. I would note that the 384 positions do not include the 217 positions that are requested to be established today.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

I am nervous about the potential spending of \$757 million so I am thankful that Fiscal staff has provided the Committee with guidance. Regarding the ARPA funds that are being considered for expenditure today as well as the remaining \$97 million, do those funds need to be allocated by December 31, 2024?

MS. STEPHENSON:

Yes, that is correct.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

Concerns have been expressed about tying the hands of the next legislature to some of these programs. I do not disagree with spending the money on some of these programs, but there are items that are going to require the next legislature to decide whether to continue the funding for those programs. If the future governor or legislature does not fund those programs, then the funds that were already expended for those programs will have been wasted. When some of these items are discussed today, I am going to have questions about whether the request needs to be addressed now or if it can wait until the 2023 Legislature convenes. This will allow the Legislature to consider the variables and make an educated decision, especially with Nevada facing a recession.

BAILEY BORTOLIN (Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor):

I would say that overall, one of the exercises that has been taken very seriously is defining what constitutes an emergency, determining if ARPA funds can be used to address the emergency, and determining what opportunities under the state's legal obligations and services the state is mandated to provide. Regardless, areas such as children's mental health and forensic hospital beds are areas where the state has an obligation and a legal duty to fund these programs, and the ARPA funds provide an incredible opportunity to get the state as far as possible. These items must be built into future budgets because in many cases the state has a statutory obligation to provide these services. I would say that is a global theme and exercise related to the ARPA requests to ensure that the state is meeting the critical needs of its populations as they have increased during the last two years.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

The Governor's Office has worked very closely with the IFC and Fiscal staff over the last 18 months. At the end of the 2021 Legislative Session, former Senator Kieckhefer asked how the state was going to work together to allocate ARPA funds. The Governor's Office has worked very closely with the IFC and staff to ensure that when work programs are

presented, they are absolutely necessary. Although the Governor proposes a budget, the legislatively approved budget is passed toward the end of the legislative session.

Some of these issues cannot wait until June 2023 to be addressed. It takes time to implement programs and staff. The state does not want children and families suffering so the Legislature can have a political debate during the legislative session.

I want to congratulate and thank the Office of the Governor for its efforts and for partnering and communicating with the Committee to make decisions.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

I am also thankful to staff at the Governor's Office and the LCB for all their work and the documents that are provided.

I think it might be helpful to have some clarity on the timeline. The ARPA funding must be allocated by December 31, 2025; however, the requests today are for FY 2023. Why is the Committee voting today on funds that will not be allocated until 2025? Is that for planning purposes or various obligations?

MS. STEPHENSON:

The funds need to be obligated by December 31, 2024, and the state is currently in FY 2023, so the goal is to implement some of the projects immediately. The remainder of the funds will be budgeted for FY 2024 and FY 2025.

MR. THORLEY:

The following items have been pulled for additional discussion: Agenda Items D.1, Office of the Governor and D.2, Department of Education; D.9, Office of the Governor, which will be heard jointly with Agenda Item J, Department of Business and Industry, Housing Division; D.13, Office of the Governor and D.14, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS); D.33, Office of the Governor, D.34, DHHS, Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), D.41, Office of the Governor, D.42, DHHS, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP), D.106, Office of the Governor, D.107, DHHS, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), D.137, Office of the Governor, and D.138, DHHS, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), which will all be discussed jointly; D.61, Office of the Governor and D.62, Department of Taxation; D.63, Office of the Governor, which will be discussed jointly with Agenda Item K.12b, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Division of Water Resources; D.85, Office of the Governor and D.86, DHHS, ADSD; D.91, Office of the Governor, D.92, DHHS, DHCFP, and D.93, DHHS, DHCFP, which will be discussed jointly; D.94, Office of the Governor and D.95, DHHS, DWSS; D.96, Office of the Governor and D.97, Department of Public Safety, Records, Communications and Compliance Division; D.112, Office of the Governor and D.113, DHHS, DCFS; D.130, Office of the Governor and D.131, DHHS, DPBH; D.132, Office of the Governor and D.133, DHHS, DPBH; and D.134, Office of the Governor.

Agenda Items D.124, Office of the Governor, and D.125, DHHS, DHCFP, were withdrawn by the GFO after the agenda was posted.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I would like to hear additional discussion on Agenda Items D.17, Office of the Governor and D.18, DHHS, ADSD; and D.139, Office of the Governor and D.140, DHHS, DCFS.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I would like to hear additional discussion on Agenda Items D.3, Office of the Governor and D.4, DCNR, Division of Water Resources.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I would like to hear additional discussion on Agenda Items D.39, Office of the Governor and D.40, DHHS, DHCFP; D.43, Office of the Governor and D.44, DHHS, DHCFP; D.53, Office of the Governor and D.54, Office of the Attorney General; and D.116, Office of the Governor and D.117, DHHS, Director's Office.

ASSEMBLYMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

I would like to hear additional discussion on Agenda Items D.110, Office of the Governor and D.111, DHHS, DHCFP.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE REMAINING WORK PROGRAM REVISIONS AND POSITION RECLASSIFICATIONS UNDER AGENDA ITEMS D AND E AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF AGENDA ITEMS D. 124, D.125, AND E.22.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

1. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$4,000,000 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Nevada Department of Education to provide supplemental funding for school-based mental health providers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.2. Work Program #23FR132754**

Agenda Items D.1 and D.2 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.2.

2. Department of Education - Safe and Respectful Learning - FY 2023

Addition of \$4,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to provide supplemental funding for school-based mental health providers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Trauma Supplemental category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.1. Work Program #23FRF27211**

Agenda Items D.1 and D.2 were discussed jointly.

CHRISTINE MCGILL (Director, Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, Nevada Department of Education [NDE]):

The NDE was hoping to see that the indicators of the “hot climate” experienced during the 2021-2022 school year would decrease; however, indicators are still high in the current school year. Those indicators include student-to-student violence, bullying, and suicidal ideation.

The funds requested by the NDE are very important. The department hopes to address workforce shortage issues with the funds, which was an issue discussed during the August 17, 2022, IFC meeting. The Committee also expressed concern about whether the NDE would be able to expend the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funding in the allotted time. The answer to that question is yes. Because the need is significant, the department is considering ways to diversify the workforce into an ecosystem so that lower-level licensure staff are paired with higher-level licensure staff to address the needs in each school. For the sake of transparency, I would note there are still some schools without a school counselor or social worker. That is a significant gap which the department is working to address.

Regarding workforce development, the school districts told the NDE that the short timelines between various grants make it difficult for the grants to be competitive; therefore, this ask represents the extension of those timelines so that the NDE can show districts that funds are lined up. The department is hoping to stretch the funds until 2026. At that point, the department is hopeful that Medicaid can be billed for many of the services. The department also anticipates that some service needs will decrease as the pandemic winds down.

Another strategy by the NDE involves collaboration. In addition to pairing lower-level licensure staff and community health workers with higher-level licensure staff to create that ecosystem, the department is also taking into consideration the immediate needs of the students. The NDE is assessing the protocols of how schools interact with law enforcement and mobile crisis response teams. I would note the Department of Health and Human Services has been a great partner throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had a significant impact on schools.

The other piece concerning collaboration is that lower-level licensure staff will be able to focus on what is called “Tier 1” (prevention). Based on four years of data, when schools focus on prevention and lower-level tiers, it takes less time for administrators to deal with disciplinary issues and reduces disciplinary incidences as well as the need for Tier 3 services. That is why it is important to have licensed clinical social workers alongside community health workers and bachelor’s level staff to create an ecosystem of support.

Lastly, the department is thankful for fiscal staff at the school districts and the NDE who determined which districts can spend ESSER II dollars now, and then redirected some of the funds to those districts. As funds are received, they are being directed to the school districts that are struggling with workforce shortage

issues. The department reallocated some of the funds to guarantee the expenditure of ESSER II funds and to highlight progress.

CHAIR DENIS:

Please provide an update on the reimbursements to school districts and charter schools and how the department plans to ensure the current funding of \$7.5 million and the additional funding of \$4.0 million will be fully expended.

Ms. MCGILL:

As of October 15, 2022, the NDE has spent down \$1,764,000 of \$5,735,000. This month, the department learned that some districts, such as the Clark County School District (CCSD), are having a harder time expending the ESSER II dollars. The Lyon County School District (LCSD) has already spent its funds. Therefore, the NDE is going to temporarily reallocate funds from the CCSD to the LCSD so that the ESSER II dollars can be expended, and then the NDE will look at other funding for the school districts that are experiencing workforce issues.

CHAIR DENIS:

How are the school districts going to resolve the workforce shortage issue?

Ms. MCGILL:

The school districts experiencing workforce issues are looking to bring in lower-level licensure staff to work alongside higher-level licensure staff. There is less of a workforce shortage for community health workers and social workers with a bachelor's degree. Also, the department is considering utilizing contracted services in the short term. Entities such as Invo-Progressus and others will temporarily assist the schools to get them through the mental health crisis. Those are the two things that have changed since the August 2022 IFC meeting.

CHAIR DENIS:

Is the NDE confident it will expend all the funds?

Ms. MCGILL:

Yes.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.1 AND D.2.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

3. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$6,400,000 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Water/Sewer/Lead category to support an allocation to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources to fund the Water Resource Initiative to update data to inform water resource management.

Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Water/Sewer/Lead category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.4. Work Program #23FR132773**

Agenda Items D.3 and D.4 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.4.

4. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Division of Water Resources - FY 2023

Addition of \$6,400,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund the Water Resource Initiative to update data to inform water resource management. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Water Resource Initiative category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.3. Work Program #23FR417102**

Agenda Items D.3 and D.4 were discussed jointly.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I had a conversation with Adam Sullivan, Nevada State Engineer and Administrator, Division of Water Resources, DCNR, about the water resource initiative. I believe \$6.4 million is going to be spent over the next four years, correct?

ADAM SULLIVAN (Nevada State Engineer and Administrator, Division of Water Resources, DCNR):

Yes, that is correct.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

That is concerning because the state's water resources as well as the current data are in trouble. Of the state's water basins, 40% are overallocated and at least 20% are overpumped, and there are many water basins for which information is unknown. Nevada does not have the data in place to know whether the state is exceeding the perennial yield in 256 water basins. The Division of Water Resources is requesting \$6.4 million to update that data. The state could easily spend \$50 million to update the database. Essentially, the request is for \$25,000 per basin, or \$6,000 per year. That amount of money will barely make a dent. There are more ARPA funds available that should be put toward this issue, especially with the western part of the United States experiencing a drought. New guidelines concerning the Colorado River are being discussed, but it seems Nevada does not want to know how much water is in the groundwater basins in the state. I am aware that Nevada has data, but it is not enough to make allocations. It is not good that 40% of the state's groundwater basins are over appropriated.

MR. SULLIVAN:

I appreciate your comments and for acknowledging the urgency and the potential for how much more the state could do and probably needs to do to protect water resources in the state. The way the division approached this project was to

determine what could be done efficiently in the four-year period that the ARPA funds are available to make the most impact statewide, and how to provide the most value to give Nevada a foundation to address some of the concerns noted by Senator Goicoechea.

The goal is to update the baseline science using proven state-of-the-art methods to revisit and understand the water budgets that are naturally occurring in the state. The division needs to demonstrate the efficacy of these methods and establish a new standard that sets forth best practices for implementing tools; address questions of water availability, whether a proposed new project or to address options or alternatives to reduce existing commitments; and to make that scientifically based, defensible and as accurate as possible and be efficient with the resources in the state to best address these problems.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

The Committee is working through an agenda that will distribute \$757 million. Of that amount, \$1.5 million will go to the Division of Water Resources. The funds will allow the agency to obtain additional data, but I am concerned about applying new science and technology to 70-year-old data that is probably inaccurate. I do not understand how that benefits the state. Nevada needs a better database before applying a new trans-evaporation system.

I believe it is a mistake for the state to only invest \$25,000 per basin over the next four years to establish a database.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEMS D.3 AND D.4.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

There are many requests before the Committee to which I would like to add more funds, but limited money is available. I understand the process and Nevada is moving forward. It is possible that funds will be invested again in the future.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

Chair Denis called a recess at 12:57 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

5. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$5,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Governor's Office of Energy to support a system to gather data on electricity usage in state-owned buildings and resulting emissions. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.6. Work Program #23FR132774**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

6. **Office of the Governor - State Energy Office - Office of Energy - FY 2023**
Addition of \$5,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support a system to gather data on electricity usage in state-owned buildings and resulting emissions. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Funding category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.5. Work Program #23FRF48681**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

7. **Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023**
Transfer of \$1,040,000 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to support consulting services for business process re-engineering and federal regulation implementation. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.8. Work Program #23FR132776**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

8. **Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Federal Programs and Administration - FY 2023**
Addition of \$1,040,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support consulting services for business process re-engineering and federal regulation implementation. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Consulting Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.7. Work Program #23FRF31512**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

9. **Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023**
Transfer of \$250,000,000 from the Home Means Nevada Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Home Means Nevada category to establish authority for the second allocation of funding to the Department of Business and Industry, Housing Division for the Home Means Nevada Initiative. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Home Means Nevada category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FR132777**

Agenda Item D.9 and Agenda Item J were discussed jointly.

STEPHEN AICHROTH (Administrator, Nevada Housing Division [NHD], Department of Business and Industry [B&I]):

The Home Means Nevada Initiative is a \$500 million investment to increase and preserve affordable housing opportunities for Nevadans. The funds will be split among four categories: homeownership and rehabilitation; land acquisition;

preservation of existing affordable structures; and new development of affordable structures.

I would note that all four categories are oversubscribed. In the homeownership and rehabilitation category, the smallest category at \$30 million, a total of \$96 million in valid requests were received during the application period. In the land acquisition category, at \$40 million, \$80 million in valid requests were received. In the preservation of existing affordable structures category, at \$130 million, \$227 million in requests were received. That includes the preservation of over 2,000 units, 94 supportive and transitional units, 1,700 units at the area median income below 50%, and 446 senior units. In the new development of affordable structures category, at \$300 million, \$996 million in valid requests were received. The total would represent the creation of over 5,600 new units, 800 supportive and transitional units, 3,000 additional units to serve the low and extremely low-income population, and over 1,800 senior units. The division received a total of 103 applications requesting over \$1.25 billion in affordable housing development; however, not all of those will be funded because the program is effectively oversubscribed 2.5 times.

The NHD formed various committees to score the applications, which included many stakeholders from the affordable housing community. Things such as site amenities, affordability, sustainability, and financial aspects are currently under review by Novagradac. Novagradac is the premier national accounting firm specializing in tax credit properties and affordable properties.

After the preliminary award of fundings has been determined, which will be soon, the NHD will work with the GFO on final eligibility review. The division will stress test the projects to mitigate the risks associated with the award from a financial standpoint as well as an eligibility and compliance standpoint. I would note that the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) developed a helpful guide for using ARPA Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for affordable housing.

MICHAEL HOLLIDAY (Chief Financial Officer, NHD, B&I):

I will be discussing Agenda Item D.9. The ARPA funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026. The division is requesting approval of the second transfer of funds so that the NHD has the authority to provide developers notices of award funding. The approval and subsequent awards will allow the development teams to move forward with financial closing and begin construction to provide adequate time to meet those spending deadlines as set by the Treasury.

There are many moving pieces related to financing the developments. Once the developers have an award, they can go to their lenders, tax credit investors, contractors, and other partners in good faith knowing they have a firm commitment of the Home Means Nevada Initiative funds from the state.

As an example of how the timing of this effects development, projects that scored highly in the ranking need to be ready to begin construction as soon as they close on financing. Most of the developers will have a purchase and sale agreement with a landowner, and many of those agreements will expire if pushed out too far, thereby causing the developer to begin again. That is one example from the development side where the timing is critical.

TERRY REYNOLDS (Director, B&I):

Over the past two years, the NHD has set aside a “volume cap,” which will allow the division to issue tax-free municipal bonds and industrial revenue bonds for housing projects. In two years, \$565 million in volume cap has been set aside for bonding. The division is working with communities to combine the volume cap with other funding to help finance projects. For every dollar spent, the NHD can get 2.5 to 3 times as much volume of project out of the dollars that were set aside, which is very important. Having this money in the initial stages gives satisfaction and confidence for developers to have their investors get involved in the project and be able to set up bonding for the project, if needed. That is why it is critical to have the funds as soon as possible.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO:

I was at a groundbreaking ceremony for a facility that is nearly complete. There are significant immediate and long-term needs for housing, which has been demonstrated by the fact that the program is oversubscribed.

As the applications are scored, how will the awards be determined, what will happen with those applications that are not selected, and is there a measure to help with these projects in the future? Also, when will the selected projects commence?

MR. AICHROTH:

The division hopes to announce preliminary awards next week, which will begin the process.

With regard to scoring, the questions differ based on category. In most cases, there are 100 or more questions, specifically for development projects. That is divided up into approximately six or seven scoring categories including project narrative, site amenities, financial categories, and sustainability, affordability, populations served, etc. There are a couple different scoring groups. The Novagradac group is managing the financial aspects of scoring, which are tabulated.

For example, in new development and preservation, 150 points are possible. The highest scores will be considered for funding. The NHD will still need to work with the applicants. Many applications were submitted before Clark County issued Community Housing Funds (CHF), which totaled \$120 million in funding. Some projects received Clark County CHF, which would reduce the total of the request through the Home Means Nevada Initiative. Applications above the \$300 million threshold in the new development category will need to be reviewed to determine

the revised amount. If an applicant no longer requires the amount requested in the application, that will free up funds for an application that fell below the threshold.

For projects that do not receive a funding award, the NHD will look at the waterfall and existing funding such as tax credits, affordable housing trust funds, etc. There is some affordable housing componentry in the Inflation Reduction Act which allows for solar power to be installed and tax credits, which may be of assistance to projects that could not be funded.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI:

What organizations have applied for down payment assistance, and will a similar scoring process be used?

MR. AICHROTH:

Yes, a scoring process will be used. There are 100 possible points in that category. However, those projects are not competing against projects in the new development category. There are three types of applications in that category: down payment assistance, new construction of affordable homes, and rehabilitation of homes to allow seniors and the physically disabled to age in place. For the latter, the NHD will be looking at the weatherization programs as well as additional legislation that has come through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that potentially allows for some funding to help those people. There is a litany of things that can be done to leverage funds.

Organizations that applied include the NHD, Nevada Rural Housing Authority, Community Foundation of Northern Nevada, Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together Southern Nevada and Rebuilding Together Northern Nevada.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI:

Will those awards be distributed next week as well?

MR. AICHROTH:

The notification of preliminary awards will likely be announced next week.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEM D.9.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

10. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer \$4,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Nevada Museum of Art to fund a portion of the costs of a 50,000 square foot expansion of the Charles and Stacie Mathewson Education and Research Center.

Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FR132778**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

11. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$2,090,000 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to provide in-home services such as assistive technology, home modifications and repairs to support independent living for older adults, people with disabilities and family caregivers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.12. Work Program #23FR132779**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

12. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$2,090,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to provide in-home services such as assistive technology, home modifications and repairs to support independent living for older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Planning, Advocacy and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.11. Work Program #23FRF32661**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

13. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer \$48,510,328 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to support system modifications to complete migration off the state mainframe. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.14. Work Program #23FR132780**

Agenda Items D.13 and D.14 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.14.

14. Department of Health and Human Services - Welfare and Supportive Services - Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$48,510,328 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support system modifications to complete migration off the state mainframe. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to

the Nevada Operations of Multi-Automated Data Systems Modernization category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.13. Work Program #23FRF32281**

Agenda Items D.13 and D.14 were discussed jointly.

LISA SWEARINGEN (Deputy Administrator, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services [DWSS], DHHS):

Agenda Item D.14 is a modernization request to move the system off the mainframe onto the existing platform. Agenda Item D.95 is to implement a No Wrong Door system with Access Nevada.

Currently, the DWSS is working with a vendor to make changes to both systems. If the division receives approval of the funds now, the division could amend the current contract and have the vendor add these two scopes to the existing contract so that both systems are fully implemented before 2026.

CHAIR DENIS:

The division has funds set aside of \$48.5 million, of which \$17.3 million is identified for the current fiscal year. The remaining \$31.2 million is for the next fiscal year, correct?

Ms. SWEARINGEN:

That is correct.

CHAIR DENIS:

Large information technology (IT) projects require a lot of time. Is the division moving at the pace necessary to complete the projects within the timeline?

Ms. SWEARINGEN:

Yes. The division just signed a contract for several system enhancements to the eligibility engine as well as Access Nevada. Both work programs will impact those systems. If the contract can be amended to add these items, the vendor will be able to make the changes sooner rather than later since the vendor is already working in those systems.

CHAIR DENIS:

Is the division going to have an ongoing operational cost of approximately \$4.5 million?

Ms. SWEARINGEN:

Yes, that is to address possible system issues. Agenda Item D.95 is a very large task. The division is looking to take in several other agencies to implement a No Wrong Door process so that clients can access benefits from a single location.

CHAIR DENIS:

The division needs the \$17.3 million to move forward in the current fiscal year, but one of the thoughts is that the remaining \$31.2 million could be set aside and allocated to the division as needed. Are there any issues with that?

MS. SWEARINGEN:

No. The division could build that into the timeline, if necessary. The DWSS would need to ensure it got on an agenda in time to request the funds.

CHAIR DENIS:

The Committee could set the funds aside in a special reserve account and then the division would submit a work program to move the funds or put it in the budget for the 2023-25 biennium.

MS. SWEARINGEN:

Yes, that would work for the division.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

I think the Chair and I were thinking the same thing in that currently, the division is on an incremental track where 35% has already been modernized, and the ARPA funding would expedite that remaining 65%. What was the division's plan if the state did not have federal funding to allocate? Did the division have a long-term plan to incrementally carry out the remaining 65%? Is there a fiscal advantage to amend that plan using this money to expedite the project so it is completed by 2026?

ROBERT THOMPSON (Division Administrator, DWSS, DHHS):

It was a piece-meal plan where the DWSS would be coming to the IFC periodically to request funds as the division was forced into modernizing the rest of the system. Having the opportunity for these funds now would be cost effective. Each time the division moved forward in the project, the vendor would have to be re-engaged or the division may have to seek a new vendor. The DWSS has existing contracts where those vendors are already in the system coding these same systems. Therefore, doing it now would be cost effective.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.13 AND D.14 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17.3 MILLION, THE TOTAL AMOUNT IDENTIFIED FOR FY 2023, TO BE PLACED IN THE SPECIAL USE EXPENDITURE CATEGORY; ALLOCATE THE REMAINING \$31.2 MILLION TO A NEW DEDICATED RESERVE CATEGORY FOR USE IN FUTURE FISCAL YEARS; AND REQUIRE THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET TO INCLUDE AN ENHANCEMENT DECISION UNIT TO REQUEST USE OF THE RESERVES IN THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

The Committee has been through many modernization projects, some of which have gone very well, while others have not. The state has had to work hard to get those projects back on track. I think this is a great way to move forward incrementally and use the funds wisely to complete the project and avoid requesting the funds in future legislative sessions.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

15. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Nevada Department of Education to support confidential exit surveys and working conditions surveys to facilitate informed decisions about attracting and retaining educators. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.16. Work Program #23FR132781**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

16. Department of Education - COVID-19 Funding - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support confidential exit surveys and working conditions surveys to facilitate informed decisions about attracting and retaining educators. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Educator Surveys category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.15. Work Program #23FRF27101**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

17. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$843,813 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to support telehealth training of health care providers to reduce obstacles to care. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.18. Work Program #23FR132782**

Agenda Items D.17 and D.18 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.18.

18. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$843,813 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support telehealth training of health care providers to reduce obstacles

to care. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Planning, Advocacy and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.17. Work Program #23FRF32667**

Agenda Items D.17 and D.18 were discussed jointly.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Agenda Items D.17 and D.18 would ensure that telehealth services are made available to older adults. On page 143 in Volume I of the meeting packet ([Exhibit C](#)), the backup documentation references training for 200 professionals and then 150 professionals. What is the correct number of professionals who will receive training?

DENA SCHMIDT (Administrator, Aging and Disability Services Division [ADSD], DHHS):

The current project has already trained 200 professionals. The new project will be training additional professional staff. This project involves professionals teaching other professionals to expand access to telehealth services. The division used previous ARPA funds to begin the project, and the project will be continued because it has been successful.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.17 AND D.18.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

19. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,559,280 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to reduce waitlists and expand capacity for Homemaker and Chore Assistance services to enable older adults and people with disabilities to live independently. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.20. Work Program #23FR132783**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

20. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,559,280 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to reduce waitlists and expand capacity for Homemaker and Chore Assistance services to enable older adults and people with disabilities to live independently. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to

the ARPA Planning, Advocacy and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.19. Work Program #23FRF32665**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

21. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$18,370,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to support a needs assessment and replacement of the state's comprehensive child welfare information system, known as the Unified Nevada Information Technology for Youth. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.22. Work Program #23FR132784**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

22. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Information Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$18,370,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support a needs assessment and replacement of the State's comprehensive child welfare information system, also known as the Unified Nevada Information Technology for Youth (UNITY). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA UNITY Replacement category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.21. Work Program #23FRF31432**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

23. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,788,960 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to support a mobile respite program and waitlist reduction for caregiver respite services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.24. Work Program #23FR132785**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

24. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,788,960 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support a mobile respite program and waitlist reduction for caregiver respite services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Planning, Advocacy, and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.23. Work Program #23FRF32668**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

25. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$2,909,528 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to provide home-delivered meal services to homebound adults aged 60 and older. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.26. Work Program #23FR132786**

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 2023

Addition of \$2,909,528 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to provide home-delivered meal services to homebound adults aged 60 and older. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Planning, Advocacy and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.25. Work Program #23FRF32663**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

27. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$470,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to support a multimedia marketing campaign and outreach to consumers and website redesign to increase awareness of available services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.28. Work Program #23FR132787**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

28. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$470,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support a multimedia marketing campaign and outreach to consumers and website design to increase awareness of available services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Planning, Advocacy and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.27. Work Program #23FRF32664**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

29. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$2,795,700 from the Reserve category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category and transfer of \$1,157,989 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the ARPA Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to fund newborn screening testing and reporting enhancements. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.30. Work Program #23FR132788**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

30. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$3,953,689 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund newborn screening testing and reporting enhancements. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Newborn Screening and Testing category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.29. Work Program #23FR322202**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

31. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$4,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to support an increase in community-based, residential setting bed capacity for older adults and people with disabilities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.32. Work Program #23FR132789**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

32. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$4,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF) transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support an increase in community-based care (CBC), residential setting bed capacity for older adults and people with disabilities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA CSFRF-CBC category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.31. Work Program #23FR326610**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

33. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$5,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to support development of a program to address shortages in personal caregivers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.34. Work Program #23FR132790**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.138.

34. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$5,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support development of a program to address shortages in personal caregivers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Planning, Advocacy and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.33. Work Program #23FRF32669**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.138.

35. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$6,446,148 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to continue support of comprehensive and accessible reproductive health programs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.36. Work Program #23FR132791**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

36. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Community Health Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$6,446,148 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to continue support of comprehensive and accessible reproductive health programs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Transfer from ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.35. Work Program #23FRF32241**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

37. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$259,073 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category and transfer of \$81,978 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the ARPA Administration category to support an allocation to the Governor's Office of Finance for one new Administrative Services Officer and five contract staff to administer and monitor the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and assist with preparing the Governor's recommended budget. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.38. Work Program #23FR132792**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

38. Office of the Governor - Governor's Office of Finance - Budget Division – FY 2023

Addition of \$341,051 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF) transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account for a new Administrative Services Officer and five contract staff to administer and monitor the CSFRF and assist with preparing the Governor's recommended budget. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.37. Work Program #23FRF13402**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

39. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$750,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to provide expanded access to long-acting reversible contraceptives. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.40. Work Program #23FR132793**

Agenda Items D.39 and D.40 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.40.

40. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$750,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to provide expanded access to long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Expanded Access to LARCs category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.39. Work Program #23FR315802**

Agenda Items D.39 and D.40 were discussed jointly.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

It appears this request is for intrauterine devices (IUDs) and reimbursement, but not the insertion or removal of the device. Will the division purchase the IUDs and give them to providers? If so, what providers will receive the devices? Additionally, what alternatives did the division consider?

MELISSA LAUFER-LEWIS (Administrative Services Officer, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy [DHCFP], DHHS):

In terms of reimbursement, the division currently reimburses Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics for insertion and removal of IUDs. It is the contraceptive itself that has a greater cost and is somewhat cost prohibitive for these providers to provide.

DR. ANTONINA CAPURRO (Deputy Division Administrator, DHCFP, DHHS):

The insertion of the IUDs will be paid separately by the provider. The provider will bill Medicaid. The FQHCs and rural health clinics will receive the Prospective Payment System (PPS) rate, or encounter rate, as they would normally. This specific form of contraception was the one that was most problematic for the FQHCs and rural health clinics, so this was the one that was selected for the project. If there are other forms of contraception that need to be considered in the future, that can be a part of this project as the division unbundles this and pays for the devices separately.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

The providers are going to bill separately; the division is not going to provide them with the IUDs. Will the providers have to purchase the devices and then seek reimbursement from the DHCFP?

DR. CAPURRO:

Yes, the funding will come from the DHCFP Administrative budget. The division will reimburse providers directly as well as provide the encounter payment for the FQHCs for the insertion of the device. The long-term goal is to unbundle these so that they are paid separately, but that would require budget authority.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEMS D.39 AND D.40.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

41. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$5,500,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to fund Health Care Workforce Scholarships and support staff. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the

ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.42. Work Program #23FR132794**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.138.

42. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$5,500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support Health Care Workforce Scholarships and support staff. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Health Care Workforce Initiative category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.41. Work Program #23FR315810**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.138.

43. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer \$2,736,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to support dental health programs for children. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.44. Work Program #23FR132795**

Agenda Items D.43 and D.44 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.44.

44. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$2,736,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support dental health programs for children. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Oral Health for Kids category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.43. Work Program #23FRF31585**

Agenda Items D.43 and D.44 were discussed jointly.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

These items revolve around the dental health programs for children in schools. What schools are involved; will the dental health officer be handling the program? Also, please provide details about outreach efforts.

DR. ANTONINA CAPURRO (Deputy Division Administrator, DHCFP, DHHS):

This program is a school-based sealant program. It is specific to programs in underserved schools, typically Title I schools. The program would serve all the children within that school. During the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of these programs closed. The initial projection was that 75% of the programs closed statewide, that number is now closer to 50%.

This project will not only establish new school-based sealant programs but expand them so that all students within the schools will have access to these preventative dental services.

The State Dental Hygienist, Jannette Gomez, is available to provide information about the program.

JANNETTE GOMEZ (State Dental Hygienist, Nevada Oral Health Program):

The Nevada Oral Health Program develops the Oral Health State Plan that spans between 2022 and 2032. The burden of oral disease in Nevada was included in the state plan. The research provided the following information:

- Nevada children ages 1 to 17 years had higher rates of fair or poor condition teeth and higher rates of decayed teeth or cavities compared to the rest of the United States.
- 20.3% of Hispanic children have decayed teeth or cavities compared to 11.5% of White children.
- 25.4% of non-English-speaking households have children with decayed teeth or cavities compared with 13.5% of English-speaking households.

School-based sealant programs reduce the incidence of tooth decay by 40% to 60%. School-based sealant programs will help improve health equity and access to care for all Nevada's children, with a focus on oral health disparities that impact oral health. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), school sealant programs are a highly effective way to deliver sealants to children who are less likely to receive private dental care. These sealants will be a safety net for children who face barriers to care.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

How many students will be reached with the \$2.7 million?

DR. CAPURRO:

Approximately 100,000 children will be served statewide through this opportunity. It will be a competitive grant opportunity to those that would like to expand or build a school-based sealant program. The division also has funding within this opportunity for a sealant coordinator who will report on the impact of the program.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.43 AND D.44.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

45. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$199,200 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to evaluate the Nevada Early Intervention Services system to incorporate best practices into the system. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.46. Work Program #23FR132796**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

46. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Early Intervention Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$199,200 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to evaluate the Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) system to incorporate best practices into the system. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Analysis of NEIS System category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.45. Work Program #23FRF32082**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

47. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$572,381 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Children's Mental Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to support the Rural Mobile Crisis Response Team for outpatient and community-based support services for youth. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Children's Mental Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.48. Work Program #23FR132797**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

48. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Rural Clinics - FY 2023

Addition of \$572,381 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support the Rural Mobile Crisis Response Team for outpatient and community-based support services for youth. Requires Interim Finance

approval since the amount added to the ARPA Mobile Crisis Response category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.47. Work Program #23FRF36481**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

49. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,646,881 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to support activities to expand access to care service navigation. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.50. Work Program #23FR132798**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

50. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,646,881 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support activities to expand access to care service navigation. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Planning, Advocacy and Community Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.49. Work Program #23FRF32666**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

51. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$7,500,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to fund the modernization and integration of data management systems. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.52. Work Program #23F1327100**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

52. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Federal Programs and Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$7,500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund the modernization and integration of data management systems. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA System Modernization category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.51. Work Program #23FRF31513**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

53. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$400,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Office of the Attorney General to support a Red Flag Law education initiative regarding persons who appear to pose an imminent threat of injury related to firearms. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.54. Work Program #23F1327102**

Agenda Items D.53 and D.54 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.54.

54. Office of the Attorney General - Grants Unit - FY 2023

Addition of \$400,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support a Red Flag Law education initiative regarding persons who appear to pose an imminent threat of injury related to firearms. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Red Flag category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.53. Work Program #23FRF10401**

Agenda Items D.53 and D.54 were discussed jointly.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

Agenda Items D.53 and D.54 are related to a Red Flag Law education initiative. What does the initiative entail and where will it be implemented?

JESSICA ADAIR BRINICH (Chief of Staff, Office of the Attorney General):

As background, the Office of the Attorney General is requesting \$400,000 to fund a gun violence prevention program. The 2019 Legislature passed a law that permits a court to issue an extreme risk protection order to temporarily remove firearms from a person engaging in violent behavior. Only a family member or law enforcement officer may apply for an extreme risk protection order, which is globally known as a Red Flag Law.

The Nevada Independent reported that between January 2020 and July 2022 only 13 such orders have been issued, which is a far lower rate than in other states with similar laws. The new program will have a two-pronged approach. First, it will provide training opportunities for law enforcement agencies to ensure that officers know this tool is available to them and can pass this information on to victims and their families. The Office of the Attorney General is well-equipped to do so as it is a statewide law enforcement agency and hosts the annual Law Enforcement Summit. The Office of the Attorney General also has a good relationship with the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) agency and other agencies throughout Nevada.

In states with Red Flag Laws like Nevada's, law enforcement officers apply for most of these protective orders.

The second part of this program will offer grants to community organizations, including faith-based groups, victim service providers, mental health providers, veterans organizations, and others to provide culturally-competent education, outreach, and resources to families who are struggling and may be looking for tools to help a family member in crisis. This is called the “Help the Helpers” model. The Office of the Attorney General is looking for leaders in the community whom families turn to when a loved one is showing signs of suicidal ideation, violent behavior, or other red flags. It is important for those helpers to have accurate information so they can offer assistance by providing a tool if a family’s loved one cannot safely possess a firearm.

Assembly Bill 291 (2019 Legislative Session) requires county clerks to assist family members in applying for an extreme risk protection order. This would be an outreach and education model with community-based organizations to let people know about this tool before they end up at a courthouse to apply for that kind of order.

I prepared a number of research and statistics about suicide, mass shootings, and domestic violence as it relates to extreme risk protection orders. In the interest of time, I am happy to provide that information to the Committee upon request.

As many are aware, Attorney General Aaron Ford is the chairman of the Committee on Domestic Violence. One of the statutory duties of the Office of the Attorney General is conducting the statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review. The case that was reviewed this year was a murder/suicide in which a Nevada man shot his wife in the head and then turned the gun on himself. Four children under the age of eight were in the home. That shooting happened 46 days before the Red Flag Law went into effect. At the time, members of that family were applying to the court to have the children removed from the home because of domestic violence. The man had previously been arrested for domestic violence battery; however, that charge was reduced to simple battery, so he was in legal possession of his firearm at the time of the incident. It is unknown whether the Red Flag Law would have made a difference, but I would like to think that if the state is able to prevent that from happening in the future, Nevada should take that chance.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

That is a compelling story. I think the issue was with the courts and not the lack of a Red Flag Law.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEMS D.53 AND D.54.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Senator Hammond, Assemblywoman Dickman, Assemblyman Hafen, and Assemblywoman Titus opposed the motion.)

55. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$544,022 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to establish an afterschool day treatment program for children with severe emotional disturbance. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.56. Work Program #23F1327103**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

56. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Southern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$544,022 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to establish an afterschool day treatment program for children with severe emotional disturbance. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.55. Work Program #23FRF36467**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

57. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$593,014 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to support an early childhood day treatment program for children with severe emotional disturbance. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.58. Work Program #23F1327104**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

58. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Northern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$593,014 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support an early childhood day treatment program for children with severe emotional disturbance. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.57. Work Program #23FRF32814**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

59. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,956,011 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and

Behavioral Health to support Assertive Community Treatment and Forensic Assertive Community Treatment programs in Northern and Southern Nevada. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.60. Work Program #23F1327105**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

60. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Behavioral Health Prevention and Treatment - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,956,011 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Forensic Assertive Community Treatment programs in Northern and Southern Nevada. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA ACT category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.59. Work Program #23FRF31703**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

61. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$42,724,998 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Taxation to support implementation of the replacement of the Unified Tax System. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.62. Work Program #23F1327106**

Agenda Items D.61 and D.62 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.62.

62. Department of Taxation - FY 2023

Addition of \$42,724,998 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support implementation of the replacement of the Unified Tax System. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Federal Grants ARPA Modernize Your Nevada Tax category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.61. Work Program #23FRF23611**

Agenda Items D.61 and D.62 were discussed jointly.

JOE BERNARDY (Deputy Director of Information Technology, Department of Taxation):

Senate Bill 414 (2021 Legislative Session) funded the continuation of the Department of Taxation's modernization contract, Project MYNT. In the last two years, the department has hired staff for the project, and contracted with Gartner to help write the request for proposal (RFP) and gather the requirements. The department is currently in the process of documenting the RFP and preparing to release it in January 2023.

SENATOR NEAL:

When will the department fully implement the new system? I understand the new system has a lot to do with the revenue legislation that gets passed and whether it can be implemented successfully.

MR. BERNARDY:

The department's current plan is a three-year implementation beginning in FY 2024 and finishing in FY 2026.

SENATOR NEAL:

What does that mean in terms of revenue policy and the need for system programming impacting fiscal notes?

JOY GRIMMER (Administrative Services Officer, Department of Taxation):

For the first few years of the project, the department will have to run both systems; therefore, the Department of Taxation would likely put a fiscal note on it and have it work within the existing system, and then write it into a change in scope or work with the vendor to implement it into the replacement system.

CHAIR DENIS:

Earlier today, other agencies requested funds for the current fiscal year. During that discussion there was talk of a special reserve account. Is the department requesting funds for the current fiscal year?

MS. GRIMMER:

The funding would be received in FY 2023 but spent in FY 2024 and FY 2025.

CHAIR DENIS:

If the Committee places the funds in a special reserve account, would that impact the department's plan?

MS. GRIMMER:

No, that would work. Would the entire amount be placed in a special reserve account?

CHAIR DENIS:

The funds could be included in The Executive Budget and all the funds would go into the special reserve account.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

I cannot support the department's request. The Committee would be allocating funds for FY 2024 and FY 2025. Based on the backup documentation, work would not begin until June 2023; therefore, I think this project needs to be fully vetted during the 2023 Legislative Session. It appears to be a good project; however, this is not a project that is up against the timeframe of the funds.

CHAIR DENIS:

I want to make sure you understand that the motion will likely be to place the funds in a special reserve account. It will go into the Governor's recommended budget, and it will be fully vetted during the 2023 Legislative Session before any funds are allocated.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

I understand that on the other items where there were timing issues; however, I do not see a timing issue with this project.

CHAIR DENIS:

Has the Department of Taxation already begun work on the project?

JASON GIESLER (Organizational Change Manager, Department of Taxation):

Yes, the department has already begun the project. In FY 2019, the department was approved for a study, which has already been conducted, and Gartner has come on board. The department is already working with some vendors through the process of beginning the modernization project. This funding would allow the department to continue.

CHAIR DENIS:

The funds would keep the department on track to complete the project on time, correct?

MR. GIESLER:

That is correct.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

It is much easier and quicker for the department to come before the IFC to request the funds. Whereas, in the budget process, the funds would not be available to the department until June 2023, which would slow the progress. The accountability measure is maintained when the funds are in a special reserve account.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

If the funds are placed in a reserve account, could the department obligate the funds prior to having authorization to spend the funds through a work program?

CHAIR DENIS:

Similar to other requests, the funds would be placed in a special reserve account. The agency would have to come before the Committee with a work program justifying the need. The Committee would either approve or deny that work program.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE A REVISION TO AGENDA ITEMS D.61 AND D.62 TO ALLOCATE THE FULL \$42.8 MILLION TO A NEW, DEDICATED RESERVE CATEGORY FOR USE IN FUTURE FISCAL YEARS AND REQUIRE THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET TO INCLUDE AN

ENHANCEMENT DECISION UNIT TO REQUEST USE OF THE RESERVES IN THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Hafen and Assemblywoman Titus opposed the motion.)

63. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$100,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Water/Sewer/Lead category to support an allocation to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to support two positions and a water conservation and infrastructure initiative to fund water projects. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Water/Sewer/Lead category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM K.12.b Work Program #23F1327107**

Agenda Items D.63 and K.12b were discussed jointly.

NELSON ARAUJO (Infrastructure Advisor, Office of the Governor, and former Nevada Assemblyman [2015-2017]):

I am here to discuss the Nevada Water Conservation and Infrastructure Initiative (NWCII) for the Committee's consideration.

As the Committee is aware, Nevada is the driest state in the nation while simultaneously experiencing some of the fastest population and economic growth in the nation. Water reliability is critical to the state's economic wellbeing, essential to public health, and an important part of equality of life, the natural environment, and future economic diversification. Responsible management of Nevada's limited water supply is even more pressing when coupled with the increasing impacts of climate change, including extreme drought and record heat.

The demand for water into the future must be balanced with actual water availability. In many local areas across the state, committed water rights will outpace the water supply without substantial reductions in consumptive use or improvements in efficiency. Water decline in aquifers and depletion of springs and streams will cause conflict and shortages in the future without proactive steps to responsibly prevent it.

The NWCII focuses on reducing water demands across the state and ensuring the long-term reliability of the state's water resources. By taking the strategic, thoughtful, and responsible approach, this initiative will focus on the following priority areas:

- Water Conservation and Climate Resiliency
- Environmental Justice
- Water Demand and Availability

The centerpiece of the NWCII is a \$100 million grant proposal funded through the ARPA. If approved, this program will support investments to reduce water demand by residential, commercial, and agricultural sectors while supporting investments to repair and replace aging and leaking infrastructure and simultaneously investing in the workforce. The initiative will deploy \$100 million in ARPA funds towards water infrastructure and conservation efforts using a formula-based selection process and administered through the DCNR.

The DCNR has a long successful track record in implementing water conservation and infrastructure projects through a variety of programs ranging from implementation of the State Revolving Fund for water infrastructure, grants for lead pipe testing in schools, watershed and river restoration, and working directly with landowners on water efficiency through the conservation districts programs.

All programs are carried out through public participation and transparency, consistent ranking criteria to ensure highest priority projects are funded, and with an eye to maximize investments through opportunities of leveraging with other program funding.

JIM LAWRENCE (Acting Director, DCNR):

The NWCII is an important and historic opportunity for the state. In all the years that I have worked for the State of Nevada, there has always been a tremendous need for water infrastructure and conservation.

The Committee heard public testimony this morning about how the initiative is going to be administered and the questions regarding positions. I will discuss how the DCNR envisions the initiative and related administrative needs.

I will primarily address Agenda Item D.63, which is the initiative. When the DCNR was approached, the department took the matter very seriously. The department understands this is an historic opportunity and wants to ensure that it is done right and transparently, and provide a level of comfort for the public, the IFC, and public agencies. The DCNR believes the initiative is the right fit for the state.

This type of program is not new for the department. For decades, the DCNR Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) has been administering the state formula funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for safe drinking water and clean water programs. The NDEP has a well-established program in place and is working daily with related water agencies.

I mention that this type of program is not new for the DCNR because it shows that the department has the experience to implement the NWCII and is aware of potential pitfalls.

The DCNR also considered the need. The NWCII is a \$100 million initiative. The department talked with NDEP staff to determine the project and priority lists under the various EPA water programs. The need always outpaces the amount of money received from the federal government.

The department also wants to honor what occurred at the ARPA portal listening sessions earlier this year. The DCNR has reviewed all the water-related projects that went through the ARPA portal. There were about 138 projects, ideas, and suggestions related to water. The portal was intended to receive ideas instead of formal applications; therefore, many submissions did not include associated costs. For submissions that did include costs, the total far exceeded \$100 million. Therefore, it is evident there is a need and tremendous opportunity. The DCNR would like to leverage the funds for the greater good of Nevada.

The DCNR also closely assessed the timeline that would be needed to successfully implement the NWCII under the ARPA guidelines. As was discussed earlier, ARPA guidelines require the money to be obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026. Regarding the December 31, 2024, deadline, at first glance there is comfort knowing there are two years to obligate the funds. However, the need is now, so it is not a good idea to wait long. Also, from previous experience with water infrastructure grants, the department knows there are usually issues with contracts, supply chain issues, and overall delays in project implementation. Thus, the DCNR believes that water projects require three years to implement. The department is looking at beginning the project within weeks or months to avoid leaving money on the table or projects partially finished.

The total cost of the ideas submitted exceeds \$100 million. I am mindful that there are certain expectations. Therefore, the DCNR is considering a schedule and implementation package that honors the work that has been completed and submitted previously, and one that is also forward looking so that the department can make certain that a transparent process is in place that includes prioritization criteria to compare project applications to ensure the biggest and best projects are completed.

To determine the criteria, the DCNR would like to stand up a technical advisory committee (TAC) immediately. There is a tremendous amount of expertise among DCNR staff; however, there are many experts throughout the state that should also have a voice. The reason for standing up the TAC immediately is to get information from the experts about the weights and balances on the metrics for evaluating the proposals. The committee will be comprised of water suppliers and purveyor experts from Northern, Southern and Rural Nevada. It will also be important to have representation from tribal nations; builders, developers and contractors to handle certain provisions; research institutions familiar with water challenges; a nonprofit organization with water expertise and on-the-ground experience; and the Nevada Association of Counties and the League of Cities, which would represent constituents and the challenges associated with providing water. A broad base will provide better information and make the process more transparent.

Parallel with developing the metrics to prioritize projects, the department will need to develop a new application. The reason for the new application is because much of the information, either existing or received through the portal, was submitted more as ideas and not provided with the details as it would be through a grant

application. In order to prioritize and have a transparent ranking system, it is important to ask for information from applicants in order to use a scoring system for a fair comparison.

The application will be established at the same time as the rubric, metrics, and weights and balances. Modifications will also be made to the Nevada Recovers website (<https://nevadarecovers.com/>) to make it an open, transparent platform to communicate with the public.

Internally, the DCNR is looking to modify the existing water infrastructure program. The department has a program for intaking applications that is great for reporting, accountability, and tracking expenditures. The Nevada Recovers website will be out-facing and used internally to manage the life of the project.

With regard to metrics, the department has ideas but would like input from others. Two important metrics are water conservation and water use and efficiency. During public comment today, the Committee heard about the need for both. There is a common sentiment that many of the state's water basins are over-appropriated or overpumped. Regardless of any single annual precipitation year, water conservation will always be key to the State of Nevada; therefore, it is one of the highest priorities. At a minimum, all projects must meet ARPA requirements.

The department is also considering how each project will impact public health and safety. There are water systems in Nevada that do not necessarily meet all the water standards, as some water systems are grandfathered in. If a project can help conserve water and also meet water quality standards, it is a win-win situation.

The department will also consider geographic equity to maximize the funds statewide. The department has always looked at leveraging funds. This is an historic opportunity, but as noted earlier, there is a greater need. Therefore, the department would like to take advantage of every opportunity to leverage funds to maximize the benefit to the citizens of Nevada. Because of the NDEP's experience with water projects through the EPA, I think that is another good reason for the DCNR to administer the initiative. The department is aware of the needs of the state's water systems and has a feel for some of the opportunities to leverage in order to maximize the value statewide.

The department also wants to provide good paying jobs. Additionally, the DCNR will take into consideration any other environmental factors the TAC thinks important.

As I mentioned earlier, even though the deadline for obligation of ARPA funds is December 31, 2024, that is not ideal. The DCNR would like to obligate the funding for projects within months. In the May/June 2023 timeframe, the TAC will begin as will the intended use plan, which will include the criteria and metrics. Subsequently, applications will be received and evaluated, and funds will be awarded.

Agenda Item D.63 will move the \$100 million from the ARPA account to the DCNR. Because Nevada is in the interim period between legislative sessions, an Executive Budget account cannot be created; therefore, the funds must be placed in a non-Executive Budget account, which is why there is not a work program.

One thing I feel strongly about is that in setting up a program like this, it should have an individual budget account for transparency and accountability. In my experience with people who have run similar programs, the most significant problem is the comingling of funds, not misuse of funds. When there is money and multiple funding sources in one budget account, the tracking becomes more complicated and there is concern about comingling of funds. A separate budget account will also make it easier for reporting purposes.

Earlier, there was a question from the Nevada Farm Bureau regarding administration and positions. The DCNR would like to add two permanent positions, one of which would be an Administrative Services Officer for the financial component, and the other would be a Program Officer for program administration and outreach.

The department would also like to add two contract positions. It can take time to recruit state employees. There are talented people in the natural resources field that may not be interested in acquiring a full-time state job but are interested in working temporarily to get programs up and running. The two contract positions can be brought on immediately to set up the TAC and the applications. The DCNR is aware that some communities and tribal nations may need assistance with the application process. The contract positions will assist with this task.

ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS:

Some members of the Legislature, myself included, have advocated for these types of bold and necessary investments in water projects and infrastructure in Nevada. I really appreciate the thought that went into this proposal. Transparency is definitely an important component. I also appreciate the inclusion of other stakeholders on the TAC that will help flesh out more of the details of the process. I also appreciate some of the remarks related to the budget.

Does the DCNR intend to create an Executive Budget account for the 2023-25 biennium budget to house the program?

MR. LAWRENCE:

Yes. Because of the timing, the program will temporarily need to be housed in a non-Executive Budget account to get started immediately; however, the intent is to house the program in its own Executive Budget account. The department is already working with the GFO during the budget building process.

ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS:

When it comes to transparency, the other thing I would like to mention for the Committee's consideration is providing regular reports to the Legislature, perhaps semiannually, to keep the Committee updated.

Please provide more detail about when the contract work will begin.

MR. LAWRENCE:

The DCNR provides status reports for many other programs, so the department welcomes the opportunity to provide a report for this program. I think a semiannual report is very reasonable. My only request is that there be a sunset date on the reporting. When I first started with the state many years ago, I was providing many reports that had been on the books for a long time.

Also, because the program will be housed in an Executive Budget account, the Committee will get reports as the DCNR does its agency request budget.

ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS:

I noticed in the backup documentation that the funds may be used for municipal conservation and resource planning. Some of the regional water authorities discussed their interest in supporting similar planning efforts. Does the DCNR see that as something this funding could be used for?

MR. LAWRENCE:

The primary focus is water conservation, as well as water standards, helping communities, and environmental justice. I think to the extent that an entity could develop a plan and demonstrate that it will lead to water conservation, I would think that would be an eligible project. However, I do not want to speak for the TAC. The final ranking and prioritization would be based on the metrics and the amount of conservation.

ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS:

As everyone is aware, there have been declining water levels at Lake Mead. The Bureau of Reclamation has asked all the Colorado River states to collectively cut at least two-million-acre feet in use immediately to help preserve the Colorado River system. There are several water basins that are over-appropriated, some severely, and some are being overdrawn. With that context and given the timeline to obligate and expend the funds, can this project be implemented after the budget is passed in June 2023?

MR. LAWRENCE:

To be frank, no. Due to the timeline and the department's experience with infrastructure projects, there are often project delays that are out of the grantor's control. The deadline to expend the funds is December 2026, and the state does not want to leave funds on the table. Therefore, I strongly believe the program needs to be stood up now to establish the TAC and the application process and begin working with stakeholders. I am concerned about losing six months by

waiting until July 2023. The department is aiming to accept applications and distribute awards by that time so projects can be constructed and implemented.

SENATOR NEAL:

How is the department going to take into account human migratory patterns, such as the number of people coming into Nevada and whether the state should consider limiting how much it can grow. There were probably discussions in the 1990s about how much Nevada could feasibly grow as a state. I know there are political reasons for why the state continues to move forward; however, will this study consider migration patterns? The reality is that Nevada may have to cap the population its 3.2 million.

MR. LAWRENCE:

I think your question is related to the Division of Water Resources study. Would the Chair like the department to answer questions related to the study?

CHAIR DENIS:

If you can provide a quick response, then please answer.

MR. LAWRENCE:

Regarding the \$100 million water initiative and migratory patterns, certainly the state will rely on the water providers. They are on the ground with the constituents and have a better idea of the forecast regarding population growth or minimization.

How much Nevada can grow is not part of the initiative. The funds are for existing infrastructure and water conservation, so the water initiative will not necessarily prompt growth. The focus of the water initiative is to repair the aging water infrastructure system.

Your question does relate to the water initiative and the studies that will be conducted by the Division of Water Resources. The information and data is used by the state to determine perennial yield, or basically water budget, such as water availability, and much of the data was from the 1950s through the 1970s. Things are done differently now and there is better scientific knowledge; therefore, that information needs to be updated.

Regarding your question about whether this will cap growth, I do not see it as specifically doing that. However, the study will provide the state with better information about water availability to make those types of decisions.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

I commend the DCNR on bringing together a variety of stakeholders to be a part of the TAC. Will farmers also be part of the TAC?

MR. LAWRENCE:

I did not include the Nevada Farm Bureau in the list I mentioned previously; however, there are opportunities within the agricultural community. I think including a representative from the Nevada Farm Bureau or agricultural community is a very good suggestion.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERTS:

How many members will be on the TAC?

MR. ARAUJO:

As of now there will be nine members on the TAC; however, given the conversation today, I think there is a desire to reconsider whether nine is an adequate number of members.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERTS:

Regarding proportionality and pushing out grants, will that be based on population or solely geographic information?

MR. LAWRENCE:

The TAC will provide input on the best way to provide grants; however, it also depends on the applications. The DCNR is always mindful about ensuring that money is spread throughout the state. That being said, there is no control over who submits an application; that is an unknown factor. Advice on how to distribute the funds will be based on the projects, need, and cost.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

There was mention of environmental justice as a priority. How will that be brought forward? Based on the proposed TAC makeup, it did not sound like there would be someone on the committee to address that topic.

MR. ARAUJO:

The Office of the Governor has been convening conversations around environmental justice. There were some legislative efforts during the 2021 Legislative Session to ensure that conversations were being unfolded and that robust dialogue was occurring with agencies to see how to match the metrics. Environmental justice is an important topic, and it has been even further amplified through the efforts of federal laws, one of which was the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which requires the Justice40 Initiative components to be implemented in strategies as the state deploys and pursues these grants resources.

The Office of the Governor and the DCNR will lean on the stakeholders that are brought forth to help understand the environmental justice thresholds and guidelines needed as the grant opportunities are considered, because needs and metrics are different depending on the topic.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

In the grant application, would there be an extra weight to meet the threshold for environmental justice?

MR. ARAUJO:

That is something for which the TAC would provide further advice. However, I would note that it is a priority of the Office of the Governor and the DCNR to ensure that environmental justice is a strong component of the applications.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

It was noted that this program is going to be placed in a non-Executive Budget account due to the urgency in allocating the funds, but the agency would seek to establish an Executive Budget account during the 2023 Legislative Session. It was also mentioned that the funds will be allocated immediately. If this program is in a non-Executive Budget account, the IFC will not really have oversight to support or approve how the funds are allocated, and potentially, the \$100 million could be allocated before the Governor's recommended budget is released. Is there concern about that? And how will the IFC have oversight over these funds?

MR. LAWRENCE:

You are correct. Because it is the interim period between legislative sessions, the funds have to be placed in a non-Executive Budget account. The urgency is less about obligating the money immediately, the money will likely be allocated during or after the 2023 Legislative Session. The urgency is about ensuring there is a transparent process and representation from across the state and making sure there is a TAC to think about criteria and how to address environmental justice. All of that requires time, people, and resources. I feel the urgency is related to the time it takes to stand up a program. I understand the concerns of the Committee. As stated previously, the DCNR would like to establish the program as an Executive Budget account.

During the Legislative Commission's Budget Subcommittee meetings in January 2023, the department will provide a presentation that will include specific updates on things such as the Conserve Nevada grant program, which has been very successful in awarding grants statewide. The DCNR will also provide informational reports. Because the program being discussed today will be established in a budget account and will require budget hearings.

The thought that the \$100 million will be entirely allocated by November 1, 2022, and bypass the legislative process will not occur. It will take time to stand up the program.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

Mr. Araujo, when you gave your presentation, you discussed water conservation and quality, but you also talked about water availability. That has been my concern with the proposal before the Committee. Water availability is not being considered. There is not enough in the program to bring the perennial yield forward on the 256 water basins in the state. In looking at this program and the TAC, there will

probably end up being more than 15 members on the TAC unless there are limitations, and that will upset people. There is going to be a large number of applications, and I will be surprised if applications are being acted on during the 2023 Legislative Session.

My biggest concern is that the state is not investing in an updated database and water inventory. Many of the federal recon studies are 70 years old, which is outdated data. It is concerning that the state is considering spending \$100 million in infrastructure without knowing the current perennial yield of the water basins.

How is the state going to obtain quality data? Why invest \$100 million in projects when there is not enough water?

MR. ARAUJO:

I hate to answer your question by advocating for another item, but I think there are efforts also being discussed throughout the agenda to help move the ball forward in digitizing the way that Nevada looks to answer some of those lingering questions and address the ongoing issue of water availability. I think all the items complement one another. If everyone works collaboratively and communicates with one another, then I trust that the state can move forward and ensure it is carefully addressing the issues while also being cognizant of the concerns.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM D.63 AND REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO INCLUDE THE NEVADA WATER CONSERVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVE IN THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND PROVIDE QUARTERLY REPORTS TO THE INTERIM FINANCE COMMITTEE THROUGH THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

I will be abstaining from the vote because I operate a regulated water utility.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Hafen abstained from the vote.)

64. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Water Conservancy and Infrastructure - FY 2023

Addition of \$100,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support two positions and a water conservation and infrastructure initiative to fund water-related projects. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Administrative Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FR415901. WITHDRAWN 9-30-22.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

65. Department of Administration - Hearings Division - FY 2023

Addition of \$425,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support an e-filing system. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Funding category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FRF10151**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

66. Department of Administration - Purchasing Division - FY 2023

Addition of \$403,134 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support leased warehouse space. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FR135803**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

67. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$46,998 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy for tribal outreach and consultation activities on health-related issues. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.68. Work Program #23F1327126. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

68. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$46,998 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support tribal outreach and consultation activities on health-related issues. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Travel category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.67. Work Program #23FRF31589**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

69. Department of Corrections - Director's Office - FY 2023

Addition of \$399,069 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund replacement radio equipment for communication within correctional facilities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Equipment category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FRF37101**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

70. **Department of Corrections - Lovelock Correctional Center - FY 2023**
Addition of \$69,455 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund replacement laundry equipment. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Equipment category exceeds \$30,000. **Work Program #23FRF37591**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

71. **Department of Corrections - Pioche Conservation Camp - FY 2023**
Addition of \$36,096 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund replacement culinary equipment. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Equipment category exceeds \$30,000. **Work Program #23FRF37231**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

72. **Department of Corrections - Carlin Conservation Camp - FY 2023**
Addition of \$69,455 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund replacement laundry equipment. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Equipment category exceeds \$30,000. **Work Program #23FRF37521**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

73. **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Division of State Parks - FY 2023**
Addition of \$799,179 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund implementation of a reservation system for state parks and one full-time position to manage the project. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Reservation System category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FRF41620**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

74. **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Division of Water Resources - FY 2023**
Addition of \$283,083 in federal American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund the modernization and digitization of state water records. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Modernization and Digitization category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FRF41710**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

75. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,415,806 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Nevada Department of Education for the development of a Multi-Craft Core Curriculum pilot program for a pre-apprenticeship pilot program for Clark and Washoe County School Districts. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.76. Work Program #23F1327108. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

76. Nevada Department of Education - COVID-19 Funding - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,415,806 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support a pre-apprenticeship Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) pilot program for Clark and Washoe County School Districts. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA MC3 Program category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.75. Work Program #23FRF27102. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

77. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,500,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Governor's Office of Economic Development to create a statewide model for water-wise economic development. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.78. Work Program #23F1327109. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

78. Governor's Office of Economic Development - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to create a statewide model for water-wise economic development. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the WaterStart SFRF-ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.77. Work Program #23FR152601. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

79. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,383,665 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to fund replacement of the Surveillance Utilization and Review data system and update the centralized credentialing process. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.80. Work Program #23F1327110. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

80. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,383,665 in federal American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund replacement of the Surveillance Utilization and Review data system and update the centralized credentialing process. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the System Improvements category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.79. Work Program #23FRF31586. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

81. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$3,901,293 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to fund expanded access to prenatal care services in rural communities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.82. Work Program #23F1327111. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

82. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$3,901,293 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund expanded access to prenatal care services in rural communities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Access to Women's Health Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.81. Work Program #23FR315812. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

83. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$500,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to fund a contract position and community grants to support continued integration of health equity efforts for wellness programs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.84. Work Program #23F1327112. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

84. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Chronic Disease - FY 2023

Addition of \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund a contract position and community grants to support continued integration of health equity efforts for wellness programs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Health Equity category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.83. Work Program #23FR322001. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

85. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$14,520,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division to fund a consultant to assist with development of a request for proposals for intensive behavioral support homes to provide services to individuals with dual diagnoses of intellectual and developmental disabilities and behavioral health disorders. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.86. Work Program #23F1327113. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.85 and D.86 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.86.

86. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Desert Regional Center - FY 2023

Addition of \$14,520,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund a consultant to assist with development of a request for proposal for intensive behavioral support homes to provide services to individuals with dual diagnoses of intellectual and developmental disabilities and behavioral health disorders. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Specialized Children Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES**

TO ITEM D.85. Work Program #23FRF32795. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.

Agenda Items D.85 and D.86 were discussed jointly.

DENA SCHMIDT (Administrator, ADSD, DHHS):

This work program requests \$14,520,000 to help the division address the needs for dual-diagnoses individuals with intensive support needs.

I would like to clarify that \$520,000 will be used to contract with a vendor to assist the ADSD in creating a request for proposal (RFP) as well as work with the division to move services into the waiver to sustain any services that are identified through the project. The additional \$14 million will be used for direct services.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

This is a significant issue that needs to be addressed in the state. Given the temporary nature of the funding, what are the division's plans to fund ongoing costs?

MS. SCHMIDT:

The vendor is helping the division identify the services that are needed that can be moved into the Medicaid waiver for sustainability.

CHAIR DENIS:

If the request is approved, what is the division's alternative funding plan when the ARPA funds are depleted to avoid an interruption of intensive behavioral support services?

MS. SCHMIDT:

That is one of the challenges. The division is finding that more people with intellectual disabilities are unable to receive services, so the money is not being expended. Even though the money is available, the waitlist is increasing because there are a limited number of providers. The purpose of this work program is to find providers that have a higher level of specialty services to help the division with those intensive support needs. As the ADSD moves forward and identifies new services that are needed or providers that can provide those services, the current waiver funds will be used to sustain the services in the future.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I appreciate the division bringing this forward. I have had some legislative bills that amended the Medicaid State Plan, and I feel like the state is always trying to catch up on the actions of other states. Nevada is not necessarily maximizing the potential resources to the state with the matching dollars that can be obtained.

I think the state should be doing more of this. It is really an assessment of what the state is doing, how it is being done, and what other states are doing, so that Nevada can maximize federal dollars.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.85 AND D.86.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

87. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$11,267,322 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Administration, Division of Enterprise Information Technology Services to replace end-of-life network and security equipment for the Nevada SilverNet core network infrastructure between northern and southern data centers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.88. Work Program #23F1327114. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

88. Department of Administration - Enterprise Information Technology Services - Data Communications and Network Engineering - FY 2023

Addition of \$11,267,322 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to replace end-of-life network and security equipment for the SilverNet core network infrastructure between northern and southern data centers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Funding category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.87. Work Program #23FRF13861. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

89. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$368,100 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Director's Office to support the development of an Early Intervention Personnel Center. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.90. Work Program #23F1327115. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

90. Department of Health and Human Services - Director's Office - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C Compliance - FY 2023

Addition of \$368,100 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to provide funding for development of an Early Intervention (EI) Personnel Center. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA EI Personnel Center category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.89. Work Program #23FR327601. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

91. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$15,150,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to fund a Nursing Facility and Assisted Living Facility workforce initiative. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.92 AND D.93. Work Program #23F1327116. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.91, D.92, and D.93 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.93.

92. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$97,623 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund a Nursing Facility and Assisted Living Facility workforce initiative. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Long-Term Care Funding for Workforce category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.91 AND D.93. Work Program #23FR315804. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.91, D.92, and D.93 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.93.

93. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Nevada Medicaid, Title XIX - FY 2023

Addition of \$15,052,377 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund a Nursing Facility Workforce and Assisted Living Facility workforce initiative. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Long-Term Care Workforce-ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.91 and D.92. Work Program #23FRF32431. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.91, D.92, and D.93 were discussed jointly.

MELISSA LAUFER-LEWIS (Administrative Services Officer, DHCFP, DHHS):

This work program creates supplemental payments for skilled-nursing facilities as well as Nevada assisted living facilities. These facilities have experienced significant cost increases in the last several years due to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as other issues and Medicaid rates have not increased enough to support the increases these facilities are experiencing. This work program would create supplemental payments to help offset some of the losses the facilities have faced over the last few years.

This request also includes a contractual position that will manage the supplemental payments and work with the stakeholders regarding the program specifics.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

It appears there has already been a decision that all facilities will be included, even those that do not service Medicaid patients. Please talk about how, as a state, Nevada would justify a supplemental payment to facilities that do not have Medicaid patients, especially when so much of the argument is based on the state's low Medicaid reimbursement rate.

DR. ANTONINA CAPURRO (Deputy Administrator, DHCFP, DHHS):

The DHCFP worked with the industry to create this request so the facilities can focus resources generally on funding and recruitment and retention for caregivers at long-term care facilities. The division understands the limitation that not all these facilities are enrolled with Nevada Medicaid. If that is a condition of the Committee, that the DHCFP should prioritize facilities enrolled with Nevada Medicaid or make other conditions of participation, the division would be happy to consider those conditions. This is an area in which the division has struggled because the providers that are not enrolled with Nevada Medicaid would need to go through the Office of the State Controller to enroll in order for the DHCFP to provide those facilities with payment. The division would leave that suggestion to the Committee if the Committee does not feel that as an industry at large there would be benefit in providing this supplemental payment.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

There are two different types of providers: the skilled-nursing facilities and the assisted living facilities. Does the division know how many of the licensed facilities do not accept Medicaid patients?

DR. CAPURRO:

Yes, there are three skilled-nursing facilities that are not enrolled with Nevada Medicaid. According to the division's records, there are 207 assisted living facilities that are not enrolled with Nevada Medicaid, and 185 that are enrolled. Over half of the assisted living facilities are not enrolled with Nevada Medicaid.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

The logic for me does not follow that the non-Medicaid facilities would receive the supplemental payment. I think the workforce issues are legitimate regardless of whether the facility accepts Nevada Medicaid, but for those facilities that do, there is a direct correlation between the state's Medicaid rate and not covering the cost of care for the services that those facilities provide. It would make sense to direct the supplemental payments to the facilities that accept Medicaid residents. I do not know if there is a compelling reason for non-Medicaid facilities to be part of the supplemental payment program.

In the backup documentation, I see information from the Nevada Health Care Association with helpful figures on the workforce issue and talking about the need for more resources aimed at the workforce. Will the supplemental payments end up in the hands of the workforce? Is there more information about how these dollars translate to the ability to retain the workforce and the wages of the workforce?

MS. LAUFER-LEWIS:

Once the DHCFP distributes the supplemental payments to the providers, unfortunately, it cannot mandate that any portion of those funds be used directly for staff increases. However, the division would make that recommendation to the facilities.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

I support this request. I believe the state needs to focus on the Medicaid facilities exclusively, because once the supplement reaches those facilities, it will benefit the workforce in some manner because those facilities are serving so many Nevada Medicaid patients. If the state focuses on Nevada Medicaid facilities, I am less anxious about how the funds will be spent. If the funds are flowing to purely privately run and managed organizations or corporations, then I, as a legislator, do not have a right to tell them how to use the funds, especially if the state does not provide them with state funding. However, with Nevada Medicaid facilities, I know those dollars are going to be put to good use because I do not think anyone will argue with the fact that Nevada's Medicaid rates are very low and do not cover costs.

Does the Committee have the discretion to authorize that the supplemental payments can only be distributed to facilities enrolled in Nevada Medicaid?

BRYAN FERNLEY (Legislative Counsel, Legal Division, LCB):

Yes, I think the IFC has the authority to do that through a motion as a condition of approval of the work program.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I know Medicaid is a low payor, but where is Medicare on this issue? I think that a number of facilities that do not accept Medicaid still accept Medicare. At what level does Medicare pay?

MS. LAUFER-LEWIS:

I do not immediately know the Medicare rate, but my understanding is that Medicare has a limitation on the number of days. The division will obtain those details and follow up with the Committee.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

The reasoning for my question is because if the Medicare rate is close to the Medicaid rate, then that same impact will hit the skilled-nursing and assisted living facilities. I understand wanting to provide supplemental payments, hoping that because of the workforce shortage these entities will use those funds to raise wages and incentivize people to work for those facilities. However, there are some operators where that may not happen. I know there is no way for the state to guarantee it, but the state will be able to evaluate in the future whether the funds impacted the workforce at facilities that received the supplemental payment. I think the Committee will want this information in the future. To me, if Medicare is that close to Medicaid, if there is not much of a pay difference, then there is still an impact.

MS. LAUFER-LEWIS:

It is the division's intention to work with the industry to receive post-audit reports to verify how the funds were spent and then provide that information to the Committee.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

After 30 years as a long-term care medical director, I can say that Medicare does not pay for most assisted living needs; therefore, comparing it to Medicaid is not a fair comparison. Medicare will pay for certain skill levels and a certain number of assisted living days, but it is a totally different issue when it comes to Medicaid paying for assisted living and patients in long-term care.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

It appears that the payments will be divided equally between the institutions versus a temporary rate increase per person, per bed, which makes a difference and is something to consider.

MS. LAUFER-LEWIS:

While the narrative does include the average payment, the actual payments would be based on the bed-day rate increase.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Regarding the bed-day rate, under the proposal suggested by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, it seems that should be limited to Medicaid patients versus all patients. I guess that is a question for the Committee if the state is talking about trying to serve the Medicaid population.

RICHARD WHITLEY (Director, DHHS):

The division is trying to address two problems with the work program. The first part is that during the pandemic, it was difficult to discharge people from hospitals. People are primarily discharged to their home or a skilled-nursing or assisted living facility. The inability of those facilities to hire staff does impact the flow within the health care system. The second part is that Medicaid is the primary payor for skilled-nursing facilities, but the patient must be eligible for Medicaid first, which means they pay out of pocket until they qualify for Medicaid. I do not necessarily think that the marker of whether a facility accepts Medicaid is an indicator of whether the facility will see people who may be struggling financially. It is not like other markets, per se. These are all licensed facilities and sometimes they accept people who pay out of pocket, but those patients may be pending Medicaid or may be eligible later. It is a little different landscape with assisted living than with other health care providers.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

On the skilled-nursing facility level, all but three facilities have Medicaid patients, so almost the entirety of that facility type will receive a supplemental payment. I understand that Mr. Whitley is saying that even for those three facilities that may not presently have Medicaid patients, at some point they may. Where I have less of an understanding is on the assisted living side where there are 185 facilities with Medicaid patients, and 207 that do not. The money will be diluted if there are 207 assisted living facilities that will receive a supplemental payment from Nevada Medicaid even though they do not have Medicaid patients. Do your comments still apply to those facilities? I do not know how this would get Medicaid patients through the doors of assisted living facilities.

MR. WHITLEY:

Although managed in Medicaid, I do not think the division is trying to enhance the Medicaid system or provider network. The DHCFP is trying to address two challenges, one of which is the ability to safely and timely discharge people from hospitals to an appropriate setting. The second challenge is the workforce challenge faced by all industries. It is difficult to place vulnerable populations, regardless of whether the facilities accept Medicaid. As Dr. Capurro mentioned, the division will likely try to recruit those facilities as Medicaid providers. All the facilities are licensed, so they provide a standard of care and undergo inspections. The division also sees this as an internal tool to engage more providers through this relationship.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

I would imagine the DHCFP is contracting with someone to establish the amount of the supplemental payments. Something to consider is that Medicaid patients will never be a patient at assisted living facilities that charge \$10,000 or more per month and are completely private pay. Whereas assisted living facilities that charge a lower amount, such as \$3,000 a month, will keep a patient there on one of the waivers when they start to deplete funds and transition to Medicaid. There must be a distinction. I do not want private pay facilities with a high monthly fee to receive a supplemental payment; however, I do not mind if assisted living facilities

that do not accept Medicaid, but could accept it, receive a supplemental payment. There are 207 assisted living facilities that do not currently have Medicaid patients. I worry that the payment will be diluted. I think that more money should be focused on the facilities that accept Medicaid.

DR. CAPURRO:

I think there is value in providing payment across the industry. Having non-Medicaid providers register with the state as a vendor can also help start a conversation regarding them becoming Medicaid providers. I think this request is really about the delivery system support. I think the comment about a tiered system of payment, and higher payments for Medicaid facilities versus those that are not Medicaid providers, should perhaps be considered.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

Regarding the 207 assisted living facilities that do not have Medicaid patients, should the Committee make a distinction on the assisted living facilities that do not take Medicaid patients for better understanding of where the supplemental dollars would flow for the workforce?

MR. WHITLEY:

I think the DHCFP could develop a plan that includes a tiered system that would be inclusive of all licensed assisted living facilities but would have a distinction for those facilities that accept Medicaid.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I think everyone would like to support facilities that are caring for Nevadans by accepting Medicaid. I like the idea of a tiered supplemental payment system. I think it would be beneficial to place the funds in a designated reserve within the division's budget. The division could then develop a tiered plan and distribute the funds.

To clarify, there is a position in the work program request for \$97,000 so that would be processed, and the balance of the funds would be placed in a designated reserve category until the division develops a tiered plan for supplemental payments.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I think that sounds reasonable. As I understand it, the idea is to incentivize providers so they will register with the state as a potential Medicaid provider in the future. Creating that connection is very useful and having a tiered strategy makes sense.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.91, D.92, AND D.93 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$97,623 FOR PERSONNEL COSTS WITH THE BALANCE OF THE REQUEST TO BE PLACED INTO A SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT, AND REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND

POLICY TO DEVELOP A STRATIFIED PLAN BEFORE UTILIZING THE FUNDS.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

94. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of ~~\$9,314,007~~ **\$12,500,000** from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to modernize the legacy Access Nevada on-premises system infrastructure to a cloud-based solution resulting in a single web portal platform. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.95. Work Program #23F1327117. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE. REVISED 9-29-22.**

Agenda Items D.94 and D.95 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.95.

95. Department of Health and Human Services - Welfare and Supportive Services - Administration - FY 2023

Addition of ~~\$9,314,007~~ **\$12,500,000** in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to modernize the legacy Access Nevada on-premises infrastructure to a cloud-based solution that would result in a single web portal platform. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Single Web Portal No Wrong Door category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.94. Work Program #23FRF32282. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE. REVISED 9-29-22.**

Agenda Items D.94 and D.95 were discussed jointly.

LISA SWEARINGEN (Deputy Administrator, DWSS, DHHS):

Agenda Item D.95 is a system enhancement to build a No Wrong Door solution, which will be a cloud-based solution. It will be a point of entry for clients to access services from the different agencies that fall under the DHHS. With that, clients would be able to see which programs and services are available to them.

CHAIR DENIS:

On this agenda item, \$3.1 million is needed for the current fiscal year leaving \$9.5 million remaining, which could be set aside in a reserve account.

ROBERT THOMPSON (Division Administrator, DWSS, DHHS):

Yes, the division would be able to work with that.

ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER:

How would the division fund costs associated with the Access Nevada modernization project should the project completion date extend beyond the December 31, 2026, expiration date of the ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds?

MS. SWEARINGEN:

Currently, the division anticipates completing the project by that deadline. This is mainly because the vendor is already familiar with the system as well as the other agency and will be able to build those crosswalks.

ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER:

Is the project expected to be completed by June 2026?

MS. SWEARINGEN:

I do not see a problem meeting the deadline. The division can provide the Committee an updated timeline once these items are approved and the contract is amended.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

I am very excited about this project; the concept of No Wrong Door and everything the division is trying to accomplish with it, and knowing this will help improve the score the state has received by streamlining the application and access to a one-stop shop. This will be wonderful for people in human services professions who are helping and working with clients, vulnerable individuals, and families who are seeking services. This moves the state toward a very important goal. It is very important that people in the aging and vulnerable populations will be able to know the services that are available and easily enter into the system. This is going to be a great program at the ground level when it is complete.

Regarding the Nevada Operations of Multi-Automated Data Systems (NOMADS), I remember the change over from the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Family program in the 1990s. I think there may be professionals who remember the difficulty with the implementation of the first system. The fact that the modernization of this system can be completed in four years is wonderful. In the worst case scenario, it could take ten years and experience many roadblocks much like when NOMADS was implemented.

CHAIR DENIS:

One thing that is known about any IT system is that modernization is constant. As soon as a system is updated it is time to update again.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.94 AND D.95 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3.1 MILLION, THE TOTAL PROJECTED FY 2023 EXPENDITURE AMOUNT, TO THE SPECIAL USE EXPENDITURE CATEGORY, AND ALLOCATE THE REMAINING \$9.4 MILLION TO A NEW DEDICATED RESERVE

CATEGORY FOR USE IN FUTURE FISCAL YEARS, AND REQUIRE THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET TO INCLUDE AN ENHANCEMENT DECISION UNIT TO REQUEST USE OF THE RESERVES IN THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

96. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$20,853,829 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Public Safety to continue funding the Nevada Criminal Justice Information System modernization program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.97. Work Program #23F1327118. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.96 and D.97 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.97.

97. Department of Public Safety - Records, Communications and Compliance Division - Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History - FY 2023

Addition of \$20,853,829 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support the Nevada Criminal Justice Information System (NCJIS) modernization program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA NCJIS Modernization category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.96. Work Program #23FRF47091. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.96 and D.97 were discussed jointly.

JULIE ORNELLAS (Administrator of the Nevada Criminal Justice Information System [NCJIS] modernization program, Records, Communications and Compliance Division [RCCD], Department of Public Safety [DPS]):

This request is for the addition of \$20,853,829 in ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRFs) to continue the funding of the NCJIS modernization program for FY 2024 and FY 2025.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

If the funds are approved for the modernization project, would the agency continue to charge an additional \$3.50 for civil applicant fingerprint background check fees?

JASON KOLENUT (Administrative Services Officer, RCCD, DPS):

With the funding being available in FY 2024, the fingerprint background check fee would remain in place during FY 2023. The agency will revisit the fee during the 2023 Legislative Session. The division has found that it is bringing in less revenue in certain revenue general ledger accounts, and for assessments especially, the division is projected to be down about \$1.5 million this year; therefore, the division would like to revisit that during the upcoming legislative session.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

It sounds like the division is still looking into it, but overall, the fee generated less than originally anticipated.

MR. KOLENUT:

That is correct.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

Once the NCJIS modernization project is complete, how will the agency continue to fund ongoing state positions that are funded with ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds?

MS. ORNELLAS:

The NCJIS modernization program staffing structure consists of eight full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, eight contract staff, and three consultants. The program is scheduled to end on June 30, 2025. Once the program is complete, service for the contract staff and consultant team members will end; however, there will be a need to carry forward some or all of the FTE positions. The plan and structure for the FTE positions beyond the modernization program will be addressed in the 2025-27 biennium budget.

CHAIR DENIS:

It looks like the division has \$20.9 million set aside for future fiscal years, but not for the current fiscal year.

MR. KOLENUT:

Yes, that is correct.

CHAIR DENIS:

If the Committee placed the funds in a special reserve category, would this cause the division any issues?

MR. KOLENUT:

No.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

Will the division continue to charge the \$3.50 civil applicant fingerprint background check fee?

MR. KOLENUT:

The division will run an analysis of the increased fees and current reserve standing and discuss this during the 2023 Legislative Session. Because the money is not available to the division until July 1, 2023, which is FY 2024, the \$3.50 fee will remain in place until the end of FY 2023.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.96 AND D.97 AND ALLOCATE THE FULL AMOUNT TO A NEW, DEDICATED RESERVE CATEGORY FOR USE IN FUTURE FISCAL YEARS AND REQUIRE THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET TO INCLUDE AN ENHANCEMENT DECISION UNIT TO REQUEST USE OF THE RESERVES IN THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

98. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,695,060 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to support qualified residential treatment programs in Clark County. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.99. Work Program #23F1327119. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

99. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,695,060 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support qualified residential treatment programs (QRTP) in Clark County. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Transfer in Fed ARPA QRTP category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.98. Work Program #23FR314512. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

100. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,084,810 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support the expansion of the existing newborn screening panel to include an opioid exposure test. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.101.**

Work Program #23F1327120. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

101. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Behavioral Health Prevention and Treatment - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,084,810 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support the expansion of the existing newborn screening panel to include an opioid exposure test. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Newborn Opioid Screening category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.100. Work Program #23FRF31704. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

102. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$651,687 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to provide an additional subsidy payment to youths participating in the Independent Living Program through June 20, 2023. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.103. Work Program #23F1327121. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

103. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$651,687 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support the continuance of the additional supplemental payment for youths participating in the Independent Living Program through June 20, 2023. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Independent Living Supplement category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.102. Work Program #23FR314513. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

104. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$409,400 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to support development of a training and certification process for

family peer support providers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.105. Work Program #23F1327122. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

105. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$409,400 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support development of training and certification for family peer support providers. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Family Peer Support Workforce Development category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.104. Work Program #23FR314514. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

106. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$6,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to develop the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse nursing workforce through educational opportunity. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.107. Work Program #23F1327123. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.138.

107. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$6,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to develop the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse nursing workforce through educational opportunity. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Advanced Degree Funding category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.106. Work Program #23FR314517. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.138.

108. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,554,741 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to fund 18 new fiscal and support staff positions to address excess workloads and growing complexity of the Medicaid program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.109. Work Program #23F1327124. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

109. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,554,741 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund 18 new fiscal and support staff positions to address excess workloads and growing complexity of the Medicaid program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.108. Work Program #23FRF31583. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

110. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$3,499,995 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to support development of a managed care directed payment program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.111. Work Program #23F1327125. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.110 and D.111 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.111.

111. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$3,499,995 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support development of a managed care directed payment (MCDP) program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA MCDP Initiative category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.110. Work Program #23FRF31584. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.110 and D.111 were discussed jointly.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

Regarding the language in the scope of budget for the actuarial, the provider tax and reassessment is going to be very important. I was a little nervous because in some places Mercer is qualifying some of the deliverables. I know the agency will be watching this, but the Committee will also watch it because it is one of the longer contracts. All the bullet points for FY 2023, FY 2024, and FY 2025 appear almost identical. There is talk of there being a lot of uncertainty so things in the budget might need to be adjusted and the scope may change. I would like some reassurance that the division is having conversations with the vendor. There seems to be a solid plan moving forward.

MELISSA LAUFER-LEWIS (Administrative Services Officer, DHCFP, DHHS):

This is a major initiative for which the division received authority from the Legislature. The DHCFP has been working diligently with the hospitals to develop a program. As those conversations have continued and a semi-formal approval vote was received, the division has begun looking at the process to implement the project.

The division requires technical assistance from the actuary because there are two sides. One side is the supplemental payments, which will be released to the fee-for-service population, and the second is the managed care side, which requires a state-directed payment. Both have been approved through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Regarding the deliverables, there are many unknowns going into negotiations with the hospitals and being able to validate the initial estimates from the hospitals. Additionally, the amount of payments and taxes are likely going to change, and the division wants to ensure it has the technical assistance to be able to create a solid program that will be approved at the federal level.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

It appears the hospital association has its own consultant helping with the project. The state is contracting with Mercer to ensure Nevada has the assistance and resources to move forward with the project.

MS. LAUFER-LEWIS:

That is correct.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON MOVED TO
APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.110 AND D.111.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

112. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$7,022,777 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to provide an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to fund capital improvements for the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.113. Work Program #23F1327127. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.112 and D.113 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.113.

113. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$7,022,777 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to fund capital improvements for the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center (VSRC). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA VSRC Capital Improvements Project category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.112. Work Program #23FR314518. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.112 and D.113 were discussed jointly.

DR. CINDY PITLOCK (Administrator, Division of Child and Family Services [DCFS], DHHS):

This request will be subawarded to the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center for capital improvements to improve and increase services for Nevada's victims. The request will also fund temporary staff, a project manager, and associated expenses through December 2026. The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center exists to address trauma and respond to and prevent violence. The center needs to be scaled to meet the increasing needs of the community. If funded, the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center will provide a high-quality, professional one-stop shop for victims to receive wraparound support provided by the people and organization that were awarded the 2021 National Crime Victim Service award from the Office for Victims of Crime. The Director of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center, Tannille Pereira, is available to answer questions.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERTS:

I appreciate the efforts of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. It is important for the center to be housed in a permanent facility. The total for the project is about \$17.5 million and the request from the DCFS is \$7.0 million. Additional funding sources include the federal government as well as Clark County and the City of Las Vegas. What is the status of the contributions anticipated from Clark County and the City of Las Vegas?

TANNILLE PEREIRA (Director, Vegas Strong Resiliency Center):

The contributions from the city and county did not come through. The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center will look for other resources to fill those gaps, most likely through philanthropy.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERTS:

If additional funding cannot be obtained, what would become of the project and the \$7.0 million in ARPA funding?

MS. PEREIRA:

The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center is managed and operated by the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada is confident the funds can be raised for the full scope of the proposed building. The main legal aid building is not mortgaged because the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada raised funds for that building through philanthropy. In the event that enough funds cannot be raised, other options are available.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERTS:

Who will be responsible for awarding the construction contract? Also, who will be responsible for construction project management and oversight?

MS. PEREIRA:

I believe funding is included in the request for project management; however, to be clear, the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada has experience in that its Chief Financial Officer has already overseen the construction of the main legal aid building as well as some buildouts with government; therefore, I feel confident the expertise is available.

DR. PITLOCK:

Embedded in the request is a project manager.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERTS:

The project would not begin until the rest of the funding is secured, correct?

MS. PEREIRA:

The design portion of the project has begun. The architect is Craig Galati who worked on the previous building. The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada has also started working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the \$3.0 million appropriation through the federal government.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

Will the ARPA funds be used at the beginning of the project?

MS. PEREIRA:

Currently, a \$3.0 million federal appropriation is available, which allowed the process with HUD to begin. The ARPA funds will increase the total funding of the project to approximately \$9.5 million, which would allow the project to move

forward. The project will not be stalled while seeking the additional funding via philanthropy of other funding resources.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I echo Assemblyman Roberts' comments in that the Committee is supportive. Typically, the funds would be set aside until the other funds have been acquired. By setting the money aside, it allows the agency to approach other funders with confidence knowing a portion of the funds are already available. Would that complicate the project?

MS. PEREIRA:

I do not believe setting aside the funds would hinder the progress of the project.

DR. PITLOCK:

If it is the pleasure of the Committee to set the funds aside, that would be manageable.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERTS MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.112 AND D.113 AND ALLOCATE THE FUNDS TO A RESERVE CATEGORY UNTIL ADDITIONAL FUNDING IS OBTAINED.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLYMAN YEAGER:

I want to recognize the work of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. I would encourage people to visit the center in Southern Nevada. The state just passed the five-year anniversary of the October 1, 2017, Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting.

I am excited about this project. I think the vision for this space and where it will be located is going to be amazing. The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center does excellent work in its current space, but the building is located in a very busy area off Charleston Boulevard in Las Vegas. This project will support those impacted by that tragedy for years to come.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I appreciate the work of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. Does the center still have contact with the victims who are not residents of Nevada. Will any of the money be used to reach those victims?

MS. PEREIRA:

The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center is still connecting with people worldwide from this tragedy. The center regularly hears from individuals who have not accessed the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center services because they do not live in the area. The center connected with many people during the five-year remembrance.

The impact from this horrible tragedy is eye-opening. The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center will continue to be there. That is one of the pieces of this request, to have something permanent for all Nevadans, whether there is a mass violence incident or a regular violent victimization, so those people will receive wraparound support services. It is important to recognize that the mass shooting incident on October 1, 2017, was so horribly impactful that the center needs to be there long term, not just until the federal funds are depleted.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

114. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$2,206,575 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to support studies to guide future Medicaid program activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.115. Work Program #23F1327128. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

115. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$2,206,575 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support studies to guide future Medicaid program activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Professional Services for Studies category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.114. Work Program #23FR315811. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

116. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$15,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Director's Office to provide funding to support infrastructure for the Nevada Transplant Institute, initiate a liver transplant program, and expand the kidney transplant program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.117. Work Program #23F1327129. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.116 and D.117 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.117.

117. Department of Health and Human Services - Director's Office - Grants Management Unit - FY 2023

Addition of \$15,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to provide funding to support infrastructure for the Nevada Transplant Institute, initiate a liver transplant program, and expand the kidney transplant program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Organ Donor Network category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.116. Work Program #23FR319503. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.116 and D.117 were discussed jointly.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I am supportive of the Nevada Transplant Institute, which is long overdue in Nevada. Many patients must leave the state to receive an organ transplant. I would like to see this program stood up as soon as possible.

I am concerned that \$15 million is not enough. How much money is truly needed to establish the program? Why were you not awarded more for this program when there is \$97 million in ARPA funds remaining?

MARLA MCDADE WILLIAMS (Deputy Director of Programs, DHHS):

There are many priorities that need the ARPA funding. The department looked at hundreds of applicants, which totaled \$20 million, but the DHHS was able to allocate \$15 million.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

If the Nevada Transplant Institute needed \$20 million, will the organization be able to move forward with \$15 million? Is there a possibility to ask for more if there are ARPA funds remaining?

Ms. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

My understanding is that the Nevada Transplant Institute proposed some private philanthropy to also meet the need. The DHHS is entering into a partnership with the Nevada Transplant Institute to support the efforts because the department recognizes the need. If the Legislature wants to allocate more funding, the DHHS would not oppose the idea.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

My question is about getting the program moving forward. Nevada has money available. The Committee has heard several times today that the need for the funds is urgent. I want to ensure the state is not getting in the way of the program by allocating only \$15 million when there is the possibility to allocate \$20 million.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

Typically, the Legislature asks organizations to acquire the matching funds first before seeking state funds. This situation is different in that the funds are being allocated upfront regardless of whether the agency obtains the matching funds, because the Committee believes this is an important program. Sometimes tough decisions have to be made. If the Committee were to increase the allocation for this program, I would like your suggestion about where funds should be cut. There is not extra money in the state. There are many costs that will come up over the next four to six years.

I appreciate wanting to allocate more money. There are a lot of other charities and good causes to which I would like to give money. At this time, the state is going a step further with this group by approving the request without requiring the agency to obtain matching funds first. I am sure if the agency needs the assistance of the Legislature in the future, the request would be given consideration.

BAILEY BORTOLIN (Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor):

I would like to clarify that the request from the organization was a need for \$20 million. This was identified as a high priority and a need for the state. The nonprofit organization was brought into conversations to work out a joint funding agreement that made sense for the state's responsibility to support the organization. This important endeavor is obviously a very high priority, and \$15 million is a significant amount of money to give to a private nonprofit organization. The spending plan before the Committee is a joint effort that was developed and agreed upon with the organization.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEMS D.116 AND D.117.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

118. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$500,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to conduct a statewide study on youth homelessness that explicitly includes LGBTQ+ youth. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.119. Work Program #23F1327130. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

119. Department of Health and Human Services - Welfare and Supportive Services - Welfare Field Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to conduct a statewide study on youth homelessness that explicitly includes LGBTQ+ youth. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Homeless Youth Study category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.118. Work Program #23FRF32331. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

120. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category through an allocation to the Governor's Office of Economic Development to assist Regional Development Authorities with one-time support for economic development initiatives aimed at improving economic wellbeing and recovery in regions negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.121. Work Program #23F1327131. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

121. Governor's Office of Economic Development - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs to assist Regional Development Authorities with one-time support for economic development initiatives aimed at improving economic wellbeing and recovery in regions negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the SFRF to Development Authorities category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.120. Work Program #23FR152602. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

122. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,500,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to support genomic infectious disease tracking. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.123. Work Program #23F1327132. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

123. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Biostatistics and Epidemiology - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support genomic infectious disease tracking. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Genomic Infectious Disease Tracking category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.122. Work Program #23FRF32193. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

124. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$537,259 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to support studies to guide future Medicaid program activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.125. Work Program #23F1327133. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Item D.124 was withdrawn.

125. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$537,259 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support studies to guide future Medicaid program activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Professional Services for Studies category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.124. Work Program #23FR315813. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Item D.125 was withdrawn.

126. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$535,600 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to support the development of a pilot program for a health-and-wellness-focused community schools' model. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.127. Work Program #23F1327134. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

127. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$535,600 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to establish a health-and-wellness-focused pilot community schools' model. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Community School Model category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.126. Work Program #23FR314515. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

128. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$500,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to support a study to review the impact of reimbursement parity for services provided by advanced practice registered nurses. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.129. Work Program #23F1327135. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

129. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$500,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support a study to review the impact of reimbursement parity for services provided by advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the APRN and Reimbursement Parity category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.128. Work Program #23FR314516. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

130. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$55,378,801 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to renovate available space at the City of Las Vegas Detention Center to be used for additional forensic bed capacity. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.131. Work Program #23FR132799. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.130 and D.131 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.131.

131. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$55,378,801 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to renovate available space at the City of Las Vegas Detention Center to be used for additional forensic bed capacity. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Forensic Las Vegas Jail Renovation category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.130. Work Program #23FRF31615. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.130 and D.131 were discussed jointly.

ERICA ROTH (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the Governor):

The Governor is committed to ensuring the State of Nevada has a comprehensive continuum of care for mental health services across the state. As part of that commitment, the Governor has worked with the DHHS and all interested parties, including the Nevada Supreme Court, the courts, public defenders, and district attorneys. Together, a long-term solution was identified to address the long-standing and increasing need for forensic bed capacity, which provides complex psychiatric care and treatment. The work program before the Committee reflects those efforts.

As the Committee is aware, the State of Nevada is a provider of these services pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 178.425. Not only does this project provide the fastest, safest, and largest increase in access to services to individuals in need of complex care, but the project also aligns with the Governor's commitment to increase the state's mental health infrastructure to ensure safe and healthy communities across Nevada.

If approved, the state will repurpose a secure, private building to create an additional licensed forensic psychiatric hospital in Southern Nevada. This will be a standalone building licensed by the state and the workforce will be under the supervision of the DHHS.

The increased availability of treatment will reduce the statewide waitlist within the legal system and support public safety and communities.

ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER:

Who would be responsible for the oversight and management of renovating the City of Las Vegas Detention Center?

MS. ROTH:

The facility will be in a standalone building on the campus of the Las Vegas City Jail, not the Clark County Detention Center.

LISA SHERYCH (Administrator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health [DPBH], DHHS):

The State Public Works Division (SPWD) will be responsible for the oversight and management of the renovation project through an agreement with the DHHS.

ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER:

What is the anticipated annual building lease expenditure for the City of Las Vegas Detention Center?

BAILEY BORTOLIN (Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor):

The Office of the Governor has been working with the City of Las Vegas on general behavioral health concerns, which the Committee will see on other agenda items. In order to increase access to services, there has been a healthy partnership, and in that spirit, the City of Las Vegas has offered a 50-year no-cost lease to allow these services to be provided to the community. I say that with much gratitude because it is important to distinguish that the City of Las Vegas Detention Center is for misdemeanors, so this is not the city's obligation. Typically, the population served in this request is the responsibility of the county and the service that will be provided is the responsibility of the state.

ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER:

There will be about 115 new staff members. With the current vacancy rate, how does the agency plan to fill these positions with a diverse, qualified workforce?

MS. SHERYCH:

The state-run hospitals typically experience staff vacancies, even in 2020 the vacancy rate was in the low 20% range. The division generally focuses on job fairs. The majority of staff for these types of hospitals are mental health technicians and forensic specialists, the requirements for which are completion of high school and one or two years of work experience; therefore, the division generally targets high schools and higher education institutions. Recently, the division has been successful using Indeed.com, which has resulted in a 25% increase in interest in various positions. Also, the DPBH has determined that the title of Forensic Specialist can be difficult for people to understand, so the division relabeled the position, which increased interest.

The division uses salary savings for contract staff so there is a blend of contract staff and state employees.

ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER:

Will the division be conducting outreach to ensure diversity among staff?

MS. SHERYCH:

The division has many efforts underway, especially in Las Vegas, because the two hospitals fall under the Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services budgets, and the licenses for the additional beds will also be under that budget. There is a very diverse workforce among mental health technicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses, etc.

ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER:

Will the DPBH require more than \$15.0 million per year for the 115 new positions?

MS. SHERYCH:

Yes, the plan is for the division to include the positions in the agency request budget after the funding is depleted to continue those much-needed services.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

In looking at this, about \$9.6 million will be for capital and 115 of the 123 positions will be ongoing. What the Committee has done with some of the other projects today is place the funds in a special reserve account. This is a significant program for the state as a whole and the Committee might consider something similar in this case. Normally this would be discussed at length during a legislative session, but in this instance, the discussion of ongoing expenses for 115 employees is occurring during an IFC meeting. I think the Committee needs to consider that and whether to commit or make sure it is rolled into The Executive Budget, which I believe was mentioned.

CHAIR DENIS:

Please clarify if the state has ever managed a forensic facility.

MS. SHERYCH:

Yes, the state has provided forensic psychiatric services since the 1970s. Bed capacity has been expanded a couple times. I believe the first time was in 2007 when additional beds were added at Dini-Townsend Psychiatric Hospital and then again in 2015, when additional beds were added at Muri Stein Hospital, which was built in the 1970s as a civil bed facility.

CHAIR DENIS:

This is a large expansion of something the division has already been managing.

MS. SHERYCH:

Yes, this request is to add additional beds to meet the capacity needs for individuals who are waiting in jail for restoration services longer than what is believed to be appropriate.

MS. ROTH:

The State of Nevada has entered into two previous consent decrees: one in 2005 and another in 2014, which was complete in 2015. The issue raised dealt with the wait times for treatment to competency in the state-licensed forensic facilities. As the population grows, and there are national trends towards increased need for

forensic facilities, the State of Nevada is again in a position where this is at a critical point. The Governor has been very forward thinking on this issue, but there is a long history with the state with providing that service. There is a need now to be forward thinking and understand where the state is headed.

CHAIR DENIS:

The project is going to take time to complete, and the staff will not be needed until construction is complete.

MS. BORTOLIN:

This is an issue that should have been resolved a long time ago, but the state has not had the financial means to do so. The Office of the Governor has worked closely with the court systems because they are impacted by this daily. There is a real acknowledgement in conversations that this is something the state has a legal obligation to provide and to do so in a timely manner. The plan before the Committee is the fastest way to expand access to a service that the state is statutorily obligated to provide in a quick timeframe, and currently, there are hundreds of people on waitlists that Nevada has a statutory obligation to serve and to serve quickly. The plan provides for a building that already exists because there is not enough time for new construction. It also provides for staff as soon as possible so that when the building is open for use, they will already be hired and trained. That is good for the community and public safety and the services provided, but it is also the state's responsibility and legal liability.

MS. SHERYCH:

Although the division does not anticipate needing all 115 staff until the space is renovated, there will be a need for some staff as the division has reformatted some of the civil space at Rawson-Neal Psychiatric Hospital; there is also the acuity of individuals in need. I understand that many times people do not understand what this truly means, but these are individuals with gross misdemeanors, felonies, felony battery, attempted murder, etc., so it is important to have the correct staffing mix. Due to the criticalness of staffing beds and reducing some civil beds, the division has combined civil staff and forensic staff, so it would be ideal if the division could access some of the funding for staff to be able to augment more forensic positions.

CHAIR DENIS:

When is construction expected to be complete?

MS. ROTH:

The initial estimated date of completion was spring 2023, so very quick. However, that is not a guarantee due to obvious delays. The hope is that the building will be at least partially renovated and ready for use by July 2023.

CHAIR DENIS:

Based on that information, the division will need to begin hiring soon.

MS. SHERYCH:

Yes, if the facility can be ready by July 2023, just the process of onboarding and recruitment can take several months so it would be important to begin the process prior to July 1, 2023.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

Earlier it was mentioned that outreach would be done at high schools and higher education institutions. Please differentiate between civil and forensic staff, and given the population staff would be dealing with, what positions those younger people would be filling.

MS. SHERYCH:

The forensic psychiatric hospitals have Forensic Specialists who are required to have a high school diploma or pass a General Educational Development (GED) exam as well as two years' experience, college courses, or a combination thereof. Additionally, Forensic Specialists are required to have Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) academy training, category 3. For the civil side, the mental health technicians are required to have a high school diploma or GED, but they are not required to complete POST training. For both positions, the focus is mental health training, which the division provides, and there are also college courses that staff must complete to obtain certification within the DPBH. The tasks for the Forensic Specialists are similar outside of the forensic facility and since the positions are still under the authority of the jails when they come to the division, them having POST training is ideal for that piece.

Young people do apply and receive a minimum of 40 hours onboarding. They are required to take classes to progress from a Mental Health Technician 1 to a 3, or 4 as a supervisor, and the same with Forensic Specialists.

As students are graduating, it is good for the division to get the word out about this opportunity to work for the state in a great field and support people with mental illness.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

I agree those career pathways should start early. I think that is very important to fill that pipeline.

CHAIR DENIS:

The information that was originally provided stated that it would take up to 36 months to complete the construction, but the agency testified it would take approximately 6 months to complete.

MS. SHERYCH:

Ideally, the division would love for construction to be completed in 6 months; however, based on current information, the range for completion is between 18 and 36 months. The goal is to try to expedite it as quickly as possible.

MS. BORTOLIN:

I would add that there have been conversations with the State Public Works Division about how quickly the project can be completed because it is a critical need. The goal is to complete the project as soon as possible.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

Although not a state facility, it will be run by the state, but not under the maintenance of the State Public Works Division. Please clarify.

MS. SHERYCH:

The division has confirmed that even though the space will be leased, the State Public Works Division has confirmed it will oversee the renovation. The division will have a formal agreement with the State Public Works Division stating that it will take on that responsibility.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

The Committee has conflicting information on that issue. Have the negotiations been ongoing, meaning the Committee may have outdated information?

MS. ROTH:

There have been extensive discussions regarding this and as of yesterday, the State Public Works Division was informed by its Deputy Attorney General that there is a path forward.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

One of the issues that weighs on me is that providing this many employees upfront is difficult because construction will not be complete for some time; it could take six to nine months to recruit staff and there are threats of legal action if the state does not act quickly. I understand the state needs to show a good faith effort to address the problem. I think you have done a good job finding a space to renovate.

I understand the division would like to begin hiring as soon as possible because it will take as long to hire staff as it will to renovate, especially if the division requires staff to go through POST training. There are a limited number of POST classes each year. Are all 115 positions needed immediately?

MS. BORTOLIN:

I would say that having as much authority as possible would increase the likelihood of being successful. Should the division not be able to use all of the funds, there will not be authority to use them in another way; therefore, the division would ensure the dollars are used responsibly. I believe this is one of the most important things that can be accomplished today. Having as much authority as possible is incredibly important, because the number of beds available is based on the number of staff. While 115 staff may be optimistic, it is better for the community, the legal system, and the State of Nevada to be able to aim for opening all the beds as quickly as possible. Should the division not be able to expend the funds for any reason, the funds will not be used for another purpose.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

In the original proposal the employees were going to be pushed out to 2027. I recognize the need, but Nevada has to be able to deal with this budget in the 2023 Legislative Session and move it forward knowing that the state can afford it. I am in agreement with the request as long as it is included in The Executive Budget for the 2023-25 biennium.

MS. BORTOLIN:

Where this is different is that it is not about what the state can afford, it is about the state's legal obligation. It is important to find a way to finance this project, and fortunately, Nevada has an opportunity to use funds other than General Funds. The Governor recognizes this is an ongoing expense to which the state has a legal obligation to comply. To the extent that this is an opportunity to not burden the General Fund as has happened in past years when the state has not been on the right side of these lawsuits, this is a better way to spend the dollars than to be in litigation, because these dollars will serve the community and people in need.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

The ARPA funds could be held in reserve. My concern is obligating the 2027 Legislature to find \$15 million to \$25 million to continue funding this after the ARPA funds expire. I am all about letting the Legislature do its job going forward, but the bottom line is the state has to deal with this and create a budget for the 2023-25 biennium. Yes, the state has an obligation to fund this, and it will be funded with either ARPA dollars or the General Fund based on the Legislature's decision.

MS. BORTOLIN:

I think it is fiscally responsible to have a spending plan that proves Nevada can, for the foreseeable future, responsibly honor the commitment of standing up a new hospital, which is why thorough spending plans have been provided. There is an immediate need, but there is also an obligation to show the work that is being done and the ability to be successful down the road.

MS. SHERYCH:

Since the ARPA dollars do not expire until December 2026, the project would not be included in the division's budget until the 2025-27 biennium. The division will make it a priority to include the positions in the agency request budget because the last thing the agency wants is to open additional beds knowing there is a need in the community but not have enough staff to continue those beds.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I appreciate that, but regardless of the specific legislative session, it is the Legislature's responsibility to come up with the funding. It is important to plan for the future and how to fund these positions.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Regarding the construction plan, which could take 18 to 36 months, additional staff may be needed in the near future in order to move staff around, which is reasonable. The Committee is supportive of this project. For the most part today, the Committee has voted to roll funds into an Executive Budget account, except for the capital. In addition to the timeframe for construction, extra time will be needed for a request for proposal and other processes required to begin a project. I think the Committee needs to consider that and some of its previous actions today. It is unusual for a commitment of this magnitude with this type of funding and ongoing expenses to come before the IFC. Senator Goicoechea made similar points.

MS. BORTOLIN:

To clarify, the 18 to 36 months estimate for completion of construction is outdated information. A faster timeline will likely be secured with the SPWD, and the project will be a priority due to its nature and importance. I would urge the Committee to grant authority so that as quickly as the project can be completed, the agency will have hired, and trained staff and they will be ready to serve the community.

ASSEMBLYMAN YEAGER:

I appreciate the comments of others; however, I think the difference on this item is the state's potential legal exposure. The state has already been sanctioned by a judge for the waitlists and inability to place patients, which is an ongoing cost to the state. While I realize the concerns, approving the request shows good faith effort on the part of the state to potentially defend against litigation, as well as defend itself against judges who want to sanction the state for the waitlist. Approving the request will show that the state is doing everything possible to solve this problem, which admittedly is a decades long problem that should have been resolved years ago. I do not agree with placing the funds in a reserve account because there are strings attached in that the agency must return to the IFC to request the funds. The state needs to be as strong as possible and show that it is doing everything possible to address this obligation and limit legal exposure. For that reason, I support the item as presented, realizing it is unique and not something that typically comes before the Committee.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I definitely support the request and want to limit the state's legal exposure. However, if the request is approved, what stops the Legislature from capturing this money within the budget? Technically, even though the funds are committed, they have not been expended. I do not think the IFC can commit the next Legislature.

ASSEMBLYMAN YEAGER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEMS D.130 AND D.131.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I will support the motion because I believe in the need, but I also believe the Legislature can probably pull this back during the legislative session.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I will also support the motion; however, I think it is important for the Committee to receive a status report on the construction project and staff recruitments since it does not appear the funds will be placed in an Executive Budget account.

ROBIN HAGAR (Deputy Director, GFO):

To clarify, this work program relates to budget 3161, which is an Executive Budget account that will be included in the Governor's recommended budget and as such, it will be included in the budget process.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

132. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$10,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Services for Specific Populations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to help fund the expansion of the Recuperative Care Center in Las Vegas. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Services for Specific Populations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.133. Work Program #23F1327101. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.132 and D.133 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.133.

133. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$10,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to help fund the expansion of the Recuperative Care Center in Las Vegas. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Recuperative Care Center category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.132. Work Program #23FRF31616. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.132 and D.133 were discussed jointly.

DR. STEPHANIE WOODARD (Senior Advisor on Behavioral Health, Division of Public and Behavioral Health [DPBH], DHHS):

The request before the Committee is for \$10 million to rebuild and expand the Recuperative Care Center in Las Vegas. Recuperative care is defined as short-term care and case management provided to individuals recovering from acute illness and injury that generally does not necessitate hospitalization, but

would be exacerbated by their living conditions, meaning that an individual still needs care and support to convalesce; however, they would be discharged to an unsuitable place, such as the street or a shelter, where their recovery could be complicated. Recuperative care helps them receive the support they need to heal and become independent.

The estimated project costs are \$17 million with annual operating costs of over \$2.5 million. The City of Las Vegas will utilize the entire \$10 million from this request to pay a general contractor to perform the construction work. Additionally, the City of Las Vegas will contribute \$7 million to the project costs and cover the \$2.5 million in operating and ongoing costs. With the City of Las Vegas owning the Recuperative Care Center building, the State Public Works Division will not be involved in oversight and management. The City of Las Vegas will continue to oversee the existing federally funded capital project and will be responsible for ensuring all construction work is conducted in accordance with state and federal guidelines pertaining to ARPA funds.

This is a one-time funding request with no future obligations to the state for additional investments.

SENATOR HARRIS:

Has the City of Las Vegas approved and secured funding for the city's \$7 million portion of the project costs?

LISA MORRIS HIBBLER (Chief Community Services Officer, City of Las Vegas):
Yes, those dollars have been secured.

SENATOR HARRIS:

I want to confirm that the state will not have an ongoing obligation.

DR. WOODARD:

That is correct.

SENATOR NEAL:

Part of my district includes a portion of the City of Las Vegas. In the backup information, it mentions the Street Medicine Outreach Team. How do homeless clients get assistance from the outreach team during a medical or mental health episode? I have seen very specific incidences where the outreach team was needed. I am unfamiliar with how to access the team on behalf of homeless individuals.

KATHI THOMAS-GIBSON (Director for Neighborhood Services, City of Las Vegas):
The Street Medicine Outreach Team is based in downtown Las Vegas. The team is mobile and rotates through the Corridor of Hope, which includes the courtyard, Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Rescue Mission, and the ShadeTree Shelter. The Street Medicine Outreach Team is a three-member team with a doctor and two Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), so the ability to cover the entire city is limited by the size of the team. The Street Medicine Outreach Team works with

the partner agencies located in the Corridor of Hope when homeless individuals have been discharged to the street to help conduct an assessment of where that particular individual can or should go to get the best level of treatment.

SENATOR NEAL:

I continually see the same individuals in the Mt. Moriah area and I think the outreach team could provide them care.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.132 AND D.133.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

134. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$20,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grants to Tribes category to support an allocation to the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Division of Tourism, Nevada Indian Commission to create a Grants to Tribes program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Grants to Tribes category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23F1327136. RECEIVED ON 9-25-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

STACEY MONTTOOTH (Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, and Citizen of the Walker River Paiute Nation):

The Nevada Indian Commission was created 57 years ago in statute to improve the quality of life of the 28 tribal nations and over 6,000 urban Indians who choose to make Nevada their homes. Historically, essential services have been a critical need for the tribal communities, and this situation was exacerbated and magnified during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Nevada Indian Commission is respectfully requesting the allocation of \$20 million in ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to assist the tribal nations with such capacity in the forms of grants for tribal nations to identify their specific needs.

As a grant program to tribes, it respects sovereignty and self-determination, which empowers each of the tribal governments to identify their individual and specific areas of greatest need.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

I was excited to see this request. I know the tribal communities were particularly impacted in many ways during the pandemic. In visiting the schools and families and understanding the trauma that oftentimes the tribal communities have experienced, I am thrilled this grant program will be available.

Please discuss the anticipated benefits of the Grants to Tribes program, including whether there will be direction concerning child care, infrastructure, mental health care, health care, and substance use. These are ongoing conversations. Also, how will the Nevada Indian Commission measure the success of the program's outcomes?

BAILEY BORTOLIN (Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor):

The request before the Committee is unique because there is only one work program, which is intentional because the tribal nations were included in the state's listening tour. The tribal nations were extremely and particularly impacted by COVID-19, resulting in great need. It is important to recognize their comfort level with the state and their unique experiences; therefore, the plan is for Director Montooth to work directly with the tribes if the request is approved by the Committee. If so, the State of Nevada and the Legislature will be committing funds for use by the tribal nations. The state and the tribal nations will work together to develop parameters and address needs relating to things such as housing and child care. That conversation is difficult because efforts must be paired up with the ARPA rules to determine the best eligible ways to use the funds to support the tribes' greatest needs and avoid making this a difficult, tenuous process in which applications are repeatedly denied due to ineligibility. The partnership will allow the tribes to be successful with the funds but also self-directed to address their greatest needs.

If this is approved today, it is a vote of confidence that this money will be held in reserve for the tribal communities. Ms. Montooth will work directly with the tribal nations to develop the boundaries and come back to the IFC with a work program.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEM D.134.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

135. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$731,052 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Agency Allocations category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to support the technical assistance and staffing needed to implement a Children's Health and Wellness Health Services Initiative. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA State Agency Allocations category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.136. Work Program #23F1327137. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

136. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$731,052 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support the technical assistance and staffing needed to implement a Children's Health and Wellness Health Services Initiative. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Children's Health and Wellness Fund category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.135. Work Program #23FR315803. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

137. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$5,000,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Public Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health to support the Epidemiology Pipeline. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Public Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.138. Work Program #23F1327138. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.138.

138. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Biostatistics and Epidemiology - FY 2023

Addition of \$5,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support the Epidemiology Pipeline. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Epidemiology Pipeline category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.137. Work Program #23FRF32192. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138 were discussed jointly.

MARLA MCDADE WILLIAMS (Deputy Director of Programs, DHHS):

I would like to provide some background and a brief overview combining all the workforce initiatives.

The DHHS agencies are pleased to have the opportunity to grow and support much needed workforce needs to build a network of essential providers for the state's vulnerable populations. The areas identified in these work programs have been recognized by leadership of the various divisions because of extreme workforce shortages and a need to be creative about how to address these dire issues. In terms of managing the proposals, the divisions will ensure they have

objective criteria in place for the selection of individuals who are committed to working in Nevada and have the desire to serve the state's vulnerable workforce. That objectivity will be managed either through the request for proposal (RFP) process or an impartial body of people who will access the applicants. In some cases, as with advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), they will need to meet the additional criteria established by their respective educational institutions. In other cases, there will be an assessment of a person's qualifications to ensure they can be successful in completing the program for which they are applying. There is also the benefit of knowing the areas in the state experiencing health professional shortages, and to the extent possible, ensure that individuals who qualify for the scholarships and opportunities meet an underserved need, including rural and tribal areas.

As the Committee may know, a health professional shortage area is an area that:

- Lacks statewide access to preventative and primary care services
- Experiences a shortage of primary care, mental health, and dental providers
- Experiences key barriers in access to health care, such as lengthy wait times and travel times
- Demonstrates the highest need for health services, such as levels of poverty, infant mortality, low-birth weights, life expectancy, and percentage or number of unserved and underserved.

A health professional shortage area also has insufficient training for providers in those respective areas. Of the state's 17 counties, 10 are single county primary care shortage areas, including pockets of areas in the state's two largest counties: Clark and Washoe.

As post-training requirements are considered for individuals who are awarded these opportunities, the DHHS anticipates getting a commitment from the individuals to continue their work in Nevada, and if possible, with the programs. However, the department recognizes that sometimes a person's life situation interferes with their plans. If someone is unable to fulfill the commitment, we feel comfortable that the efforts have contributed to a higher educated workforce for the State of Nevada.

The DHHS also recognizes this is one-time funding. While it would be nice to have continued funding to build the workforce, directing training toward these needs will ultimately benefit everyone. With some of the programs, there will be continued access to training curriculum that can be used to continue to provide opportunities as needed. Additionally, there are some opportunities to apply for grant funding that might be used to continue these efforts, and in some cases, private philanthropy. Partner agencies may be asked to consider sustaining these efforts. However, the one-time ARPA funds will meet a need that is not currently being met. As stated earlier, it is a pleasure to have an opportunity to help build the state's workforce.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GORELOW:

I am very excited to hear about these scholarships. Why is it most appropriate to fund these scholarships and workforce development programs through the DHHS? How will the programs be advertised?

MS. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

The DHHS recognized that there are some severe needs, and unless the department stepped up to help, those needs would continue to be unmet. Without adequate staffing, the vulnerable populations will not be served.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GORELOW:

I think it is a wonderful and quick way to get that workforce out, by starting from within the health care field, rather than from scratch.

Would the recipients of the scholarship and/or tuition reimbursement programs have any post-training obligations, such as being required to work in a health care field within the state for a set period of time?

MS. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

As the criteria is determined, the DHHS will assess individuals' commitment to ensure that they are going to remain in the state and meet their obligations. Only so much can be done to make that happen because life happens. However, as part of the criteria on the application, the department will ask them to make a commitment.

SENATOR NEAL:

If someone is currently working for the DHHS and wants to attend medical school, would the scholarships apply to those individuals?

MS. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

Yes, the DHHS wants to give an opportunity to anyone who is able to make it work into their lives.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I appreciate the efforts to expand the workforce. We all know that access to care is probably the single biggest hurdle in the state.

You mentioned that one of the criteria is a commitment to remain in Nevada. You also mentioned that life happens, which could prevent people from honoring that commitment. In other programs, individuals are required to pay the cost of training if they are unable to honor the commitment. Will these programs have any similar type of repayment requirement?

MS. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

The DHHS will work with its Deputy Attorney General to see what type of legal criteria can be placed on the allocations.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

I echo the concerns about the commitment to remain in Nevada; therefore, any legal language that can be included, I would like it added as a condition of approval for these funds. I think the most important thing is to get these professionals to Nevada and keep them in the state.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) recently reported that Nevada is last in the nation for children's mental health. I would like to know the scope of work, when the applicants finish school, and how that will work to address Nevada's ranking related to children's mental health.

Ms. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

I am not necessarily the person to talk with regarding the DOJ's investigation, but I can say that the DHHS recognized there are shortages in health care. The department's obligation is addressing that issue to build networks and have adequate systems in Nevada. Part of the goal is to ensure that the state is building systems so that Nevada does not fall into the category of being investigated due to lack of services.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Regarding Agenda Item D.34, specifically the personal care workforce, the documentation talks about incentives in the form of offsetting training fees with forgiveness if a trainee works with low-income, vulnerable populations. I would like to ask about the accountability to ensure that the state does not train people to serve those underserved, and then they ultimately work somewhere else. I am not as concerned about them working in another state, because I think most will remain in Nevada. However, I want to ensure that the state is able to effect access and services to the low-income, vulnerable populations.

Ms. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

One of the challenges is that it is difficult to find any type of a trained workforce, so the department is trying to incentivize people to get the training. The department believes that once people get the training, they will want to serve the people that they have indicated they want to serve. Currently, the DHHS is having difficulty even getting people to qualify for positions. Once training is invested in them, the department believes those individuals will invest back into Nevada.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

You mentioned you are having a hard time getting people to qualify for positions. Is that because there are not enough qualified people?

Ms. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

Earlier today there was discussion about the DHHS staff vacancy rate, which is slightly higher than the overall state vacancy rate. Therefore, this would be an opportunity to provide training to people so they can qualify for these types of positions. It incentivizes them to enter the state system.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

You are correct, there are many lower wage, unskilled positions that pay a higher wage right now due to the market rate. Is there flexibility within the programs to provide more incentives than just the training, such as something to help people get into the workforce?

DENA SCHMIDT (Administrator, ADSD, DHHS):

When it comes to the personal care workforce training, this is one strategy that has been recommended by the federal *Milbank Report on Direct Care Workforce Policy and Action Guide*. The recommendation is to create a curriculum that is stackable so there is incentive to continue the training. As the individual earns more certifications, there is an incentive by employers to pay them a higher wage. For example, they could get a specialty in dementia care or behavioral health care. The program is about training the workforce and creating a pathway to continue through the health care field.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I appreciate the thoughtful approach because Nevada does have tremendous demand for these types of services.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I appreciate the path the DHHS is trying to take. I originally questioned why this program is not being run by the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation or the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation, but I think this number of students would get lost in those large programs. I realize the DHHS brought these ideas to those agencies, which handed them back to the DHHS to implement. It is concerning that the DHHS has such a high vacancy rate. I think this number of students will have a significant impact.

I am not as concerned about making sure these students remain in Nevada. Despite existing scholarship programs requiring recipients to remain in the state, Nevada still has an access problem. These are going to be Nevadans working in other jobs who are going to want this training, or people who are on the ladder and want to upgrade their skills.

Some people might be interested in this opportunity, but when faced with the classroom, they cannot succeed. Who will be responsible for removing them from the program and replacing them with someone else?

MS. MCDADE WILLIAMS:

It is through the assessment and RFP process.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

Through these work programs, the department is addressing many different providers from the frontlines, to APRNs, to public health services. For the frontline caregivers in Agenda Items D.33 and D.34, it does not make sense to include a requirement to remain in Nevada. For people who want to perform personal care work, the state will provide training in the hope that those individuals continue in

that line of work. Personal care assistants help people with daily activities such as bathing, grooming, and dressing. It is hard work that not many people want to do. When family members need someone to help with a loved one, they start looking for personal care assistants. I do not think the state should put a stipulation on training for people interested in the personal care field. The same should be true for people interested in becoming a community health worker or doula.

Regarding clinical rotation scholarships, it is unclear to whom this is referring. The per diem is only \$59 per day, so I do not think it is referring to physicians. Whomever is willing to accept \$59 a day per diem should receive it.

Regarding the APRNs, once again, I think most will remain in the community. There is a great need for APRNs.

Regarding Agenda Items D.106 and D.107, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has an established program to help with APRNs. Due to some of the changes that were made through the program during the 2021 Legislative Session, WICHE was unable to fund as many of the APRN slots as in the past. It seems Nevada already has infrastructure in place for that. I do not know if it makes sense to talk to WICHE about whether the agency could hit the ground faster with these dollars since WICHE already works in that vein.

DR. CINDY PITLOCK (Administrator, Division of Child and Family Services, DHHS): I really think that for the APRN scholarships, a vendor needs to be engaged that can look widely for the state. There are people that want to engage not only in-state programs, but also out-of-state programs, not because they want to move out of state, but because of the flexibility of the program, or because that specialty is not offered in Nevada. For example, I am a women's health nurse practitioner. I attended the State University of New York at Stony Brook in Long Island, New York and came right back to Nevada. I think that if the DHHS were to engage a vendor that could help manage that and allow the registered nurses full flexibility to secure that APRN scholarship, ultimately, they are Nevada nurses and are committed to the field of nursing, that is their chosen profession, and Nevada is only empowering them to become full scope providers and return to Nevada.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS D.33, D.34, D.41, D.42, D.106, D.107, D.137, and D.138.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS PRESENT.

139. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$2,600,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Children's Mental Health category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services to support access to community-based, youth-focused

behavioral health care services statewide. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the ARPA Children's Mental Health category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.140. Work Program #23F1327139. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.139 and D.140 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item D.140.

140. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$2,600,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to provide access to community-based, youth-focused behavioral health care services statewide. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.139. Work Program #23FR314520. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.139 and D.140 were discussed jointly.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

In looking at this request, it reminds me of some of the work that was discussed by the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) on an earlier agenda item. It appears the request is intended for grades 1 through 12. The NDE Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment does a lot of work on this front. The agency talked about tiered services and this Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) request before the Committee relates to family counseling. Is the DCFS coordinating services with the NDE, specifically the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment? It appears the DCFS wants to establish a private contract, but the NDE and the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment may have some of those resources.

DR. CINDY PITLOCK (Administrator, DCFS, DHHS):

This particular program is targeting afterschool programs that are in this space, such as the Boys and Girls Club. There are several types of programs that provide services where youth and families access a great touchpoint. Are you asking if there is coordination to ensure the services are not duplicative?

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Not necessarily duplicative but whether the DCFS and NDE efforts align.

DR. STEPHANIE WOODARD (Senior Advisor on Behavioral Health, DPBH, DHHS):

The DCFS works closely with the NDE and certainly this can help build on the work that was discussed earlier by the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment around multi-tiered services. In supports within schools, this program would provide some additional funding to the community programs that would help continue to accentuate some of the work happening in the schools. So, absolute alignment, just ensuring there is adequate access or building toward adequate

access to some of those additional services in the community for students and families.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I appreciate that graduate and undergraduate students will be integrated because I think the state needs to be working on the pipeline. Reaching undergraduate students will help improve access in the long run because some of those students will become graduate students.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDAS ITEMS D.139 AND D.140.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

141. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Federal Programs and Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$240,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to purchase IT equipment to support telework. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA IT Equipment category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23FRF31511. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

142. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Transfer of \$666,000 from the Loss Revenue Reserves category to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects category to support an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, to support the increase of Nevada's lactation consultant workforce. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the ARPA Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.143. Work Program #23F1327140. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

143. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$666,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to support the increase of Nevada's lactation consultant workforce. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA Lactation Consultant category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM D.142. Work Program #23FR315801. RECEIVED ON 9-28-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

E. APPROVAL OF GIFTS, GRANTS, WORK PROGRAM REVISIONS AND POSITION CHANGES NOT INVOLVING THE EXPENDITURE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 353 OF NRS.

WAYNE THORLEY (Senate Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB):

The following items have been pulled for additional discussion: Agenda Items E.5, Office of the Attorney General, will be discussed jointly with E.21, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED).

Agenda Item E.22, GOED, was withdrawn after the agenda was posted.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I would like to hear additional discussion on Agenda Items E.17, Department of Agriculture, and E.18, Department of Agriculture.

SENATOR NEAL:

I would like to hear additional discussion on Agenda Item E.23, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Division of Tourism.

1. Office of the Governor - COVID-19 Relief Programs - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,419,226 in federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) I funding to continue to disburse emergency rental assistance funds to regional housing partners throughout Nevada through the Department of Business and Industry, Housing Division. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the American Rescue Plan Act - ERA Program Expenses category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.2. Work Program #C61364**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

2. Department of Business and Industry - Housing Division - Account for Affordable Housing - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,419,226 in federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds to continue emergency rental assistance for Nevada renters who have demonstrated a financial need resulting directly from the COVID-19 pandemic. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ERA category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.1. Work Program #C60154**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

3. Office of the Governor - State Energy Office - Office of Energy - FY 2023

Addition of \$200,000 in federal U.S. Department of Energy Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grant funds to update the State Energy Security Plan to comply with the new requirements under the IIJA. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the State Energy Plan Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60713**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

4. Office of the Governor - Office of Science, Innovation and Technology - FY 2023

Transfer of \$414,852 from the Capital Projects Fund (CPF) - Admin category to the Reserve for Reversion category to revert funds to the General Fund. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the CPF Admin category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C61517**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

5. Office of the Attorney General - State Settlements - FY 2023

Addition of \$4,000,000 in T-Mobile U.S., Inc. Settlement Agreement funds to provide an internship program for the placement of women and minority students at the University of Nevada, Reno, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with high-growth companies within the state. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the T-Mobile Settlement Funds category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.21. Work Program #C60337**

Agenda Items E.5 and E.21 were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion and motion for approval under Agenda Item E.21.

6. Department of Administration - Division of Enterprise Information Technology Services - Computer Facility - FY 2023

Transfer of \$86,689 from the Reserve category to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category for carpet replacement at the State Computing Facility. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59946**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

7. Department of Administration - Division of Human Resource Management - FY 2023

Addition of \$159,500 in Office of Workforce Development and Innovation grant funds transferred from the Nevada System of Higher Education to implement the Learn and Earn Professional Trainee Program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60817**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

8. Department of Administration - Purchasing Division - FY 2023

Transfer of \$70,062 from the Reserve category to the Operating category to continue leasing warehouse space for the state surplus property for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Operating category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C61251**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

9. Cannabis Compliance Board - Marijuana Regulation and Control Account - FY 2023

Transfer of \$24,358 from the Operating category to the In-State Travel category to align authority with the appropriate category. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred from the Operating category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C60202**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

10. Cannabis Compliance Board - Marijuana Regulation and Control Account - FY 2023

Transfer of \$41,376 from the Reserve category to establish the Application Drawing Audit category to conduct and provide independent sampling procedures for the cannabis consumption lounge license drawing. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Reserve category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C61233**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

11. Department of Education - Educator Licensure - FY 2023

Transfer of \$156,506 from the Reserve category to the Personnel Services category, \$8,058 from the Reserve category to the Information Services category, \$13,824 from the Reserve category to the Equipment category, and \$198 from the Reserve category to the Operating category to fund three positions to address an increase in teacher license applications and renewals. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59888**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

12. Department of Education - Office of Early Learning and Development - FY 2023

Transfer of \$1,164,080 from the Nevada Ready Pre-K Aid to Schools category to the Reserve for Reversion category, and \$25,258 from the Child Care Development Fund Quality Aid category to the Reserve for Reversion category to revert funds to the General Fund. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Reserve for Reversion category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C61525**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

13. Department of Education - Student and School Support - FY 2023

Addition of \$440,000 in federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant funds transferred from the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation (GOWINN) to fund a contract for a virtual work-based learning environment. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Expanding

Opportunities- GOWINN category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.41. Work Program #C59931**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

14. Department of Education - Continuing Education - FY 2023

Transfer of \$37,497 from the Information Services category to the Adult Education Aid to Schools category to align authority with the appropriate category. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Information Services category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C58578**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

15. State Public Charter School Authority - FY 2023

Addition of \$109,500 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds transferred from the Nevada Department of Education to provide equitable access to and successful outcomes from career and technical education during the continued recovery from the pandemic. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ARPA ESSER category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60157**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

16. State Public Charter School Authority - FY 2023

Addition of \$504,009 in federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Project Aware grant funds transferred from the Nevada Department of Education to increase mental health awareness, screenings, and connections to community-based mental health services. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Project Aware category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C61487**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

17. Department of Agriculture - Veterinary Medical Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$500,000 in federal U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service grant funds to support feral horse management in Nevada. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Feral/Estray Horses Earmark category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59666**

SENATOR GOICOCHEA:

The backup documentation says the Department of Agriculture will continue the programs and some of the right-of-way fencing. I am concerned because there are 5,000 animals in there and the state continues to tighten the perimeter. At some point, the department is going to have to buy hay.

DOUG FARRIS (Division Administrator, Department of Agriculture):
I hope that is not the case.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

You do not need a degree in nutrition to know that 5,000 animals in that confined space will not work. Are there additional plans besides continuing to fence and continuing the existing program?

MR. FARRIS:

Currently, the outlook on this program is to increase one staffing manager and continued fencing to protect public safety.

SENATOR GOICEOCHEA MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEM E.17.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

18. Department of Agriculture - Veterinary Medical Services - FY 2023

Transfer of \$68,537 from the Personnel Services category to the Operating category to fund a shortfall in contracted temporary staffing expenditures for a veterinarian position and increased operating costs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Operating category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C61000**

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

The contracted State Veterinarian is an immediate family member; therefore, I will abstain from the vote.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEM E.18.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Senator Goicoechea abstained from the
vote.)

19. Department of Business and Industry - Division of Industrial Relations - Occupational Safety and Health Enforcement - FY 2023

Addition of \$216,644 from the Fund for the Workers' Compensation and Safety to align the redistribution of costs associated with the Digitization Project. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Digitization Project category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60777**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 20. Department of Business and Industry - Division of Mortgage Lending - FY 2023**
Transfer of \$584,460 from the Reserve category to the Mortgage Lending Division (MLD) Database category to fund the development of a new database system. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the MLD Database category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60200**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 21. Governor's Office of Economic Development - FY 2023**
Addition of \$4,000,000 in T-Mobile U.S., Inc. Settlement Agreement funds transferred from the Office of the Attorney General State Settlements account to support an internship program for the placement of women and minority students at the University of Nevada, Reno and University of Nevada, Las Vegas with high-growth companies within the state. Requires Interim Finance Approval since the amount added to the T-Mobile Settlement Funds category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.5. Work Program #C60305**

Agenda Items E.5 and E.21 were discussed jointly.

JESSICA ADAIR BRINICH (Chief of Staff, Office of the Attorney General):

In November 2019, Attorney General Ford announced a settlement regarding the merger between T-Mobile and Sprint. As part of that settlement, T-Mobile committed to maintaining hundreds of Nevada jobs, deploying a high-speed 5G network covering most rural communities, and offering low price plans. T-Mobile also committed to paying \$30 million to be used for enhancing telecom service to tribal communities and investing in opportunities for minorities, women, and small businesses.

The program before the Committee, which was developed by the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), is a win-win situation. It will use \$4 million of the T-Mobile settlement funds to offer a paid internship program for Nevada college students who are women and people of color pursuing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and working at Nevada technology companies. The program is a win for students who will gain on-the-job experience in the technology industry while being paid for their labor. The program is also a win for a growing industry that is critical to the expansion and diversification of Nevada's economy. New companies frequently cite a lack of talent in engineering and computer science as an obstacle for their further growth. For Nevada's universities, it is a win to offer internships for students and enrich their experience. Lastly, the program is a win for Nevada as the state seeks to grow its economy and retain talented young Nevadans who may otherwise seek technology job opportunities in other states.

MICHAEL BROWN (Executive Director, GOED):

Sasha Sutcliffe-Stephenson testified about this program during the September 14, 2022, IFC meeting. GOED was approached by the startup community and venture capital community about setting up a subcommittee of the GOED Board. The Governor held two roundtable meetings with the

venture capital sector, which is an emerging sector in Nevada's economy. Nevada ranks 18th in the nation in this sector. GOED has been taking recommendations from this community, one of which was to create an internship program. GOED reached out to the Office of the Attorney General, which found the program to be of interest.

KARSTEN HEISE (Senior Director of Strategic Programs and Innovation, GOED):

The Committee may wonder how this internship program is different than other internship programs in the state. The state cannot have enough internship programs because the competition for talent is real, both nationally and internationally. If you look at the competition for engineering and science, which this program is concentrated on, it is even more real, especially among women and minorities. Both of these populations are clearly underrepresented in the science and engineering fields as shown by data. As alluded to by Mr. Brown, Nevada has experienced tremendous growth in the two startup ecosystems in Las Vegas and Reno over the years and the state needs to catch up.

GOED is trying to prevent brain drain and create a meaningful and targeted effective program that pays \$18 per hour, which is more than what has materialized in the past.

Another aspect that should not be forgotten, Nevada is home to a large number of first-generation college students. Those students often come from the same demographic. As the Committee can probably imagine, first-generation college students are more risk adverse naturally. They will not necessarily end up being founders of startup companies. Through this program, GOED hopes to achieve a medium-term effect, which could be called a "deferred founder effect." Placing those individuals with startup and technology companies will provide them with more confidence to establish themselves and become founders of startup companies in the long run.

Another aspect, in the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation (GOWINN) list of the top 20 or more high-demand occupations, 6 of the top 10 spots in the field are being targeted through this internship program. Thus, the need is there.

The standard model for internship programs utilizes job boards, job fairs, and other traditional means of outreach. This program is different because GOED will imbed those programs deeply into the local technology ecosystems. The program performs an active role and will act as a catalyst leading to mutual beneficial collaboration between the universities and startup community, including technology-based firms, which narrows the gap between the universities and high-growth employers. That will also provide a feedback loop to the universities. The feedback will go back to the universities to assess what is being taught and whether it is relevant for high-tech employers.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

As these internships evolve, how will students be sought? I see the money is aimed at a certain demographic; therefore, the outreach must reach that demographic.

Also, how will the internship program be supported once the requested settlement funds are exhausted?

MR. HEISE:

The agreement between T-Mobile and the State of Nevada restricts that those funds only be spent for this demographic (women and minorities); therefore, students outside that demographic cannot be recruited for the program. The students must also be in the engineering or science fields.

GOED is cognizant that the funds are finite. The program was stretched to 3 years, which I think is ambitious, but I believe in that timeframe, 300 students per program at UNR and UNLV will be recruited. GOED is aware the program needs to be sustainable; therefore, the office has submitted a bill draft request for the 2023 Legislative Session where GOED is trying to enshrine an internship program like this in legislation. There is not a fiscal note attached to the bill draft request so there is no funding. GOED believes that over the three-year period, it will be able to provide an assessment of the success of the program, and the office will use the three years to secure more funding. I am hoping that funding could be used to demonstrate this program to the private sector, which will benefit from the program. As such, the private sector will contribute funds to make this program more sustainable. I think the three-year timeframe will provide ample time to identify other funding sources.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

For clarification purposes, the students who will be receiving these internships will be current students at UNR and UNLV and will not be from community colleges. Is that correct?

MR. HEISE:

Correct.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

Although the interns will be paid, will the internships be credited hours?

KATIA ALBRIGHT (Director, Nevada Career Studio, UNR):

The model for this internship program is based on a model that is used at UNR called the Pack Internship Grant Program. The proposed internship program is flexible so if the student wants to receive internship credits, the student can also take courses, but it is not a requirement. Part of this program is talent retention to keep highly skilled students in the workforce, which is why it is primarily for UNR and UNLV. I understand there are other internship programs for the community colleges.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I am disappointed that community college students will not have an opportunity to participate in this internship program, but I understand GOED is trying to work from a certain base.

My concern is that it is going to impact weighted student credit hours in the future, and there will be an ongoing cost. During the 2023 Legislative Session, the Joint Subcommittee on K-12/Higher Education/CIP should keep that in mind to make sure this does not impact the weighted student credit hours because that is the ongoing wrapup costs.

MS. ADAIR BRINICH:

Regarding Assemblywoman Carlton's concern about the community colleges, the community colleges and Nevada State College were discussed with GOED. It was decided to limit the program to UNR and UNLV students because they already have the existing infrastructure. Because of that, more of the funding can be used for the students rather than standing up a new program within the colleges. That being said, the Office of the Attorney General would like to continue working with GOED on potential partnerships with the private sector to grow this program to other educational institutions in Nevada to give every student this opportunity.

SENATOR HARRIS:

There is another four-year institution in Nevada that I think would also like to be part of this program as it expands.

GOED mentioned it will submit a bill draft request for the 2023 Legislative Session. I am hopeful that GOED will consider expanding it to include the LGBTQ+ community as well. That is something I worked on during the 2021 Legislative Session with these types of programs. I am hoping Nevada can continually expand that. Therefore, I would like to see that bill draft request if it is not yet drafted.

SENATOR NEAL:

In the backup documentation, it states that the UNLV College of Engineering will partner with StartUp Vegas (page 117, [Exhibit C](#)). How will that collaboration work? How many STEM businesses are in StartUp Vegas to make the talent retention piece effective in Southern Nevada?

ZACH MILES (Associate Vice President for Technology and Partnerships, UNLV): StartUp Vegas is one of the partners that will be utilized to proactively seek engagements with high-tech companies. StartUp Vegas has been identified as a partner, but it is not an exclusive relationship. As mentioned earlier by Mr. Heise, Nevada is in a reactive situation, and the funding helps the state and high-tech companies to proactively seek one another and build the program.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA
ITEMS E.5 AND E.21.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

22. Governor's Office of Economic Development - FY 2023

Addition of \$801,342 in federal State Trade Expansion Program grant funds to continue providing financial assistance to enable small businesses to enter or expand into export markets. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the State Trade and Export Program category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60757**

Agenda Item E.22 was withdrawn.

23. Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs - Division of Tourism - FY 2023

Addition of \$5,770,000 in Lodging Tax revenue to support projected promotional and advertising expenditures through the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Promotion and Advertising category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60595**

SENATOR NEAL:

Will any of the \$5.7 million in Lodging Tax revenue be provided to the tribal communities?

BRENDA SCOLARI (Director, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs):

The mention of the Division of Tourism in the work program for Agenda Item D.134 is an error. Work Program #C60595 is to adjust the Lodging Tax projections and authority. When the department built its budget for the 2021-23 biennium, it was based on projections during a volatile time related to room nights. Therefore, the department is making an adjustment to collect the three-eighths of 1% of Lodging Tax that is in the NRS, which represents the \$5.7 million in the work program.

The work program in D.134 is solely to create the Grants to Tribes program.

SENATOR NEAL MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM E.23.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

24. Department of Health and Human Services - Director's Office - Data Analytics - FY 2023

Addition of \$287,984 in federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant funds to support the Nevada Violent Death Registry System to continue collection and dissemination of violent death data. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the National Violent Death Reporting category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60727**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

25. Department of Health and Human Services - Director's Office - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C Compliance - FY 2023

Addition of \$87,227 in federal U.S. Department of Education, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C grant funds to continue to provide oversight and services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Early Intervention Services category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.29. Work Program #C60162**

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 2023

Addition of \$160,792 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) grant funds to continue to protect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of individuals who live in long-term care facilities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the LTCO COVID-19 (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations/ARPA) category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #23ARP32662**

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 2023

Addition of \$52,486 in federal Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (CPRSA) 2020, Section 3, Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) grant funding to support capacity of ADRC No Wrong Door response efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the ADRC COVID-19 (CPRSA) category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C58673**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

28. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Home and Community-Based Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$3,693,940 in federal Title III-B COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 2021 grant funding; \$6,017,190 in federal Title III-C COVID-19 ARPA grant funding; \$233,108 in federal Title III-D COVID-19 ARPA grant funding; and \$950,184 in federal Title III-E COVID-19 ARPA of the Older Americans Act grant funding to provide older adults and caregivers access to essential services to maintain health and independence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Title III-C COVID-19 ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C58702**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

29. Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services - Early Intervention Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$87,227 in federal U.S. Department of Education, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C grant funds transferred from the Department of Health and Human Services, Director's Office, and a transfer of \$24,181 from the Private/Community Sector category to the IDEA Part C category to continue to provide oversight and services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to IDEA Part C category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.25. Work Program #C60130**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

30. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Health Care Financing and Policy Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$232,713 in Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Reinvestment funds transferred from the Nevada Medicaid account and \$232,712 in federal Title XIX funds to procure a consultant to research and recommend strategies, provide oral health outreach and education, and coordinate care with the temporary expansion of dental services for individuals diagnosed with intellectual or developmental disabilities aged 21 and over with the increased funding provided by the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the HCBS ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.33. Work Program #C60024**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

31. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Nevada Medicaid, Title XIX - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,647,563 in federal Title XIX grant funds and \$858,809 in Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Reinvestment funds to provide dental services to individuals diagnosed with intellectual and developmental disabilities aged 21 and over with the increased funding provided by the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the HCBS ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60008**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

32. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Nevada Medicaid, Title XIX - FY 2023

Addition of \$34,540,573 in federal Title XXI funds, deletion of \$20,644,203 in federal Title XIX funds, and transfer of \$28,354,813 from the Medical Assistance for the Aged, Blind and Disabled category to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to Medicaid category to fund a projected shortfall due to increased caseload and cost per eligible recipient. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the CHIP to Medicaid category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60372**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

33. Department of Health and Human Services - Health Care Financing and Policy - Nevada Medicaid, Title XIX - FY 2023

Addition of \$232,712 in Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Reinvestment funds to procure a consultant to research and recommend strategies, provide oral health outreach and education, and coordinate care with the temporary expansion of dental services for individuals diagnosed with intellectual or developmental disabilities aged 21 and over with the increased funding provided by the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the HCBS ARPA category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.30. Work Program #C60183**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

34. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Chronic Disease - FY 2023

Addition of \$25,000 in supplemental State Partnerships Improving Nutrition and Equity nongovernmental grant funds to improve equitable food and nutrition security in Nevada. Requires Interim Finance approval since the non-government grant exceeds \$20,000. **Work Program #C60146. WITHDRAWN 9-13-22.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

35. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Behavioral Health Prevention and Treatment - FY 2023

Addition of \$399,926 in federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant funds to support the Nevada Clinical High Risk for Psychosis Program (CHRP) for youth to prevent or lessen the impact of psychotic disorders. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the CHRP for Youth category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60525**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

36. Department of Health and Human Services - Public and Behavioral Health - Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services - FY 2023

Transfer of \$108,209 from the Arizona Public Service Energy Agency Services Loan Repayments category to the Information Services category to fund the purchase of replacement computers. Requires Interim Finance Approval since the amount transferred to the Information Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59190**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

37. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Children, Youth and Family Administration - FY 2023

Transfer of \$102,528 from the Personnel Services category to the Temporary Contract Staffing category to contract with temporary employees through the

remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Temporary Contract Staffing category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60212**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

38. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Rural Child Welfare - FY 2023

Transfer of \$470,268 from the Personnel Services category to the Temporary Contract Staffing category to provide temporary contract staff due to a critical shortfall in licensed social workers, family service workers, and case management specialist candidates statewide. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Temporary Contract Staffing category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60031**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

39. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services - Northern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services - FY 2023

Transfer of \$415,450 from the Personnel Services category to the Professional Contract Services category to fund increased temporary contracted employees. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Professional Contract Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59197**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

40. Department of Health and Human Services - Child and Family Services Division - Victims of Crime - FY 2023

Addition of \$1,942,782 in federal Anti-Terrorism and Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP) grant funds transferred from the Children, Youth and Family Administration account to support victims' claims from the October 2017 Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Victims Payments category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60756**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

41. Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation - FY 2023

Addition of ~~\$701,862~~ **\$678,462** in federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Governor's Reserve funds transferred from the Employment Security Division to provide statewide workforce investment activities. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the WIOA Grant category exceeds \$75,000. ~~Requires Interim Finance approval since work program is equal to or exceeds \$75,000 cumulative for category.~~ **RELATES TO ITEM E.13. Work Program #C60414. REVISED 10-3-22.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

42. Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - Employment Security Division - Workforce Development - FY 2023

Transfer of \$85,812 from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act category to the Statewide Automated Workforce System (SAWS) Project category to provide self-service job seeker and employer system modules for Nevada workforce agency offices. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the SAWS Project category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.44. Work Program #C60251**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

43. Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - Administrative Services - Administration - FY 2023

Transfer of \$294,492 from the Reserve category to the Equipment category to replace office cubicles for the agency's Financial Management unit staff. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred from the Reserve category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59993**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

44. Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation - Administrative Services - Information Development and Processing - FY 2023

Addition of \$85,812 in revenue transferred from the Workforce Development budget to provide self-service job seeker and employer system modules for Nevada workforce agency offices. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Statewide Automated Workforce System Project category exceeds \$75,000. **RELATES TO ITEM E.42. Work Program #C60639**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

45. Department of Motor Vehicles - License Plate Factory - FY 2023

Transfer of \$580,000 from the Reserve category to the Operating category and an addition of \$5,000 in Special Plates Cost Allocation revenue to fund a projected increase in the production of license plates and cost of materials. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Operating category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C60883**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

46. Department of Public Safety - Investigation Division - FY 2023

Transfer of \$46,500 from the Personnel Services category to the Safe Voice Expansion category to fund a shortfall in contracted temporary staffing costs for administrative assistant positions and increased operating and training costs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the Safe Voice Expansion category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60239**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

47. State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Division of State Parks - FY 2023

Addition of \$151,255 in Gift Shop income transferred from the State Parks Interpretation and Education Program and Operations of Concessions account to cover personnel costs for four new Retail Storekeeper positions. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60529**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

48. State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Division of Environmental Protection - Air Quality - FY 2023

Addition of \$157,472 in federal U.S. Environmental Protection Agency American Rescue Plan Act grant funds to support the ambient air quality monitoring program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Particulate Matter 2.5 Monitoring Grant category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60344**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

49. State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Division of Environmental Protection - State Revolving Fund Administration - FY 2023

Addition of \$289,800 in federal U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant funds to support no-cost, technical assistance to small wastewater systems and tribal governments across Nevada. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Clean Water Small Technical Assistance category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59836**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

50. State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Division of Environmental Protection - Safe Drinking Water Program - FY 2023

Addition of \$188,999 in federal U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant funds to support the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) project. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Federal EPA WIIN Grant-Child Care category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60048**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

51. Public Employees' Benefits Program - FY 2023

Transfer of \$450,884 from the Reserve category to the Operating category and a transfer of \$90,533 from the Reserve category to the Information Services category to fund the office move from the Bryan Building to a new location. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount transferred to the Operating category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C61187**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 52. Department of Public Safety - Nevada Highway Patrol Division - FY 2023**
Addition of \$50,890 in Western Interstate Energy Board grant funds transferred from the Agency for Nuclear Projects to support the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant program. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Waste Isolation Pilot Program category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C61313. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 53. Department of Wildlife - Data and Technology Services - FY 2023**
Addition of \$32,003 in Application Fee revenue authority and \$13,300 in Aquatic Invasive Species revenue authority through a transfer from the Wildlife Fund to cover a projected shortfall in the Boating Registration and Titling category for the remainder of the fiscal year due to increased costs associated with postage and the boating registration promotion campaign. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Boating Registration and Titling category exceeds 10% of the legislatively approved amount for that category. **Work Program #C61397. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 54. Department of Wildlife - Game Management - FY 2023**
Addition of \$644,833 in Predator Fee funds transferred from the Wildlife Fund to fund approved predator management projects for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Predation Management Wildlife Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60504. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 55. Department of Wildlife - Game Management - FY 2023**
Transfer of \$35,000 from the Nevada Department of Transportation to the Deer and Antelope category to support program activities associated with the agency's mule deer project. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount transferred to the Deer and Antelope category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60550. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

- 56. Department of Wildlife - Fisheries Management - FY 2023**
Addition of \$761,936 in federal grant funds from Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act, \$889,390 in federal Small Grant funds, \$1,448,664 in Sportsmen Revenue, and a deletion of \$1,219,844 in Sport Fish Restoration funds to align state and federal authority and provide needed funding to operate

the Sport Fish Management, Sport Fish Production and Distribution, Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act, Aquatic Invasive Species and other small grant programs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Section 6 Endangered Species category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60514. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

57. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2023

Addition of \$129,608 in Sportsmen Revenue transferred from the Wildlife Fund to fund two new positions: a new Biologist position to provide project coordination and development, project management, and technical review; and a new Wildlife Staff Specialist position to provide technical advice and oversight of the recently passed subdivision mapping program and provide assistance with the ever-increasing renewable energy development workload as well as other technical review assistance needs. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Personnel Services category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C59637. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

58. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2023

Addition of \$390,634 in Dream Tag Project funds and \$34,366 in Sportsmen Revenue transferred from the Wildlife Fund account to support wildlife rehabilitation and restoration projects and realign personnel costs previously budgeted as Dream Tag funds. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount being added to the Dream Tag Projects category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60538. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

59. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2023

Addition of \$200,000 in All Federal Small Grants revenue authority to realign state and federal authority. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Nevada Partners for C&D Program category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60540. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

60. Department of Wildlife - Habitat - FY 2023

Addition of \$29,998 in Carson Lake and Pasture Permit Fees transferred from the Wildlife Fund to provide for the property maintenance of the Carson Lake Wildlife Management Area. Requires Interim Finance approval since the cumulative amount added to the Wildlife Management Area System category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60574. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

61. Office of the Military - Division of Emergency Management - FY 2023

Addition of \$41,236 in federal Homeland Security Grant Program funding and \$41,236 in Emergency Management Performance Grant - Nevada Tribal subgrant funding to cover a projected shortfall in the Tribal Support category for the remainder of the fiscal year. Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the Tribal Support category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C60032. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item D.

62. Department of Veterans Services - Office of Veterans Services - FY 2023

Addition of \$5,268,723 in federal Department of Veterans Services grant funds to expand the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery (SNVMC). Requires Interim Finance approval since the amount added to the SNVMC Expansion Grant NV-19-16 category exceeds \$75,000. **Work Program #C61201. RECEIVED ON 9-24-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

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 & Salary
Office of the Secretary of State	040/1050	0099	Legal Secretary 2 Code: 2.153 Grade 29/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$40,340.16	Program Officer 2 Code: 7.647 Grade 33/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$47,669.04
Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health	406/3161	1236	Accounting Assistant 3 Code: 2.301 Grade: 27/07 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$47,669.04	Accountant Technician 2 Code: 7.141 Grade: 32/04 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$51,803.28
Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services	409/3229	0083	Mental Health Counselor 2 Code: 10.139 Grade 37/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$56,522.16	Social Services Manager 3 Code: 12.236 Grade 35/09 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$61,616.88
State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	709/3173	0530	Management Analyst 1 Code: 7.637 Grade 33/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$47,669.04	Safety Representative, Consultation Code: 11.522 Grade 32/01 Employee/Employer Paid Retirement: \$45,601.92

F. STATEMENT OF CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT BALANCE.

WAYNE THORLEY (Senate Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB):

The Statement of Contingency Account Balance is located on page 7 in Part 1 of Volume IV of the meeting packet ([Exhibit F](#)). Starting with the summary sheet on page 7, prior to any actions by the Committee, the total balance in the Contingency Account, comprised of the unrestricted General Fund, unrestricted Highway Fund, and the restricted General Fund and Highway Fund, is just over \$22 million. Originally, there were three requests before the Committee for allocations from the Contingency Account; however, Agenda Item G.1a was withdrawn. That withdrawal request was received on October 19, 2022, after the agenda was posted and after the Statement of Contingency Account Balance was prepared. The amount of the requests totaling \$572,432 is reduced by approximately \$17,000, thereby reducing the total to \$555,195. If the remaining two requests are approved, the balance of the IFC Contingency Account will be \$21,481,106.90.

G. REQUESTS FOR ALLOCATION FROM THE IFC CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT (GENERAL FUND) PURSUANT TO NRS 353.268 (Note: IFC may approve a different amount for an allocation than the amount requested).

1. STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES – Division of Water Resources

- a) Request for an allocation of \$17,237 to fund additional costs determined to be needed to complete the repair and maintenance of the South Fork Dam not previously funded through Assembly Bill 465 (2021 Legislative Session).

This agenda item was withdrawn on October 19, 2022.

- b) Request for an allocation of \$250,000 to restore funds in the Account for the Channel Clearance, Maintenance, Restoration, Surveying and Monumenting Program pursuant to NRS 532.230 for channel clearance activities.

MICHELINE FAIRBANK (Deputy Administrator, Division of Water Resources, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources [DCNR]):

This request is seeking funding from the Contingency Account for channel clearance as statutorily authorized. The division has received an application but does not have sufficient funding. When sufficient funding is unavailable, the Division of Water Resources requests funding from the IFC Contingency Account as provided under NRS.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEM G.1b.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE
MEMBERS PRESENT.

2. OFFICE OF THE MILITARY - Division of Emergency Management – Request for an allocation of \$305,195 to cover projected Division of Emergency Management and Nevada National Guard costs associated with providing supplemental security and medical triage capacity during the 2022-23 New Year's Eve activities in Clark County. **RECEIVED ON 9-26-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

DAVID FOGERSON (Administrator, Division of Emergency Management [DEM], Office of the Military):

The DEM is requesting funding from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Clark County, and the Office of the Military to ensure support by the Nevada National Guard and Office of the Military Police for the New Year's Eve activities in Southern Nevada and for resources in Northern Nevada should something occur.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

In the backup documentation, it states that this should be the last request from the DEM for this funding through the IFC Contingency Account (page 30, [Exhibit F](#)). The Office of the Governor has indicated that this funding will be included in the Governor's recommended budget for the 2023-25 biennium. The Committee has wanted this issue addressed for a while, and I look forward to it being included in the budget.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEM G.2

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

H. REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL TO ACCEPT GIFTS AND GRANTS PURSUANT TO NRS 353.335.

1. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Request for approval to accept a donation of \$3,500,000 from Tesla, Inc. to support the initiative for robotics, STEM, and sustainability education programs in K-12 education. **RECEIVED ON 9-30-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE. WITHDRAWN 9-30-22.**
2. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Division of Public and Behavioral Health - Request for approval to accept \$25,000 in supplemental non-federal funds from the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors' State Partnerships Improving Nutrition Equity program to improve breastfeeding and overall health outcomes in infants.

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item H.4.

3. STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
- a) Division of State Parks - Request for approval to accept U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration grant funding of \$1,249,313 for the Recreational Trails Program to fund the creation and maintenance of recreational trails and supporting amenities throughout Nevada.

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item H.4.

- b) Division of State Lands - Request for approval to accept a gift on behalf of the Nevada Department of Wildlife of real property and associated water rights for the Pioneer Meadows **Pond** ~~Pong~~ located in Sparks, Nevada.
REVISED 9-19-22.

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item H.4.

- c) Division of Environmental Protection
- 1) Request for approval to accept U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant funding of \$4,037,549 to provide loans to drinking water facilities throughout Nevada.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

This is funding for drinking water facilities. What type of companies are these?

JASON COOPER (Program Manager for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, Division of Environmental Protection [NDEP], Office of Financial Assistance, DCNR):

This agenda item is the division's usual grant appropriation for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund that will provide additional loan funding to water systems statewide. The funds are intended for capital improvements only.

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item H.4.

- 2) Request for approval to accept U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant funding of \$13,620,600 to provide loans to wastewater and storm water treatment facilities throughout Nevada.

Refer to motion for approval under Agenda Item H.4.

4. DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE - Request for approval to accept a donation from the Muley Fanatic Foundation, Sierra Front Chapter in the amount of \$30,011 for herbicide treatment for the Rock Fire burn scar located in the Sand Hills of Washoe County.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON MOVED TO APPROVE
AGENDA ITEMS H.2, H.3a, H.3b, H.3c(1), H.3c(2), AND H.4.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THE MEMBERS
PRESENT.

- I. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE FROM THE ACCOUNT FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION PURSUANT TO NRS 701.585(3) - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR - Governor's Office of Energy** - Request for approval to award a grant of \$250,000 to the Moapa Band of Paiutes to support tribal nations' energy resiliency, increase clean energy access, economic development and diversification and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. **WITHDRAWN 9-30-22.**
- J. DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY - Housing Division - INFORMATIONAL ONLY** - Status report on the Home Means Nevada Initiative for affordable housing as requested during the April 7, 2022, meeting of the Interim Finance Committee.

Agenda Item D.9 and Agenda Item J were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion under Agenda Item D.9.

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

WAYNE THORLEY (Senate Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB):

The following items have been pulled for additional discussion: Agenda Items K.8b(2), DHHS, DHCFF, and K.12b, DCNR, Division of Water Resources, which will be discussed jointly with Agenda Item D.63, Office of the Governor.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I would like to hear additional discussion on Agenda Item K.5, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

- 1) **SECRETARY OF STATE** - Semiannual report detailing the progress made in establishing and maintaining a centralized, top-down database relating to voter registration pursuant to Section 39.5 of Assembly Bill 422 for the period ending August 31, 2022 (2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on this item.

- 2) **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION** - State Public Works Division - Information regarding the Project Status Exception Report pursuant to NRS 341.100(8)(g).

There was no discussion on this item.

- 3) NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
- a) Report on the department's work with WestEd to examine equity adjustments for pre-K program funding over the 2021-22 interim (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).
 - b) Quarterly reports on Class-Size Reduction variances pursuant to NRS 388.700(5).
 - 1) For the period ending September 30, 2021, of the 2021-22 school year.
 - 2) For the period ending December 31, 2021, of the 2021-22 school year.
 - c) Report of findings on items identified for review associated with the implementation of the Pupil-Centered Funding Plan (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on these items.

- 4) STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY - Semiannual report on the progress in conducting site evaluations of sponsored charter campuses statewide for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on this item.

- 5) WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION - Report on student slot reallocations and student slot vacancies resulting from funding deficiencies during the 2021-23 biennium (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I am concerned about the changes to the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) slots. Nevada is in need of behavioral health and psychiatric health professionals; however, in looking at the Health Professional Education Program (HPEP), there have been reductions, by more than half, for the Master of Social Work program. The number of slots has decreased from 12 to 5. Similarly, the number of slots for Psychiatric Nursing decreased from 20 to 11, and 10 to 5 for Geriatric Training. I understand that it is because the repayment program has not received the anticipated revenue. This is concerning because it is something the state may want to consider shoring up eventually, as these professionals are critical to Nevada's workforce.

PATTY PORTER (Director, WICHE):

The slot matrix is part of the budget process. The funds are allocated in the slot matrix, which breaks down the number of awards available by occupation. I am here to notify the Committee of the adjustments.

The decrease to the slots was due to outreach difficulty during the pandemic. Also, during the pandemic the WICHE office moved from the Office of the Governor to the Nevada System of Higher Education in Reno. WICHE is an agency of two staff; however, due to a vacancy there was only one staff member. The WICHE Director left at the end of 2021, and I was appointed in May 2022.

Regarding the FY 2022 changes and decreases, much of that has to do with the declining loan revenue. The stipends are based on the WICHE base budget and the loan revenue repayments. Therefore, the numbers must be reduced.

I would also note that the 2021 Legislature eliminated the loan component because WICHE was having a difficult time attracting candidates for the program.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

The Committee needs to take note of this because the number of HPEP slots has decreased from 42 to 8, and 42 to 21 over a couple of years. I am uncertain whether the recruitment process should be changed.

Regarding the loan repayment, do you think there was confusion around the federal student loans and perhaps students did not think they had to pay back those loans?

MS. PORTER:

The rationale behind eliminating the loan component was that there were a lot of candidates that did not want to get into a situation of having to owe funds. Also, in some of my analysis since filling the Director position, there was a bad debt charge off of over \$790,000 in FY 2021, which comes out of the repayment pool.

As far as recruitment, I am excited to get involved with outreach to the universities. Even though the slots have been reduced for FY 2023, most of those slots are filled. I am someone who likes to grow and get involved.

I would like to note a correction on the slot numbers for FY 2023. The document indicated 11 slots for APRNs, which also includes Family Nurse Practitioners, Doctors of Nursing Practice, and psychiatric nurses. The number of slots is actually 18.

There was no further discussion on this item.

6) NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- a) Reconciliation report of staffing levels approved and funded by the Legislature compared to actual staffing levels funded by each institution as approved by the Board of Regents. This report is a comparison between the legislatively approved budget and the Board of Regents approved budget for Fiscal Year 2023 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).
- b) Semiannual report demonstrating how capacity funding is being expended by each institution in each of the supported program areas, for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).
- c) Semiannual report on registration fees and any additional non-resident tuition fees received by each institution beyond the authorized amounts for the period ending June 30, 2022, pursuant to Section 8 of Senate Bill 459 (2021 Legislative Session).
- d) Annual report on research operations and maintenance expenditures for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of Nevada, Reno and the benefits of receiving these appropriations for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on these items.

- 7) DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - Division of Tourism - Nevada Magazine - Semiannual report detailing the goals, objectives, strategies, and the magazine's progress towards reaching financial stability (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on this item.

- 8) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 - a) Aging and Disability Services Division - Quarterly report for Senior Rx and Disability Rx Prescription programs for the period ending June 30, 2022, pursuant to NRS 439.630(1)(c).

There was no discussion on this item.

- b) Division of Health Care Financing and Policy
 - 1) Annual report on the Specialized Foster Care program including information related to new services, the number of individuals receiving the new services, the actual cost of services provided, and an estimate of savings associated with reductions in other Medicaid services for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on this item.

- 2) Quarterly report on the Disproportionate Share Hospital Supplemental Payment Program for the period ending June 30, 2022, pursuant to NRS 422.390(2).

MELISSA LAUFER-LEWIS (Administrative Services Officer, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy [DHCFP], DHHS):
This item is the fourth quarter report on the Disproportionate Share Hospital Supplemental Payment Program.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

With the changes in the federal rate and the response from the county, how does Clark County's decision to pay a lesser amount in the intergovernmental transfer payments impact the state net benefit?

MS. LAUFER-LEWIS:

The Disproportionate Share Hospital Supplemental Payment Program was created before the Affordable Care Act when uncompensated care was greater. Given where the division is currently with Clark County, it is understandable that the Disproportionate Share Hospital Supplemental Payment Program will need revisions; however, this program affects other hospitals outside of the University Medical Center (UMC). The division has been collaborating with the UMC to find a solution to ensure the state net benefit is maintained through the Disproportionate Share Hospital

Supplemental Payment Program or changes to other current supplemental payment programs. It is the division's intent to find a common ground solution.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

The UMC is the only publicly owned safety net hospital in the state so it is important to ensure it is the hospital of last resort for constituents. Yet, if the county does not negotiate and the rate changes, it will have statewide impacts. I am glad the division is still in negotiations. I want to make sure that the UMC gets the funds it needs to continue serving patients.

There was no further discussion on this item.

- c) Division of Welfare and Supportive Services - Quarterly report concerning the American Rescue Plan Act Child Care Stabilization grant funds and expenditures approved at the August 18, 2021, Interim Finance Committee meeting for the period ending June 30, 2022.

There was no discussion on this item.

- d) Division of Child and Family Services
 - 1) Report on respite services funded with General Fund appropriations from the Washoe County Human Services Agency, Clark County Department of Family Services, and the Division of Child and Family Services (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).
 - 2) Annual report regarding adoption subsidies funded with General Fund appropriations within the Clark County Child Welfare, Washoe County Child Welfare, and Rural Child Welfare budgets, adoption subsidy savings, federal adoption savings reinvestment requirements, including Nevada's compliance with these requirements, for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).
 - 3) Semiannual report on supplemental John H. Chafee funding received through the federal Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on these items.

- 9) DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND REHABILITATION - Rehabilitation Division - Quarterly report regarding the client services category for the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and Bureau of Services to the Blind or Visually Impaired budgets for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on this item.

- 10) DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS - Prison Industries - Report concerning the status of accounts receivable related to a program for the employment of offenders pursuant to NRS 209.461(1)(i).

There was no discussion on this item.

11) DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

- a) Status report on the issuance of technology fee refunds as required by the stipulation agreement dated November 1, 2021, for the period ending September 30, 2022. **RECEIVED ON 10-3-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**
- b) Semiannual report on the status of the DMV Transformation Effort project for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).
- c) Fiscal Year 2022 report on the use of funds received by each local air pollution control agency from the quarterly and annual distribution from the Pollution Control Account, pursuant to NRS 445B.830(5).
 - 1) Clark County Department of Environment and Sustainability
 - 2) Washoe County Health District, Air Quality Management Division

There was no discussion on these items.

12) STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- a) Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles - Semiannual report concerning the status of the Off-Highway Vehicle grant program for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on this item.

- b) Division of Water Resources - Notification of addition of \$100,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds transferred from the COVID-19 Relief Programs account to support two positions and a water conservation and infrastructure initiative to fund water-related projects. **RELATES TO AGENDA ITEM D.63. RECEIVED ON 10-3-22, AFTER THE 9-23-22 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE.**

Agenda Items D.63 and K.12b were discussed jointly. Refer to discussion under Agenda Item D.63.

- c) Division of Forestry - Semiannual report concerning the status of the Ely Conservation Camp for the period ending June 30, 2022 (letter of intent, 2021 Legislative Session).

There was no discussion on this item.

- 13) NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES
- a) Annual report detailing the expenditures made from the Gift Account for Veterans for Fiscal Year 2022 pursuant to NRS 417.115(6).
 - b) Annual report detailing the expenditures made from the Account to Assist Veterans Who Have Suffered Sexual Trauma for Fiscal Year 2022 pursuant to NRS 417.119(4).
 - c) Annual report detailing the expenditures made from gift funds for the Veterans Homes in Southern Nevada and Northern Nevada for Fiscal Year 2022 pursuant to NRS 417.145(9).

There was no discussion on these items.

- 14) CLARK COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX ACT OF 2005 - Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department - Report regarding a governing body that has approved expenditures pursuant to Section 13 of this act shall submit the periodic reports and such other information required pursuant to this section of the act for the period ending June 30, 2022.

There was no discussion on this item.

L. PUBLIC COMMENT.

JEANNE BISHOP-PARISE:

I held license #156 for nursing facility administrators in the State of Nevada. I have taken care of Nevada's vulnerable population since 1984 when I returned to the state after receiving training in another state. That was the only time that I have left Nevada. I was also valedictorian of my high school. At a time when there were limited scholarships, I received a \$1,000 Fleischmann scholarship from my small high school.

The health care treatment for seniors has really evolved in Nevada since that time. When I was an administrator in the early 1980s, the reimbursement was approximately half that of private pay; the rate was \$80 day. Then the Medicaid program and the reimbursement structure evolved. The reimbursement for skilled-nursing facilities morphed to its current state, which is \$250 a day plus ancillaries. That is very cost prohibitive. Currently, I hold license #3 in what is called a Health Service Executive position, where I can operate home and community-based services as well as assisted living. The state has passed laws that allow assisted living facilities to provide more types of care, down to the least restrictive level to where the facilities are providing diabetes management. I received an affidavit from a resident who was being forced to go to a skilled-nursing facility long term. That is not the desire of anyone. Residents at skilled-nursing facilities are often there because that is their only option.

Because I took care of one of the first Nevadans to be diagnosed with AIDS, my company saw me as a resource. When COVID-19 first broke out, I assisted a new administrator at a sister facility in Redmond Heights that had two employees that were also working in the Life Care unit. There was national news of the first outbreak.

I worked with the State of Washington in returning memory care units to assisted living facilities that survived the pandemic. There were six deaths at the facilities during the pandemic, and ten residents returned to the unit afterward. The facility had to incur expenses in higher-grade products to deep clean the unit and then restage it so there would not be another outbreak. Memory care, dementia, and behavioral are a very difficult group to provide services for. The facility worked with the Nevada Legislature to get a \$3,500 monthly rate for memory care patients for level 4 Medicaid.

I had the only private facility in Nevada that won a national quality award in 2020. The facility has been incurring costs related to COVID-19 and keeping the population safe since the beginning of 2020. Assisted living facilities perform a service and benefit from the Medicaid funds, because people can remain in the facility even though some of the facilities are not Medicaid providers. I am not saying the Committee should give those facilities an exorbitant amount per month. However, I think it is fair to say the nursing facility rate is \$250 a day, but the average costs per day for assisted living facilities is between approximately \$100 and \$130 a day.

ALEXANDRIA CANNITO (Lewis Roca, on behalf of Washoe County):

Washoe County is in support of Agenda Items D.130 and D.131, which add much needed forensic bed capacity in Southern Nevada. Currently, the majority of the beds at Lake's Crossing are being utilized by court-ordered individuals from Southern Nevada. The facility is unable to handle the needed volume. The addition of beds in Southern Nevada will greatly improve capacity and keep individuals in their communities closer to family and resources.

DORA MARTINEZ:

I will miss you and I appreciate the members who are retiring from the Legislature. I will especially miss Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson.

CHAIR DENIS:

I want to thank the members who have served on this Committee and will not be returning, including Assemblywoman Carlton, Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, Assemblyman Leavitt, Assemblyman Roberts, Assemblywoman Tolles, and Senator Tatro. Thank you for your service.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

Over 13 years ago, I first provided public comment as a parent in this room. I remember Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson sitting in my current seat and I noted that she listened and was very attentive. I want to thank you, Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson for your service and friendship. I also want to thank Assemblywoman Carlton for an epic journey of serving in both houses of the Nevada Legislature. To Chair Denis, for your friendship, leadership, and for being a leader who listens. I also want to thank all the staff, as well as my colleagues for many good times and bad, but unbelievable memories. I leave here with tremendous gratitude and I appreciate all of you.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

I want to say a special thank you to everyone who has served with the Legislature and are leaving to do other things. I also wanted to say a very heartfelt and special thank you to Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, Assemblywoman Carlton, and Senator Denis. I will treasure our friendship forever and will miss you immensely.

SENATOR TATRO:

I just wanted to thank everyone on the Committee and staff. It truly has been the honor of a lifetime. I appreciate everyone's kindness and professionalism.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I want to thank you all, but mostly, my husband and two daughters, for this incredible 24 years. The state is in great hands, and you will all do a great job. I am also very thankful for staff. The Committee looks great because staff are behind the scenes doing everything. We could never do it without them, so I want to thank them very much. My husband joked that when I first got elected, they gave the state checkbook to someone who does not balance her own checkbook, because I was a waitress living off cash. Without staff, we never would have made it.

I want to remind the Committee to take care of themselves, because you cannot do a good job for your constituents if you do not take care of yourself.

SENATOR NEAL:

To Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, because we came in together in 2011, thank you for your friendship. Assemblywoman Carlton, thank you for your mentorship. Chair Denis, thank you as well. I know I am a tough character, but you all have helped me to understand Medicaid and how to review a budget, so it has been very helpful having you in my life to mentor me. Thank you for being my friends.

CHAIR DENIS:

Eighteen years ago, I walked in for my first IFC meeting as a freshman legislator. As was typical back then, Senator Bill Raggio asked for \$20 for lunch, and I said yes. Apparently, he never gave the money back to most people, but he paid me back. I have appreciated serving on the money committees. Together, we have done many good things for the state and many great people have served. Staff is amazing, and without them, I do not know how we would do the work. They make the Committee look good and help us to learn. Serving has been a privilege. I consider you all friends and appreciate your service. I am grateful to have served with Assemblywoman Carlton. She was my Senator. The first time I met her, I was in my front yard, and she and her daughter came up and asked for my vote. That was 24 years ago. I never knew we would serve together. I always thought when I got elected that I would only serve 4 years. I am grateful to my wife and family for their support so that I could serve in the Legislature.

M. ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Denis adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Senator Moises Denis, Chair
Interim Finance Committee

Brenda Erdoes, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau,
and Secretary, Interim Finance Committee