

**THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH DAY**

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CARSON CITY (Monday), May 8, 1995

Senate called to order at 10:14 a.m.

President Hammargren presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, The Reverend Teri Huckaby.

Dear God, thank You for another beautiful day to serve You, to serve our community, to serve one another. Father, I ask today that the work that we do would be met with courage and diligence, that the people we encounter we would meet with compassion. As we think of those that we recognize for their good work in the past, we ask that those who come after us remember us with honor. We ask that You would do this in the One who is the example to us all.

AMEN.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Senator Raggio moved that further reading of the Journal be dispensed with, and the President and Secretary be authorized to make the necessary corrections and additions.

Motion carried.

Mr. President announced that if there were no objections, the Senate would recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Senate in recess at 10:16 a.m.

**SENATE IN SESSION**

At 10:17 a.m.

President pro Tempore Jacobsen presiding.

Quorum present.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES***Mr. President pro Tempore:*

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 153, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

WILLIAM J. RAGGIO, *Chairman***MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY**

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, Carson City, May 5, 1995

*To the Honorable the Senate:*

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day passed Assembly Bill No. 510.

Also, I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day passed, as amended, Assembly Bills Nos. 40, 374, 396, 409.

CAROL L. MOORE

*Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

son Ross, he remembers some of his father's legislative service and some of the committee meetings in the old Capitol building. There committee meeting rooms were about the same size as most of the senator's offices are today. There was never a lobbyist in the room when they were considering a bill and very few members of the public. Legislators would go over the bill and try to arrive at the best piece of legislation they could before it was passed out of committee. This is very different from what we do today. The legislators were more contemplative and were not driven by external forces. It is believed that his 20 legislative sessions, 13 regular and 7 special, may be the record for sessions served. We have been unable to confirm that, but it is our belief that it is a record. The bills he sponsored included Chapter 153 which was the act which created the California Nevada Interstate Compact Commission. In Chapter 172, he sponsored an act for the State of Nevada to buy water rights lying between Ormsby County which belonged to the Virginia and Truckee Railway. He sponsored a bill authorizing Lyon County to erect and furnish an addition to the County Hospital in Yerington. Through the help of the legislature, he appropriated some \$50,000 from the state general fund for the purpose of constructing the Lyon Health Center, which is now known as the South Lyon Hospital and is very prosperous today. With that, it is my great pleasure to urge your support of this resolution commending Walter Whitacre's many years of service to this body.

Resolution adopted.

By Senators Raggio, Titus, Adler, Augustine, Coffin, Jacobsen, James, Lee, Lowden, Mathews, McGinness, Neal, O'Connell, O'Donnell, Porter, Rawson, Regan, Rhoads, Shaffer, Townsend and Washington:

Senate Resolution No. 9—Inducting Melvin D. Close, Jr., into the Senate Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the Legislature of the State of Nevada has established a Senate Hall of Fame whose members are selected by leadership from those past Senators who have served with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Certain past state Senators have distinguished themselves with their exemplary contributions to the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Melvin D. Close, Jr., ably represented the residents of Clark County for 18 years in the Nevada Legislature, serving as an Assemblyman from 1965 to 1970, as a Senator from 1971 to 1982, and in the leadership posts of Assembly Speaker, Assembly Minority Leader, and for two regular sessions as President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Major legislation sponsored by Senator Close included the creation of what is now the State Environmental Commission in an act to control air pollution and measures to protect the victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, Because of Melvin D. Close, Jr.'s experience as an attorney and his attention to detail, many of his fellow legislators considered him to be one of the Senate's most astute Chairmen of the Senate Judiciary Committee, a position he held for several sessions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That Senator Melvin D. Close, Jr., a highly respected member of the Senate for almost 2 decades, is hereby inducted into the Senate Hall of Fame of the Legislature of the State of Nevada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Senator Melvin D. Close, Jr.

Senator Titus moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Senator Titus and former Senator Melvin Close, Jr.

Senator Titus requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal.

SENATOR TITUS:

It is my pleasure and privilege to stand here today to commend to you the approval of this resolution inducting Senator Mel Close into our Hall of Fame. Senator Close served the State of Nevada with 18 years in the legislature where he held several key leadership positions in both houses. In the Assembly, he served as both speaker and minority leader. In the Senate, he served as president pro tempore and also as chairman of the Judiciary Committee. It is for his contributions in this latter role that he is perhaps best known; indeed, many people have commented that Senator Close is likely the most outstanding of Judiciary chairmen in the history of the state. He is also credited with having introduced legislation which led to the creation of the State Environmental Commission.

Because I did not have the privilege of serving with Senator Close, I asked several of his former legislative colleagues to tell me about him. One theme seemed to emerge: "straight shooter," "straight talk," "you could count on him to be straight with." This reputation for fairness and honesty accounts for his popularity and the high regard in which he was held at both ends of this building and on both sides of the aisle.

Mel Close continues to be known as a straight shooter in southern Nevada and throughout the legal community of the state at large. Clearly he is deserving of this recognition and would honor us all by being a member of our Senate Hall of Fame. For those reasons, I urge your approval of Senate Resolution No. 9.

SENATOR CLOSE:

Several times during the session I almost voted. I think you become accustomed to doing that having served so many years in the legislative process. I appreciate the honor you have given me today. It is an honor to be recognized among those who are already in the halls and those who will follow in my and your footsteps in time to come. The legislative process has been a very challenging and enjoyable thing to me. I have enjoyed it. It has been a pleasure. My first involvement with the Senate, quite frankly, was when I was in the Assembly. I was chairman of the Judiciary Committee in the Assembly my very first session and did not know a lot about the process. I thought naively that I was supposed to pass Assembly bills and pass Senate bills too if it became necessary and was worthy, but I noticed that for some reason our bills were not getting passed in the Senate. I did not know exactly what was going on. Snowy Monroe was then chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. I told him I had a list of bills and I don't see any of them being passed by the Senate. He said that it was because I had not asked him. With that, I learned how the Senate got the name "House of Lords." I do appreciate this honor. The thing I enjoy most about having served up here are the friendships I have made, over the many years, and the many good faces I see as I look around that I have served with before. It has been an honor to serve with each one of you and a pleasure to be back today. Thank you, very much.

Resolution adopted.

By Senators Raggio, Titus, Adler, Augustine, Coffin, Jacobsen, James, Lee, Lowden, Mathews, McGinness, Neal, O'Connell, O'Donnell, Porter, Rawson, Regan, Rhoads, Shaffer, Townsend and Washington:

Senate Resolution No. 10—Inducting C. Clifton Young into the Senate Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the Legislature of the State of Nevada has established a Senate Hall of Fame whose members are selected by leadership from those past Senators who have served with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Certain past state Senators have distinguished themselves with their exemplary contributions to the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, C. Clifton Young served with distinction and integrity as a Senator from Washoe County for 14 years, from 1967 through 1980, following two terms as Nevada's Representative in Congress from 1953 to 1956; and