

**THE NINETY-THIRD DAY**

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CARSON CITY (Tuesday), May 8, 2007

Assembly called to order at 11:08 a.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Reverend Bruce Kochsmeier.

God of all time and space, how grateful we are that You are totally in control and that You set us free to realize this. As we do, open us to the power of knowing and choosing Your will. We praise You for the freedom that is ours as we let our spirits be conformed to Your own Spirit. Lord, there is so much to distract us. Keep us faithful as Your servants. Let us know the delight of doing the best we can for the sake of Your people. Fill these legislators with insights into the overarching needs of the people and state of Nevada. Grant them understanding into plans that will serve the whole and long-term needs of this amazing place You have given us to live.

We acknowledge, Lord God, that the work You have placed before these servants is not easy. The changing needs of Nevada are monumental. There are no easy answers. It would seem there are more and more people and fewer resources. Grant wisdom to these who are entrusted with leading Your people and in being stewards for the people of Nevada. Grant them joy in the opportunity to be used by You, our God, for the sake of Your kingdom in this place. We humbly pray in reliance upon You.

AMEN.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that further reading of the Journal be dispensed with, and the Speaker and Chief Clerk be authorized to make the necessary corrections and additions.

Motion carried.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

*Madam Speaker:*

Your Committee on Government Affairs, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 352, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

MARILYN K. KIRKPATRICK, *Chair*

*Madam Speaker:*

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which were referred Senate Bills Nos. 129, 132, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

BERNIE ANDERSON, *Chair*

*Madam Speaker:*

Your Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 118, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

JERRY D. CLABORN, *Chair*

Senate Bill No. 184.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Education.

Motion carried.

Senate Bill No. 247.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Education.

Motion carried.

Senate Bill No. 365.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Motion carried.

Senate Bill No. 453.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Motion carried.

#### MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Assemblyman Anderson moved that Senate Bill No. 154 be taken from the Second Reading File and placed on the Chief Clerk's desk.

Remarks by Assemblyman Anderson.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Buckley, Allen, Anderson, Arberry, Atkinson, Beers, Bobzien, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Conklin, Denis, Gansert, Gerhardt, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Hardy, Hogan, Horne, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Mabey, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, Settlemeyer, Smith, Stewart, Weber, and Womack:

#### Assembly Resolution No. 11—Adding Virgil M. Getto to the Assembly Wall of Distinction.

WHEREAS, The Nevada Assembly has established an Assembly Wall of Distinction for those past members selected by leadership who served with great distinction and who made exemplary contributions to the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Virgil M. Getto, a native Nevadan and lifelong resident of Fallon, is the son of Italian immigrant parents who settled in Nevada to start a new life, and was educated in the Churchill County schools and entered the family ranching business; and

WHEREAS, As a young man, Virgil M. Getto was elected to the National Council of the Future Farmers of America (FFA), later serving as Vice President of the Pacific Region that encompassed eight western states, and he stated during his legislative tenure that the leadership training and public speaking skills he acquired through FFA led him to achieve extraordinary things, and in 2006 Virgil was honored for his 60 years of leadership in the FFA; and

WHEREAS, Virgil entered public service in the Nevada Parent Teachers Association and served as President in 1960, then won election to the Churchill County School Board in 1962; and

WHEREAS, First elected to the Assembly in 1966, Virgil has the unique distinction of being a legislative freshman five times—three times in the Assembly (1967, 1979 and 1983) and twice

in the Senate (1981 and 1989), serving 12 regular sessions and 4 special sessions, a total of 24 years; and

WHEREAS, While in the Assembly, Virgil served as Minority Floor Leader (1975) and as a Member of the Committees on Agriculture (Chairman, 1969 and 1971), Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Commerce, Economic Development, Tourism and Mining, Education, Environment and Public Resources, Government Affairs, Health and Welfare, Labor and Management, Legislative Functions, Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining (Chairman, 1985), Taxation, Transportation and Ways and Means; and

WHEREAS, After winning reelection to his Assembly seat, Virgil was appointed in 1980 to fill a vacancy in the Senate, and after completing his term in the Senate, he was again elected to the Assembly, serving from 1982 until 1988, when he was elected to again serve in the Senate, where he served as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources in 1991; and

WHEREAS, While serving as a Senator, Virgil represented the largest state legislative district in the contiguous United States at that time, covering nearly half of the State of Nevada, encompassing parts of Churchill, Eureka and Lander Counties and all of Esmeralda, Lincoln, Nye, Mineral and White Pine Counties, until his retirement in 1992; and

WHEREAS, At the time of his retirement, Senator Getto remarked that the education of Nevada's children should be the number one issue in the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, As a Legislator, Virgil was a proponent of issues dealing with natural resources, the construction of a maximum security prison in Ely, designation of U.S. Highway No. 95 as the Veterans' Memorial Highway, and the construction of two new buildings in the Capitol Complex—the Nevada Supreme Court and the Nevada State Library and Archives; and

WHEREAS, Virgil is a fervent supporter of education and has made numerous personal and professional contributions to the community college system, particularly the Western Nevada Community College's Fallon campus, which honored him in 2004 by naming a building Virgil Getto Hall in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the College, including serving with distinction on the College's foundation and regional advisory boards; and

WHEREAS, Virgil was appointed to the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum and served as Vice President as well as a member of the Forum's Committee on Human Resources and Facilities, and he was appointed to the National Silver Haired Congress, representing Nevada's Second Congressional District; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That Assemblyman and Senator Virgil M. Getto, a dynamic leader who served his constituents and community for 24 years and who contributed to the protection of Nevada's natural resources and promoted education, is hereby added to the Assembly Wall of Distinction.

Assemblyman Marvel moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Assemblymen Marvel, Ocegüera, Carpenter, Goicoechea, and Arberry.

Assemblyman Marvel requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have known the Getto family practically all my life. We were all involved in agriculture. Speaker Dini and I went to school with Virgil's sister, Mary, many years ago. Virgil served here with distinction. As a matter of fact, he will go down in history as being a freshman more times than any legislator in the United States—I think it was five times. Virgil sat on every major committee. He did a yeoman's job here in the Assembly. He was a great Senator on the other side and then came back with us.

I think what is going to be most memorable is that the Assemblyman from Elko and myself served on a committee with him, and we were trying to use the impounded animals from the Reno shelter for experimental purposes for the University of Nevada School of Medicine. We filled the committee room. I do not know how many meetings we had on it, maybe Speaker Dini knows, but Virgil would never bring it to a vote. Assemblyman Carpenter and I would have liked to have moved it forward. It died a natural death. It would have been for a good cause.

I am sorry Virgil is not here today. Virgil is an outstanding citizen. He was just a great person for Churchill County and for the state of Nevada. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

ASSEMBLYMAN OCEGUERA:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of AR 11. I think I may have mentioned a few times that I grew up in Fallon. I still think of Fallon as my home in many respects. It is kind of funny when thinking about what to say on this resolution. I recall mowing Carl Dodge's and Virgil Getto's lawns as a kid. I would always look out to see if they were there because they were such huge figures in the community. When I would go to Yerington to deliver ice in high school, I would look for Speaker Dini. "Wow, I hope I get to see Joe Dini."

It is a pretty big honor to stand and speak about Virgil Getto. He did so much for my hometown and for our state. I think he has pretty much done it all, as described in the resolution. He was involved with the Future Farmers of America, was an active member of the Parent Teacher Association, and was a member of the school board. He was a leader of this body and a leader in the body down the hall. He fought very hard for the rural communities. I think when he represented his Senate District, it was one of the largest Senate Districts in the state. He always tried to improve the lives of those folks who lived in those areas. Madam Speaker, I wish he was here so I could say those things to him personally.

ASSEMBLYMAN CARPENTER:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise, also, in support of AR 11. It is sad that Virgil is not here today because I think everyone in this body should have a look at a great legislator. He was really my friend when I came to the Legislature. Probably no one had a greater influence on me than Virgil Getto and Joe Dini. We used to live over here in this little motel, and every morning and evening we would all get together and discuss what was going to happen in the Legislature.

I remember walking down the hall with Virgil, and he would always say, "Well, today I am not going to say one word." Of course, Virgil would get up and he would talk for 20 minutes or more.

When I came to the Legislature there was kind of a cowboy caucus here with Lou Bergevin, Joe Dini, and Virgil Getto. Nothing went through the Assembly unless those three agreed.

I just want to thank Virgil for being my friend, and I am sorry he is not here today. Hopefully, we will be able to present him with this resolution. He is such a mild mannered man that he will really appreciate having this resolution. Thank you.

ASSEMBLYMAN GOICOECHEA:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I, also, rise in support of Assembly Resolution 11. Even though I did not have the pleasure of serving with these great gentlemen, I do rise in support of Virgil Getto and the man he is, the support he has given me over the years, and also the great representation he gave to all of rural Nevada as I was growing up and while I was an elected official in those rural areas.

ASSEMBLYMAN ARBERRY:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of this resolution. I was a little reluctant to say anything about Virgil, but I had to share a story with this body. Virgil knew I was a city boy when I came here as a new legislator. We do not wear cowboy boots, we do not wear jeans, and we do not wear cowboy hats. Well, Virgil insisted that I come out to his ranch. He wanted me to see the cows and the chickens. I told him I was a city boy. I was not coming out to his ranch. He said, "Since you are not coming out to my ranch, I am going to bring you your own, personal cow." He took a picture of a black and white cow that was just born and brought it to me. He said, "I am going to nurture this cow for you." It was such an honor to have my own, personal black and white cow.

Virgil was like the George Jefferson of the Legislature. He had a distinct walk and he got his points across. I really miss Virgil, and if you are listening to this Virgil, I hope you still have my cow.

Resolution adopted unanimously.