

# NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Thirty-Second Special Session, 2020

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## ASSEMBLY DAILY JOURNAL

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### THE FIFTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Tuesday), August 4, 2020

Assembly called to order at 9:56 a.m.

Mr. Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Richard Snyder.

Almighty God, we give You thanks for this new day. When our energy may lag, when our emotions may flare, help us to remember that You alone are God. Strengthen the members of the Nevada Assembly and the staff to do Your will on behalf of the people of Nevada.

AMEN.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson 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.

#### MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering Senate Bill No. 2.

Motion carried.

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN SESSION

At 10 a.m.

Chair Frierson presiding.

Quorum present.

Senate Bill No. 2.

(REMARKS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL JOURNAL.)

Committee of the Whole in recess at 11:26 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN SESSION

At 11:40 a.m.  
Chair Frierson presiding.  
Quorum present.

On motion of Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, the Committee did rise and report back to the Assembly.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 11:40 a.m.  
Mr. Speaker presiding.  
Quorum present.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

SENATE CHAMBER, Carson City, August 4, 2020

*To the Honorable the Assembly:*

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Senate on this day passed, as amended, Senate Bill No. 3.

SHERRY RODRIGUEZ  
*Assistant Secretary of the Senate*

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

Senate Bill No. 3.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved that the bill be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Motion carried.

Mr. Speaker announced if there were no objections, the Assembly would recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Assembly in recess at 11:41 a.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 2:49 p.m.  
Mr. Speaker presiding.  
Quorum present.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering Senate Bill No. 3.

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN SESSION

At 2:50 p.m.  
Chair Frierson presiding.

Quorum present.  
Senate Bill No. 3.

(REMARKS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL JOURNAL.)

Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno moved to do pass Senate Bill No. 2.  
Assemblyman Watts seconded the motion.  
Motion carried.

Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno moved to do pass Senate Bill No. 3.  
Assemblywoman Torres seconded the motion.  
Motion carried.

On motion of Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, the Committee did rise and report back to the Assembly.

#### ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 4:46 p.m.  
Mr. Speaker presiding.  
Quorum present.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

*Mr. Speaker:*

Your Committee of the Whole, to which were referred Senate Bills Nos. 2, 3, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

JASON FRIERSON, *Chair*

#### GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Bill No. 2.  
Bill read third time.  
Remarks by Assemblywomen Nguyen and Monroe-Moreno.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN NGUYEN:

Like the overwhelming majority of my colleagues, I voted for Senate Bill 242 in the 2019 Legislative Session. Since then, many of us have learned that the good intentions of the law also had unintended consequences. This is not the first time we have discovered the need to modify legislation so it works better for the people of Nevada, and it will not be the last. I am glad that we have the opportunity to make those adjustments now in a special session, but this is not the end of a conversation on policing or criminal justice reform. It is a head start on the discussions we will have in the 81st Session. I know I, personally, look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and our community members on these issues moving forward.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO:

I, too, in 2019 in this legislative body voted for S.B. 242. I voted for it because I saw it as a workers protection bill. However, many of us have received emails and calls and people showing up at my house to tell me about some of the negative consequences that were associated with the bill that we passed. We heard from a number of people in their comments today. They did not comment in support of what we were doing; their comments were against what we were doing, because they said we did not go far enough. In some ways, I agree with them. But we are here today in a special session to address some things that are going on in our communities.

I have gotten calls from some people I used to work with. I spent 28 years of my life in correctional law enforcement. I loved my career. I respected the people that came into my custody because I knew they were someone's child, mother, or father. I loved the men and women that I worked with. They are my sisters and brothers to this day, and I would put my life on the line for many of them. But I also understand that there are consequences in S.B. 242 that we did not intend.

As a legislative body, we have to admit when we make a mistake or when we find out that something that we passed needs to be corrected. I think what we did today is making a step in that right direction. We will be back here in just a few months. For those of you who say we did not go far enough and say that you were not listened to, that we did not hear Black and Brown people, well, I am a Black woman who worked in law enforcement and was proud of it. I am also the mother of Black and Brown children. I know that as a community, as a nation, as a state, we can do better. I encourage my colleagues to continue working with me. For the people who called in, our door has always been open and a number of us in this body at this end of the building worked with you, sat down with you, and talked with you. Your feelings, your concerns—we heard you, we address you. For my sisters and brothers in blue that I have also talked to, I encourage you to continue working with us as we come back in the next legislative session.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 2:

YEAS—25.

NAYS—Carrillo, Daly, Edwards, Ellison, Flores, Hafen, Hambrick, Hansen, Hardy, Kramer, Krasner, Leavitt, Neal, Roberts, Titus, Tolles, Wheeler—17.

Senate Bill No. 2 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. Speaker declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

Senate Bill No. 3.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblymen Edwards and Carlton.

ASSEMBLYMAN EDWARDS:

If anything constituted an emergency, this is it. Our constituents have been hurting for five months because they have been unable to get their unemployment checks. They have not been able to get any help. We know that there are multiple problems—problems with the website, not enough customer service that are knowledgeable and able to help people who finally get through. There are not enough adjudicators, and there are simply no plans for how we are going to dig out of this mess for our people. This bill does not fix any of those things.

This is what is known as the “8 percent solution.” As the caller said just a few moments ago, it is not effective and it will solve nothing. It simply does not go far enough, and it does not do right by our people who have been hurting for all these months and will continue to hurt as the economy continues to suffer. I simply cannot support a bill that will be this derelict to what we should be doing for our constituents.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARLTON:

I rise in support of S.B. 3. Again, I would like to thank the administration for working with myself and my colleagues on this bill. I would respectfully disagree with the gentleman that just spoke.

This bill provides greater tools and flexibility to the state to make those improvements to the system that we have all been talking about. It provides much-needed COVID-19 protections by defining good cause for a vulnerable person to choose not to return to work without losing their access to unemployment insurance. It authorizes seven additional weeks of assistance for workers at 100 percent cost to the federal government. Workers are currently limited the number of weeks to receive assistance, and we statutorily will allow them to get more assistance. It expands access for people to receive partial assistance. This is an extremely important part of this bill.

We are not going to be going back to work full time. We know it is going to be a while. We cannot allow people to be penalized. They want to go to work. They would love to work 40 hours a week, but those hours are not going to be there for them. We know the economic engine in southern Nevada has gone back 20 to 30 years, basically to a weekend town. We are not going to have conventions. CES has backed out. People want to work, but they cannot work 40 hours a week. We need to make sure if they take that 20 to 25 hours, that it does not hurt them more than help them. I believe that is an extremely important part of this bill, and I thoroughly disagree with the gentleman that just spoke, that we have not done something to listen to the people who are trying to survive right now. These are good steps forward. It is not perfect. We have more to do, but the flexibility that we have given the administration—with oversight from the Legislature through the Legislative Commission—will make sure that we are part of the discussion and our constituents' voices will be heard.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 3:

YEAS—41.

NAYS—Edwards.

Senate Bill No. 3 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. Speaker declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal.

(REMARKS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL JOURNAL.)

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved that the Assembly adjourn until Wednesday, August 5, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Motion carried.

Assembly adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Approved:

JASON FRIERSON  
*Speaker of the Assembly*

Attest: SUSAN FURLONG  
*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*