

NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Thirty-Third Special Session, 2021

ASSEMBLY DAILY JOURNAL

THE FIFTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Tuesday), November 16, 2021

Assembly called to order at 10:20 a.m.

Mr. Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Pastor Bruce Henderson.

O Lord God, here we are in a special session of the Nevada State Legislature. There is something special about that word 'special.' It appears about thirty times in the Bible. There are special days, special foods, special people, and special sacrifices.

In Numbers 29:35 I read, On the eighth day hold a closing special assembly and do no regular work. So here we are, indeed, in a special assembly, and we are doing special work. So, Father, please bless us in a special way as we serve our state as You would have us to do.

We pray this in Your special and Holy Name.

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.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Bill No. 1.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblymen Brittney Miller, Hardy, Krasner, Tolles, Dickman, O'Neill, Ellison, Kasama, Hafen, Hansen, Matthews, Leavitt, and Titus.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BRITTNEY MILLER:

Senate Bill 1 revises the districts for election of members of the Nevada Senate and Assembly and of representatives in the United States House of Representatives.

The measure retains a 21-member Senate. The ideal population in each Senate district is 147,839. The overall range of population deviation is 3.95 percent. Fifteen Senate districts are wholly within Clark County and two districts are entirely within Washoe County. One district includes the eastern part of the state and parts of Clark County, and another district encompasses

all of Carson City, Storey County, and a portion of Washoe County. One Senate District includes portions of Elko, Eureka, and Washoe Counties and all of Humboldt, Lander, and Pershing Counties. Finally, one district includes all of Churchill, Douglas, Esmeralda, Lyon, and Mineral Counties and portions of Nye County.

The measure also retains a 42-member Assembly, with an ideal population in each Assembly district of 73,919. The overall range of population deviation is 4.69 percent. The plan includes 30 Assembly districts wholly within Clark County and 6 districts wholly within Washoe County. The remaining six districts contain parts of Clark or Washoe Counties and the rural counties. All Assembly districts are nested within Senate districts, meaning one Senate district wholly contains two Assembly districts.

Senate Bill 1 retains a four member Congressional delegation. The ideal population in each district is 776,154. The overall range of population deviation is 0.00 percent. Two congressional districts are wholly contained in Clark County. A third district contains portions of Churchill, Clark, Lincoln, and Lyon Counties and all of Esmeralda, Mineral, and Nye Counties. A fourth district contains portions of Churchill, Lincoln, and Lyon Counties, all Washoe County, and all the remaining rural counties in northern Nevada.

Finally, Senate Bill 1 authorizes the Chair of the Legislative Commission to direct the Legislative Counsel Bureau [LCB] to contract for professional and other services the Director of the LCB deems necessary.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN HARDY:

I rise in opposition to Senate Bill 1. I understand redistricting is a challenging process for all of us involved, but I find myself deeply troubled by the inability of all members of this body, as well as the public to meaningfully and actively participate in such an important process—a process that affects every person living in this state. A bill of such magnitude and importance that will literally change who we all represent deserves to be thoroughly vetted and questioned by this body as a whole. Instead, there is a lack of answers to questions posed, an inability to ask questions of those who have the answers, and an overall lack of transparency throughout. What we are doing here is part of our constitutional duty, something that should be clearly explained so the people of the state of Nevada can understand and participate in what is going on here in this building.

I hear from constituents every day who are confused about the special session, confused about the process, and confused as to why their opinions do not seem to matter. It is clear to me that the prevailing focus when it comes to redistricting in general is to use the drawing of boundary lines as a tool for leverage, resulting in a stalemate and flawed progress for effective electoral representation of our constituents.

I believe Dan Ziebarth said it best when he said, “The current state of redistricting and partisan gerrymandering is broken, driven by a struggle to leverage party power and misrepresentation and the basic conception of how legislative districts are designed to represent the interest of citizens.”

In representing the best interests of my constituents, regardless of their party, I will be voting no, and I urge my colleagues to join me. Thank you.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN KRASNER:

The process of redistricting is enumerated in the *United States Constitution*. It is the most sacred principle of a representative democracy, and a fair legislative process is necessary where all citizens are represented by their elected officials. During the hearing on S.B. 1, I heard multiple people testify in opposition to the bill because they thought it would negatively impact communities of interest and minority groups across the state of Nevada. I love Nevada and I care about the people who live here. For those reasons, I will be voting no.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

I rise in opposition of S.B. 1. Despite the fact that Nevada is the third most diverse state in the United States, S.B. 1 actually reduces the number of seats that are representative of specific minority groups. According to the 2020 Census data, Latino populations in Clark and Washoe Counties surged by 23 percent and 30 percent respectively over the last decade. S.B. 1 reduces the number of districts we currently have with 40 percent or more Hispanic representation in both the Assembly and the Senate by one seat each. And although the African-American population grew 39.4 percent to 9.8 percent of the population, S.B. 1 did not add any new districts to reflect

that diversifying of our citizenry. The fast-growing Asian population, which expanded 39.5 percent to make up 8.8 percent of Nevada, also lost representation under the maps in S.B. 1, from five seats down to four.

Additionally, S.B. 1 divides the tribal communities of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation, the Timbisha Shoshone Reservation, the Stewart Community and the Washoe Ranches Trust Land in the state legislative maps. S.B. 1 splits political subdivisions, dividing 7 counties and 21 towns in the Assembly maps alone. It also breaks up communities of interest by splitting homeowners associations and general improvement districts that have independent governing boards, dues, and enforcement authority but will have to advocate for representation on complex state policy between different Senators and Assembly members.

Finally, although S.B. 1 decreases the number of representative districts from minority and tribal communities, it does increase in one notable area—the Democratic registration advantage in three Senate seats and six Assembly seats. The most dramatic shifts can be found in my Senate and Assembly district. The district of Bill Raggio, Sue Wagner, Patty Cafferata, Dawn Gibbons, Heidi Gansert, Brian Sandoval, and Pat Hickey will no longer be a Republican representative seat, as it has been for decades, but a seat with a 6.5 percent Democratic advantage in Senate District 15 and a 2.7 percent advantage in Assembly District 25, a whopping 9 percent swing in a district that showed only a 1 percent deviation from the ideal population size.

These maps do not represent the increasingly diverse populations that have emerged over the past decade in Nevada, the need for unity in political subdivisions and communities of interest, or the concerns of Republicans and the increasing number of nonpartisans across our state. It is for those reasons and many more I will be voting no on Senate Bill 1, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DICKMAN:

I rise in opposition to Senate Bill 1. With this redistricting plan, my individual Assembly district has become much more favorable for me at the expense of fair representation in nearby districts. So my own personal interests should give me every reason to support this. Yet I am in strong opposition to what the majority party is about to pass.

As I stated in committee testimony, a good bill is one no one is truly happy about because it is a product of debate and compromise and no one gets everything they want. This bill is universally disliked but the reason has nothing to do with compromise because there was none.

This bill is fundamentally unfair to our state, to its citizens, and to many of our communities of interest as we have heard from so many representing those communities. Counties and cities are divided in a manner that is extremely unfair.

And then there is the sadly disappointing nature of the process that is another issue for me. There were so many technical difficulties, people were disenfranchised from participating and making their voices heard. I have received numerous emails from constituents expressing frustration.

Finally, I believe this bill should have been debated by a committee of the whole where everyone could at least have been heard. It is our solemn duty as elected representatives to make sure that all of our constituents are considered and taken seriously. Nevada deserves far better than this flawed partisan process and therefore I will be voting no.

ASSEMBLYMAN O'NEILL:

I rise in strong opposition to Senate Bill 1. I find myself deeply disturbed by what appears to me to be a disenfranchisement of voters in Reno and throughout Washoe County, particularly in the portions of southeastern and western Reno. Additionally, I am disturbed by the lack of legal language and the disproportionate use of maps over the written word. The two should go hand in hand so voters know not just the what, but the why and the how.

My first grade primer had a picture of Jack and Jill along with the dog Spot walking up the hill. But there were also words so I knew and could understand the action that was occurring. When there is an issue on a property line in the courts, they do not use a picture. They use a written description of the plot in question. I have mentioned before, we are dumbing down our state statutes into a comic book with pictures only. The importance of voting districts in Nevada is not a comedy to me. With that, and for those reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote no on Senate Bill 1.

ASSEMBLYMAN ELLISON:

I rise in opposition to Senate Bill 1. The new legislative district lines that will be voted on today disenfranchise Nevada voters. There were many factors taken into account when drawing these boundaries. Many times I have asked Who did these boundaries? Who made these maps? We were not a part of trying to make the maps, so we were disenfranchised from that. There were many factors taken into account when drawing the boundaries, but when you look at the lines of Assembly District 33, you can clearly see that reason was not one of those factors. My new district will stretch from Jackpot, Nevada, along the Idaho border, to the Utah border to the east, and all the way to Pahrump in the south along the California boundary. That equals half of the state if you cut it in two. This is a total distance of 500 miles, and it would take approximately eight hours to drive from Jackpot to Pahrump. To visit each and every single community in this district would take days. You would drive through areas of Nye County, Lincoln County, White Pine County, Elko County. Those are some of the largest counties and land mass in the continental United States.

The proposed maps also have unfortunately not kept many key areas and common interests in mind. In my home community of Elko, the western half has been chopped off and put into another district, diluting the representation of the major areas of common interest. Simply put, there have been more efficient ways to carve up a district. Alternate maps created a more complete district. The new Assembly District 33 will now consist of parts of five counties that make up a land mass larger than nearly half of America's states. This is not the way that residents of rural Nevada deserve to be treated. It is clear that many commonly accepted standards in redistricting have been ignored in the process. Nevada will be worse off for the next decade.

I would like to, as my final statement in this hallowed chamber, urge my colleagues to please vote no. I would ask that the people in this body consider some of these boundaries that were taken out and carved out to go against an area that has no population but has a large business access to Elko County. I would like to have this be reconsidered.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN KASAMA:

I rise in opposition to Senate Bill 1. Throughout this process, many Nevadans have not had their voices heard, or perhaps I should say that many Nevadans have not been listened to. Concerns were expressed and not taken into account or were willfully ignored. Our Hispanic community spoke out en masse against these proposed maps and their concerns have not been addressed. Their voices are being diluted and their influence ignored.

In my new proposed district, many areas just to the west of Assembly District 2's western border in Summerlin have inexplicably been lumped into a district with Pahrump, Nevada, a small rural town one hour to the west of the urban population of greater Las Vegas. Simply put, there is no way these two areas should be in the same district. The areas to the west of Assembly District 2 have much more in common with my district than they do with the rural residents of Pahrump, Nevada. I believe we need to find a way to keep these areas of common interest together in districts represented by those residing in the greater Las Vegas area.

Instead, we see the town of Pahrump split up between two separate Assembly districts; their voices are diluted and their interests are not being served. The same can be said for the residents in western Summerlin who are being drawn out of their natural district. It would appear that common sense was not one of the factors used when drawing these proposed maps. It is clear that in the next decade, there will be lots of population growth in these areas of western Summerlin and they should remain together as a community of interest.

It is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues to vote no on Senate Bill 1.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

I rise in opposition of Senate Bill 1. I love this great state of Nevada, just as each and every single one of you do. However, we are forgetting one of the core principles today, not only of this state but of this country, and that is to achieve fair representation. As you have just heard from my colleague from Summerlin, she points out that west Summerlin is now lumped in with Pahrump. Our communities are quite different; our needs are quite different. For some reason the community of Pahrump has been split. I believe that is going to disenfranchise those voters so their voice is now limited.

I have heard from my constituents numerous times over this process. They are very frustrated and disappointed with this body. I am sure some of you have seen some of their comments and I hope that you will take those into consideration today. It is very clear to me and to my constituents that whoever drew these maps did not step foot in Pahrump. I would invite whoever drew the maps and anyone else who would like to come—please join me in Pahrump. Walk the community with me. I would love to show you what my community is all about.

The other thing I would like to point out is that we have had several technical difficulties throughout this process where maps were there and then disappeared because additional data was uploaded. I would have loved to have seen what those maps look like and how those would have addressed some of the concerns that came from my constituents.

I am not going to get into the political gerrymandering that went on; I think that has been addressed. But I would encourage every member of this body to vote no today. Let us go back to the drawing board. Let us work together as all Nevadans and let us come up with some fair maps.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN HANSEN:

I rise in opposition to Senate Bill 1. Because of my great respect for this institution—although my indignation is at an all-time high—I have reminded myself of the rules of decorum on this green card, and I promise to comply with that. My colleagues have done an excellent job on drilling down in the micro, and I would like to take this time now to deal with the macro.

I brought a friend. I know one that we are not unfamiliar with. I just read *Alexander Hamilton*. I am a huge fan of the Broadway show, the music, and the message, but nothing replaces the incredible words and the deeds that were done by those that have gone before us, the likes of Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison, whose words we see in the Federalist Papers. As I have dealt with S.B. 1 in a hearing and now here on the floor, I want to call to mind that the purpose and the reason that we are here is because there is a belief in the separation of powers and that there is a belief in the checks and balances. In Federalist No. 51—and do not despair, I am not going to read all of Federalist No. 51—but to remind us all that within Federalist No. 51, the structure of government “must furnish the proper checks and balances between the different departments.” This is very apropos to where we are today. A reminder: “It is of great importance in a republic not only to guard the society against the oppression of its rulers, but to guard one part of the society against the injustice of the other part. Different interests necessarily exist in different classes of citizens. If a majority be united by a common interest, the rights of the minority will be insecure.”

One of the founding procedures handed down to us was this legislative body, where we are to be able to have persuasive speech, to give arguments, to have hearings. In our hearings, we had no authors of the maps or the amendment of S.B. 1 to receive or answer our questions. This is a redistricting bill that will change the entire structure of our legislative body for ten years. It is not something we can come back in two years to fix like we do so many times as part of our legislative duty, but ten years. A bill that we saw maps for the first time one week ago. A bill that was first heard on Friday, four days ago. An amendment that was just heard yesterday. A bill of such extreme consequence and importance, and no authors of the bill were identified so that we could ask our questions in a process that would usually be handled during a 120-day legislative session. We have been told about and were referred to the listening tours. Are the maps reflective of that? The listening tour that I have participated in these past four days shows no support and lots of opposition. So today, I look forward to hearing my colleagues that are in support of the bill before us today to please explain their support. I strongly encourage my colleagues who represent 42 districts to vote no and to go back to the drawing board.

ASSEMBLYMAN MATTHEWS:

I also rise in opposition to Senate Bill 1. As many of you know, I have already announced publicly that I will not be seeking reelection to this body next year. What we do here today will not impact me politically, but it will have a very profound impact on the residents of District 37, the district that I am honored to represent. I believe that they and all Nevadans deserve much, much better than what we have here in this bill, and I believe that they deserve much better than the process we have seen these past few days. As we know by the proposal that the minority party has put forward this week, we can, indeed, do better. I will be voting no on this bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to in this Chamber to join me in doing the same, so that we can go back to the

drawing board on this matter of critical importance to our state and its citizens and do the right thing the right way.

ASSEMBLYMAN LEAVITT:

I rise in opposition to this measure. It never gets old, standing in front of this body. I am truly humbled. I was here over the summer with a group of kids, and I walked into the gallery with those kids, and I had the same feeling that I had when I first walked into this room four years ago. I am sure all of you feel that every time you walk onto this floor every day that we are here. It is a sense of humility and pride.

Although I am grateful for all the members that participated in this process so far, I believe there is still work to be done. As it stands, one-third of the population would be represented by two-thirds of this body. Taking nothing away from those of you sitting here today and those of you who will sacrifice and serve in the future, I believe we have the opportunity to minimize disenfranchising a large group of Nevada's citizens. We can do better. My hope is that we will do better, and I encourage my colleagues to vote no on this measure.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I rise in opposition to S.B. 1. Before my final comments on my opposition, I want to acknowledge our GIS [geographic information system] person, Robin Evans. I know that we are going to acknowledge all staff later on, but I wanted to name her and make sure that we acknowledge all the hard work all these folks have done, specifically our person who was assigned to us and all her hard work—not to discredit anybody that has been involved in this process.

I want to point out that this was never about one community or one race. My little half-moon removal and placement in a different district was just a good visual for me to point out to folks how frustrating the process was. It was changed—and I appreciate that—and the congressional maps were changed. But making a line straighter cannot hide the injustices that have been done to communities of interest and likeminded folks throughout this state.

Folks, I believe I am the only person in this room that has a license to dissect human beings, but I will tell you, S.B. 1 dissects families, cultures, and communities without remorse. Anyone that has been around me for any length of time is probably tired of hearing me quote Voltaire. Voltaire said that I may not agree with what you are saying, but I would die for your right to say that. I truly believe that. These proposed maps do not allow that basic principle of having a voice and fail the test of reason. Being a civic leader means service to the people and your communities, not a political party. I urge you to vote your conscience and vote no on S.B. 1.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BRITTNEY MILLER:

I rise in support of Senate Bill 1. Nevada's population and demographics have changed rapidly and significantly in the last decade. The maps in S.B. 1 reflect both our growing population and diversity. These maps keep local communities together, including maintaining representation for rural and northern Nevada. These maps keep tribal communities together. These maps reflect Nevada's increasing racial and ethnic diversity. These maps strive to protect and expand the voting power of African-American and Hispanic Nevadans while increasing opportunities for representation for Nevada's emerging and growing AAPI [Asian American and Pacific Islander] population over the coming decade. These maps are fair, legal, and accurately reflect the diversity of our state. I urge my colleagues to vote yes on Senate Bill 1.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 1:

YEAS—25.

NAYS—Black, Dickman, Ellison, Flores, Hafen, Hansen, Hardy, Kasama, Krasner, Leavitt, Matthews, McArthur, O'Neill, Roberts, Titus, Tolles, Wheeler—17.

Senate Bill No. 1 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. Speaker declared it passed, as amended.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

By Assemblymen Frierson, Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, Bilbray-Axelrod, Black, Brown-May, Carlton, Cohen, Considine, Dickman, Duran, Ellison, Flores, González, Gorelow, Hafen, Hansen, Hardy, Jauregui, Kasama, Krasner, Leavitt, Martinez, Marzola, Matthews, McArthur, Brittney Miller, C.H. Miller, Monroe-Moreno, Nguyen, O’Neill, Orentlicher, Peters, Roberts, Summers-Armstrong, Thomas, Titus, Tolles, Torres, Watts, Wheeler and Yeager:

Assembly Resolution No. 3—Expressing appreciation to the Assembly staff for their service during the 33rd Special Session of the Nevada Legislature.

WHEREAS, An extraordinary occasion, resulting from the global COVID-19 pandemic, caused a delay in the completion of the 2020 decennial census; and

WHEREAS, Due to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Census Bureau did not release the 2020 Census Redistricting Data until August 2021, after the adjournment of the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature; and

WHEREAS, The Governor called the 33rd Special Session of the Nevada Legislature on November 12, 2021, to consider matters of redistricting and reapportionment; and

WHEREAS, Despite unprecedented challenges, the Chief Clerk of the Assembly immediately began preparing for another special session, along with the able and dedicated staff of the Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Applying their amazing work ethic, professionalism and ability to overcome obstacles, the Assembly staff were able to meet the demands of the special session to redistrict both legislative houses, the congressional districts and the districts of the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly staff provided services eagerly and professionally, regardless of the time of day or number of hours required to ensure that legislative duties be completed in a timely and efficient manner; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That the members of the Assembly do hereby express their sincere appreciation to the outstanding officers and employees of the Assembly and commend their dedication, cooperation, excellent work and willingness to serve the State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and retain a copy of this resolution on behalf of the Assembly staff; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

This resolution extends appreciation to the Assembly staff for their work during this 33rd Special Session. Of course, like the rest of us, when we think of special session as looming, it means that everything has to be put on hold—thou shalt not travel; thou shalt not leave the state; thou shalt stay close to your cell phone. That is true for our staff as well. We thank you for everything that you have done. We know that we operate on a skeleton crew, which means you still have 42 legislators having demands and requests of staff. We have a very limited staff, so I know for you that means an exponential amount of work. We thank you for all of that, and we thank you for the work that you do to shepherd us through this process.

Resolution adopted.

By Assemblymen Frierson, Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, Bilbray-Axelrod, Black, Brown-May, Carlton, Cohen, Considine, Dickman, Duran, Ellison, Flores, González, Gorelow, Hafen, Hansen, Hardy, Jauregui, Kasama,

Krasner, Leavitt, Martinez, Marzola, Matthews, McArthur, Brittney Miller, C.H. Miller, Monroe-Moreno, Nguyen, O’Neill, Orentlicher, Peters, Roberts, Summers-Armstrong, Thomas, Titus, Tolles, Torres, Watts, Wheeler and Yeager:

Assembly Resolution No. 4—Expressing appreciation to the staff of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for their service during the 33rd Special Session of the Nevada Legislature.

WHEREAS, An extraordinary occasion, resulting from the global COVID-19 pandemic, caused a delay in the completion of the 2020 decennial census; and

WHEREAS, Due to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Census Bureau did not release the 2020 Census Redistricting Data until August 2021, after the adjournment of the 81st Legislative Session; and

WHEREAS, The Governor called the 33rd Special Session of the Nevada Legislature on November 12, 2021, to consider matters of redistricting and reapportionment; and

WHEREAS, Applying their amazing work ethic, professionalism and ability to overcome obstacles, the staff of the Legislative Counsel Bureau were able to meet the demands of the special session to redistrict both legislative houses, the congressional districts and the districts of the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Michael Stewart, Director of the Research Division, Haley Proehl, GIS Analyst and Redistricting GIS Specialist, Kathy Steinle, Redistricting Specialist and Developer, Asher Killian, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel, and Samuel Quast, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel, deserve special recognition for the efficient, impartial and very professional services they provided while deftly navigating the logistical challenges of redistricting software; and

WHEREAS, The staff of the Legislative Counsel Bureau provided services eagerly and professionally, regardless of the time of day or number of hours required to ensure that legislative duties could be completed in a timely and efficient manner; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That the members of the Assembly do hereby express their sincere appreciation to the outstanding employees of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and commend their dedication, cooperation, excellent work and willingness to serve the State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Brenda J. Erdoes, Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

As our Chief Clerk read the words and the names of this resolution, we want to be sure to thank the Legislative Counsel Bureau. Much like our Assembly staff, they put their lives on hold to be available to serve the state of Nevada for whenever we come into a special session. It means some interruptions in their lives, but we know that they are dedicated to us, they are dedicated to the process, and they really are the ones who serve essential functions of government to make sure that we are faithfully and correctly performing our duties. I would encourage everyone’s support, and I encourage a great round of applause for our Legislative Counsel Bureau.

Resolution adopted.

By Assemblymen Frierson, Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, Bilbray-Axelrod, Black, Brown-May, Carlton, Cohen, Considine, Dickman, Duran, Ellison, Flores, González, Gorelow, Hafen, Hansen, Hardy, Jauregui, Kasama, Krasner, Leavitt, Martinez, Marzola, Matthews, McArthur, Brittney Miller, C.H. Miller, Monroe-Moreno, Nguyen, O’Neill, Orentlicher, Peters, Roberts,

Summers-Armstrong, Thomas, Titus, Tolles, Torres, Watts, Wheeler and Yeager; Senators Cannizzaro, Brooks, Buck, Denis, Donate, Dondero Loop, Goicoechea, Hammond, Hansen, Hardy, Harris, Lange, Neal, Ohrenschall, Pickard, Ratti, Scheible, Seevers Gansert, Settlemeyer, Spearman and Tatro:

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2—Memorializing former State Senator and Congressman James Hubert Bilbray.

WHEREAS, On September 19, 2021, the State of Nevada lost a devoted and highly distinguished public servant, a man whose legacy continues to enrich his community; and

WHEREAS, Native Nevadan James Hubert Bilbray was born May 19, 1938, at Las Vegas Hospital, to Ann and James Bilbray, beginning a lifetime of living in and loving Las Vegas; and

WHEREAS, Jim's early education began at Las Vegas High School, then Nevada Southern University, which would eventually become UNLV, the home of the Running Rebels and where Jim founded and was the first President of the UNLV Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, James Bilbray married his college sweetheart Michaelene Mercer, starting a 61-year partnership and family, including children, Bridget, Kevin, Erin and Shannon, sons-in-law Stephen, Noah and Danny, and grandchildren, Michaelene, Matthew, Caroline, Daisy and Molly; and

WHEREAS, After serving in the United States Army and the Nevada Army National Guard, and obtaining his bachelor of arts degree in government and a juris doctorate from American University in Washington, D.C., Mr. Bilbray began his notable career as a public servant for the people of this State, including as a deputy district attorney and on the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada, in addition to time spent in private practice; and

WHEREAS, Jim Bilbray was elected to the Nevada State Senate in 1980, and served during three regular sessions, and one special session, including two sessions as Chair of the Senate Committee on Taxation, where he worked to provide education funding for his alma mater, UNLV; and

WHEREAS, Upon his election in 1986 to the United States House of Representatives, Jim resigned his state Senate seat and spent eight years as a Congressman representing Southern Nevada, during which time he sponsored legislation to permanently preserve thousands of acres at Red Rock Canyon, which now has a plaque honoring him at the visitors' center, and created the Spring Mountain National Recreation Area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the members of the Nevada Legislature offer their deepest condolences to Jim's wife Michaelene, daughter Bridget and her husband Stephen, daughter Erin and her husband Noah, daughter and Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod and her husband Danny, and grandchildren Michaelene, Matthew, Caroline, Daisy and Molly; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the remarkable legacy which Jim Bilbray leaves through his lifetime of passion and service for the Silver State, and Las Vegas in particular, is appreciated and lauded by all residents of this State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Jim's beloved wife Michaelene; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Assemblywomen Benitez-Thompson and Bilbray-Axelrod and Mr. Speaker.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON:

I have the Assemblywoman from District 34 here, and I would like to present this proclamation to her. At this point, I am going to hand the microphone to my colleague from Assembly District 34. She is accepting the proclamation on behalf of her family. I know that we logistically could not get them up here in time for this, but I could not think of anyone better to receive this.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BILBRAY-AXELROD:

Thank you very much for this honor. It has been a tough couple of months, obviously, but my dad did love this state so much, and he really instilled that into all of his children. Not only Las Vegas—which everyone knows that he loved the Rebels—but he really loved the state of Nevada. I am very honored to accept this, and I thank my colleagues very much.

MR. SPEAKER:

As the Assemblywoman is making her way back to her seat, I want to say how incredibly gracious and kind Congressman Bilbray was. Always nice. Of course, we go back a long time to judging pumpkins at Halloween parties, but he was always so incredibly graceful and just a kind, kind man.

Resolution adopted and ordered transmitted to the Senate.

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

Assembly in recess at 11:14 a.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 11:48 a.m.

Mr. Speaker presiding.

Quorum present.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

SENATE CHAMBER, Carson City, November 16, 2021

To the Honorable the Assembly:

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Senate on this day adopted Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2.

Also, I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Senate on this day concurred in Assembly Amendment No. 2 to Senate Bill No. 1.

SHERRY L. RODRIGUEZ
Assistant Secretary of the Senate

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Mr. Speaker appointed Assemblywomen Carlton, Cohen, and Tolles as a committee to wait upon the Senate and to inform that honorable body that the Assembly was ready to adjourn *sine die*.

Mr. Speaker called His Excellency, Governor Steve Sisolak, Governor of the State of Nevada, to inform him that the Assembly was ready to adjourn *sine die*.

A committee from the Senate, consisting of Senators Neal, Spearman, and Tatro appeared before the bar of the Assembly and announced that the Senate was ready to adjourn *sine die*.

Assemblywoman Carlton reported that her committee had informed the Senate that the Assembly was ready to adjourn *sine die*.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved that the 33rd Special Session of the Assembly of the Legislature of the State of Nevada adjourn *sine die*.
Motion carried.

Assembly adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Approved:

JASON FRIERSON
Speaker of the Assembly

Attest: SUSAN FURLONG
Chief Clerk of the Assembly