

THE SIXTEENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Tuesday), February 20, 2007

Assembly called to order at 11 a.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Dr. Ken Haskins.

Our Heavenly Father, apart from You we can do nothing, but with Your help nothing shall be impossible for us. You are the Provider of every good and perfect gift. Provide for us all that is necessary to meet and to overcome the challenges set before us today. In the Name of Your Indescribable Gift, I pray.

AMEN.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Assemblyman Oceguera 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 Commerce and Labor, to which was referred Assembly Bill No. 9, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

JOHN OCEGUERA, *Chair*

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

SENATE CHAMBER, Carson City, February 19, 2007

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. 4.

SHERRY RODRIGUEZ

Assistant Secretary of the Senate

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

By Assemblymen Conklin, Parks, Allen, Anderson, Arberry, Atkinson, Beers, Bobzien, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Denis, Gansert, Gerhardt, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Hardy, Hogan, Horne, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Mabey, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Oceguera, Ohrenschall, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, Settelmeyer, Smith, Stewart, Weber, and Womack; Senators Heck, Amodei, Beers, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Coffin, Hardy, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Raggio, Rhoads, Schneider, Titus, Townsend, Washington, Wiener, and Woodhouse:

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 5—Designating February 20, 2007, as Homeless Youth Awareness Day in Nevada.

WHEREAS, Thousands of children in this State are reported as runaways each year and often join the homeless population on the streets, eating out of dumpsters, sleeping in alleys and feeling cold, unloved and alone; and

WHEREAS, Many of these runaway children prefer to chance the dangers of life on the street to remaining in their homes where they often experience abuse, violence and other dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, Although the “Right to Shelter Law” which provided for separate shelters for certain runaway children was passed by the Nevada Legislature in 2001, there are no long-term residential facilities which allow children to seek assistance on a voluntary basis in this State; and

WHEREAS, There is a lack of available statistics concerning the number of homeless children that reside in this State and their need for such long-term residential facilities and other services; and

WHEREAS, Children who are homeless are unable to support themselves financially, causing them to become desperate, hungry and vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, Homeless children often become sexually active, are at risk of becoming pregnant, engaging in prostitution and contracting sexually transmitted diseases, suffer from poor nutrition and dehydration, become suicidal and suffer various other harms which affect their overall health, well-being and ability to become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, To properly address the needs of this often forgotten population, it is important to raise public awareness of the serious issues concerning homeless children in this State and to encourage public support for programs designed to assist those children; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature recognize the outstanding efforts of the state and local governmental agencies and nonprofit entities dedicated to fighting the problem of homeless children in the State of Nevada; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That February 20, 2007, is hereby designated as Homeless Youth Awareness Day in Nevada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby express their commitment to creating a greater public awareness of the problem of homeless children in Nevada and to continue to work cooperatively to solve this problem; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Michael Dayton, Chief of Staff to Governor Jim Gibbons, and to the Board of Directors of the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth.

Assemblyman Conklin moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Assemblymen Conklin, Parks, Mabey, Leslie, Horne, and Christensen.

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

ASSEMBLYMAN CONKLIN:

We have talked over the past couple of days, at least yesterday and today, about homelessness. We had a wonderful “Tent City” out in the courtyard over the night of the eighteenth. Many of our colleagues were there, many supporters were there, and it was a very spiritual and uplifting event or, at least, I found it as such. What moves me today on ACR 5 is this: When I got up on Monday morning and I was very cold and I had to walk to my house, which was very warm, I took a nice hot shower and looked at my bed and realized that I get to get into it tomorrow. I was moved by the fact that I spent one day out, and the folks that we have talked about over the last two days spend every day out. They have no home to go to; they have no nice, comfortable pillow-top bed. What makes me even more moved is the fact that the folks we are talking about in this resolution can range anywhere from the age of ten and up. They do not belong on the streets; they belong in our hearts. They belong at the forefront of our minds as

we move through the session and recognize the needs of all of our population of the state of Nevada. I urge your support for ACR 5.

ASSEMBLYMAN PARKS:

I, too, rise in support of ACR 5. Having a district that does seem to attract a fair number of homeless individuals, I think that this has certainly been an area that has been of concern to me. They say that 3 percent of the homeless population is made up of unaccompanied youth, and that is certainly a very large number. As for the causes of homeless youth, primarily it is family problems, economic problems, and residential instability, although most of the time these are all consolidated. They are interrelated as far as that goes. Perhaps the other statistic that is very important is that more than half of the youth report that their parents did not care that they left home, which shows a lack of parental involvement.

ASSEMBLYMAN MABEY:

I, also, rise in support of ACR 5. I have had the personal opportunity to be with some of these youth. As a physician, I have volunteered my services and I have seen these young ladies come into my office, and they truly are in need of help. I was reminded by one of my constituents here that the first Monday of every month, my church goes to a church in Henderson where we serve food to the homeless. My wife and other women prepare the food during the day and that evening around five o'clock, we have a caravan and we all drive to Henderson with our families, including our children, to help serve the homeless, which includes the youth. I think that it is important that we all work together to help these people who are truly in need.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I, too, rise in support of this resolution. I commend my colleagues for bringing it forward. Yesterday in your Health and Human Services Committee, we had a wonderful hearing on homelessness, which sounds like an odd thing to say. It was wonderful because we heard the voices of so many people whose voices are not normally heard in this building. Some of the most poignant moments of the hearing came from the homeless youth. I see at least one is here today with us. They shared with us their very personal stories about what caused them to be homeless. As the Minority Leader referenced, these reasons are complicated. It is not just one thing. It is many different things that cause youth homelessness. There could be nothing more important than making sure our youth receive the resources that they need for a path into the future.

I think the most important moment of the meeting yesterday was hearing from two youths from Las Vegas who had been helped by a community agency there. One has been accepted into a major university, and another one's life is now on a better track. To hear, in their words, what they had to say about where they would be without the help of this agency was very moving. So I especially want to thank the youth and the advocates who are here today with the youth organizations for helping us bring this resolution forward and bring this issue to the forefront for our Legislature.

ASSEMBLYMAN HORNE:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of ACR 5. I would like to ask everyone to think about the homeless youth who are in our schools. Can you imagine going to school and having to focus on your lessons for the day when you have been cold that night for lack of a place to sleep—when you do not have the stability of knowing where you may be sleeping from night to night—when you are old enough to look at your parents and see the angst in their faces because they are having trouble providing a stable home environment for you? And yet you are charged with going to school every day and learning the lessons the teachers give that day. Keep that in mind. These are burdens which our youth, unfortunately, have to bear—those youth who are homeless. Again, I urge your support.

ASSEMBLYMAN CHRISTENSEN:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I, too, rise in support of ACR 5. I do not know if there are many here in this body who have actually spent time or stayed any length of time in a homeless shelter. I can say that I have. Fortunately, not for any length of time, but just for a little mishap that I had. I was working in Germany and went to a job interview in Switzerland. I left all my

money behind. I was a young man at the time and did not know anyone where I was going. I got to the train station two days before my interview was to take place. There were some Swiss people who I was able to meet and talk to. They said, "Let us take you over here." They took me in like family. It was not at all like a dump where this place was. It was very organized. I was just really surprised.

As we have been talking about this topic, I was amazed, as my colleague from Reno had mentioned, that there were a number of bright people there who just fell on hard times or certain circumstances which put them there, kind of like my own situation. It was only an overnight experience for myself, but just to be with them and to get to know of them and their stories will always have a particular place in my heart, as well as all of you who go out and serve them, as the Minority Leader mentioned. I respect you for that. I think this is one of the greatest resolutions we have taken a look at. Thank you.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Assemblyman Conklin moved that all rules be suspended and that Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 5 be immediately transmitted to the Senate.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Assembly in recess at 11:17 a.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 11:18 a.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Quorum present.

By the Committee on Education:

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 6—Urging the boards of trustees of the school districts in this State and the Nevada System of Higher Education to expand the availability and scope of programs of career and technical education offered in high schools for which pupils receive college credit.

Assemblywoman Parnell moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Education.

Motion carried.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that KOLO-TV: Justin Kanno, Terri Russell, Matt Scholz; KRNv-TV: Kausik Bhakta, Billy Churchwell, Rebecca Little, Elizabeth Wagner; NEVADA OBSERVER: Dennis Locke; RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL: Jaclyn O'Malley; SUN PRODUCTIONS: Sunny Minedew; TASPAC NEWS: Peter J. Hutchinson be accepted as accredited press representatives, and that they be assigned space at the press table in the Assembly Chambers and that they be allowed the use of appropriate broadcasting facilities.

Motion carried.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Assemblymen Smith, Parks, Leslie, Koivisto, Conklin, Atkinson, Bobzien, Buckley, Claborn, Denis, Hogan, Horne, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Manendo, McClain, Mortenson, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, and Womack:

Assembly Bill No. 127—AN ACT relating to communications; authorizing a person to record certain telephone calls made by collection agents and collection agencies without obtaining their consent; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Smith moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Conklin, Buckley, Anderson, Horne, Parks, Bobzien, Claborn, Denis, Gerhardt, Hogan, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Manendo, Mortenson, Munford, Pierce, Segerblom, and Smith; Senators Titus and Carlton:

Assembly Bill No. 128—AN ACT relating to prescription drugs; requiring certain wholesalers and manufacturers of prescription drugs to file annually with the Office of the Attorney General a report disclosing certain economic benefits that the wholesalers and manufacturers have provided to certain persons; clarifying provisions concerning the confidentiality of the contents of a prescription; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Conklin moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Ohrenschall, Carpenter, Goicoechea, Hogan, Kihuen, Mortenson, Ocegüera, Segerblom, Weber, and Womack:

Assembly Bill No. 129—AN ACT relating to eminent domain; prohibiting the use of eminent domain to acquire property for the purpose of economic development; requiring a court to order the payment of certain costs, attorney's fees and damages under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Ohrenschall moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Motion carried.

By Assemblywoman Weber:

Assembly Bill No. 130—AN ACT relating to education; establishing the Autism Scholarship Program to be administered by the Department of Education; authorizing the parents and legal guardians of certain pupils with autism or an autism spectrum disorder to apply to the Department to participate in the Scholarship Program; revising provisions governing the apportionment of money from the State Distributive School Account to provide for the payment of money for the education of pupils who participate

in the Scholarship Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Weber moved that the bill be referred to the Concurrent Committees on Education and Ways and Means.

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Education:

Assembly Bill No. 131—AN ACT relating to education; requiring reports of accountability information for public schools to include certain information regarding pupils enrolled in career and technical education; revising provisions governing the acquisition of joint facilities and projects by school districts for the purpose of providing career and technical education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Parnell moved that the bill be referred to the Concurrent Committees on Education and Ways and Means.

Motion carried.

By Assemblyman Mabey:

Assembly Bill No. 132—AN ACT relating to programs for public personnel; eliminating the entitlement of any state or local governmental officers or employees who are hired on or after July 1, 2008, to receive a subsidy for coverage under the Public Employees' Benefits Program upon retirement; revising the calculation of such a subsidy for certain persons hired before July 1, 2008, who have a break in service after that date; providing requirements concerning the rates of coverage for certain retirees under the Program or a health insurance plan of a local government; requiring the Program to comply with certain provisions governing insurers if health insurance is provided through a plan of self-insurance; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Mabey moved that the bill be referred to the Concurrent Committees on Government Affairs and Ways and Means.

Motion carried.

By Assemblyman Mabey:

Assembly Bill No. 133—AN ACT relating to insurance; requiring issuers of policies of health or dental insurance to notify providers of health or dental care of the status of policies of health or dental insurance issued to patients of the provider of health or dental care; requiring providers of health or dental care to inform their patients of certain matters after receiving such notification; requiring providers of health or dental care to reimburse their patients for certain costs paid under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Mabey moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Motion carried.

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Assembly Bill No. 16.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 28.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 48.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 51.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Assembly Bill No. 26.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblywoman Allen.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 26:

YEAS—42.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 26 having received a constitutional majority, Madam Speaker declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that the Assembly recess until 4:45 p.m.

Motion carried.

Assembly in recess at 11:36 a.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 4:47 p.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Quorum present.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Madam Speaker appointed Assemblymen Anderson and Atkinson as a committee to invite the Senate to meet in Joint Session with the Assembly to hear an address by United States Senator Harry Reid.

The members of the Senate appeared before the Bar of the Assembly.

Madam Speaker invited the members of the Senate to chairs in the Assembly.

IN JOINT SESSION

At 4:56 p.m.

President of the Senate presiding.

The Secretary of the Senate called the Senate roll.
All present except Senator Schneider, who was excused.

The Chief Clerk of the Assembly called the Assembly roll.
All present.

The President of the Senate appointed a Committee on Escort consisting of Senator Weiner and Assemblyman Ocegüera to wait upon Senator Reid and escort him to the Assembly Chamber.

The Committee on Escort in company with The Honorable Harry Reid, United States Senator from Nevada, appeared before the Bar of the Assembly.

The Committee on Escort escorted the Senator to the rostrum.

Madam Speaker welcomed Senator Reid and invited him to deliver his message.

United States Senator Harry Reid delivered his message as follows:

MESSAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE OF NEVADA
SEVENTY-FOURTH SESSION, 2007

Governor, members of the Supreme Court, Majority Leader Raggio, and especially you, Madam Speaker. It seems like only yesterday that I left my home and my children to drive to Carson City to attend my first session of the Legislature as a legislator. I had been here, of course, as city attorney and as a member of the Board of Trustees of the hospital. It was really a scary occasion for me as I am sure it is for the freshmen here today. The lawyers that I worked with wanted me to live in splendor, so they rented a house up at Lake Tahoe because they liked to ski. I spent one night there. I checked out of that place quick and moved into the Frontier Motel.

In 1969, things were different, and I want to give you a little snapshot of what it was like here in Carson City 38 years ago. First of all— there was no Legislative Building. We met in the State Capitol. Of course, we had no offices or places to hold committee meetings, but we got by. At that time, there were a hundred thousand students in the whole state of Nevada. Four women were in the Assembly. Howard Hughes had recently come to the state of Nevada, and during the year 1969, he opened the Landmark Hotel, which was the largest, tallest building in the state at the time—31 stories. Kirk Kerkorian was in the process of building the largest hotel in America, the International Hotel—less than a thousand rooms. The University of Nevada School of Medicine was formed in 1969. We had ten thousand people working at the Nevada Test Site. During the first three months of that year, three detonations took place at the Test Site. UNLV was still just getting started. Paul Laxalt was the Governor. North Las Vegas and Henderson were separated from Las Vegas—you could really tell the difference.

On or about that year, the Carlin gold trend was discovered, which has led, of course, to you know what—that great mining operation in the state of Nevada. We spent a lot of our time in 1969 talking about arsenic in the water in Fallon, and in Reno you boarded the planes in the open spaces. If it was raining, you walked through the rain. If it was snowing, you walked through the snow. There were no terminals.

There was a water war raging between the State of Nevada and the State of California dealing with the Truckee and Carson Rivers. Pyramid Lake was drying up, and as you came into Reno, approaching Sparks, the Helms pit was pretty big then—a big hole in the ground with trucks coming in and out of it. In Las Vegas, the Foley Building had been built just a few years before 1969, as was the Cliff Young Building—the two courthouses. That is just a general snapshot of what was going on in 1969 in the State of Nevada.

So now, let us look at a photograph of what is going on in Nevada today. No one knows for sure, but there are about 2.8 million people in the state of Nevada as we speak. The Clark County School District alone has well over 300,000 students. The ten largest hotels in the world are in Las Vegas. The largest at the present time is the MGM with 5,005 rooms, but under construction are two hotels that will now have over 7,000 rooms. Nevada is now the most urban state in the union, more urban than New Jersey, New York, Georgia, or California. Twenty-two million people boarded airplanes in Las Vegas last year—McCarran Field. We now have a new, modern terminal in Reno and, of course, in Las Vegas at McCarran.

We have 13 women in the Assembly. We have had as many as 18 in the past. We have our first woman Speaker in the Nevada State Assembly, our friend, Barbara Buckley. Las Vegas has 140,000 hotel rooms, but more are under construction. National TV—Wolf Blitzer, Chris Matthews, tomorrow Stephanopolous. I know this is hard for all of you to believe, but they have come to Searchlight and they have broadcast from my home in Searchlight—ABC, NBC, CBS, Christian Broadcasting, and CNN.

Fallon—38 years after we knew that there was a lot of Arsenic in the water, the people of Fallon are drinking pure, fresh water as a result of work that we did. A negotiated settlement is completed—what does that mean? It means that after 20 years that I have been working on this, the water war between the state of California is over. That was difficult because it involved two endangered species, two Indian tribes, and wetlands that had gone from 30,000 acres to a thousand very putrid acres. It involved the cities of Reno and Sparks and the irrigation district and, of course, it involved Pyramid Lake. That is all over with; the negotiated settlement is finished. Pyramid Lake has been saved, but as we speak about this, looking at this photograph of Nevada, Walker Lake is in distress. We are going to work to make it as successful as we have with the situation with Pyramid Lake.

Nellis and Fallon are two of the greatest air bases in the world. If you want to be the best pilot for the Navy, you have to come to Fallon. If you want to be the best pilot for the Air Force, you have to be trained at Nellis. Yucca Mountain—after 25 years folks, it is history. They can keep spending money there, but Yucca Mountain is not going to happen. This has been a total bipartisan effort. It is great because not only are we not going to have Yucca Mountain, but I think we are going to be able to do something about all the fossil fuels we use. Because if people recognize—and they are beginning to realize—that if you store the waste onsite, maybe we can move to some reasonable nuclear power now that will help stop the global warming that is taking place.

What else is going on that is interesting in Nevada? In Fernley—a thousand jobs or more with Amazon. Microsoft is big time in Reno. People do not realize what is going on with defense contractors in Nevada. Look at this picture we have in Nevada today. Some of you know Fatih and Eren Ozmen. This is a couple, a graduate of the University of Nevada and an electrical engineer, who started a company called Sierra Nevada Corporation. They came to see me many years ago, and I put a line item in an appropriation bill. This year they will gross well over half a billion dollars. They employ a thousand people in Sparks doing some of the most important stuff of any company in the world for the war on terror. Peter Guilfoyle—I do not know if any of you know him—but OptiComp is doing great things with software for the defense industry. Dr. William Torch, who is a neurologist in Reno, came to me with an idea. That idea has now borne fruit. The Pentagon now thinks the guy is one of the best. He has a company called Eye-Com, which does some amazing things dealing with what happens to people's eyes. The Pentagon loves this man. Allan Gotcher of Altair Nanotechnologies is developing small batteries in Sparks. Dave Moorehouse and a company called Raytech are developing huge radar domes that the Defense Department likes. These are things going on in northern Nevada with the defense industry.

Of course, one of my favorite topics is the Sparks Marina. Today when you drive into Sparks, coming in from Fernley, you do not see the Helm's pit; you see one of the finest recreation facilities in all of Nevada.

The courthouses that I talked about in Reno and Las Vegas have been replaced by taxpayer monies of \$150 million. The Bruce R. Thompson Courthouse and Federal Building in Reno and the Lloyd D. George Federal Courthouse in Las Vegas—they are wonderful additions to the state of Nevada.

I mention a number of these things in giving a little picture of the state of Nevada as I see it prefatory to talking about what I think should be the vision of the future of Nevada. We are told in Proverbs, in the *Old Testament*, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” I really believe that. We as legislators, we as members of government, must understand that we need a vision for the future. It is easy to talk about what went on 38 years ago. It is fairly easy to talk about what is going on now. It is more difficult to talk about what the future holds for Nevada and our country.

Ten years ago, I announced here at a speech I gave that I was going to have a summit at Lake Tahoe. I did that because I was desperate. I had talked and tried to do things with the Federal Government to prevent the deterioration of Lake Tahoe, and I simply was not able to do that. I invited President Clinton and Vice President Gore to come to Lake Tahoe and do a summit. I thought it would be a photo opportunity for these men, but it was not. It was more than that. I received international attention for three days. The President came, but prior to his coming, prior to the Vice President coming, eight cabinet officers came and spent time meeting with hundreds and hundreds of people who cared. I spoke to President Clinton, inviting him to the tenth anniversary celebration we are going to have in August. He remembered this. He said, “This is how all problems in the world should be solved, like we solved the problems at Lake Tahoe.” We really have. That lake is now regaining its clarity. It has cost a lot of money, but it has been worth it. Lake Tahoe is a gem. As Mark Twain said, “the fairest place in all the Earth.” This is something we have done together. It was my idea. But this gives me an opportunity to talk about my partnership with John Ensign.

Everyone knows about the 1998 race. It was a bitter, vicious political contest. Who would ever think that John Ensign would come to the United States Senate? But he did when Senator Bryan unexpectedly announced his retirement. And after that, who would think that Harry Reid and John Ensign would do more than speak to each other? But we have. We have worked out a partnership that I do not think Nevada has ever seen before, with a proud Republican and a proud Democrat. John Ensign and I do not criticize each other privately or publicly. We work together for the betterment of this state as we see it. And even though, as I say, it was my idea to save Lake Tahoe, he has worked with me hand in hand for the last six years, helping attain money for that great lake.

Yesterday’s political enemies, I tell every one of you here, should be tomorrow’s political friends. There is no better example of that than Senator Ensign and myself.

The California Interpretive Trail—Senator Rhoads and I have worked on this project together. It is wonderful for the state of Nevada and what it is going to be in the future. Like Lake Tahoe, it is going to be better than it is today. This California Interpretive Trail Center is going to be one of the best things for the state of Nevada. It is going to be completed this year. It cost taxpayers money but it is going to be something people will stop and see, especially tourists driving that lonely road, and people from Nevada will see it. Dean, I appreciated being able to work with you on this. You have been a great partner.

The universities that we have are great universities. I have worked with a number of you in this audience. The University of Nevada, Reno’s Great Basin Biodiversity Initiative is some of the greatest science that has taken place in this country in the last 20 years. It is really good. It not only has created an interest all over the country but has done things all over the West. A biology department has been developed at the University of Nevada that is very significant. The earthquake center we have at the University of Nevada, Reno, is also tremendous—finding out what can be done to alleviate problems when earthquakes occur. There are other things that the University of Nevada, Reno does. It is a great university and I enjoyed working with a number of you on this.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas’ School of Hotel Administration is the best in the world. The supercomputer we have there has led to a great engineering department. There are other good things at UNLV as well, of course.

John Lee, it has been a pleasure working with you on developing the greatest shooting range in the world, not just the country. It is under construction. They have started some of the work there. It is out to bid and has been paid for. It is going to be on 3000 acres. It will be, literally, the best in the world.

I have appreciated the advocacy of the Speaker. Assemblywoman Buckley, before she became Speaker, was tremendously interested in doing something about affordable housing for people. We have a token of what you can do when federal government and state government work together—the Silver Sky facility. It is really wonderful. We need a lot more, certainly, but it is there.

I recognize that we need to do a lot more with renewable energy. Senator Townsend, you have been a real leader in this. I appreciate your advocacy. We have to do a lot in this legislative session—the legislative session in Washington, D.C. and the legislative session in Carson City—to make sure people understand that Nevada can be the center for renewable energy. There are unlimited amounts of sunshine and wind, as we all know. And, of course, there is geothermal power that can be created here.

I want everyone here to understand that all of us who are so fortunate to be able to serve in legislative bodies have obligations to meet. I think the best example of that is the example that I was given by Bill Swackhammer. I spoke to the former Speaker today. He is still alive. I cannot imagine how old he must be because when I came here in 1969, he was old. He was the dean of the 1969 Nevada State Legislature. He had more tenure than anyone else in the State Legislature in 1969. Here is what he told me: “Never forget who you are. Never forget from where you come. Never forget who sent you here. And never forget why they sent you here.” So, my message to each of you legislators here today is that I want to be your partner. I want to work with you. There are things we can do together. My message to each of you, also, is to work on a bipartisan basis to get things done for the people of the state of Nevada.

Nevada voters send us to places like Carson City and Washington, D.C. to work for them. So, let us work for them. Let us do it together, as partners in the government of this great nation. Thank you very much.

Senator Lee moved that the Senate and Assembly in Joint Session extend a vote of thanks to Senator Reid for his timely, able, and constructive message.

Seconded by Assemblyman Ocegüera.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee on Escort escorted Senator Reid to the Bar of the Assembly.

Senator Carlton moved that the Joint Session be dissolved.

Seconded by Assemblywoman Gerhardt.

Motion carried.

Joint Session dissolved at 5:22 p.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 5:23 p.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Quorum present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SIGNING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

There being no objections, the Speaker and Chief Clerk signed Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 3.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF ASSEMBLY FLOOR

On request of Assemblyman Atkinson, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Kelly Woods.

On request of Assemblyman Conklin, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Kathleen Boutin.

On request of Assemblywoman Gerhardt, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Christina Dugan.

On request of Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to and Christopher Frank Brooks and Vic Miera

On request of Assemblywoman Leslie, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to LaToya McBean and Fred Osher.

On request of Assemblyman Mabey, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Robert Bobbett, Jr. and Kimberly Otero.

On request of Assemblyman Manendo, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Tom Clapp and John Ponticello.

On request of Assemblyman Oceguela, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Callyce Carroll, Mellisa Goodwin, and Scott Karosa.

On request of Assemblyman Ohrenschall, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Frank Daykin, Betsy Kolkoski, and Genie Ohrenschall.

Assemblyman Oceguela moved that the Assembly adjourn until Wednesday, February 21, 2007, at 10:45 a.m.

Motion carried.

Assembly adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Approved:

BARBARA E. BUCKLEY
Speaker of the Assembly

Attest: SUSAN FURLONG REIL

Chief Clerk of the Assembly