

THE TWENTY-SECOND DAY

CARSON CITY (Monday), February 26, 2007

Assembly called to order at 11:03 a.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present except Assemblyman Carpenter, who was excused.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Reverend Marvin Dennis.

Heavenly Father, thank You for the blessings of the weekend. For this new week, I ask for wisdom and strength to be upon those who give themselves to serve the interest of this great state of Nevada. In the name of my Lord, I pray.

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.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Assemblymen Beers, Mabey, Allen, Anderson, Atkinson, Bobzien, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Denis, Gansert, Goedhart, Grady, Hardy, Horne, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Manendo, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Segerblom, Settlemeyer, Smith, Stewart, Weber, and Womack:

Assembly Bill No. 172—AN ACT relating to senior citizens; revising the qualifications for a senior citizen to obtain a refund of property taxes paid by the senior citizen; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Beers moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Taxation.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Hogan, Pierce, Parks, Arberry, Atkinson, Claborn, Gerhardt, Horne, Kihuen, Koivisto, Manendo, Mortenson, Munford, Ohrenschall, and Womack:

Assembly Bill No. 173—AN ACT relating to emission control; limiting the amount of time certain heavy-duty motor vehicles and buses may be left idling under certain circumstances; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Hogan moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Atkinson, Manendo, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Leslie, Allen, Anderson, Arberry, Beers, Bobzien, Buckley, Denis, Gerhardt, Goicoechea, Hardy, Hogan, Kihuen, Koivisto, McClain, Ohrenschall, Pierce, Segerblom, Smith, and Womack:

Assembly Bill No. 174—AN ACT relating to vehicle registration; revising the provisions governing the transfer of the registration of certain vehicles; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Atkinson moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Atkinson, Manendo, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Allen, Anderson, Arberry, Beers, Bobzien, Buckley, Denis, Gerhardt, Goicoechea, Hardy, Hogan, Kihuen, Koivisto, Leslie, McClain, Ohrenschall, Pierce, Segerblom, Smith, and Womack:

Assembly Bill No. 175—AN ACT relating to education; requiring the boards of trustees of school districts to provide automobile drivers' education, including training both in a classroom and in a motor vehicle; requiring each school district and certain charter schools to prescribe a form that includes the skills a pupil must demonstrate to pass a course in automobile drivers' education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Atkinson moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Allen, Beers, Mabey, Kirkpatrick, Atkinson, Carpenter, Denis, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Hardy, and Settlemeyer; Senators Care and Titus:

Assembly Bill No. 176—AN ACT relating to property; providing for the automatic transfer of ownership of certain vehicles and motorboats to designated beneficiaries on the death of the owner of such a vehicle or motorboat; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Allen moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Motion carried.

By Assemblyman Segerblom:

Assembly Bill No. 177—AN ACT relating to county fair and recreation boards; requiring the board in certain counties to set aside a certain amount of the money it receives from the taxes imposed on the revenues from the rental of transient lodging and to make grants of that money to state and nonprofit museums located in the county; expanding the authorized uses of certain proceeds of such taxes to include the making of grants; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Segerblom moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Government Affairs.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Bobzien, Buckley, Leslie, Pierce, Anderson, Conklin, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Manendo, Oceguera, Parks, and Segerblom; Senator Titus:

Assembly Bill No. 178—AN ACT relating to energy; revising various provisions relating to net metering; providing for the establishment of the Wind Energy Systems Demonstration Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Judiciary:

Assembly Bill No. 179—AN ACT relating to gaming; revising the provisions governing the terms of office of members of the State Gaming Control Board; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Judiciary:

Assembly Bill No. 180—AN ACT relating to crimes; increasing the amount of community service that must be performed by a person who places graffiti on or otherwise defaces property; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly in recess at 11:22 a.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 4:48 p.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Quorum present.

Madam Speaker appointed Assemblywomen Smith and Gansert as a committee to invite the Senate to meet in Joint Session with the Assembly to hear an address by United States Representative Shelley Berkley.

The President pro Tempore of the Senate and members of the Senate appeared before the Bar of the Assembly.

Madam Speaker invited the President pro Tempore of the Senate to the Speaker's rostrum.

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

IN JOINT SESSION

At 4:56 p.m.

President pro Tempore of the Senate presiding.

The Secretary of the Senate called the Senate roll.

All present except Senators Coffin, Mathews, McGinness, Schneider, and Townsend.

The Chief Clerk of the Assembly called the Assembly roll.

All present except Assemblyman Carpenter.

The President pro Tempore of the Senate appointed a Committee on Escort consisting of Senator Woodhouse and Assemblyman Ocegüera to wait upon Representative Berkley and escort her to the Assembly Chamber.

The Committee on Escort in company with The Honorable Shelley Berkley, United States Representative from Nevada, appeared before the Bar of the Assembly.

The Committee on Escort escorted the Representative to the rostrum.

Madam Speaker welcomed Representative Berkley and invited her to deliver her message.

Shelley Berkley, United States Representative, delivered her message as follows:

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

Good evening everybody. It seems as though I picked a Washington, D.C. weather day here in Carson City to join you. I am very delighted that any of you showed up, so I thank you very, very much. It is always a pleasure being back here with you.

When I come into this Chamber, I recall when I served in 1983. And for those of you old timers that were serving here back then, you know that I had a seven-month-old son with me, my son Max. I never feel older than when I come back and realize that he is now a first-year law student at the Boyd School of Law and is 24 years old. So it has been 24 years since I served in this very esteemed Chamber, and it is always a pleasure to come back and visit with all of you.

In less than two months, I have been a witness to history twice. The first time was when I cast my vote on the floor of the House of Representatives for the first woman Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi. And it gives me extraordinary pleasure to have been introduced by Nevada's first female Speaker of the House, my dear friend Barbara Buckley.

Madam Speaker; members of the esteemed Nevada Assembly; Senator Raggio; Senator Titus; members of our esteemed State Senate; Madam Controller, Kim Wallin, it is lovely to see you; and our very esteemed members of our Nevada Supreme Court, it is a great pleasure to have you here, and I am delighted that you came. I know how difficult it is out there. I know we

have a representative of our Governor—thank you very much and extend my appreciation that he made you go out in the snow storm to come here.

I want to talk to you tonight about a number of issues, and I promise that it will be as brief as I can possibly make it, but I want to convey and share some thoughts with you. Our nation is at war. There are more than 1,900 brave Nevadans currently serving our country in Afghanistan and Iraq, nearly two-thirds of the Nevada Army Guard units have been deployed since 2001, and more than 50 percent of Nevada's Army Guard soldiers have taken part in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. One in three Nevada National guardsmen has served in Iraq over the last few years. Thirty-four Nevadans have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I have a poster in my office in Washington D.C. with the names of 43 Nevadans who have lost their lives due to terrorism since 9/11.

I want to acknowledge the loved ones they left behind, and may we always honor our commitments to the families of the fallen and keep our promises to care for those who are injured as a result of their military service.

As I stand here, I am very cognizant of the fact that thousands and thousands of our fellow countrymen have paid, and are paying, a huge price on behalf of our nation, and they have made great sacrifices that most us cannot even begin to imagine. As a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, one of my top priorities is building a state-of-the-art VA medical complex in southern Nevada. We have had challenges getting this complex done. The good news is that I was able to secure 147 acres on the corner of Highway 215 and Pecos in North Las Vegas in order to build three buildings that will be part of this medical complex—a full-service VA hospital, an outpatient clinic, and a long-term care facility for our veterans. Please be mindful that there are already 1,500 veterans of the Iraqi-Afghan conflict who are now seeking medical attention through our VA in southern Nevada. The bad news is the total cost of this project has almost doubled since Congress approved it a few years ago. The good news is, true to the administration's word, they have included in the 2008 budget the rest of the funding we will need to complete this extraordinary project. I believe in giving credit where credit is due. A full one-half of the President's VA capital budget is coming to the state of Nevada. The rest of the 49 states will share the other half of the budget. We did quite well. We have much to do. We have the fastest-growing veterans' population in the United States, and when these troops come home, whenever it is—if it is six months from now or six years from now—they are going to need the medical attention that we have promised them, and we will be able, in the state of Nevada, to provide it.

Few issues, in my mind, are more important than energy independence. Gas prices have increased by more than 50 percent in Nevada since 2001, and families continue to feel the pinch every time they fill up at the pump. The prices are not over \$3 a gallon anymore, but they are not too much lower, either. Ending our addiction to foreign oil is a key step in ensuring that energy will remain affordable for America's families in the future and that our nation is not at the mercy of the Saudis, the Venezuelans, the Nigerians, and every other hostile and unstable regime across the planet.

Dependence on foreign oil is the number one, long-term threat that our nation faces, and it is incomprehensible to me that almost six years after 9/11, this nation still does not have a comprehensive energy policy that will get us away from foreign oil and start us exploring and using renewable, clean energy that we can count on for generations to come.

Despite the overwhelming need as a nation to invest and promote energy independence, the President's latest budget request for renewable energy and energy efficiency is the same in 2008 as it was in 2001. Stagnant funding will not lead us to energy independence. Legislation passed a few years ago in Congress gave billions of dollars of tax breaks to the oil, gas, and nuclear industries instead of renewable energy sources. Congress is now beginning to look first at new directions for our nation's energy supply, which puts the emphasis on renewable or alternative fuels.

The House passed a renewable energy bill called the Clean Energy Act in the first 100 hours of the new Congress. This bill repeals the subsidies to the oil and gas industries and provides that the funding be used for renewable energy incentives. The Ways and Means Committee, a committee that I sit on, will discuss exactly how this money will be spent in hearings to be held over the next few weeks. I would have preferred to see these subsidies stripped from the nuclear

industry, as well, and the savings put towards renewable power and alternative fuels. That is the direction this nation needs to be going. To that end, I have reintroduced my own energy independence bill called the Freedom Through Renewable Energy Expansion Act—the FREE Act, I love it—which would repeal subsidies to the oil, gas, and nuclear industries and redirect this money to give tax incentives to other programs that promote the production of renewable energy sources, many of which can be found in Nevada. Let’s harness our wind, our sun, and our geothermal resources that we have in abundance here in northern Nevada. If we are going to be the epicenter of energy in this country, there is no better state than the state of Nevada to provide clean, renewable energy to the rest of this nation. We can do it. We have got it in our power. The FREE Act would also create a federal renewable portfolio standard modeled after the one created by the Nevada State Legislature that requires at least 20 percent of our nation’s energy to come from renewable sources by the year 2016, and it was such a lovely, well-written bill by the Nevada State Legislature that I stole it, and I thank you very much for that.

A very few words about Yucca Mountain, and I do not want to dwell on this, but I do want to let you know what is happening. Yucca Mountain is collapsing under the weight of a bloated budget, scientific uncertainty, mismanagement, and outright fraud. We have emails that say that sometimes we do not know the data and so we just make it up. That does not exactly give you a great feeling that this is based on sound science. There is a growing realization that the dangers of transporting nuclear waste across this country are untenable. Also, we have a Majority Leader of the United States Senate that is hell bent on eliminating the funding for Yucca Mountain. That all helps, but I would say to all of you that this battle is not over yet, and I implore you to keep the pressure on, keep up the fight, keep the information flowing until the time that Yucca Mountain truly becomes nothing but a very, very bad memory.

I want to talk to you about the President’s budget that he presented to the United States Congress on February 5, and its impact on the state of Nevada, particularly on what you are doing in these hallowed halls of your Legislature. Decisions that are made and the votes that we cast in Washington have a profound effect on the work that you are doing here on behalf of all of our constituents and our fellow citizens in Nevada. I receive literally thousands of emails, phone calls, faxes, and letters every single week in my Washington and Las Vegas offices. I suspect that you are getting the exact same letters, faxes, e-mails and communications from your constituents. What are they asking us? They are asking us for affordable health care. They want lower energy prices. They want us to invest in public schools so that kids can get a good education. They want job security so they know from one month to the next that they are going to have a job so that they can take care of their families, and they want to make sure that their federal government is going to keep them safe from a future terrorist attack. I don’t think that the American people are asking too much of their government at any level, and these priorities are not reflected in the 2008 budget proposal from the President.

Let me talk to about homeland security. The President’s budget slashes first responders’ funding and all but eliminates funding for the COPS program, which has helped to put law enforcement officers on the beat in all of our communities. It cuts firefighters’ assistance grants by over 50 percent. Year-to-year grant funding from the Department of Homeland Security to our states is an asinine way to fund antiterrorist programs throughout the United States. Last year, Nevada did not make the list. This year we did make the list. After we were cut out of the list last year, I just happened to be at a dinner at the Israeli embassy with the Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff. I went over to him and I said, “Mr. Secretary, how could you have left Nevada off the list of most vulnerable states when it comes to a terrorist attack?” He said, “Don’t worry. You can earn your way back on next year.” Well, how does one earn their way back on to a terrorist list? I do not think it is a list that I really want to earn my way back on to, but I would like to know what the criteria is so that every year we could be on the list. We need that money desperately.

The other thing I want to mention to you is that I do not think any of us will ever forget 9/11. Watching that horror unfold on our television sets and seeing these brave first responders, the firefighters in New York going into those burning buildings and having no way to communicate with them to get out. We did not have at that time interoperability of first responders’ communication devices. Five and a half years later, we still do not. This should be a no-brainer

for all of us, and this is something that has not been funded by the President's budget ever and needs to be fast.

Medicare cuts will result in a loss of more than \$100 million in funding for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers serving seniors and people with disabilities right here in our state of Nevada. There are nearly 300,000 Medicare beneficiaries and about 175,000 Medicaid beneficiaries in the state of Nevada. The President's budget includes more than \$75 billion in Medicare and Medicaid cuts over five years and calls for billions in new premiums. These cuts are merely going to transfer to the states even more of the burden of providing care to the elderly and the poor. Let me mention Medicare reimbursement for the doctors. I cannot tell you how many telephone calls I get from my doctors in southern Nevada. They are telling me that they can no longer afford to take on more Medicare patients, and if there is another cut will not take on more Medicare patients. Why is that important? It is because we have got the fastest growing senior population right here in the state of Nevada. If our doctors start refusing to care for Medicare patients or they cannot make enough money or are not reimbursed enough to cover the cost of serving and caring for these seniors, we are going to have a senior health care crisis in this state. I am telling you that this is not something that is going to happen in the future. It is going to happen now unless we correct this problem.

There are 425,000 of our fellow Nevadans without any health insurance, and the number is rising. Today Nevada's workers are paying nearly \$1,400 more to insure their families than they did just six years ago, an 80 percent increase. This increase has many unable to afford coverage, even if it is offered through an employer. Federal programs that are aimed at addressing the issue of the uninsured are being squeezed as a result of cuts in Washington. One perfect example is SCHIP program. Our Governor and the nation's governors are in Washington D.C. They just recently met with the Secretary of HHS and begged him to put more money into this program. This budget leaves the states' children's health insurance program in dire jeopardy. Underfunding SCHIP does nothing to help the more than 100,000 uninsured children in the state of Nevada. I do not have to tell anyone here SCHIP is a partnership between the feds and the State that provides health care to low-income, uninsured children whose income level is above Medicaid eligibility. It expires at the end of 2007. The Ways and Means Committee will deal with reauthorizing the program this year. The President would reauthorize SCHIP for five years, and he adds \$675 million into the SCHIP program. It brings it up to \$5 billion. That sounds great. The only thing is every expert tells us, and every state governor tells us, that it is going to take \$12 billion to \$15 billion in order to make this program whole. So that means that we are already starting with a \$10 billion deficit. A cut on top of that would be absolutely outrageous. This funding level will force the states to find ways to cover children that would be denied this health insurance. I will make a promise to you, standing here before you, that as a member of the Ways and Means Committee, I will do everything in my power to make sure that we can add desperately needed funding to the SCHIP program so that the burden does not fall on you.

Let me talk to you a minute about education. Education is on everybody's minds. We all campaign on it. We are all the education Assembly, the education Senators, and I'm certainly the education congresswoman. Over the past six years, No Child Left Behind has been underfunded by \$71 billion nationwide. Now, we all believe in accountability. I voted for No Child Left Behind because I liked to know that there was accountability built into the program, but what I did not vote for was underfunding it by \$71 billion. Under the President's current budget, 20,000 children in the state of Nevada will go without promised help in reading and math, and over 11,000 children in Nevada will fail to receive after-school services promised and written into the No Child Left Behind Act. There is no congressional district, and many of your districts overlap with mine, your Assembly districts, your state Senate districts, fall within my district and Congressional District 3, there is no area in the country that needs those after-school programs more than we do. We have the fastest-growing school-age population. We have a lot of single-parent homes. We have a lot of divorced families, and we have a lot of children out on the streets. Those after-school programs are the thing that keeps these kids safe, gives them a little extra help on their schoolwork, and gives them an opportunity to succeed. We need to make sure that these programs are funded.

If there is one investment in education I hope you will support this legislative session, it is all-day kindergarten for our children. Providing our students with more early learning

opportunities can help improve academic achievement and better prepare our kindergarteners for later grades. Every academic study I have read and the experience of other states—every one of them—has shown that the value of all-day kindergarten classes is for real. I hope that you will support this program and support our youngest students with the opportunity for increased learning at an early age. If you talk to any teacher that is doing all-day kindergarten in a predominately non-English speaking school, they will tell you that their young kindergarten kids come into their class without speaking a word of English in September, or at the end of August, by May they are speaking English fluently. Isn't that what we want to see? Yes, we do.

We have nearly 250,000 veterans in the state of Nevada. The President's budget falls short of what is needed to keep pace with growth and is inadequate in light of the badly wounded troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan who will depend on the VA health care system to take care of their health care needs. Caring for our veterans is a cost of war, and it is a lifetime obligation for our nation. The administration is asking for a \$1.9 billion increase over 2007. It sounds like a lot of money until you realize \$1.4 billion of that is inflation to keep us exactly where we are today. There are 50,000 wounded American soldiers coming from the Afghanistan-Iraqi war; they are coming home, and they will be accessing our VA health care system. We had better be prepared for them.

Other things the President has proposed are dead on arrival because he has introduced them the last four years, and they have been rejected by a Republican Congress and a Republican Senate. One of them is we will never—and I will pledge to you today and I pledge to my veterans—we will never charge our veterans an enrollment fee so that they can access the VA medical system that we promised they could have for free. Not going to happen; I do not care what the President has in his budget.

It would be an impossible situation if we were to double the copays of our veterans for the prescription medications that they are currently getting from the VA. It is a disgrace that we should even be thinking about balancing the budget on these veterans' backs.

The last thing that I will talk about when it comes to veterans is another proposal. Last year the President proposed a \$13 million cut in prostheses. Twenty thousand of the 50,000 people who will be coming home from the theatre of war have lost at least one limb. Do we really want to balance the federal budget on the backs of these poor men and women? I do not think so. I do not, and you do not either. We are not going to do it.

The Speaker asked about the REAL ID Act. Let me share with you what I believe is going to happen. It is my opinion, and it was when I first voted against REAL ID, that the federal government should not throw the responsibility and costs of illegal immigration and homeland security onto the states. This is yet another unfunded mandate that you do not need. This is one of those "I voted against it before I voted for it," situations, but I voted against the REAL ID Act on February 10, 2005. On May 5, we voted for the wartime supplemental appropriation bills that fund the soldiers. Somehow, magically, the REAL ID section that we voted against three months earlier was put in the supplemental that none of us were going to vote against because we were not going to vote against funding our soldiers in the field. That is how the REAL ID was passed. The cost estimates for implementing REAL ID nationwide are as high as \$11 billion. Somewhere along the line, REAL ID changed from a homeland security issue to an immigration issue. It was rushed through with no planning and no consultation with the states. According to our own Department of Motor Vehicles Director Ginny Lewis, it will cost Nevada about \$66 million over the next four years to comply with REAL ID. The Maine Legislature was the first in the nation to refuse to implement and call for the full repeal of the REAL ID Act. Numerous other states—21 at this moment—have similar legislation pending. I am the cosponsor of a piece of legislation with Maine Congressman Tom Allen that repeals the REAL ID drivers' license requirements and re-establishes the Department of Transportation and the Department of Homeland Security federal rule-making process that was recommended by the 9/11 Commission. This bill would require federal agencies to consult—what an interesting idea—with the state governments and would also authorize several hundred million dollars through 2015 for grants to help the states with compliance costs. I am a cosponsor of the legislation, and I am hoping to see passage.

Three other very quick things. I know I am running long. I try my best, but I have so much to share with you. I want to acknowledge Garn Mabey. I am sorry that I did not catch your eye

when I first started speaking. It is a pleasure to be speaking before you. Thank you for having me.

In Congress, I fought to bring back the state sales tax deduction. The result has been a savings for Nevadans on their tax bills. In 2004, nearly 330,000 Nevadans claimed deductions totaling more than \$500 million for state and local sales tax. We need this to be a permanent option for Nevada families at tax time. I will continue to work my hardest to make the sales tax deduction a permanent deduction for all Nevadans.

We have passed an increase on the minimum wage on the federal level. The last thing I want to do is impose a burden on our small businesses, here in the state of Nevada. Between the vote that we took in November, which raised the minimum wage in the state, and an additional increase on the federal level, I know that there are many small businesses, particularly my restaurants, that are going to take a tremendous hit. Half of the people that are employed in Congressional District 1 are employed by small businesses. It became very important to me that we provide necessary tax breaks to compensate these small businesses for the amount of money it is going to cost them for the minimum wage. I am very happy to say that not only did the minimum wage increase pass in Congress, but a series of tax breaks for small businesses passed the Friday before we recessed for the Presidents' Day break, so our small businesses in the state of Nevada will be whole and our working men and women will be whole, too.

As usual, I have gone far longer than I anticipated. I promised the Speaker that I would be short. I am sorry; I didn't mean to mislead you. These are very challenging times in our nation, but what I got from the last election is the following: The people who vote for us do not care if you are elected on the local level, the state level, or the federal level. I cannot tell you how many people see me in the airport and ask me about Carson City. I am sure they ask you the same questions. They do not care if you are a Republican or a Democrat. They want us to get something done. They are disappointed with all of us that hold a trusted elected office that we cannot come together and come up with meaningful, important legislation to solve the real problems that exist in this country. You know, you can reach out to me at any time, anywhere, on any issue, and I will work with every single person in this body to make sure that we can provide a quality of life for all people in this state, that all of us—all of us who are elected by the people of the state of Nevada—can take pride in. That is our number one responsibility: to do good for the people who have trusted us with their vote.

I thank you today for giving me the opportunity to speak with all of you. I look forward to working with you for many years in the future to improve the quality of life in this state—and throughout the United States—giving every single one of our citizens an opportunity to be a part of this great nation, to enjoy all of its abundance and opportunities, and to have a piece of what is a very real American dream.

I thank you all very much.

Senator Horsford moved that the Senate and Assembly in Joint Session extend a vote of thanks to Representative Berkley for her timely, able, and constructive message.

Seconded by Assemblyman Denis.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee on Escort escorted Representative Berkley to the Bar of the Assembly.

Senator Titus moved that the Joint Session be dissolved.

Seconded by Assemblywoman Koivisto.

Motion carried.

Joint Session dissolved at 5:31 p.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 5:36 p.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Quorum present.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF ASSEMBLY FLOOR

On request of Assemblywoman Allen, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Nathan Kift, Timothy Mallory, and Caleb Parker.

On request of Assemblyman Anderson, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Daniel Armbrust, Brennan McNamara, and David Rabenold.

On request of Assemblyman Arberry, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Ricky Barlow.

On request of Assemblyman Atkinson, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Brett Ezzell, Tomas Garate, and David Stevenson.

On request of Assemblyman Beers, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Dustin Barnes, Luke Knudsen, and Thomas Scott.

On request of Assemblyman Bobzien, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Peter Stephenson, Logan Williams, and Jace Zampirro.

On request of Assemblywoman Buckley, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Awn Al-Azadi, Adam Baisley, Adam Campbell, Steven Campbell, Blaine Frogget, Devin Galloway, Torry Herrera, Timothy Janca, Larry Janca, Schyler Jarvis, Cason Johnson, Blake Maxwell, Andy Montgomery, Johnthan Montgomery, Jacob Nord, Josh Parker, Eric Perazzo, Zeke Stokes, Sami Syamach, Derek Tegroen, Edward Vetsch, Harvey Vetsch, Patrick Weaver, Kody Wood, Korrey Woodcock, and Grand Zonpirro,

On request of Assemblyman Carpenter, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Taylor Abney, John Aragon, and Jon-Luke Kenney.

On request of Assemblyman Christensen, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Garrett Crittenden, Rodney Miller, and Jonathon Mireles.

On request of Assemblyman Claborn, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Chris Claussen, Julian Ballatore-South, and Richard Tucker.

On request of Assemblyman Cobb, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Ray King, Nicholas Larsen, and Cameron McGifford.

On request of Assemblyman Denis, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Dustin Denis, Daniel Denis, Jonathan Jurado, Joshua Jurado, Steve Lee, and Johnathan Salter.

On request of Assemblywoman Gansert, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Dominic Olivieri, Dillon Selmi, and Timothy Taylor.

On request of Assemblywoman Gerhardt, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Steven Thiesing, Andrew Victor, and Tyler Wutch.

On request of Assemblyman Goicoechea, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Matthew Boggs, Garrett Bowden, and Ian Martinmaas

On request of Assemblyman Grady, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Tyler Kerver, Michael Patrick, Zach VanZyll, and Ryan Woolrich.

On request of Assemblyman Hardy, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Danny Clark, Aaron Coffey, and Cameron Piette.

On request of Assemblyman Hogan, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Chris Motter, Jeremy Niles, and Sean O'Donnell.

On request of Assemblyman Horne, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Aidan Haggerty, John Russell, and Dale Williams.

On request of Assemblyman Kihuen, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Mike Jenkins, William Jesse, and Jeff Merryman.

On request of Assemblyman Mabey, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Alex Jackson, Shelton Thomason, and Caleb Smith.

On request of Assemblyman Manendo, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Ana C. Esh, Daniel Heth, Schyler Jarvis, Kathryn Mershon, and Mitchell Powell.

On request of Assemblyman Marvel, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Ben McDonald, Nick Pilant, and Nathan Williams.

On request of Assemblywoman McClain, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Ethan Galloway, Jason Kling, and Riley Schmway.

On request of Assemblyman Mortenson, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Paul Brown, Jayson Fraser, and Zack Smith.

On request of Assemblyman Ocegüera, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Kyle Crawford, Andrew Guddat, and Jacob Swisher.

On request of Assemblyman Parks, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Ryan Perazzo, Andrew Perazzo, and Zachary Tierney.

On request of Assemblyman Segerblom, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Arron Mastne, Noah McCoy, and Eric Ward.

On request of Assemblyman Settelmeyer, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Andrew Cobourn, Jason Groffman, and Nick Richardson.

On request of Assemblywoman Smith, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Alex Lemmon, Trevor Moss, and Kevin O'Brien.

On request of Assemblyman Stewart, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Zach Blakely, Jenner Felton, and Derek Garofalos.

On request of Assemblywoman Weber, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Kyler Felton, Sam Harris, Jesse Rohrer, Sean Sullivan, and Miles Swoger.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that the Assembly adjourn until Tuesday, February 27, 2007, at 11 a.m.

Motion carried.

Assembly adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Approved:

BARBARA E. BUCKLEY
Speaker of the Assembly

Attest: SUSAN FURLONG REIL
Chief Clerk of the Assembly