

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE
THE SIXTEENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Tuesday), February 20, 2007

Senate called to order at 11 a.m.

President Krolicki presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Pastor Don Baumann.

Holy God, You have stated that it is good in Your sight to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with You (Micah 6:8). This morning we ask that justice for all the people of Nevada would be the result of these Senators' efforts. We ask that You might grant our Legislators the insight and courage to craft laws that perpetuate justice for generations to come. As our Senators become aware of unjust actions or situations in our State, we pray for the moral courage to face them and rectify them. We ask that the fruit of their efforts, both today and in this Session, might be a heritage of justice that defines not only their terms in office but also their lives. We ask this in the Name of the God of truth and justice, our Lord and Savior.

AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Senator Raggio moved that further reading of the Journal be dispensed with, and the President and Secretary be authorized to make the necessary corrections and additions.

Motion carried.

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, Carson City, February 19, 2007

To the Honorable the Senate:

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 5.

SUSAN FURLONG REIL
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Senator Raggio moved that the following persons be accepted as accredited press representatives, and that they be assigned space at the press table and allowed the use of appropriate media facilities: KOLO-TV: Justin Kanno, Terri Russell, Matt Scholz; KRNVTV: Klausik Bhakta, Billy Churchwell, Rebecca Little, Elizabeth Wagner; THE NEVADA OBSERVER: Dennis Locke; RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL: Jaclyn O'Malley; SUN PRODUCTIONS: Sunny Minedew; TASPAC NEWS: Peter J. Hutchinson.

Motion carried.

Senator Coffin has approved the addition of Senator Nolan as a sponsor to Senate Bill No. 113.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Senators Raggio, Townsend, Washington; Assemblymen Gansert, Marvel, Anderson, Bobzien, Cobb, Leslie and Smith:

Senate Bill No. 117—AN ACT relating to the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority; providing an exemption from the Local Government Purchasing Act for certain contracts entered into by the Board of Trustees of the Authority; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Raggio moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Government Affairs.

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Natural Resources:

Senate Bill No. 118—AN ACT relating to hazardous materials; requiring the State Environmental Commission to adopt regulations relating to the handling and storage of certain quantities of mercury; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Rhoads moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Commerce and Labor:

Senate Bill No. 119—AN ACT relating to industrial insurance; authorizing the closure of certain disability claims based on revised benefit limits; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Raggio moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Commerce and Labor:

Senate Bill No. 120—AN ACT relating to the Real Estate Commission; repealing certain residency requirements for members of the Commission; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Raggio moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Motion carried.

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Senate Bill No. 17.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Bill No. 18.

Bill read third time.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 18:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 18 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 34.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senators Amodei and Washington.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 34:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 34 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 39.

Bill read third time.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 39:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 39 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 44.

Bill read third time.

Senator Wiener disclosed that she is the beneficiary of two family trusts.

Remarks by Senator Wiener.

Senator Wiener requested that her remarks be entered in the Journal.

I am the beneficiary of two family trusts. Pursuant to NRS 281.501, I have filed a written disclosure of this interest with respect to Senate Bill No. 44 with the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau. Although Senate Bill No. 44 would affect my ability to disclaim my interest in the trusts of which I am a beneficiary, it would not affect me any differently than any other beneficiary of a trust. Therefore, the ethics laws allow me to vote on this bill.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 44:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 44 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 46.

Bill read third time.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 46:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 46 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Mr. President announced that if there were no objections, the Senate would recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Senate in recess at 11:17 a.m.

SENATE IN SESSION

At 11:23 a.m.

President Krolicki presiding.

Quorum present.

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, Carson City, February 20, 2007

To the Honorable the Senate:

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day adopted Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 5.

SUSAN FURLONG REIL
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

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.

Senator Heck moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Senators Heck and Coffin.

Senator Heck requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal.

SENATOR HECK:

Thank you, Mr. President. Yesterday, this body adopted Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 4 which focused our attention on the plight of homelessness in the State of Nevada. Today, through Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 5, we further focus on this special population and the special plight of our homeless youth.

Homeless youth have different needs than homeless adults. Combining the services needed by homeless adults with those offered to children is often an unsafe and impractical solution. As a citizenry, we should all strive to ensure that all homeless youth in Nevada share the same opportunities for a quality future enjoyed by others in our community. As was stated in the resolution, in Nevada there are presently no long-term residential facilities for youth seeking help on a voluntary basis. To further complicate the matter, the detailed statistics needed in order to develop such long-term residential care for this population are virtually non-existent.

We are fortunate to have in this State an organization such as Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, the only youth service provider in Nevada that provides a continuum of care extending from street outreach and 24-hour crises intervention services to full-time drop in center and independent living programs. On behalf of this often forgotten population, I urge your support of Assembly Resolution Concurrent No. 5.

SENATOR COFFIN:

Thank you, Mr. President. I endorse what Senator Heck had to say. I have nothing to add to his remarks except a question. This is the second resolution that has come to the Legislature, which of course I am supporting but, the Clerk is proposing to send it to the Chief of Staff of the Governor and not to the Governor. I approached the Chief of Staff, Mr. Dayton, yesterday, and he was embarrassed to find out that language like this was in resolutions, since he felt they should be directed to his boss. So, I wondered, why the change in procedure after all these years, why is Legal drafting them to send them to some employee of the Governor?

SENATOR HECK:

Thank you, Mr. President. I am sorry to say that I do not have an answer. It was drafted as an Assembly Concurrent Resolution. I do not know why it is being sent to the Chief of Staff as opposed to the Governor.

Resolution adopted.

Resolution ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senator Raggio moved that the Senate recess until 4:45 p.m.

Motion carried.

Senate in recess at 11:36 a.m.

SENATE IN SESSION

At 4:44 p.m.

President Krolicki presiding.

Quorum present.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Your Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 73, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE, *Chair*

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

By Senators Rhoads, Amodei and McGinness:

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3—Proposing to amend the Nevada Constitution to require that an initiative petition be proposed by a number of registered voters from each assembly district in the State equal to a certain percentage of the population of each assembly district in the State.

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That Section 1 of Article 2 of the Nevada Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. All citizens of the United States (not laboring under the disabilities named in this constitution) of the age of eighteen years and upwards, who shall have actually, and not constructively, resided in the state ~~{six months,}~~ and in the district or county thirty days next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote for all officers that now or hereafter may be elected by the people, and upon all questions submitted to the electors at such election; provided, that no person who has been or may be convicted of treason or felony in any state or territory of the United States, unless restored to civil rights, and no person who has been adjudicated mentally incompetent, unless restored to legal capacity, shall be entitled to the privilege of an elector. There shall be no denial of the elective franchise at any election on account of sex. The legislature may provide by law the conditions under which a citizen of the United States who does not have the status of an elector in another state and who does not meet the residence requirements of this section may vote in this state for President and Vice President of the United States.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That Section 2 of Article 19 of the Nevada Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 1 of Article 4 of this Constitution, but subject to the limitations of Section 6 of this Article, the people reserve to themselves the power to propose, by initiative petition, statutes and amendments to statutes and amendments to this Constitution, and to enact or reject them at the polls.

2. An initiative petition shall be in the form required by Section 3 of this Article and shall be proposed by a *total* number of registered voters equal to *at least* 10 percent ~~{or more}~~ of the number of voters who voted at the last preceding general election ~~{in not less than 75 percent of the counties}~~ in the State. ~~{, but the total number of registered voters signing the initiative petition shall be equal to 10 percent or more of the voters who voted in the entire State at the last preceding general election.}~~

3. If the initiative petition proposes a statute or an amendment to a statute, the person who intends to circulate it shall file a copy with the Secretary of State before beginning circulation and not earlier than January 1 of the year preceding the year in which a regular session of the Legislature is held. After its circulation, it shall be filed with the Secretary of State not less than 30 days prior to any regular session of the Legislature. The circulation of the petition shall cease on the day the petition is filed with the Secretary of State or such other date as may be prescribed for the verification of the number of signatures affixed to the petition, whichever is earliest. The Secretary of State shall transmit such petition to the

Legislature as soon as the Legislature convenes and organizes. The petition shall take precedence over all other measures except appropriation bills, and the statute or amendment to a statute proposed thereby shall be enacted or rejected by the Legislature without change or amendment within 40 days. If the proposed statute or amendment to a statute is enacted by the Legislature and approved by the Governor in the same manner as other statutes are enacted, such statute or amendment to a statute shall become law, but shall be subject to referendum petition as provided in Section 1 of this Article. If the statute or amendment to a statute is rejected by the Legislature, or if no action is taken thereon within 40 days, the Secretary of State shall submit the question of approval or disapproval of such statute or amendment to a statute to a vote of the voters at the next succeeding general election. If a majority of the voters voting on such question at such election votes approval of such statute or amendment to a statute, it shall become law and take effect upon completion of the canvass of votes by the Supreme Court. An initiative measure so approved by the voters shall not be amended, annulled, repealed, set aside or suspended by the Legislature within 3 years from the date it takes effect. If a majority of such voters votes disapproval of such statute or amendment to a statute, no further action shall be taken on such petition. If the Legislature rejects such proposed statute or amendment, the Governor may recommend to the Legislature and the Legislature may propose a different measure on the same subject, in which event, after such different measure has been approved by the Governor, the question of approval or disapproval of each measure shall be submitted by the Secretary of State to a vote of the voters at the next succeeding general election. If the conflicting provisions submitted to the voters are both approved by a majority of the voters voting on such measures, the measure which receives the largest number of affirmative votes shall thereupon become law. If at the session of the Legislature to which an initiative petition proposing an amendment to a statute is presented which the Legislature rejects or upon which it takes no action, the Legislature amends the statute which the petition proposes to amend in a respect which does not conflict in substance with the proposed amendment, the Secretary of State in submitting the statute to the voters for approval or disapproval of the proposed amendment shall include the amendment made by the Legislature.

4. If the initiative petition proposes an amendment to the Constitution, the person who intends to circulate it shall file a copy with the Secretary of State before beginning circulation and not earlier than September 1 of the year before the year in which the election is to be held. After its circulation it shall be filed with the Secretary of State not less than 90 days before any regular general election at which the question of approval or disapproval of such amendment may be voted upon by the voters of the entire State. The circulation of the petition shall cease on the day the petition is filed with the Secretary of State or such other date as may be prescribed for the verification of the number of signatures affixed to the petition, whichever is earliest. The Secretary of State shall cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation, on three separate occasions, in each county in the State, together with any explanatory matter which shall be placed upon the ballot, the entire text of the proposed amendment. If a majority of the voters voting on such question at such election votes disapproval of such amendment, no further action shall be taken on the petition. If a majority of such voters votes approval of such amendment, the Secretary of State shall publish and resubmit the question of approval or disapproval to a vote of the voters at the next succeeding general election in the same manner as such question was originally submitted. If a majority of such voters votes disapproval of such amendment, no further action shall be taken on such petition. If a majority of such voters votes approval of such amendment, it shall, unless precluded by subsection 5 or 6, become a part of this Constitution upon completion of the canvass of votes by the Supreme Court.

5. If two or more measures which affect the same section of a statute or of the Constitution are finally approved pursuant to this Section, or an amendment to the Constitution is finally so approved and an amendment proposed by the Legislature is ratified which affect the same section, by the voters at the same election:

- (a) If all can be given effect without contradiction in substance, each shall be given effect.
- (b) If one or more contradict in substance the other or others, the measure which received the largest favorable vote, and any other approved measure compatible with it, shall be given

effect. If the one or more measures that contradict in substance the other or others receive the same number of favorable votes, none of the measures that contradict another shall be given effect.

6. If, at the same election as the first approval of a constitutional amendment pursuant to this Section, another amendment is finally approved pursuant to this Section, or an amendment proposed by the Legislature is ratified, which affects the same section of the Constitution but is compatible with the amendment given first approval, the Secretary of State shall publish and resubmit at the next general election the amendment given first approval as a further amendment to the section as amended by the amendment given final approval or ratified. If the amendment finally approved or ratified contradicts in substance the amendment given first approval, the Secretary of State shall not submit the amendment given first approval to the voters again.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That Section 3 of Article 19 of the Nevada Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3. 1. Each referendum petition and initiative petition shall include the full text of the measure proposed. Each signer shall affix thereto his or her signature, residence address and the name of the county in which he or she is a registered voter. The petition may consist of more than one document. ~~But each document shall have affixed thereto an affidavit made by one of the signers of such document to the effect that all of the signatures are genuine and that each individual who signed such document was at the time of signing a registered voter in the county of his or her residence. The affidavit shall be executed before a person authorized by law to administer oaths in the State of Nevada. The enacting clause of all statutes or amendments proposed by initiative petition shall be: "The People of the State of Nevada do enact as follows:"~~

2. The Legislature may authorize the Secretary of State and the other public officers to use generally accepted statistical procedures in conducting a preliminary verification of the number of signatures submitted in connection with a referendum petition or an initiative petition, and for this purpose to require petitions to be filed no more than 65 days earlier than is otherwise required by this Article.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That the provisions of Assembly Joint Resolution No. 10 of the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature are hereby repealed.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That the provisions of Senate Joint Resolution No. 1 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature are hereby repealed.

Senator Rhoads moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections.

Motion Carried.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Senator Rhoads:

Senate Bill No. 121—AN ACT relating to the City of Carlin; providing for the general municipal election to be held on the date for the state general election; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Rhoads moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Government Affairs.

Motion carried.

By Senator Rhoads:

Senate Bill No. 122—AN ACT relating to the City of Wells; providing for the general municipal election to be held on the date for the state general election; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Rhoads moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Government Affairs.

Motion carried.

By Senator Care:

Senate Bill No. 123—AN ACT relating to public records; providing that certain records of a nongovernmental entity are public books or records under certain circumstances; requiring a governmental entity to take action within a certain period in response to a request to inspect or copy a public book or record; making various changes regarding the confidentiality of records; providing in skeleton form a mechanism pursuant to which a person may apply to a district court for an order to allow the person to inspect or copy a confidential public book or record that has been in the custody of a governmental entity for at least 10 years; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Care moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Government Affairs.

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections:

Senate Bill No. 124—AN ACT relating to state governmental administration; revising provisions governing the appointment of an employee in the classified service of the State who does not attain permanent status in a position to which he was promoted; revising provisions governing independent contractors with the State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Cegavske moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections.

Motion carried.

By Senator Rhoads:

Senate Bill No. 125—AN ACT making an appropriation to the Austin Historical Society for an appraisal of the old Austin Elementary School; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Rhoads moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion carried.

By Senator Rhoads:

Senate Bill No. 126—AN ACT making an appropriation to the Elko County School District for a program to address the educational needs of

gifted and talented pupils; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Rhoads moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion carried.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

The Sergeant at Arms announced that Assemblymen Anderson and Atkinson were at the bar of the Senate. Assemblyman Anderson invited the Senate to meet in Joint Session with the Assembly to hear Senator Harry Reid.

Mr. President announced that if there were no objections, the Senate would recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Senate in recess at 4:51 p.m.

IN JOINT SESSION

At 4:56 p.m.

President Krolicki 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.

Mr. President appointed a Committee on Escort consisting of Senator Wiener and Assemblyman Ocegüera to wait upon the Honorable Senator Harry Reid and escort him to the Assembly Chamber.

Senator 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 a city attorney and, as a member of the Board of Trustees of the hospital. It was really a scary occasion for me as I'm 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 and quickly 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 100,000 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 that 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 10,000 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 Helm's 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's 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 Stephanopoulos—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 1,000 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—1,000 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 of a billion dollars. They employ 1,000 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, 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. It 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 3,000 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's work for them. Let's 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.

Motion carried.

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

Senator Carlton moved that the Joint Session be dissolved.

Motion carried.

Joint Session dissolved at 5:22 p.m.

SENATE IN SESSION

At 5:25 p.m.

President Krolicki presiding.

Quorum present.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF SENATE FLOOR

On request of Senator Heck, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Melissa Goodwin and Kathleen Boutin.

On request of Senator Lee, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Marilyn Lee and Summer Lee Alger.

On request of Senator McGinness, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Miranda Mahe.

On request of Senator Raggio, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Stephany Madsen, Foster Mullen and Keith Stevenson.

Senator Raggio moved that the Senate adjourn until Wednesday, February 21, 2007, at 11 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Approved:

BRIAN K. KROLICKI
President of the Senate

Attest: CLAIRE J. CLIFT
Secretary of the Senate