

**THE FORTY-FOURTH DAY**

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CARSON CITY (Tuesday), March 17, 2009

Assembly called to order at 11:20 a.m.

Madam Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Pastor Alan Dorway.

Almighty God, bless those who hold office and lead our state here in the Assembly today. Guide them in their work and enable them to do their job with a spirit of kindness, wisdom, and justice. Let them feel Your grace as they serve faithfully and promote our general welfare. We pray through Your Son, Jesus our Lord.

AMEN.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Assemblyman Conklin 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 were referred Assembly Bills Nos. 141, 248, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

MARCUS CONKLIN, *Chairman*

## MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

SENATE CHAMBER, Carson City, March 16, 2009

*To the Honorable the Assembly:*

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Senate on this day passed Assembly Bill No. 27.

SHERRY L. RODRIGUEZ  
*Assistant Secretary of the Senate*

## MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

March 16, 2009

The Fiscal Analysis Division, pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.6, has determined the eligibility for exemption of: Senate Bills Nos. 3, 10, 16, 71, 113, 117, 148, 152, 153, 155, 182 and 186.

GARY GHIGGERI  
*Fiscal Analysis Division*

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Assembly Bill No. 250.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Assembly Bill No. 23.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblywoman McClain.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 23:

YEAS—42.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 23 having received a constitutional majority, Madam Speaker declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Assemblyman Horne moved that Assembly Bill No. 34 be taken from the General File and placed on the Chief Clerk's desk.

Motion carried.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Assembly Bill No. 37.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblywoman McClain.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 37:

YEAS—42.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 37 having received a constitutional majority, Madam Speaker declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

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

Assembly in recess at 11:30 a.m.

ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 11:31 a.m.

Mr. Speaker pro Tempore presiding.

Quorum present.

Assembly Bill No. 187.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblymen Buckley and Cobb.

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

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker pro Tempore. Two weeks ago we paid tribute to 47 Nevadans who have died since our last legislative session in either Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. This bill provides an opportunity to recognize the needs of those veterans who are returning from battle scarred from combat experiences. Physical wounds are sometimes easily identified, but scars are often not physical. Combat exposure damages mental, emotional, and cognitive faculties. Studies of returning vets and service members show histories of depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and traumatic brain injury. Often these diagnoses lead to a former service member becoming homeless.

The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans estimates that 4,715 of Nevada's veterans are homeless. Homeless veterans find themselves in court on nonviolent, quality of-life offenses: panhandling, loitering, and trespassing. Seventy-six percent of homeless veterans also experience alcohol, drug, and mental health problems and behaviors associated with these disorders land them in court. Research shows that integrated treatment programs through a court process are more successful than mental health substance abuse programs singly.

Assembly Bill 187 authorizes the district court to create an integrated, court-monitored treatment program for eligible veterans charged with a nonviolent crime. Veterans will have access to mental health counseling, Veterans Affairs services, substance abuse treatment, job training, family counseling, and mentoring programs. It allows the criminal judge to suspend the proceedings without entering a judgment of conviction and with the consent of an eligible veteran, place him or her on probation with terms that include successful treatment and completion of a drug treatment program. The court can then seal the record upon successful completion of the rehabilitative treatment ordered by the court. It is similar to other successful specialty courts that this Legislature has approved of over the last 10 to 15 years. Both the Second and Eighth Judicial District Courts are moving ahead to create such courts. This measure is based on a successful court operating in Buffalo, New York. By creating a court to meet the special needs of our returning veterans we will fulfill our unspoken commitment to them that their sacrifice and courage in defense of our country has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. There have been a couple of critics of this bill who say our veterans don't deserve special treatment. I couldn't disagree more. They put their lives on the line for us and our country and come back, often to federally given care that is grossly deficient. I think this is the least we can do as a state, and I urge your support.

ASSEMBLYMAN COBB:

Thank you. There was discussion in committee about this bill and what we do for our veterans. I just want to rise in support of it. I hope everyone understands that oftentimes it is tough for those who have served our country to ask for help. It is hard to describe some of the issues that they may face when they return from a war zone. I think this would go a long way to helping those individuals, by allowing us to reach out and support those people who have served our country. Thank you.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 187:

YEAS—42.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 187 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. Speaker pro Tempore declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

Assembly Bill No. 199.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblywoman Gansert.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 199:

YEAS—42.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 199 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. Speaker pro Tempore declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

Assembly Bill No. 242.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Assemblymen Ohrenschall, Segerblom, and Buckley.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 242:

YEAS—42.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 242 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. Speaker pro Tempore declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Senate.

Mr. Speaker pro Tempore announced if there were no objections, the Assembly would recess in order to receive a special presentation by the Reno Irish Dance Company.

Assembly in recess at 11:46 a.m.

#### ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 12:01 p.m.

Mr. Speaker pro Tempore presiding.

Quorum present.

#### REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

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

Mr. Speaker pro Tempore requested the privilege of the Chair for the purpose of making the following remarks:

I am going to exercise the prerogative of the Chair to show why *Danny Boy* is so special to me. On this day in 1953, my cousin, who had lived with my family for about five years, joined the United States Army. He was in Korea and on this day, St. Patrick's Day, he was killed in action in Korea. It was a particularly difficult time, as a result, for my family. I am happy to report five years ago they made him a citizen of the United States. For those of you who may not realize it, immigrants to this country, by joining the military, do not immediately become a citizen even though they give their life for the country. That is the reason why immigrants are so important to us, always, but it also speaks to the heritage of the Irish in this country. I wanted to indicate why Senator Nolan always picks that particular tune. St. Patrick's Day is always so important to me, personally besides, being Irish and having the right to both smile and cry at the same time.

#### GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF ASSEMBLY FLOOR

On request of Assemblywoman Gansert, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to the following students from Brookfield School: Sam Assad, Sutton Delaney, Caellan Enad, Coralyn Fleming, Jacob Fyda, Bodie Glavish, Conner Hlade, Alexandra Hsueh, Anuttham Kandhadai, Kiernyn Loring, Cariana Megahn, Madison Moffett,

Susu Pelger, Grant Plummer, Lindsay Stover, Zachariya Assad, Alexandra Charland, Daniel d'Olimpio, Hunter Ferrel, Sabrina Fovel, Stuart Hayes, Alexandra LaBella, Nichole Leonard, Ashlee Monia, Mary Katherine Pappas, Natalie Phanco, Robert Pillon, Weldon Pitts, Ben Sluchak, Paula Tanesescu, Miranda Weinert, Chandler Zundel; and the following students from Bishop Manogue Catholic High School: Willa Bachman, Nick Brown, Nick DePaoli, Patrick Flaherty, Katherine Gray, Scot Klintworth, Kim Krtinich, Jacob Carrico, J.J. Gallagher, Wen Liu, Morgan Mueller, Alex Nash, Jehovani Ruiz, Dominic Silva-Martin, Joseph Archie, Stephen Bishop, Austin Bunnell, Logan Devalliere, Gabriela Doyle, Kyle Gimple, Spencer Gurries, Adam Heppner, James Lawson, Christopher Lee, John London, Angela Skowronek, Luke Walker, Matthew Myers, Kevin Berry, and Matt Vial; teacher Leslie Raggio Righetti.

On request of Assemblyman Goicoechea, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to the following students from Ely Kids Kount: Emily Champie, Ray Williams, Jennie Anderson, Brandon Baker, Cody Britton, Richard Chavez, Taylor Coleman, Shania Cook, Courtney Cunningham, Mandy Dickerman, Shelbie Dunn, Jonathan Farnsworth, Chazz Gregerson, Adrienne Grimes, Emily Herrmann, Chris Hibbs, Boni Horner, Riley Hutchinson, Brittany Johnson, Ashlee Lepak, Liz Lemrick, Cassi Mason, Jonathan Minier, Robert Mossow, Paulette Newman, Shelby Ogden, Ciana Parker, Bruce Pattison, Kourtnie Rice, Sabrina Richards, Victoria Roger, Shawn Roundy, Zachary Snow, Patrick Stogner, Kylee Stork, Dani Wise; chaperones John Plestina, Liz DeMay, Sam Hanson, and David Marz.

On request of Assemblyman Grady, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Keith Savage.

On request of Assemblyman Hardy, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Jill Hardy, Hannah Larson, and Noah Larson.

On request of Assemblywoman Parnell, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Taylor Coleman, Emily Herrmann, and Jonathan Minier.

On request of Assemblyman Segerblom, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Candace Kant.

On request of Assemblyman Stewart, the privilege of the floor of the Assembly Chamber for this day was extended to Charisa Williams and Tim Williams.

Assemblyman Ocegüera moved that the Assembly adjourn until March 18, 2009, at 11 a.m.

Motion carried.

Assembly adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Approved:

BARBARA E. BUCKLEY  
*Speaker of the Assembly*

Attest: SUSAN FURLONG REIL  
*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*