

THE FIFTEENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Monday), February 16, 2009

Senate called to order at 11:22 a.m.

President Krolicki presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Pastor Gary Gryte.

Father in Heaven, bless us today as we go about our duties. May we be fair, kind and truthful. We ask Your guidance and wisdom as we represent Your children.

We thank You for the privilege of leadership. May we give You credit for watching over our success. May we love You more today.

AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Senator Horsford 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 46, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

JOYCE WOODHOUSE, *Chair*

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, Carson City, February 13, 2009

To the Honorable the Senate:

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day passed Assembly Bill No. 103.

DIANE M. KEETCH

Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

By the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections:

Senate Joint Resolution No. 4—Urging Congress to fund fully and protect the future of the Medicare program.

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

Motion carried.

By Senators Wiener, Amodei, Breeden, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Coffin, Copening, Hardy, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Parks, Raggio, Rhoads, Schneider, Townsend, Washington, Woodhouse; Assemblymen Kihuen, Aizley, Anderson, Arberry, Atkinson, Bobzien, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Conklin, Denis, Dondero Loop, Gansert, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Gustavson, Hambrick, Hardy,

Hogan, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Manendo, Mastroluca, McArthur, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, Settelmeyer, Smith, Spiegel, Stewart and Woodbury:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7—Urging public schools to develop and implement programs that model best practices for improving academic performance and maximizing learning opportunities of pupils.

WHEREAS, The Nevada Constitution requires the Legislature to provide a system of common schools and to encourage by all suitable means the promotion of intellectual, literary, scientific, mining, mechanical, agricultural and moral improvements; and

WHEREAS, Pupils face unique challenges to learning which may be addressed through the development and implementation of programs and practices which improve academic performance and maximize learning opportunities for pupils; and

WHEREAS, Children retain only 10 percent of the information that they read, but they retain 90 percent of the information that they speak and carry out, and programs such as integrative and holistic learning programs educate pupils across subject areas and connect new knowledge to experience to ensure retention of new information; and

WHEREAS, Recent findings indicate that pupils who receive regular, vigorous exercise improve academic performance, and certain practices which encourage physical activities in the classroom at regular intervals have been shown to increase pupils' ability to concentrate, thereby improving the academic performance of pupils; and

WHEREAS, Pupils transitioning from elementary school to middle school and from middle school to high school may find making these transitions difficult, and programs such as peer mentoring programs and programs that separate pupils into small learning communities assist pupils during these critical phases of their education; and

WHEREAS, Pupils who engage in extracurricular activities and other activities outside of public school may have difficulty completing assignments and studying for examinations, and programs that designate certain periods of the school day for studying and tutoring increase the number of assignments completed by pupils and improve test scores; and

WHEREAS, During these trying economic times, it is imperative that the public schools and school districts implement programs and practices such as these which do not significantly impact the budgets of the public schools and school districts in this State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge the public schools and school districts in this State to evaluate and implement these programs and similar measures which improve the academic performance and maximize learning opportunities of pupils; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for distribution to the State Board of Education, the superintendent of each school district for distribution to the members of the board of trustees of the school district and the President of the Nevada Association of School Administrators for distribution to its members.

Senator Wiener moved the adoption of the resolution.

Remarks by Senator Wiener.

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

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7 expresses the message of commitment to educational excellence for the children of our State.

In Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7, we urge our public schools to develop and implement programs that model "best practices" for improving academic performance and maximizing learning opportunities for our children.

As you know, our Constitution requires us, the Legislature, to provide a system of education and to encourage, by all suitable means, the promotion of a full spectrum of education and growth for our children.

During these times, we face distinctive challenges. Our children face them as well. Possibly, never before have we been so tested, as we are today, to maximize our opportunities for the teaching of and inspiring learning in the children of our State.

As we consider these challenges, it is important for us to realize that learning is a holistic experience. Research tells us that children retain only about 10 percent of what they read. However, they can retain as much as 90 percent of that same information when we engage them in reading along with other multi-learning, integrative and experiential approaches.

This holistic approach to learning is more than mental. Research also tells us that pupils who regularly engage in vigorous exercise improve their academic performance, especially in core subjects such as science and math.

We also know that, especially during times of economic challenge, our young people are even more inclined to work after the school day. So, whenever and wherever possible, it is even more essential for us to assist them with "best practices" programs and offerings to help them with completing their class assignments or remediating their performance in certain subjects or tutoring them to excellence.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7 provides several examples of how to enrich learning opportunities for our children. Equally important, it offers a sample of many proven options that are cost-effective for schools and beneficial to students.

It is for these reasons and many more that I seek your support for Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7. Thank you.

Resolution adopted.

Senator Wiener moved that all necessary rules be suspended and that Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7 be immediately transmitted to the Assembly.

Motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Senator Raggio (by request):

Senate Bill No. 140—AN ACT relating to funeral establishments; requiring a funeral establishment to have a funeral director available within 20 miles of the establishment during business hours; 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 Judiciary:

Senate Bill No. 141—AN ACT relating to wills; enacting the Uniform International Wills Act; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 103.

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

Motion carried.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
SIGNING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

There being no objections, the President and Secretary signed Assembly Concurrent Resolutions Nos. 3, 4.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF SENATE FLOOR

On request of Senator Amodei, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Jeff Wittenberg, Michael Shoaf, Derek Shoaf and Heather Heideman.

On request of Senator Lee, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Elder Eric Higley and Elder Kurtis Barton.

On request of Senator Nolan, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Matthew Williams.

On request of Senator Parks, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Karen Kish and Danny Wadhams.

On request of Senator Raggio, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Larry Johnson.

On request of Senator Washington, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Lance West, John West and Joe Dewey.

On request of Senator Wiener, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Dr. Keith Rheault.

Senator Horsford moved that the Senate adjourn until Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at 11 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Approved:

BRIAN K. KROLICKI
President of the Senate

Attest: CLAIRE J. CLIFT
Secretary of the Senate