

THE FIFTEENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Monday), February 20, 2017

Senate called to order at 11:12 a.m.

President pro Tempore Denis presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Reverend Jay Hull.

On this Presidents' Day, we give You thanks, O' God, for those who have rightly sought and rightly exercised the role of public servant throughout our Nation's history here, today.

I am grateful for this opportunity to pray for Your blessing upon the people and the work of our public servants here, today. May You be glorified, O' God.

And in the 1600-year-old words of St. Augustine, I ask that you pray his prayer, Breathe in us, O' Holy Spirit, that our thoughts may all be holy. Act in us, O' Holy Spirit, that our work, too, may be holy. Draw our hearts, O' Holy Spirit, that we will love but what is holy. Strengthen us, O' Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard us, then, O' Holy Spirit, that each of us may always be ourselves and see one another as holy.

AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

By previous order of the Senate, the reading of the Journal is dispensed with, and the President pro Tempore and Secretary are authorized to make the necessary corrections and additions.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

Remarks by Senator Ford.

Senator Ford requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal including the remarks of members of the Las Vegas Chapter of Jack and Jill.

A few years ago, a couple of psychologists published an article in the *New York Times* entitled "Stories that Bind Us." The article did not deal, specifically, with history, but I think it teaches an important lesson. The researchers found that every family has a kind of unifying narrative that gives them a sense of identity and purpose. They called this our "intergenerational self."

They discovered that "the more children know about their family's history, the stronger their sense of control over their lives, the higher their self-esteem." They also found that children who knew more about their family's past were better able to moderate the effects of stress and to weather setbacks and difficulties.

Black History Month, which we now celebrate in February each year, had its origins in 1926. It was originally Negro History Week, celebrated the second week in February. It was the brainchild of African-American historian and journalist, Carter G. Woodson. He was one of the first scholars to seriously study African-American history. He founded the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History and *The Journal of Negro History*.

Woodson was the son of former slaves. His family was large and poor and, in his early years, he had limited opportunities for education. However, he eventually graduated from college and complete his doctoral work. Woodson believed that teaching history was essential to survival. He said, "If a race has no history, it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world."

You may ask why we are recognizing Black History Month, today, on Presidents' Day. Good question. The reason why is because Dr. Woodson initially selected February as the month in which to celebrate Black History for two reasons. First, it was the month in which Frederick Douglass was born. Secondly and notably, it was also the birth month of President Abraham Lincoln. As we all know, these two men were instrumental in Black History.

Black History Month is an opportunity for us to nourish our intergenerational self. It is not just a time to celebrate the achievements of Black Americans but also a time to tell our children the stories of our own family's past, our own beautiful part in that great saga of suffering and triumph.

Today, we are proud to have with us members of the Las Vegas Chapter of Jack and Jill of America. Jack and Jill is a membership organization of mothers with children ages 2 through 19 dedicated to nurturing future African-American leaders by strengthening children through leadership development, volunteer service, philanthropic giving and civic duty. Children of the Las Vegas Chapter of Jack and Jill are here, today, to share a little of Nevada's Black History with you.

CARISSA MCWILLIAMS:

I am Claytee White, one of the five founders of the Las Vegas Black Historical Society.

ELIJA WALKER:

My name is Ben Palmer. I am the first African-American settler in Nevada, and my property was the tenth most valuable in the region at that time.

DYLAN MORGAN:

I am Steven Horsford. I am the first African-American Majority Leader in the State Senate. I am also the first African-American Congressman in the State of Nevada.

MIA BRAITHWAITE:

I am Alice Key. Together with Bob Bailey, I created "Talk of the Town," Nevada's first all-Black television show.

KAYDEN BROWN:

My name is Charles West, and I am the first African-American licensed doctor in the State of Nevada.

BRAYDEN MCWILLIAMS:

I am James McMullan. I was the first African-American dentist in the State of Nevada, and I challenged the City's discriminatory practices as President of the Las Vegas Chapter of the NAACP.

ELLE CLINTON:

I am Hattie Canty. I worked to secure better salaries for women. I became the first African-American president of the Culinary Workers Union Local 226.

BRYSON BROWN:

I am David Meadows. I was instrumental in integrating Nevada's casinos.

HALEI WARD:

I am Sarann Knight Preddy. I was the first African-American woman in Nevada to own a full gambling license.

JACKSON BAKER:

I am Willie Wynn, the first African-American to be on the Governor's Cabinet.

ZANDER CLINTON:

I am Charles Keller, the first African-American to pass the bar exam in the State of Nevada, but the State Bar of Nevada denied me admission to practice law.

DANA MORGAN:

I am Sandra Douglass Morgan, the first African-American to be City Attorney in Nevada.

TORRANCE WHITE:

I am Joe Neal, the first African-American State Senator of Nevada. I was a member of the Senate of Nevada from 1972 to 2004.

PAIGE BROWN:

I am Johnnie Rawlinson. I am the first, out of two, to be admitted to practice law in the State of Nevada. I am the first African-American woman to become Chief Deputy District Attorney. I am the first African-American female judge on the U.S. District Court in Nevada on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

ALEXANDER FORD:

I am Michael Douglas. I am the first African-American Justice on the Nevada Supreme Court. I am also the first African-American Chief Justice on the Nevada Supreme Court.

SENATOR FORD:

Now, let me now say a few words about that beautiful song of praise, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," a song that is often called the "Black American National Anthem." This anthem was composed in 1900 by James Weldon Johnson, the principal of Stanton Elementary, a segregated school in Jacksonville, Florida. It was performed by 500 children from the school at a celebration of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. It has been sung many times in many arrangements by many different artists. In September 2016, it was performed at the opening ceremonies of the National Museum of African American History and Culture at which President Barack Obama delivered the keynote address.

Please stand and join us as Paige Brown leads us in singing the Negro National Anthem. Let us all echo these inspiring words as we stand with our feet firmly planted in the past, our hands busily engaged in the present and our eyes ever looking toward the future.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. President pro Tempore:

Your Committee on Government Affairs, to which were referred Senate Bills Nos. 23, 44, 45, 111, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

DAVID R. PARKS, *Chair*

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

February 20, 2017

The Fiscal Analysis Division, pursuant to Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6, has determined the exemption of: Senate Bill No. 89.

Also, the Fiscal Analysis Division, pursuant to Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6, has determined the eligibility for exemption of: Senate Bills Nos. 19, 62, 68, 69, 74, 79, 80, 88, 90, 94, 95, 96, 97.

MARK KRMPOTIC
Fiscal Analysis Division

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Senator Ford 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: CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS: Bert Carreon, Karmine Carreon, Jenay Duckett, Anthony Lamonea, Gerardo Lopez, Brad Pomerance, Nick Wagoner; KNPR NEVADA PUBLIC RADIO: Carrie Kaufman; RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL: Anjeanette Damon.

Motion carried.

Senator Farley has approved the addition of Senator Woodhouse as a primary sponsor on Senate Bill No. 166.

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Senate Bill No. 72.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Senator Woodhouse moved that Senate Bill No. 72 be taken from the General File and re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion carried.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF SENATE FLOOR

On request of Senator Atkinson, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Dana Morgan, Don Morgan, Dylan Morgan and Sandra Douglas Morgan.

On request of Senator Cancela, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Cerisse Ward and Halei Ward.

On request of Senator Cannizzaro, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Amanda McWilliams, Brayden McWilliams, Carissa McWilliams and Derrick McWilliams.

On request of Senator Denis, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Piper Overstreet, Jason White, Taryn White and Torrance White.

On request of Senator Farley, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Elle Clinton, Sabrena Clinton, Uri Clinton and Zander Clinton.

On request of Senator Ford, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Alexander Ford and Berna Rhodes-Ford.

On request of Senator Hammond, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Bryson Brown, Hugh Brown, Kayden Brown and Latoya Jordan Brown.

On request of Senator Hardy, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Jackson Edward Baker and Paula Watkins Baker.

On request of Senator Manendo, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Elijah Walker, Sonya Walker and Willis Walker.

On request of Senator Parks, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Marguerite Braithwaite and Mia Braithwaite.

On request of Senator Spearman, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Paige Farmer Brown and Kimberley Farmer.

Senator Ford moved that the Senate adjourn until Tuesday, February 21, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Approved:

MOISES DENIS

President pro Tempore of the Senate

Attest: CLAIRE J. CLIFT

Secretary of the Senate