

NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Eightieth Session, 2019

SENATE DAILY JOURNAL

THE SEVENTEENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Wednesday), February 20, 2019

Senate called to order at 11:21 a.m.

President Marshall presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Pastor Don Baumann.

Almighty God, we look up to You this morning and thank You for the freedom with which You have blessed us as a State and a Nation. We ask that You would bless those who are preserving that freedom at this moment: our armed forces and our first responders. Thank You for each Senator and their staff members. We ask each person involved in this Session might look to You for wisdom in the decisions they make on our behalf. I ask that You would bring these men and women to mind often, that we would uphold them before You. Might we all continue to use this gift of freedom to do justly, love mercy and walk humbly before You.

We ask this in the Name of the Head over all government and authority, Jesus, the Lord.

AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Senator Goicoechea:

Senate Bill No. 233—AN ACT relating to education; removing certain requirements to obtain a grant of money from the Fund to Assist School Districts in Financing Capital Improvements; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 of the 79th Session.

Resolution read third time.

Remarks by Senator Spearman.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 of the 79th Session proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to provide certain rights to voters. Specifically, Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 of the 79th Session proposes to add to the Constitution a list of rights for voters, many of which are set forth in Nevada Revised Statutes 293.2546. If approved in identical form during the 2019 Legislative Session, the proposal will be submitted to the voters for final approval, or disapproval, at the 2020 General Election.

Included in the voters' rights set forth in Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 of the 79th Session are the rights to: cast a ballot that is written in a format which allows the clear identification of candidates and accurately records the voter's selection of candidates; have questions concerning voting procedures answered; vote without being intimidated, threatened or coerced; vote during any period for early voting or on election day if the voter is waiting in line to vote at the time the polls close; receive instruction on the use of voting equipment; have equal access to the elections system without discrimination; have a uniform, statewide standard for counting and recounting all votes accurately; and have complaints about elections and election contests resolved fairly, accurately and efficiently. These are the rights already codified in our Nevada Revised Statutes, and this will put them in our Constitution. I urge my colleagues to vote yes.

Roll call on Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 of the 79th Session:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 of the 79th Session having received a constitutional majority, Madam President declared it passed.

Resolution ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

Senator Ohrenschall requested that his remarks be entered in the Journal.

Madam President, yesterday we lost a great Nevadan. I had the great opportunity of getting to know him very well. Yesterday, former Nevada Attorney General, former Associate Supreme Court Justice, former Chief Justice of the Nevada Supreme Court, Charles E. Springer, known as "Charlie," passed away just ten days shy of his 91st birthday. Charles Springer was a native Nevadan, native of Reno. He was born February 20, 1928. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1950 and earned his law degree from Georgetown University in 1953. He was very interested in politics and became political allies with another Democrat who was interested in politics, Grant Sawyer, who was elected Governor. Charlie Springer served as our State Democratic Chairman and acted as a front man, press person and the face for the Sawyer administration.

Governor Sawyer appointed Springer to become attorney general in 1962. In 1966, Springer jumped into the Democratic primary election race against his former friend Sawyer. He was not successful, and it turned out to be a bitter contest. Springer lost, but the party had been split and Sawyer was defeated in the general election. Charlie then ran as an independent for governor in 1970 and lost in the year Mike O'Callaghan ran. Many thought Springer's political career was over

after he turned on Sawyer. In 1974, he challenged Justice Gordon Thompson for a place on the Nevada Supreme Court and lost. But in 1980, he beat District Judge Paul Goldman of Las Vegas to win a seat on the Supreme Court. He ran unopposed in 1986 and 1992. Before his election to the Nevada Supreme Court, Springer served seven years as the Juvenile Court master in Washoe County and was generally recognized as an expert in the field.

He was one of the few male members on the Nevada Commission for Women, and he headed a Nevada Supreme Court study on gender bias in the judiciary. He recommended, and the court agreed, also to study racial discrimination in the State's judicial system. He was a man who was ahead of his time and remained interested in policy throughout. He was a great Nevadan, and it is a great loss to our State.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF SENATE FLOOR

On request of Senator Brooks, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Dick Dielman and Donnie Gibson.

On request of Senator Cancela, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Rebecca Fountain.

On request of Senator Cannizzaro, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Sean Stewart.

On request of Senator Goicoechea, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Emilie Kirkhus and Sherri Krohn.

On request of Senator Hardy, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Justin Kitrell, Jorge Masias, Jim Mason and Mayor Rod Woodbury.

On request of Senator Kieckhefer, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Ashley Herndon and Trent Scarlett.

On request of Senator Parks, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Robert Potter.

On request of Senator Ratti, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Kay Bennett, Pattie Bernard, Catherine Cuccaro, Marsha Cuccaro, Sue Davis, Isabell Espinoza, Michelle Gardner, Kathy Noneman, Mona Reno, Holly van Valkenburgh and Linda Walsh.

On request of Senator Scheible, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Mariah Ruiz.

On request of Senator Settlemeyer, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Ed Lawson.

Senator Atkinson moved that the Senate adjourn in memory of former Chief Justice Charles E. Springer until Thursday, February 21, 2019, at 11:00 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Approved:

KATE MARSHALL
President of the Senate

Attest: CLAIRE J. CLIFT
Secretary of the Senate