

# NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Eighty-First Session, 2021

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## ASSEMBLY DAILY JOURNAL

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### THE NINTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Tuesday), February 9, 2021

Assembly called to order at 11:38 a.m.

Mr. Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Tribal Elder Florence Millett of the Duckwater Shoshone Reservation.

Our Father, thank You for this beautiful day. Thank You for the safety in our travels to attend this legislative meeting today. Lord, give all the speakers strength and courage to have open minds. Bless each of them and comfort them. Lord, the Coronavirus is taking the lives of so many of our loved ones. Lord, help our scientists and doctors find a cure. We all need to be protected from getting this virus. Bless each person who is involved in helping to give the virus shots to the people. Lord it is so hard losing a loved one knowing we cannot be there to hold their hand to the end with tears and heartaches.

Lord we are one nation. We are all one, we are all family. Give blessings, good thoughts to all people who need You. Let them reach up and ask for forgiveness. Lord I know You hear us.

I ask You Lord to be with all our families and loved ones wherever they may be, whatever they may be doing. Watch over and Bless each of them. Lord, bless this day, the beauty all around us. Protect us all. Keep us safe. Always be with us in each step we take day by day. May God bless each of you in work and in travels home.

AMEN.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag led by Army Ranger Garrett Shaw, 75th Ranger Regiment, 2nd Battalion, and a member of the Northern Paiute Tribe, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony.

Singing of the Dine, or Navajo, version of the National Anthem by Mx. Native UNLV Annika Roseen of the Navajo Nation.

Special musical rendition of the Paiute version of the Flag Song by Emileigh Mason, whose family affiliations include Pyramid Lake Paiute, Pima, Tohono, O'odham, and Shoshone tribes.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson 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.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Assemblymen Roberts, Monroe-Moreno, Krasner, Leavitt, Nguyen, Titus and Tolles; Senators Hammond, Kieckhefer and Seevers Gansert:

Assembly Bill No. 105—AN ACT relating to interscholastic activities; requiring any board formed to govern the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association to include at least two members who are parents or guardians of pupils who participate in a sanctioned sport; requiring any advisory board to a governing board to include at least two members who are pupils currently participating in a sanctioned sport; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Bilbray-Axelrod moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Education.

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Ways and Means:

Assembly Bill No. 106—AN ACT making an appropriation to the Office of Economic Development for the provision of grants to certain entities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Carlton moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Motion carried.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

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

Today we celebrate Nevada's first residents as we honor Nevada tribes at the State Legislature. Nevada is comprised of 27 tribes, bands, and colonies. These tribes are all unique with traditions that span generations. As one of the most diverse legislatures in the country, I think it is only fitting that we recognize the vast diversity that exists within our Indigenous community right here in our great state. Today we honor the unique languages, cultures, histories, and governments of Nevada tribal communities and their contributions to Nevada.

We owe our statehood to the Indigenous people that came before us. In 1864 Nevada's population was too small to be recognized as a state. However, Abraham Lincoln, through the Enabling Act, allowed Nevada to join the Union by granting our Indigenous people state citizenship nearly 60 years before most indigenous people became citizens in 1924. Our Silver State and our Battle Born heritage was born of the spirit of an Indigenous community that came long before us.

There are many places to visit in Nevada that pay tribute to the contributions of Nevada's Native American community—like the Pyramid Lake Museum just an hour northeast of Carson City, or just a few blocks away at the newly renovated Stewart Indian School Cultural Center. But the best way to honor their legacy is to protect our land and our water by standing up for and passing policies that ensure everyone has clean air and clean water. If you have a moment today, reflect on our history. Reflect on where it truly started and take a moment to thank the Nevada Indian

Commission for not only being a liaison, but an advocate, connecting our tribal lands with our federal, state, and local partners.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

I would like to add a voice to the tribute today of our American Indian brothers and sisters who live in harmony with nature and have served as the first stewards of this great land. They are very much Battle Born. Manifest Destiny and fate brought our ancestors together for more than a century and three-quarters. War and peace were waged. Through laws, treaties, and pledges, we have promised to support and protect American Indians.

I would like to tell you a personal short story. During my 37 years as a family physician, I have cared for many, many Shoshone and Paiute tribal members, as there are several Indian colonies and reservations in my area. Mr. Speaker and members, health care disparities are real. As we heard mentioned in our prayer, worries about COVID and other diseases still are of great concern to tribal members. I started to practice in 1984, and within six months my TB skin test converted because I was exposed from a member. They did not know they had it and I did not know they had it and so we were both treated.

But today, I want to acknowledge that woman on the screen there. That is Ethel Fredericks. She was a very special patient of mine. She was born on September 10, 1906, on the family ranch in Sweetwater, Nevada, where she spent her childhood and young adult years. Her mother, a native Paiute, was born near Sweetwater in 1872. During Ethel's childhood she learned the Paiute language and many traditional activities of her native culture. Ethel married April 15, 1927, in Carson City and they moved to her husband's ranch, the Schmaling Ranch in Reese River Valley, Nevada, where she had two daughters. They then moved to Lone where Clarence worked in a mine. When he unfortunately died, she moved back to Smith Valley.

She then remarried and she and her husband Alfred owned and operated the Central Bar in Smith Valley. The Central Bar is closed now, but in our younger days we had many a good time there.

After her second husband died, she moved to Yerington to live with her daughter, and then to Fernley to live with her granddaughter. It really brings me joy to share the story of Ethel; the story of someone who was so proud of her heritage and all those she touched during the century she graced us with her life. She died at the age of 104.

What I really loved about Ethel was all the times she was in my office and we would visit about her Nevada heritage. She told me the story that my little grandmother—and I say little because my grandmother never got over five feet tall and stayed single for a long time—would go pick up Ethel in her horse and buggy and take Ethel to church. They had great stories to share. Thank you for letting me share this story of this wonderful woman and her life.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved that the Assembly adjourn until Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.

Motion carried.

Assembly adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Approved:

JASON FRIERSON  
*Speaker of the Assembly*

Attest: SUSAN FURLONG  
*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*