

# NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Eighty-First Session, 2021

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## ASSEMBLY DAILY JOURNAL

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### THE ELEVENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Thursday), February 11, 2021

Assembly called to order at 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Speaker presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Tribal Elder Fred C. Drye, Kaibab Band of Paiutes.

Let us pray.

Creator, good morning, I am praying to You this morning to pray about the legislative work. It is always important that the state land is protected, including land, water, air, and other environments. Water is a commodity. This land would be a better place if there was not too much fighting.

Creator, bless the workers who are from all nationalities, that they may work to the benefit of the people. Communication is important, and while they speak, they speak on behalf of the state and constituents. In discussions with their people, is this the right thing to do or is it not the right thing to do. Get consensus.

Creator, bless the elderly and seniors of this land, those that are in hospitals and under medical care that they may be well and taken care of. Bless the military that they be safe and come home safely to their families. Bless all the people in their everyday lives and their health. Look over them in a good way.

Creator, bless this Legislature, in their rightful decisions on our behalf and our future. Let them walk with good minds and work with all governments of the state.

I say this in Your name.

AMEN.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

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.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

February 11, 2021

The Fiscal Analysis Division, pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.6, has determined the eligibility for exemption of: Assembly Bills Nos. 29 and 102.

SARAH COFFMAN  
*Fiscal Analysis Division*

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By Assemblymen Frierson, Monroe-Moreno, Yeager, Nguyen and Benitez-Thompson:

Assembly Bill No. 111—AN ACT relating to peace officers; revising provisions relating to the Executive Director of the Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Flores moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Government Affairs.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Marzola and Yeager:

Assembly Bill No. 112—AN ACT relating to minors; revising provisions relating to compromised claims of a minor; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Yeager moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Hardy, Wheeler, Kasama, Hafen, Krasner, Dickman, Duran, Ellison, Flores, Gorelow, Hansen, Leavitt, Matthews, Roberts, Titus, Tolles and Torres; Senators Buck, Hammond, Hardy, Pickard, Kieckhefer and Seevers Gansert:

Assembly Bill No. 113—AN ACT relating to criminal procedure; providing that there is no limitation of time within which a criminal prosecution for sex trafficking must be commenced; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Yeager moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Nguyen, Watts, Monroe-Moreno and Peters:

Assembly Bill No. 114—AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; expanding the exemption for certain manufacturers of electric passenger cars from the requirement of establishing a franchise with a new vehicle dealer and certain requirements relating to the operation of such a franchise; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Growth and Infrastructure.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Nguyen, Peters, González, Torres and Watts; Senators Scheible, Cannizzaro and Brooks:

Assembly Bill No. 115—AN ACT relating to parentage; authorizing a court to determine in certain circumstances that more than two people have a parent and child relationship with a child; establishing provisions concerning custody and visitation, adoption and the termination of parental rights in cases in which a child has more than two parents; requiring the Committee to Review Child Support Guidelines to review the guidelines established by regulation for the support of one or more children to determine the amount of required support in cases in which a child has more than two parents and provide any recommendations for revisions to the Administrator of the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services; requiring the Administrator to review and consider any such recommendations and revise or adopt any necessary regulations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Yeager moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Nguyen, Yeager, Frierson, Torres, Monroe-Moreno, Anderson, Benítez-Thompson, Bilbray-Axelrod, Brown-May, Carlton, Cohen, Considine, Duran, Flores, González, Gorelow, Jauregui, Krasner, Martinez, Marzola, Brittney Miller, C.H. Miller, Orentlicher, Peters, Summers-Armstrong, Thomas and Watts; Senators Cannizzaro, Scheible and Brooks:

Assembly Bill No. 116—AN ACT relating to vehicles; establishing civil penalties for certain traffic and related violations; defining certain traffic and vehicle violations as misdemeanors; creating procedures for civil infractions for traffic and related violations to be adjudicated; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Yeager moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Titus and Ellison; Senator Hansen:

Assembly Bill No. 117—AN ACT relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to drawings for tags or permits to hunt certain species of wildlife; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblyman Watts moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

Motion carried.

By Assemblymen Bilbray-Axelrod, Anderson, Considine, Duran, González, Gorelow, Krasner, Martinez, Marzola, Orentlicher, Summers-Armstrong and Thomas:

Assembly Bill No. 118—AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; revising provisions relating to the transportation of children in motor vehicles; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Growth and Infrastructure.

Motion carried.

By Assemblywomen Thomas, Monroe-Moreno, Summers-Armstrong, Brittney Miller, Titus, Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, Bilbray-Axelrod, Carlton, Cohen, Considine, González, Marzola, Nguyen and Peters; Senators Neal, Scheible and Harris:

Assembly Bill No. 119—AN ACT relating to maternal health; revising the duties of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Assemblywoman Nguyen moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Motion carried.

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

Assembly in recess at 11:52 p.m.

#### ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

At 1:06 p.m.

Mr. Speaker presiding.

Quorum present.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

SENATE CHAMBER, Carson City, February 11, 2021

*To the Honorable the Assembly:*

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Senate on this day passed Assembly Bill No. 106.

SHERRY RODRIGUEZ  
*Assistant Secretary of the Senate*

#### REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Today we celebrate Black History Month at the Legislature. As a country we have celebrated Black History Month every February since 1976. While we should lift up the accomplishments of our African-American community every day, this month serves as a reminder to us all to celebrate the contributions of the African-American leaders who have helped build our state and nation.

While I serve as the first African-American Speaker of the State Assembly, I am humbly aware that I am here today because of all those that came before me. In 1966 Nevada Assemblyman Woodrow Wilson became the first African American elected to serve in the Legislature. In 1972 Senator Joe Neal became the first African American elected to serve in the State Senate. We lost Senator Neal last year, on December 31, 2020. In 1973 Senator Neal championed restoring rights to formerly incarcerated individuals and because of his work, 46 years later, we were able to automatically restore voting rights to the formerly incarcerated. Senator Neal is survived by another trailblazer, his daughter, Senator Dina Neal. In 2010 Senator Dina Neal became the first African-American woman to serve in the Nevada State Assembly.

Our Congressman, Steven Horsford, was not only the first African-American Senate Majority Leader in 2008, but in 2012 became the first African American to represent Nevada in the U.S. House of Representatives.

I know today I stand on the shoulders of the Black men and women that came before me, like Senator Bernice Mathews, who in 1995 became the first African-American woman to serve in the Nevada Senate. Assemblyman Wendell Williams, in 2001, was the first African American to serve as Assembly Speaker pro Tempore, and Assemblyman William Horne, in 2007, was the first African American to serve as Majority Leader of this body.

Our newly elected Vice President Kamala Harris often talks about how her mother used to say, “Kamala, you may be the first to do many things, but make sure you are not the last.” I carry that same charge and want to do all I can to lift others up, empowering others to lead.

I also carry the charge to champion equitable policies that allow our communities to succeed. I have been heartened in this body to see policies pass in a bipartisan manner that my predecessors could only dream about. We have come a long way as a state and as a country, but we still have a long way to go. I know we can live up to the promise of this great nation by continuing this work together.

Thank you again for allowing me to lead this body, following the footsteps of those who came before me. I only hope to leave this path better for those who come after me.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TOLLES:

This Sunday is Valentine’s Day, a day that we celebrate those that we love. But it is also known as Frederick Douglass Day. Although Douglass was born enslaved and never knew his birthdate, he chose to celebrate every year on February 14 which helped create, preserve, and celebrate Black History Month.

While we celebrate our loved ones, let us also honor the freedom that allows all of God’s children, created with certain inalienable rights, to pursue their hopes and dreams, grounded in equality. No one contributed to this cause more than Frederick Douglass, as one of the historically most influential abolitionists in American history.

As we sit here in this Chamber, another groundbreaking female majority, it is also wonderful to note that after celebrating the hundredth anniversary of women’s right to vote, that Frederick Douglass was a fierce advocate of women’s suffrage as well.

Douglass self-emancipated by age 20 and became a brilliant orator, author, and advocate as he railed against injustice and championed equality under the law. Leading our nation to new heights in pursuit of liberty, justice, and freedom for all.

Frederick Douglass once said, “People might not get all they work for in this world, but they must certainly work for all they get.” This Valentine’s Day as we honor our loved ones and honor his memory, may we also honor his life and legacy in this body by working hard in this legislative session together to ensure that every Nevadan has the opportunity to succeed.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS:

We would also like to honor all of those mentioned today, including yourself, Mr. Speaker.

Above the Speaker’s podium, in a place of honor in this Chamber, is the portrait of the father of the Republican Party, President Abraham Lincoln. I would also like to tell the story of those bullet holes covered up and repaired in the portrait of Abraham Lincoln, for those of you who do not know this story.

Congress began the process of Nevada statehood in March 1864. We wrote a constitution, voted to approve it, and sent it by telegraph to Washington on October 26. This was the longest

and most expensive telegram ever sent, at that time costing \$4,313.27, which is the equivalent of \$59,229 in 2010 value. We were admitted to the Union on October 31, 1864.

It is a false conception that we were brought into the Union because of the need for our silver to finance the war. The real reason was politics. Nevada was a pro-unionist state of Lincoln Republicans. Earlier in 1864, the 13th Amendment to the *Constitution*, abolishing slavery, had passed in the Senate but narrowly failed to get the two-thirds support in the House of Representatives. A Republican Congressional Delegation could provide additional votes needed to pass this landmark legislation. Nevada's statehood was deemed of the greatest importance by President Lincoln in order to make certain the abolition of slavery by constitutional amendment. Ultimately on January 31, 1865, the 13th Amendment was approved on a 119 to 56 vote, just three votes more than the necessary two-thirds needed. So, in Nevada, we are grateful to Lincoln.

On the 50th anniversary of Nevada statehood, the Assembly passed a bill to procure an oil painting of Lincoln to honor "the immortal martyred president." The bill was passed on March 2, 1915, signed by the Governor on March 11, and on March 14 the portrait by Charles M. Shean was unveiled. In the words of Governor Emmet Boyle, the portrait "should inspire legislators to give to the people when enacting legislation, the best that is in them." This portrait has become one of our state's most precious treasures.

In the 1950s, while the Buildings and Grounds employee named Cy Meacham was busy cleaning the floors in the Capitol, he heard shots fired in the building. Several young men had been doing a little target practice on our Lincoln portrait. Mr. Meacham chased after the teens but was unable to catch them. The employee nervously patched the bullet holes with paper and paste.

In the late 1980s, it was professionally repaired. If you look closely, you can see scars on the lapel of his coat, his left elbow, and on his right forearm. In 1971 this building was completed, dedicated, and opened for business. Former Speaker Lawrence Jacobsen of Douglas County, along with the wives of two Assemblymen, decided that the portrait which was still hanging in the historic Capitol belonged in this room. The three of them marched over to the Capitol, got someone on the maintenance staff to take down the portrait, carried it over here, and had it hung in this Chamber. There were some phone calls and newspaper editorials saying that the portrait did not belong to the Assembly, but in the end, possession is nine-tenths of the law and here it hangs.

President Lincoln held our country together through civil war, ending the most American lives that our nation has ever had to endure. The first passage of his Emancipation Proclamation reads, "That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free." Although the Emancipation Proclamation did not end slavery in the nation, it captured the hearts and imagination of millions of Americans and fundamentally transformed the character of the war. As a milestone along the road to slavery's final destruction, the Emancipation Proclamation has assumed a place among the great documents of human freedom. Members of this body, please join me in honoring President Abraham Lincoln, whose birthday is tomorrow.

Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved that the Assembly adjourn until Monday, February 15, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.

Motion carried.

Assembly adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Approved:

JASON FRIERSON  
*Speaker of the Assembly*

Attest: SUSAN FURLONG  
*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

