

THE FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Monday), March 29, 2021

Senate called to order at 11:28 a.m.

President Marshall presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Reverend Nick Emery.

Father God, thank You for this day. Thank You for each of these leaders. These men and women represent a multitude of stories, backgrounds, ideas and perspectives. It would be impossible to ever think they would all be in perfect unity with one another in every situation, every discussion and every pursuit.

I pray, Lord, that, today, You will give these leaders a unique perspective, wisdom and understanding in dealing with one another. Help them throughout this week to see each other for not what sets them apart but to see what makes them the same, God, as is their sincere desire to serve the people of this State. Now, each one of these Senators may approach this from different angles and with different perspectives. I pray, out of an abundance of Your grace and mercy, that You will help each one of these leaders to pause and consider this specific similarity. From that perspective, help them filter one another's advocacy and pursuits in a different light. Help them grow in the grace and mercy needed to work well with one another, I pray.

Our State depends on their leadership. The people have elected them to serve and represent us. Hold, bless and encourage these women and men for answering this high calling of service.

Bless our great State, we pray.

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.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Pursuant to Senate Standing Rule No. 134.1(a), Senate Majority Leader Cannizzaro has authorized Senator Ratti to use remote-technology systems to attend, participate, vote and take any other action in the proceedings of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By the Committee on Commerce and Labor:

Senate Bill No. 402—AN ACT relating to regulatory bodies; revising provisions relating to certain reciprocal agreements; authorizing certain qualified professionals to apply for a license by endorsement to practice in this State; requiring certain licenses for educational personnel be issued within 30 days after receiving the application for the license; requiring certain boards and commissions to submit an annual report to the Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission and to the Governor; authorizing the Governor to suspend the authority of a board or commission to expend funds if the board or commission fails to submit such an annual report; requiring certain boards and commissions to carry out certain tasks; requiring the Legislative Counsel

to create a system for monitoring the progress of an agency in adopting certain permanent regulations; revising provisions relating to the Register of Administrative Regulations; requiring the summary of certain legislative measures to include information concerning whether the legislative measure grants rulemaking authority; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Spearman moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Motion carried.

By Senator Pickard:

Senate Bill No. 403—AN ACT relating to legislative measures; authorizing each Legislator to request the drafting of not more than 1 legislative measure for each special session; requiring the names of Legislators who request and sponsor legislative measures to be confidential and not published on the list of legislative measures prepared by the Legislative Counsel or printed on the legislative measure under certain circumstances; authorizing the designation of certain legislative measures that must receive a hearing in a standing committee of the Legislature; establishing various procedures relating to legislative measures with confidential sponsorship; requiring the list of legislative measures prepared by the Legislative Counsel to contain a detailed summary of each legislative measure; requiring the Legislative Counsel to consult with each Legislator concerning the proposed wording of any part of his or her requested legislative measure; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Senate Bill No. 179.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Assembly Bill No. 9.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Neal.

Assembly Bill No. 9 gives the powers to the Governor's Finance Office from the Department of Taxation to do perspective budgeting.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 9:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 9 having received a constitutional majority, Madam President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
SIGNING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

There being no objections, the President and Secretary signed Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

Senator Hansen requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal.

SENATOR HANSEN:

Last week, in the Senate Judiciary Committee, we heard remarks labeling the City of Reno the most racist police force in the United States. We were presented with a graph saying the use of force is a racial-justice issue. That graph listed the City of Reno as the worst. When I went to the website of the so-called "experts" that presented this, it said there were 15 killings of black people by Reno police between the years of 2013 and 2020. I have been an elected official for that entire window of time, and those numbers did not line up with my understanding.

I went to three different sources to investigate, the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting and the City of Reno. Between the years 2010 and 2020, the number of black fatalities involving an officer-involved shooting was 1 and not 15. The presentation was called a "police violence presentation." My confidence in the experts dropped substantially when I did a bit of homework. It was obviously not based on statistical evidence. It was biased advocacy for a specific agenda in which the City of Reno and the Reno Police Department were smeared. The actual data shows there was no such problem in the City of Reno.

Over the weekend, I did a lot of homework on attacks by police and the number of murders across the Nation. It was interesting and disturbing. In the last year, there has been an aggressive effort to defund the police and make them out to be the bad guys. I went back to 2019 and looked at four cities: New York, Washington D.C., Detroit and Chicago. I compared the number of murders in those cities from 2019 and 2020 after they defunded the police. In 2019, the total number of murders in those four cities was 1,266. After defunding the police, who are supposedly the bad guys, the number rose to 1,761. Once you took the police out of the equation, there was an increase of 495 deaths. We have been watching our police departments essentially be labeled as the problem. Anybody who looks at the statistics would say the best thing we could do to reduce the number of crimes in these cities, disproportionately young black males being killed by other young males, is to increase the funding for our police forces instead of holding them accountable as if they are somehow responsible for these murder rates.

Some have suggested the problem is so-called "gun violence." I notice everyone in this room, including those who are aggressively in favor of gun control, walk past the law-enforcement people in this building who are carrying guns that are highly lethal. The average Legislative Police Officer has about 100 bullets available for his semi-automatic pistol yet there has been no move to disarm our own Legislative Police. This is logical. Guns are not the problem; guns are an inanimate object. I would be safe in saying the average number of firearms owned in my District is at least one per person.

Nevada has about 40 murders a year despite the fact guns are exceptionally common and prominent in every one of our districts. When I look at these statistics, especially with the attack on the police, it is not only unjustified but also has harmed those that the very people who are spreading this propaganda claim to be trying to protect, disproportionately young black people who are being murdered.

In 2001, over 71 police officers were killed when the Twin Towers fell. An additional 241 later died from the effects of being heroes and charging into the Twin Towers to rescue people. These are people like our own Legislative Police, who, when all of us here would be running and hiding, have to turn and face the danger. While we are running away, they are running toward the danger. Until recently, they were the heroes. Somehow, in this one-year window, we have made a total transition to where "police violence" is now the nature of the problem. The people we should be promoting and funding even more are the very people some are claiming to be the bad guys in all of this.

If we would have left the funding in place and supported the police, there would be almost 500 more people alive in our Country today. Who knows how many people have been saved over the years? It is hard to prove that aspect of it. When we look at the statistics, it is clear that the police in the United States have done a good job in protecting all American citizens. All lives matter. The police should be held up as the heroes they are. When I see these so-called "experts" show up with phony statistics that are incorrect and essentially call the cops and not the criminals, the bad guys, it breaks my heart.

I do not want to see any more of these acts of injustice by this Body. We should be proud of our police forces, our law-enforcement community, and the fantastic job they do in Nevada and across the Nation. I feel passionate about this. When an injustice of this type occurs in our own Chamber, it is a disgrace to us as the Legislative Body. It is a disgrace to do that to these brave men and women of law enforcement, here, in Nevada.

SENATOR BUCK:

Today, I would like to take a moment to recognize one of our colleagues. Congratulations to the Senator from District 2 for earning the Silver Beaver award from Boy Scouts of America (BSA) last week. The Senator from District 2 has participated in Scouting for the past 51 years. He started as an eight-year-old Cub Scout and progressed through Scouting to earn his Arrow of Light, Eagle Scout Rank, Youth and Adult Religious Awards and the District Award of Merit.

As a leader in scouting, he has served as Explorer Post Advisor, Varsity Scout Coach, Chartered Organization Representative, Scout Committee Chairman, District and Council nominating committees, Urban Emphasis and Scout Reach Committee Chair and is currently on the LVAC Executive Board. He has been a faithful member and leader in various capacities for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

His community service has included: Nevada PTA President, Clark County Library Board Chair, Easter Seals of Nevada Board, Vegas PBS Board, North Vista Hospital Board, 2004-2010 Assemblyman for the Nevada State Assembly and is currently a Senator for the Nevada State Senate where he serves as Senate President pro Tempore.

His proudest achievements are his marriage to his sweetheart, Susan, of 37-plus years, his 5 children, of which all 3 sons have earned the Eagle Scout Award, and his 6 grandsons.

Again, congratulations to the Senator from District 2 for your Scouts BSA Silver Beaver Award.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

Last year, the nonprofit, philanthropy and government sectors came together to support each other and Nevada's individuals, children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, on March 29, 2021, a great collection of partners from all three sectors are coming together to celebrate how we reimagined our work and collaborated to respond to the dual, health-and-economic crises. On behalf of United Way of Southern Nevada, United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra, Moonridge Group Philanthropy Advisors and the CEO Exchange, we invite you all to celebrate with us during Nonprofit and Philanthropy Day at the Legislature and recognize the nonprofit and philanthropy partners who have stepped in to support our State when they were most needed. We are grateful for their hard work and dedication on behalf of every single person in Nevada.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the Senate adjourn until Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Approved:

KATE MARSHALL
President of the Senate

Attest: CLAIRE J. CLIFT
Secretary of the Senate