

THE NINETY-FIFTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Thursday), May 6, 2021

Senate called to order at 12:22 p.m.

President Marshall presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Pastor Jason Ching.

Lord, You call us to love our neighbor as ourselves. We confess that we so rarely do that. Give us new hearts today to seek the good of others and not merely our own interests. Give us a spirit to serve like Christ when He came to serve us. Give us a spirit of love greater than our differences, greater than our politics and the polarization of our day.

Lord, would You grow in us the love that is so desperately needed today.

In Jesus' Name, I 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Madam President:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred Assembly Bill No. 420, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

Also, your Committee on Education, to which was referred Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 9, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Be adopted.

MOISES DENIS, *Chair*

Madam President:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred Assembly Bill No. 426, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

JULIA RATTI, *Chair*

Madam President:

Your Committee on Natural Resources, to which were referred Assembly Bills Nos. 31, 34, 74, 75, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

FABIAN DONATE, *Chair*

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, Carson City, May 5, 2021

To the Honorable the Senate:

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day passed Senate Bills Nos. 25, 35, 74.

SUSAN FURLONG
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

May 4, 2021

The Fiscal Analysis Division, pursuant to Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6, has determined the exemption of: Senate Bill No. 368.

SARAH COFFMAN
Fiscal Analysis Division

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

By the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 11—Creating a joint special committee to conduct a study concerning innovation zones.

Senator Ohrenschall moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections.

Motion carried.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the following person be accepted as an accredited press representative, and that he be allowed the use of appropriate media facilities: NEVADA NEWSMAKERS: Sam Shad.

Motion carried.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By the Committee on Natural Resources:

Senate Bill No. 438—AN ACT relating to food; providing that the State Department of Agriculture adopts by reference certain federal regulations; requiring the Department to perform certain inspections to ensure compliance with such federal regulations; requiring the State Quarantine Officer to issue certain orders in certain situations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Donate moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services.

Motion carried.

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS
WAIVER OF JOINT STANDING RULE(S)

A Waiver requested by Senator Cannizzaro.

For: Senate Bill No. 438

To Waive:

Subsection 1 of Joint Standing Rule No. 14.2 (dates for introduction of BDRs requested by individual legislators and committees).

Subsection 1 of Joint Standing Rule No. 14.3 (out of final committee of house of origin by 68th day).

Subsection 2 of Joint Standing Rule No. 14.3 (out of house of origin by 79th day).

Subsection 3 of Joint Standing Rule No. 14.3 (out of final committee of 2nd house by 103rd day).

Subsection 4 of Joint Standing Rule No. 14.3 (out of 2nd house by 110th day).

Has been granted effective: Thursday, May 6, 2021.

NICOLE J. CANNIZZARO
Senate Majority Leader

JASON FRIERSON
Speaker of the Assembly

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Assembly Bill No. 54.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 118.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 413.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Assembly Bill No. 35.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Kieckhefer.

Assembly Bill No. 35 consolidates two financial assistance programs for senior citizens and persons with disabilities, financed by the Fund for a Healthy Nevada, into a single program. This bill also revises eligibility requirements for the consolidated program and makes various conforming changes. Under the consolidated program, a person is eligible to receive assistance with prescription drug costs, pharmaceutical services and certain other services if he or she is a State resident and meets certain requirements prescribed by regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services. They must be 60 years of age or older and have a physical or intellectual disability or a related condition.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 35:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 35 having received a constitutional majority, Madam President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Assembly Bill No. 138.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Ratti.

I am proud to have my name associated with Assembly Bill No. 138. I brought a similar version of the bill forward, but when I learned Assemblywoman Martinez was working on a similar bill, I stepped back. I am excited to see this bill make it to our House.

This bill removes a provision in NRS that prohibits a person who has been convicted of a felony drug offense from receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which might be better known as food stamps. In the past, if one were convicted of a substance-use disorder, many hoops would need to be jumped through to demonstrate participation in treatment, maintenance of sobriety or other steps taken. That framework demonstrates a clear misunderstanding of the journey that is recovery from substance-use disorder. On the face of it, this is inhumane, particularly when thinking about TANF. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families is for the whole family. To say that family would not get the basic support they need to have food, shelter or clothing because of the conviction of one of the family members related to substance-use disorder makes zero sense.

I am proud we are now going to recognize that, in order for people to move forward with their substance-use-disorder recovery journey. They need to have the basics of food, shelter and clothing taken care of, as in Maslow's hierarchy of needs. I strongly urge this Body to support Assembly Bill No. 138.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 138:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Assembly Bill No. 138 having received a constitutional majority, Madam President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

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

I would like to do a quick shout-out to my sister, Sharon Armstrong, who is a reading instructor in the Henderson area of the Clark County School District. I would like to expand on what was mentioned by my colleague from District 10. Today is National Nurse's Day. We need to realize that, in this COVID-19 window, the real heroes have been the nurses and doctors who have literally risked their lives to help and to protect all of us. The people in the medical community had the same fear many of us had about this virus, yet they went to work each day. Of my eight children, three are registered nurses: Sarah Hansen Gurries, Mallory Hansen Reed and Larissa Hansen Brown, who will graduate on the 18th of this month. My daughter-in-law, Allie Hansen, is also a registered nurse, as is my Aunt Pat Davis and my Aunt Kathy Edwards. Two of my nieces, Paige and Kayla, are also RNs.

I would like to talk about someone who I wanted to talk about in 2019, but we had to cancel National Nurse's Day that year. Unfortunately, the nurse I would like to talk about passed away in October 2019. She started her nursing career in 1956, at age 12, when she was a Candy Stripper at Washoe Medical Center. In 1962, she graduated from the Washoe Western School of Practical Nursing at Washoe Medical Center. She earned her LPN at that time. The person I am talking about is my mom. In 1975, she got her RN and had the highest score in the State of Nevada on the State Nursing Board examination. In 1994, she went to the University of Nevada, Reno, Orvis School of Nursing, and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in nursing. She was again honored as the top senior scholar out of 300 students in the school.

Her work career started in 1962 at Washoe Medical Center, and continued there until 1977. From 1977 until 2015, she worked as a floor nurse and supervisor. She had a career of over 50 years serving as a nurse. During that time, she had eight children, including me. She went on to teach for 20 years in the CNA program at Truckee Meadows Community College. Thousands of students went through her classes where they learned about being caring and sensitive and how to show compassion to all of the people who are vulnerable. She taught them how, as a nurse, to help preserve the dignity of their patients during this most vulnerable window of time.

She was an incredible woman. She had eight children. At her death, she had 46 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. Several members of her family who are nurses carry on her legacy. They are heroes and work for all of us. They are still out there doing amazing jobs and following in the legacy of the grandmother and great-grandmother. My mom's name was Sharon Reva Corner Hansen, and I want to honor her for all of her accomplishments. In 1962, when she graduated from nursing school, she had a son who was three years old. I was that son, and she had me when she was 15 years old. Sometimes, people think life can end when there are difficulties, but she overcame any difficulties and was honored, loved and revered by me. Thanks mom, and thanks to all the nurses out there for being on the frontlines. I am happy to be able to honor the great nurses of our Nation and our State and, especially today, my wonderful mother.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SIGNING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

There being no objections, the President and Secretary signed Assembly Bill No. 150; Assembly Joint Resolution No. 7.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the Senate adjourn in honor of teachers, nurses and law enforcement until Monday, May 10, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Approved:

KATE MARSHALL
President of the Senate

Attest: CLAIRE J. CLIFT
Secretary of the Senate