

THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Monday), March 06, 2023

Senate called to order at 12:14 p.m.

President Anthony presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Pastor Ken Haskins.

Our heavenly Father, You are the light, and in You, there is no darkness. Shine Your light of truth, knowledge, understanding and wisdom upon these Senators. Help these servants of Yours to make good and wise decisions to the benefit of all Nevadans.

I pray in the Name of the Light of the world, Jesus.

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

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred Assembly Bill No. 152, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

MARILYN DONDERO LOOP, *Chair*

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, Carson City, March 2, 2023

To the Honorable the Senate:

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day passed Assembly Bill No. 165.

CAROL AIELLO-SALA

Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

March 6, 2023

The Fiscal Analysis Division, pursuant to Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6, has determined the eligibility for exemption of: Senate Bill No. 140.

WAYNE THORLEY

Fiscal Analysis Division

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

By the Committee on Natural Resources:

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3—Urging the United States Bureau of Reclamation to consider certain actions, alternatives and measures for the protection and management of the Colorado River.

Senator Pazina moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

Motion carried.

Senator Harris approved the addition of Senator Ohrenschall as a sponsor of Senate Bill No. 142.

Senator Ohrenschall approved the addition of Senator Stone as a cosponsor of Senate Bill No. 194.

Senator Nguyen approved the addition of Senator Pazina as a cosponsor of Senate Bill No. 195.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By the Committee on Government Affairs:

Senate Bill No. 213—AN ACT relating to taxation; requiring, under certain circumstances, a county to remit the proceeds of certain optional taxes on revenues from the rental of transient lodging to the governing body of a visitor's authority; requiring the governing body of a visitor's authority to use such proceeds for certain purposes; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Government Affairs:

Senate Bill No. 214—AN ACT relating to governmental administration; eliminating the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics within the Office of Science, Innovation and Technology in the Office of the Governor; eliminating the Commission on Educational Technology and transferring the duties of the Commission to the Department of Education; eliminating the requirement for the Department of Education to establish the Competency-Based Education Network; eliminating the authority of the Nevada System of Higher Education to establish the Committee on Anatomical Dissection; eliminating the authority of the Advisory Council on the State Program for Wellness and the Prevention of Chronic Disease to appoint an advisory group to study the delivery of health care through patient-centered medical homes; eliminating the Advisory Committee to the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Flores moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Education.

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections:

Senate Bill No. 215—AN ACT relating to elections; requiring the governing body of a county or city to return money appropriated or granted for the purchase of a mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections:

Senate Bill No. 216—AN ACT relating to elections; requiring each county and city clerk to establish and maintain a working relationship with each Indian tribe located in whole or in part within the county or city; authorizing an Indian tribe to submit a request to the Secretary of State to allow the tribal identification card of the Indian tribe to be accepted by the online voter preregistration and registration system established by the Secretary of State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Finance:

Senate Bill No. 217—AN ACT making a supplemental appropriation to the Office of the State Treasurer for an unanticipated shortfall related to travel expenses; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By the Committee on Finance:

Senate Bill No. 218—AN ACT making an appropriation to the Department of Veterans Services to provide financial assistance and support for the Adopt a Vet Dental Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By Senators Krasner, Flores, Seevers Gansert, Spearman, Ohrenschall and Lange:

Senate Bill No. 219—AN ACT making an appropriation to Special Olympics of Nevada to establish the organization as an independent nonprofit entity in Nevada and for the expansion of its programs for people with disabilities; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By Senators Seevers Gansert, Buck, Stone, Titus, Krasner, Goicoechea and Hansen; Assemblymen Hafen, O'Neill, Dickman, DeLong, Gray, Gurr, Hansen, Hardy, Hibbetts, Kasama, Koenig, McArthur and Yurek:

Senate Bill No. 220—AN ACT relating to education; revising provisions governing the eligibility of pupils for a grant under the Nevada Educational

Choice Scholarship Program; establishing a minimum amount for a grant provided by a scholarship organization on behalf of a pupil; revising provisions governing the amount of credits the Department of Taxation is authorized to approve against the modified business tax for taxpayers who donate money to a scholarship organization; establishing a credit against the general tax on insurance premiums for insurers who donate money to a scholarship organization; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Seevers Gansert moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Education.

Motion carried.

By Senator Doñate:

Senate Bill No. 221—AN ACT relating to Medicaid; requiring the establishment of a specific billing category and methodology for reimbursing clinics that provide certain services to children under Medicaid; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

By Senators Harris, Daly, Doñate, Flores, Ohrenschall, Pazina and Scheible:

Senate Bill No. 222—AN ACT relating to juries; revising provisions governing the selection of jurors; increasing the fee to which a person summoned to attend as a juror or serve as a juror is entitled; revising provisions governing the right to serve as a juror; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Senator Harris moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 165.

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

Motion carried.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

Senators Hansen and Titus requested that the following remarks be entered in the Journal.

SENATOR HANSEN:

I want to bring to the Senate's attention a serious matter in my district regarding the Duck Valley Indian reservation. We talk about underprivileged and underserved minority communities, and this one fits every one of those things to an absolute tee. In their school, they have what is called a carcinogenic plume. The health of the children in this school is threatened. Assemblywoman Hansen and I were there a couple of months ago to scope out the school a bit. Not only is there a serious health issue for the Indian kids in this school, but the school itself is badly dilapidated. The fixtures in the bathrooms are from the 1950s. It is the same stuff as when they built it. The problem is the school is designed for about 500 kids. It has now shrunk down into the 300s because Indian parents are taking their kids out of the school because of this health factor.

The reason I am bringing this issue to this body is because it is complex to finance. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, the tribe, Elko school district, the State of Nevada and the federal government all have fingers in the pie. In addition, there are philanthropic organizations that have offered to help in this situation.

The bottom line is the school needs to be replaced completely. It is in a dangerous location. Unfortunately, it is in Owyhee, Nevada, which is 100 miles north of Elko and 100 miles south of Mountain Home, Idaho. It is in a remote location. The costs are high to do this. I am bringing this issue to your attention so everyone is aware. The Governor's Office has been working on it. The State Treasurer's Office has been working on it. The various committees have been looking into it. I think it is because of the health factors for those children. We need to elevate this issue significantly. The costs, like I said, are high, but we have to do it.

We always talk about underprivileged, underserved minority communities. This one in every respect fits. We need to do something for those kids. Everybody is passing the buck around trying to come up with financing. I think we, as a Senate, should draw attention to this. I know the Assembly is working on this; Assemblywoman Hansen has a bill trying to help address this. Everyone I know of in state government is taking a serious look into this.

My fear is the high cost of building a school in such an isolated, remote location can scare people off. The bottom line is, we need to get it done. We cannot leave these kids in this school and environment when we leave this session. We must have some definite financing mechanisms in place so those kids can have the relief they deserve. Please, as the session progresses, when you hear about the situation in Owyhee and the kids there at the reservation valley, keep this in the back of your mind.

We need to do something, and we cannot push this off for a few more years. There are significant health issues involved. If your kids or my grandkids were going there, we would be completely upset because this is, like I said, a dilapidated, rundown school that has been neglected, in my opinion, for decades. I want to bring that to everyone's attention so everyone is aware because as session goes on, it will become more of an issue trying to come up with money. Everyone here knows it is always a struggle, but we cannot possibly let these kids and that community down.

SENATOR TITUS:

I am sure that most of the folks in this room heard about the horrible tragedy that occurred over my county, Lyon, on February 24th. That evening, a fixed-wing air ambulance operated by our own Care Flight broke apart in midair, crashing to the ground in rural Nevada on its way from Reno to Salt Lake City, killing all five passengers on board.

This Wednesday, March 8th, there will be a public memorial for the victims at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. It will start at 2:00 p.m. The memorial will remember the lives of Scott Walton, Ryan Watson, Ed Pricola, Mark Rand and Terri Rand.

I would like to acknowledge this tragedy and want to say what an incredible service Care Flight has brought to Nevada and to me professionally and personally. Not only have I had patients flown on Care Flight, but I have also ridden on Care Flight and had family members on Care Flight. Once, a few years ago when I was delivering an unexpected, premature little baby in my rural hospital, Care Flight flew in, graciously, to take care of that little newborn infant and transport it back to Renown, where the baby did indeed survive, and I was able to take care of it years later.

These kinds of tragedies do not affect just one person or one community. It affects all of us. I want everybody to try to acknowledge the loss to our community and send our prayers to the family members, REMSA Health and those impacted by this tragedy.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF SENATE FLOOR

On request of Senator Cannizzaro, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to the Pyramid Lake Girls Basketball Team, 1A state basketball champions.

On request of Senator Daly, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Jaaziel Ozuna.

On request of Senator Krasner, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Brett Bell and Anthony "George" Ritter.

On request of Senator Pazina, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Alina Freed and Winona Freed.

On request of Senator Seevers Gansert, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Edgar Rivera and Wendy Solorio.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the Senate adjourn in memory of Scott Walton, Ryan Watson, Ed Pricola, Mark Rand and Terri Rand until Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Approved:

STAVROS ANTHONY
President of the Senate

Attest: BRENDAN BUCY
Secretary of the Senate