

THE SIXTIETH DAY

CARSON CITY (Thursday), April 06, 2023

Senate called to order at 11:21 a.m.

President Anthony presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Minister Karin Hockman.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of
righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Lord, I pray You would bless each Senator for their sacrifice and faithfulness to serve the people of Nevada. In this holy week of Passover, we thank You for sending Your Son, Your one and only Son, to die on the cross for our sins, salvation and redemption.

In Jesus' Name,

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 Commerce and Labor, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 131, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

PAT SPEARMAN, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 80, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

ROBERTA LANGE, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 440, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

MARILYN DONDERO LOOP, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Government Affairs, to which were referred Senate Bills Nos. 8, 16, 18, 19, 25, 26, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

EDGAR FLORES, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Growth and Infrastructure, to which were referred Senate Bills Nos. 110, 182, 250, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

DALLAS HARRIS, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which were referred Senate Bills Nos. 177, 221, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

FABIAN DOÑATE, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 67, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

MELANIE SCHEIBLE, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections, to which were referred Senate Joint Resolutions Nos. 5, 7 of the 81st Session, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

JAMES OHRENSCHALL, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Natural Resources, to which were referred Senate Joint Resolutions Nos. 2, 3, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

JULIE PAZINA, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Revenue and Economic Development, to which were referred Senate Bills Nos. 29, 181, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

DINA NEAL, *Chair*

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

April 6, 2023

The Fiscal Analysis Division, pursuant to Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6, has determined the eligibility for exemption of: Senate Bills Nos. 68, 144, 186, 240, 320, 396, 402.

WAYNE THORLEY
Fiscal Analysis Division

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Senator Cannizzaro moved that all necessary rules be suspended, and that Senate Bill No. 440, just reported out of committee, be placed on the Second Reading File for this legislative day.

Motion carried.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that Senate Bills Nos. 39 and 223 be taken from the General File and placed on the General File for the next legislative day.

Motion carried.

Senator Daly approved the addition of Senator Ohrenschall as a cosponsor of Senate Bill No. 275.

Senator Harris approved the addition of Senator Krasner as a cosponsor of Senate Bill No. 368.

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

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

By the Committee on Finance:

Senate Bill No. 449—AN ACT relating to structured settlement purchase companies; authorizing the Commissioner of Consumer Affairs of the Consumer Affairs Unit of the Department of Business and Industry, in consultation with the Director of the Department, to adopt regulations relating to structured settlement purchase companies; establishing certain fees for the initial, renewed or reinstated registration of a structured settlement purchase company; eliminating the authorization for a structured settlement purchase company to post a cash bond to protect payees who do business with the structured settlement purchase company; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

Motion carried.

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Senate Bill No. 9.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Senator Dondero Loop moved that the bill be taken from the General File and re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion carried.

Senate Bill No. 214.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Senate Bill No. 273.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Senator Dondero Loop moved that the bill be taken from the General File and re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion carried.

Senate Bill No. 440.

Bill read second time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee on Finance:

Amendment No. 113.

SUMMARY—Makes appropriations requiring certain one-time payments and salary increases for state officers and employees. (BDR S-768)

AN ACT making appropriations requiring certain one-time payments and salary increases for state officers and employees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the State Board of Examiners the sum of ~~(\$658,489)~~ \$697,880 for the following payments and increase in salary, retroactive to July 1, 2022, for personnel represented by the bargaining unit established in paragraph (g) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515:

(a) For all such personnel, an increase in salary for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 of 1 percent.

(b) For such personnel with 10 or more years of continuous State service, a one-time payment of \$1,500.

(c) For such personnel who hold:

(1) A bachelor's degree, a one-time payment of \$900.

(2) An associate's degree as his or her highest postsecondary degree, a one-time payment of \$500.

↪ An employee may not receive more than one payment pursuant to this paragraph.

2. Of the sum appropriated by subsection 1, not more than ~~(\$44,392)~~ \$83,783 may be allocated and disbursed to the Nevada System of Higher Education.

3. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2023, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 15, 2023, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 15, 2023.

Sec. 2. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State Highway Fund to the State Board of Examiners the sum of \$891,725 for the following payments and increase in salary, retroactive to July 1, 2022, for personnel represented by the bargaining unit established in paragraph (g) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515:

(a) For all such personnel, an increase in salary for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 of 1 percent.

(b) For such personnel with 10 or more years of continuous State service, a one-time payment of \$1,500.

(c) For such personnel who hold:

(1) A bachelor's degree, a one-time payment of \$900.

(2) An associate's degree as his or her highest postsecondary degree, a one-time payment of \$500.

↪ An employee may not receive more than one payment pursuant to this paragraph.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2023, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 15, 2023, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State Highway Fund on or before September 15, 2023.

Sec. 3. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the State Board of Examiners the sum of \$19,737,672 for an increase in salary, retroactive to July 1, 2021, of 3 percent for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for personnel represented by the bargaining units established in:

(a) Paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

(b) Paragraph (e) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

(c) Paragraph (f) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

(d) Paragraph (i) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

2. Of the sum appropriated by subsection 1, not more than \$1,219,659 may be allocated and disbursed to the Nevada System of Higher Education.

3. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2023, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 15, 2023, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 15, 2023.

Sec. 4. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State Highway Fund to the State Board of Examiners the sum of \$80,024 for an increase in salary, retroactive to July 1, 2021, of 3 percent for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for personnel represented by the bargaining units established in:

(a) Paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

(b) Paragraph (e) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

(c) Paragraph (f) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

(d) Paragraph (i) of subsection 1 of NRS 288.515.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2023, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after

September 15, 2023, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State Highway Fund on or before September 15, 2023.

Sec. 5. The approximate maximum salaries as set forth in section 1 of chapter 309, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 1779, must be increased by an additional 2 percent commencing on April 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2023.

Sec. 6. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this act, to effect increases in salaries of 2 percent commencing on April 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2023, there is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the State Board of Examiners the sum of \$5,482,671, for the purpose of meeting any deficiencies which may be created between the appropriated money of the respective departments, commissions and agencies of the Executive and Judicial Departments of the State Government, as fixed by the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature and the requirements for salaries of the classified, unclassified and nonclassified personnel of those departments, commissions and agencies necessary under an adjusted pay plan to become effective on April 1, 2023.

2. Of the sum appropriated by subsection 1, not more than \$2,303,623 may be allocated and disbursed to the Nevada System of Higher Education.

3. The State Board of Examiners, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor, may allocate and disburse to various departments, commissions and agencies of the Executive and Judicial Departments of the State Government, out of the money appropriated by this section such sums of money as may from time to time be required, which, when added to the money otherwise appropriated or available, equal the amount of money required to pay the salaries of the classified, unclassified and nonclassified employees of the respective departments, commissions and agencies under the adjusted pay plan. The sums appropriated by this section may not be allocated and disbursed to address a deficiency between the appropriated money, as fixed by the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature and the requirements for salaries resulting from any circumstance other than the increases in salaries described in this section.

Sec. 7. 1. To effect increases in salaries of 2 percent commencing on April 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2023, there is hereby appropriated from the State Highway Fund to the State Board of Examiners the sum of \$566,090, for the purpose of meeting any deficiencies which may exist between the appropriated money of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Public Safety and Nevada Transportation Authority, as fixed by the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature and the requirements for salaries of classified and unclassified personnel of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Public Safety and Nevada Transportation Authority necessary under an adjusted pay plan to become effective on April 1, 2023.

2. The State Board of Examiners, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor, may allocate and disburse to the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor, Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Public Safety and the Nevada Transportation Authority out of the money appropriated by this section such sums of money as may from time to time be required, which, when added to the money otherwise appropriated or available, equal the amount of money required to meet and pay the salaries of the classified and unclassified employees of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Public Safety and Nevada Transportation Authority under the adjusted pay plan. The sums appropriated by this section may not be allocated and disbursed to address a deficiency between the appropriated money, as fixed by the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature and the requirements for salaries resulting from any circumstance other than the increases in salaries described in this section.

Sec. 8. 1. When determining the allocations of the money appropriated by section 6 or 7 of this act, the State Board of Examiners shall not distribute money to an account beyond the maximum salary need amount determined for the account. Appropriations established for an account within a department, agency or commission must not be distributed to another account within the department, agency or commission if that action results in the distribution of money beyond the maximum salary need amount determined for the account.

2. The sums appropriated by sections 6 and 7 of this act must be applied to salaries notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 281.123.

Sec. 9. To effect increases in salaries of 2 percent commencing on April 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2023, there is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Legislative Fund, the sum of \$248,387, for the purpose of meeting any deficiencies which may be created between the money appropriated to the Legislative Fund, as fixed by the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature and the requirements for salaries of the personnel of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and of interim legislative operations necessary under an adjusted pay plan to become effective on April 1, 2023.

Sec. 10. 1. To effect the State of Nevada's share of increases in salaries of 2 percent commencing on April 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2023, for employees of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, there is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the State Board of Examiners the sum of not more than \$13,013. The amounts transferred must not be used to increase an employee's base salary unless the State of California provides the required 2-for-1 matching funds. If such matching funds are not provided by the State of California, any amounts provided to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency by the State of Nevada must be used as a one-time salary bonus.

2. The State Board of Examiners, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor, may allocate and disburse to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency out of the money appropriated by this section such sums of money as may from time to time be

required, which, when added to the money otherwise appropriated or available, equal the amount of money required to meet and pay the State of Nevada's share of the salaries of the employees of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency under the adjusted pay plan to become effective on April 1, 2023. The sums appropriated by this section may not be allocated and disbursed to address a deficiency between the appropriated money as fixed by the 81st Session of the Nevada Legislature and the requirements for salaries resulting from any circumstance other than an increase in salaries described in this section.

Sec. 11. Any remaining balance of an appropriation made by section 6, 7, 9 or 10 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2023, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 15, 2023, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the fund from which it was appropriated on or before September 15, 2023.

Sec. 12. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

Senator Dondero Loop moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Dondero Loop.

Senate Amendment No. 113 amends Senate Bill No. 440 by revising the General Fund appropriations in section 1, subsection 1, to \$697,880 and section 1, subsection 2, to \$83,783.

Amendment adopted.

Bill ordered reprinted, engrossed and to third reading.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Bill No. 37.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Stone.

Senate Bill No. 37 authorizes an attorney employed by the State of Nevada, or any agency or political subdivision of the State, to act as a neutral third-party mediator to help parties resolve a dispute, or other matter, providing the attorney has the permission of his or her employer, the involved parties have no conflict of interest with the attorney's employer, the mediation is provided through, or in association with, an association that provides such services, the attorney receives no compensation for such service and the attorney complies with the Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 37:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 37 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 190.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Scheible.

Senate Bill No. 190 exempts from incurring any civil or criminal liability a person who uses any reasonable means necessary to protect and to remove a child or pet from a vehicle that is locked or which otherwise offers no means by which to protect the child or pet or to remove them from the vehicle. The person must report the incident to law enforcement or a 911 emergency service, must stay with the child or pet and remain in close proximity to the vehicle until told by a first responder that their presence is no longer necessary and must cooperate with any first responder or law enforcement officer who renders aid to the child or pet.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 190:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 190 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 286.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Nguyen.

Senate Bill No. 286 requires the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services to incorporate certain information relating to multiple sclerosis and the resources available to residents who have multiple sclerosis on the Division's website. Additionally, the bill requires the Governor to proclaim the third week of March as "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week."

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 286:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 286 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 351.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senators Harris and Seevers Gansert.**SENATOR HARRIS:**

Senate Bill No. 351 requires the Director of the Department of Corrections, with the approval of the Board of State Prison Commissioners, to adopt regulations governing visits and correspondence between offenders and others. The regulations must not impose requirements on the approval of a visitor who has been convicted of a felony that are not imposed on any other person unless a warden or manager determines that extenuating circumstances exist. If a warden or manager denies a prospective visitor, the bill requires that the prospective visitor be given written notice of such explaining the reason for the denial and, if applicable, any extenuating circumstances.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I had a question for the sponsor. There is no determination or language in the bill that talked about the timeframe to provide that written notice. I just wanted clarification.

SENATOR HARRIS:

You are correct. There is no requirement of a timeline for the notice. However, the current provisions for when they notify persons that their visitation has been approved or denied will

remain in place. The Director of Corrections will be able to, through regulation, address when a written notice will be required.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 351:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 351 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. 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.

On behalf of Adopt a Vet Dental Program (AAVD) and Oral Dentistry Day, I have two guests with me, today. First, I have Heather Borkowski. She is the Assistant Executive Director of the AAVD, handling the day-to-day operations, the financials and overseeing the different programs that help AAVD give our veterans their smiles back. Working with veterans holds a special place in her heart, her grandfather was a marine stationed at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station in the 1950s. In her professional career, she worked as a contracted dental assistant for Marine Corps Basecamp Lejeune, for the Northern Nevada Correctional Center. She has worked for AAVD for seven years helping our low-income veterans have a chance to get their smiles back.

Next is Demetrio Gonzalez, who has a very special story. Demetrio is a retired United States Navy Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman. He deployed multiple times to the Middle East as an individual augmentee for embedded teams in support of combat operations throughout the different regions. While deployed at the same time in Afghanistan, his brother was killed by an improvised explosive device. He dedicates his time, in any capacity he can, assisting veterans in memory of his brother's sacrifice. He currently is the Executive Director for AAVD to ensure our State's lowest income veterans can get the dental care they need.

Mr. President announced that if there were no objections, the Senate would recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Senate in recess at 11:53 a.m.

SENATE IN SESSION

At 12:01 p.m.

President Anthony presiding.

Quorum present.

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

We have a number of serious bills coming up today. When I was elected in 2010, we had an estimated 270 million firearms in the United States. One in three households had a weapon in their homes. Today, 12 years later, an additional 198 million firearms have been purchased in the United States, and one in two households in America now have firearms in them. In that same window, between 2010 and 2022, 40 million of those firearms were purchased by women, and there was a huge spike in 2020 with Black women disproportionately purchasing firearms.

The reason I bring it up is not only do we have three gun bills this afternoon but we had one yesterday, and there were many interesting issues to bring up. One, there was a spike, it is true, in child deaths in 2020 and 2021. You will notice though, as you recall, that was also the same window of time when we had what I call the irrational mistake in America of defunding the police. If you look at the statistics of the number of child deaths in that window of time, what you have to do is recognize the definition of "child" includes 19-year-olds, 18-year-olds, 17, 16 and 15, and there was a huge spike in inner city gang deaths that had children involved. If you factor that out of the equation, the number of child deaths relating to firearms is stable or slightly declining.

My good colleague from District 11 the other day pointed out that firearm-related deaths is now the leading cause of child death in the United States. However, previously the most common cause of child deaths was motor vehicle accidents, and because of the dramatic expansion in the computerization and safety factors in automobiles, that has almost gone down to well below the average. So, yes, while it is true there was an increase and change in that, it is not anything like what we are pretending it has been in these discussions. Also, once you factor out the gang-related killings of those children aged 15 to 19, you find out that there has been a decline in child deaths related to firearms in the United States.

One of the interesting things is in 1995, we started in the United States a program called the Conceal Carry Weapon (CCW) program. In fact, I have my CCW card right here. Now, why do I bring it up? There are now over 10 million people in the United States, like myself, that have gone through a program and are authorized to carry concealed weapons. If weapons are the problem, the number of firearms is now approaching almost 500 million in the United States. We certainly have not seen an increase in the killing ratios that that sort of a spike would demonstrate. Secondly, what we have also demonstrated through the CCW program is that responsible citizens carrying firearms have resulted in a dramatic decline in crimes and gun-related incidents wherever this program has been implemented. By the way, in this very room are several people who, right as we speak, are packing pistols and are CCW members in our very chamber.

We had a hearing yesterday in Judiciary. We had a bill presentation which talked about the number of confiscation instances in the Clark County School District. In the Clark County School District last year, they confiscated 27 firearms. At the same time, though, they confiscated 144 knives. Understandably, people are nervous about firearms but are ignoring the fact that in Nevada, 25 to 40 percent of homicides, in a normal year, are done by knives. In fact, the last major killing on the Las Vegas Strip, if you recall in October, some guy took a knife, stabbed eight people and two of those were fatalities, murders. Nobody in this room is going to suggest there is a public-health crisis about knives because everybody in this room, from the time you were little, was taught how to properly use a knife.

For those of us that grew up with firearms, like myself, we recognize, just like we do with knives, that they can absolutely be lethal, but the utility factor involved there and being properly trained in their use has made us completely comfortable with those weapons. If you were to go to my district, which is predominantly rural, in theory that should be one of the highest crime portions in the State because virtually everybody in the rurals has a firearm in their homes. I would be comfortable in saying at least 90 percent of the people in my district have firearms.

If you are one of those folks, and keep in mind there are almost 500 million of them, that have a fear of firearms, I would strongly suggest that you take a CCW class. You have an opportunity to handle and learn the safety factors on them. You will also learn why so many women, in particular, who live in dangerous, high-crime neighborhoods have those weapons now, are comfortable using them and have the opportunity to have self-defense once again. If you took the class, just like all of us here who learned about knives and whatever when we were kids, we learned they are not a threat. In fact, they are a utility weapon to protect yourself, not to mention the opportunities for target shooting, hunting and so forth.

I would strongly urge my colleagues, as this gun control issue goes forward in the next day, to consider the fact that 500 million firearms are on the streets of the United States. Yet you have not seen anything close to an expansion in crime, in spite of that massive expansion in numbers, which indicates clearly it is not firearms that are the problem. It is the individuals that sometimes misuse them.

Last, I want to say—and this is a strong protest—today we are going to have a hearing, a joint hearing with the Senate and the Assembly on three gun bills. When I was Chair of Judiciary in 2015, one of the things I am still very proud of is in every single case, I gave absolute fair and equal treatment to both sides. There were gun issues; there were abortion issues. I made sure, as chair of that committee, that every side got absolute equal treatment for presentation and opposition.

Today, we made a request of the Chair, who is the Assembly Chair, to have our side, the pro Second Amendment crowd, an opportunity to present our views. I had an opportunity to bring John Lott who, if you do not know, is a world-renowned expert on these issues. He has written books and has been testifying on these issues for a long time. Mr. Lott volunteered to come and

speak today, as did Dan Reid with the NRA. We all made an appeal. We are all going to be given one minute. The proponents of the bills, three bills, will get an unlimited opportunity to present their side, but those of us who are in opposition, who regard this as a violation of our Second Amendment rights, get one minute.

I want to make it clear that is wrong. Whatever your views are on this, whether you disagree 100 percent with what I am saying right now, you should all agree that everybody in the State of Nevada should have an equal opportunity to present their views to the people that are going to be voting on the laws affecting more than 3 million people.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I think we should reexamine the whole gun control debate in the Legislature simply on the fact that the American people, by buying 198 million more firearms in the last 12 years, have spoken. The reason we are not getting gun control bills through the federal Congress is because the people in the State of Nevada do not want any expansion and do not want to lose any more of their Second Amendment rights. Mr. Bloomberg, Mr. Soros and other groups are spending literally tens of millions of dollars in Nevada to try to get us in this building to do their dirty work for them. I would suggest strongly that my colleagues listen to both sides of the issue and quit having, frankly, an irrational fear of a Second Amendment right. If you would take those courses, get a CCW, learn how to use guns, you will be as comfortable with a firearm as I am with a knife. I do absolutely urge my colleagues to make sure that the process, at the very least, is fair to both sides.

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 University of Nevada, Reno, School of Public Health.

On request of Senator Daly, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Tyler Bourns, Dragonfly Energy, Nicole Harvey, Bayarra Hopkins, John Marchetti, Denis Phares and Wade Seaburg.

On request of Senator Dondero Loop, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to the Nevada Dental Association.

On request of Senator Flores, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to David Chavez, Noe Chavez, Victor Flores, Fabio Gachama, Jeanneth Gachama, Jorge Gachama, Juan Carlos Gachama and Letty Marroquin.

On request of Senator Goicoechea, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Dane Bradfield, Paul Donohue, Rick Hendrix, Lindsey Manning, Krinn McCoy, Doug Miller, Ron Miller, Ronald Niman, Kevin Robison, Christina Sawyer and Joseph Stubitz.

On request of Senator Hansen, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to the Adopt a Vet Dental Program, Heather Borkowski and Demetrio Gonzalez.

On request of Senator Lange, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Terri Chandler and Victor Wei.

On request of Senator Ohrenschall, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Carol Hardy and Gracie Hardy.

On request of Senator Seevers Gansert, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Marci Brodock, Cody Perkins and the Washoe Education Association.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the Senate adjourn until Monday, April 10, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Approved:

STAVROS ANTHONY
President of the Senate

Attest: BRENDAN BUCY

Secretary of the Senate