

THE ONE HUNDRED-SEVENTEENTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Friday), June 2, 2023

Senate called to order at 9:22 p.m.

President Anthony presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by Senator Pat Spearman.

They tell me that a prayer is simply a conversation between the prayer and God. That being the case, I invite you all to eavesdrop. If I had the gift of being able to speak in other languages without learning them and could speak in every language there is in all of heaven and earth but did not love others, I would only be making noise. If I had the gift of prophecy and knew all about what is going to happen in the future, knew everything about everything, but did not love others, what good would it do? Even if I had the gift of faith so that I could speak to a mountain and make it move, I would still be worth nothing at all without love. If I gave everything I had to the poor people and if I were burned alive for preaching the gospel but did not love others, it would be of no value whatsoever.

Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never hardy, selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it is not touching. It does not hold grudges and will not hardly ever notice when others are wrong. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever truth wins. If you love someone, you will be loyal to them, no matter what it costs. You will always believe in them, always expect the best of them and always stand your ground in defending them. All of the special gifts and powers of God will someday come to an end, but love goes on forever. Now, abide these three things, faith, hope and love, but of the three, love is the best.

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 Education, to which were referred Assembly Bills Nos. 226, 443, 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. 231, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

Also, your Committee on Finance, to which were re-referred Senate Bills Nos. 163, 205, 450 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 Assembly Bills Nos. 140, 299, 310, 461, 514, 517, 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 Assembly Bills Nos. 151, 161, 195, 203, 304, 457, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

Also, your Committee on Growth and Infrastructure, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 451, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

DALLAS HARRIS, *Chair*

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which were referred Assembly Bills Nos. 15, 16, 257, 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 Assembly Bills Nos. 239, 246, 376, 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 Assembly Bills Nos. 46, 184, 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 Assembly Bills Nos. 77, 232, 345, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

DINA NEAL, *Chair*

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, Carson City, June 1, 2023

To the Honorable the Senate:

I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day passed Assembly Bills Nos. 489, 494, 515.

Also, I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day passed, as amended, Assembly Bills Nos. 6, 28, 37, 128, 137, 252, 255, 258, 259, 261, 263, 319, 383, 422, 482 and 506.

Also, I have the honor to inform your honorable body that the Assembly on this day adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 5.

CAROL AIELLO-SALA
Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the following person be accepted as an accredited press representative and be allowed the use of appropriate media facilities: KUNR PUBLIC RADIO: Bert Johnson.

Motion carried.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that Senate Standing Rule No. 50 be suspended, and that Assembly Bill No. 516 be withdrawn from the Committee on Revenue and Economic Development and re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion carried.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that Senate Bill No. 98 and Assembly Bills Nos. 41, 130, 135, 153, 260, 270, 277, 389, 448, 462 and 503 be taken from their positions on the General File and placed on the General File for the next legislative day.

Motion carried.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND REFERENCE

Assembly Bill No. 6.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 28.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 37.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 128.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 137.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 252.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 255.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 258.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 259.

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

Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 261.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 263.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 319.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 383.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 422.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 482.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 489.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 494.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 506.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

Assembly Bill No. 515.

Senator Lange moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Finance.
Motion carried.

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Senate Bill No. 99.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Bill No. 189.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Cannizzaro.

Senate Bill No. 189, as amended, provides a \$2 million General Fund appropriation in Fiscal Year 2023 to Communities in Schools of Nevada for providing integrated support services to

pupils enrolled in public schools in Nevada and requires the organization to report certain expenditure information to the Interim Finance Committee.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 189:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 189 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed, as amended.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 311.

Bill read third time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee on Finance:

Amendment No. 902.

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to wildlife. (BDR 45-168)

AN ACT relating to wildlife; ~~requiring~~ authorizing the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish a program to allow a person to transfer his or her tag to hunt a big game mammal to certain persons; ~~requiring a course of instruction in the responsibilities of hunters to be available online;~~ and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires, with certain exceptions, a person who wishes to hunt certain designated big game mammals in this State to obtain a tag to do so. (NRS 502.130) Such a tag is not transferrable unless: (1) the person to whom the tag was issued can demonstrate the existence of an extenuating circumstance; or (2) the tag is transferred to an eligible qualified organization for use by a person with a disability or life-threatening condition or a person who is 16 years of age or younger and otherwise eligible to hunt in this State. (NRS 502.103, 502.104) Section 1 of this bill ~~requires~~ authorizes the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations establishing a program that allows a person to transfer his or her tag to hunt a big game mammal to any person who is under 18 years of age. Section 2 of this bill makes a conforming change to provide that transferring a tag under such a program is an exception to the prohibition on the transfer of tags.

~~Existing law requires the Department of Wildlife to certify instructors who will provide a course of instruction in the responsibilities of hunters and issue certificates upon the successful completion of the course. (NRS 502.340) Section 3 of this bill requires such a course of instruction to be available to be taken online by any person, regardless of the age of the person.~~

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

Section 1. Chapter 502 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

The Commission ~~shall~~ may adopt regulations establishing a program which authorizes a person to transfer his or her tag to hunt a big game mammal to any person who is under 18 years of age.

Sec. 2. NRS 502.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.100 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 502.103 and 502.104 ~~and section 1 of this act:~~

1. No license provided by this title shall be transferable or used by any person other than the person to whom it was issued.

2. Every person lawfully having such licenses who transfers or disposes of the same to another person to be used as a hunting, trapping or fishing license shall forfeit the same.

Sec. 3. ~~NRS 502.340 is hereby amended to read as follows:~~

~~502.340 1. The Department shall certify instructors who will, with the cooperation of the Department, provide instruction in the responsibilities of hunters established by the Department to all eligible persons who, upon the successful completion of the course, must be issued a certificate. Persons who are disqualified from obtaining a hunting license, pursuant to NRS 502.330, are eligible for the course.~~

~~2. The course of instruction in the responsibilities of hunters must be available to be taken online. Any person may take the course online, regardless of the age of the person.~~

~~3. The Department shall make reasonable accommodations for the completion of the course by a person with a disability. (Deleted by amendment.)~~

Sec. 4. 1. This section and section 3 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective:

(a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

(b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.

Senator Dondero Loop moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Dondero Loop.

Amendment No. 902 to Senate Bill No. 311 removes the requirement for the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish a program to allow a person to transfer his or her tag to hunt a big game mammal to certain persons and instead authorizes the Board to do so. Additionally, the amendment removes the requirement to establish and provide an online course of instruction in the responsibilities of hunters.

Amendment adopted.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Hansen.

Senate Bill No. 311, as amended, authorizes the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish a program to allow a person to transfer his or her tag to hunt a big game mammal to any person who is under 18 years of age.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 311:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 311 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed, as amended.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred Assembly Bill No. 112, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

Also, your Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred Senate Bill No. 241, 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*

SECOND READING AND AMENDMENT

Senate Bill No. 231.

Bill read second time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee on Finance:

Amendment No. 882.

SUMMARY—Makes ~~an appropriation~~ appropriations to the Interim Finance Committee for allocation to school districts that budget salary increases for certain employees ~~and to the Department of Education for certain personnel costs.~~ (BDR S-508)

AN ACT making an appropriation to the Interim Finance Committee for allocation to school districts that budget salary increases for certain employees; making an appropriation to the Department of Education for certain personnel costs; 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 Interim Finance Committee the sum of \$250,000,000 for allocation to school districts for the support of public schools.

2. Money appropriated by subsection 1 may only be allocated to a school district upon the determination of the Interim Finance Committee that:

(a) Sufficient documentation has been submitted to demonstrate that:

(1) The school district has budgeted for Fiscal Years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 an increase to the salary of teachers ~~and other licensed educational personnel or paraprofessionals~~ and education support professionals employed by the school district from sources other than the appropriation made by subsection 1, which is in addition to any increase in salary for teachers ~~and other licensed educational personnel or paraprofessionals~~ or education support professionals which was planned or bargained for before the effective date of this act; and

(2) The increase in salary budgeted pursuant to subparagraph (1) does not replace or supplant any other form of compensation which was provided to teachers ~~and other licensed educational personnel or paraprofessionals~~ or education support professionals of the school district before Fiscal Year 2023-2024 or which was bargained for or planned for Fiscal

Year 2023-2024 or any succeeding fiscal year before the effective date of this act.

(b) The school district has submitted to the Committee a statement of the amount and percentage of the budgeted increase in salary for teachers, ~~other licensed educational personnel or paraprofessionals~~ and education support professionals described in subparagraph (1) of paragraph (a) and the total cost to the school district to provide the budgeted increase in salary.

(c) The superintendent of the school district has submitted to the Committee a signed statement certifying that, to the best of his or her knowledge or belief, the information submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) is accurate and that the school district will provide the budgeted salary increases set forth therein.

3. The money allocated to a school district pursuant to subsection 2 must not exceed the lesser of:

(a) The total amount of the budgeted increase to salaries for teachers, ~~other licensed educational personnel and paraprofessionals~~ and education support professionals of the school district for Fiscal Years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 from sources other than the appropriation made by subsection 1, not including any increase in salary which was planned or bargained for before the effective date of this act; or

(b) An amount which is equal to \$250,000,000 multiplied by a percentage which is the number of teachers, ~~other licensed educational personnel and paraprofessionals~~ and education support professionals employed by the school district on July 1, 2023, expressed as a percentage of the total number of teachers, ~~other licensed educational personnel and paraprofessionals~~ and education support professionals employed in all of the school districts in this State on July 1, 2023.

4. On or before August 1, 2023, each school district in this State shall report to the Department of Education the number of teachers, ~~other licensed educational personnel and paraprofessionals~~ and education support professionals employed by the school district on July 1, 2023. The Department of Education shall compile this information and submit it to the Interim Finance Committee not later than August 15, 2023.

5. The money appropriated by subsection 1 must be used to supplement and not supplant or cause to be reduced any other source of funding for the support of public schools or for the salary and compensation of teachers, ~~other licensed educational personnel or paraprofessionals~~ or education support professionals employed by any public school.

6. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2025, 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 19, 2025, 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 19, 2025.

7. As used in this section:

(a) ~~["Other licensed educational personnel"]~~ "Administrator" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 385A.430.

(b) "Education support professional" means a person, other than a teacher or administrator, who is ~~licensed pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and is not a teacher.~~

~~(b) "Paraprofessional" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 391.008.]~~ employed to work at a public school, including, without limitation:

(1) Paraprofessionals;

(2) School police officers, school resource officers and other providers of security services at a school;

(3) School nurses;

(4) School counselors;

(5) School psychologists;

(6) School social workers;

(7) Drivers of school buses;

(8) Secretaries;

(9) Members of the custodial or maintenance staff; and

(10) Workers in food services.

(c) "Teacher" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 385A.430.

Sec. 1.5. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$41,694 for personnel costs to carry out the provisions of section 1 of this act.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2024, 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 20, 2024, 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 20, 2024.

Sec. 2. 1. This section and section 1 of this act ~~becomes~~ become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Section 1.5 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

Senator Dondero Loop moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Dondero Loop.

Amendment No. 882 to Senate Bill No. 231 revises section 1, subsections 2 through 5, by replacing "other licensed educational personnel or paraprofessionals" with "education support professionals" and revises section 1, subsection 7, to define "administrator" and "education support professional." Additionally, Senate Amendment No. 882 to Senate Bill No. 231 provides a General Fund appropriation of \$41,694 in Fiscal Year 2024 to the Nevada Department of Education to support personnel expenditures to assist in the apportionment of funds to school districts.

Amendment adopted.

Bill ordered reprinted, engrossed and to third reading.

Senate Bill No. 451.

Bill read second time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee on Growth and Infrastructure:

Amendment No. 883.

SUMMARY—~~[Enacts provisions]~~ Directs the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure to ~~[promote the development and use of clean]~~ conduct a study concerning certain subjects related to hydrogen ~~[technology in this State.]~~ (BDR ~~{58-32})~~ S-32)

AN ACT relating to energy; ~~[requiring the Office of Energy within the Office of the Governor, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, the Office of Economic Development within the Office of the Governor and the Department of Transportation to coordinate and take certain actions to promote the development and use of clean hydrogen technology in this State,]~~ directing the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure to conduct a study during the 2023-2024 interim concerning certain subjects relating to hydrogen; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

~~—[Existing law requires the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to issue an annual report that includes a statewide inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and a projection of annual greenhouse gas emissions in this State for the 20 years immediately following the date of the report. Existing law requires the report to also include policies that could achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and a qualitative assessment of whether such policies support long term reductions of greenhouse gas emissions in this State to zero or near zero by the year 2050. (NRS 445B.380)]~~

~~—This bill requires the Office of Energy within the Office of the Governor, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, the Office of Economic Development within the Office of the Governor and the Department of Transportation to coordinate and take action to promote the production, processing, delivery, storage and use of clean hydrogen in this State for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in this State, promoting the energy independence of this State and facilitating the economic development and diversification of this State. This bill requires such actions to include, without limitation, applying for or facilitating applications for grants from the Federal Government for the purpose of incentivizing activities related to the development and use of clean hydrogen technology in this State, identifying and reducing regulatory barriers to the development and use of such technology, and encouraging partnerships with educational institutions in this State for activities related to the development and use of clean hydrogen technology in this State.]~~

Existing law authorizes the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure to evaluate, review and comment upon matters related to energy policy within this State. (NRS 218E.815) This bill directs the Committee to conduct a study during the 2023-2024 interim concerning: (1)

the production and storage of hydrogen; (2) the use of stored hydrogen as a potential energy resource in this State; and (3) the development of hydrogen technologies. This bill requires the study to include, without limitation: (1) a review of the opportunities for students enrolled in an institution within the Nevada System of Higher Education to study subjects concerning hydrogen; and (2) an assessment of the feasibility of using hydrogen as an energy resource in this State. Finally, this bill requires the Committee to submit a report of the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 254 of the 2019 Session of the Nevada Legislature (Chapter 323, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 1970) established a statewide goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 28 percent below the 2005 level of such emissions by 2025, to 45 percent below the 2005 level of such emissions by 2030 and to zero or near-zero by 2050; and

WHEREAS, The State Climate Strategy establishes a plan for achieving the targets established by Senate Bill No. 254 for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and has identified clean hydrogen and clean hydrogen technologies, including, without limitation, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and hydrogen fueling stations, as opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in this State; and

WHEREAS, Global economic activity involving the production, processing, delivery, storage and use of clean hydrogen is currently valued at more than \$100 billion per year in 2022 and is expected to grow across the world as demand for clean energy increases; and

WHEREAS, The emergence of end-use applications for energy produced from clean hydrogen, including, without limitation, in transportation, seasonal energy storage and the global energy trade, provide an opportunity for this State to meet its targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions while at the same time enhancing economic development, job creation and the collection of tax revenue in this State; and

WHEREAS, Encouraging the expansion of the use of clean hydrogen will decrease the emission of greenhouse gases in this State, which will have the effect of improving the health of Nevadans through the improvement of air quality, especially for economically disadvantaged Nevadans and communities of color; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. ~~{Chapter 701 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:~~

~~1. The Office of Energy within the Office of the Governor, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, the Office of Economic Development within the Office of the Governor and the Department of Transportation shall coordinate and take action to promote the production, processing, delivery, storage and use of clean hydrogen in this State for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in this State, promoting the energy independence of~~

~~this State and facilitating the economic development and diversification of this State. Such actions must include, without limitation:~~

~~—(a) Applying for or facilitating applications for grants available from the Federal Government and other sources which have the express purpose of incentivizing the production, processing, delivery, storage or use of clean hydrogen in this State.~~

~~—(b) Identifying regulatory barriers to the production, processing, delivery, storage or use of clean hydrogen in this State and recommending or, if authorized by law, taking actions to remove such barriers.~~

~~—(c) Promoting increased opportunities for students in community colleges, state colleges, universities and research facilities within the Nevada System of Higher Education to study subjects related to clean hydrogen and hydrogen technologies at those institutions.~~

~~—(d) Encouraging partnerships with the Nevada System of Higher Education to promote the training of a workforce qualified to develop, construct, improve, maintain and repair facilities used to produce, process, deliver, store or use clean hydrogen in this State.~~

~~—(e) Encouraging partnerships among the Nevada System of Higher Education, elementary and secondary schools in this State, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the private sector, including, without limitation, the energy businesses in this State, to promote the production, processing, delivery, storage and use of clean hydrogen as an energy resource in this State.~~

~~—(f) Entering into agreements with the University of Nevada, Reno, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the Desert Research Institute for the gathering of data concerning the assessment and development of clean hydrogen as an energy resource and the production of a cost benefit analysis of the production, processing, delivery, storage and use of clean hydrogen as an energy resource in this State.~~

~~2. The activities described in subsection 1 must be directed toward incentivizing the production, processing, delivery, storage and use of clean hydrogen as an energy resource in this State for a variety of applications, including, without limitation:~~

~~—(a) The use of clean hydrogen as fuel for the operation of zero emission light duty and medium duty vehicles, trucks, buses, locomotives, off road equipment, aircraft and watercraft, and the establishment of fueling infrastructure to support such use.~~

~~—(b) The use of clean hydrogen to power commercial or industrial equipment.~~

~~—(c) The use of wastewater or wastewater treatment facilities to produce clean hydrogen.~~

~~—(d) The conversion of existing mines into resources for the production of clean hydrogen, including, without limitation, the production of clean hydrogen from water associated with inactive or abandoned mines.~~

~~(c) The use of clean hydrogen microgrids as energy storage for microgrids and coupling clean hydrogen with distributed energy resources to strengthen the resilience of the power grid.~~

~~3. As used in this section, "clean hydrogen" means hydrogen produced in compliance with greenhouse gas emissions standards established by the United States Secretary of Energy under 42 U.S.C. § 16166.~~ (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 2. 1. During the 2023-2024 interim, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure shall conduct a study concerning the production and storage of hydrogen, the use of stored hydrogen as a potential energy resource in this State and the development of hydrogen technologies.

2. In conducting the study, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure shall consult with and solicit input from:

- (a) The Nevada System of Higher Education;
- (b) The National Renewable Energy Laboratory;
- (c) Existing energy industries in this State;
- (d) Developers of clean energy;
- (e) Nongovernmental organizations that focus on energy conservation;
- (f) Utilities that provide gas and electric services; and
- (g) Professionals with expertise regarding the use of hydrogen and stored hydrogen and the development of hydrogen technologies.

3. The study must include, without limitation:

(a) A review of the opportunities for students enrolled in an institution within the Nevada System of Higher Education to study subjects concerning hydrogen, including, without limitation:

(1) The process for the production and storage of hydrogen and any methods and technology used in such a process; and

(2) Hydrogen technologies; and

(b) An assessment of the feasibility of using hydrogen as an energy resource in this State, including, without limitation, consideration of:

(1) The potential for hydrogen and stored hydrogen to enable the operation of zero-emission light- and medium-duty vehicles, trucks, buses, locomotives, off-road equipment, aircraft, industrial equipment and watercraft;

(2) The potential for using wastewater and wastewater treatment facilities for the production of hydrogen;

(3) Methods for incentivizing the use of hydrogen and stored hydrogen as energy resources in this State;

(4) Economic and regulatory barriers to the implementation of hydrogen and stored hydrogen as energy resources, including, without limitation, whether policies incentivizing the production and storage of hydrogen as energy resources and hydrogen technologies are comparable to policies incentivizing the production of other energy resources and applicable technologies in this State;

(5) Opportunities for federal and nongovernmental grants that may be available for the purposes of producing and storing hydrogen in this State;

(6) The potential for using hydrogen microgrids, stored hydrogen microgrids and hydrogen coupled with distributed energy resources to strengthen the resilience of the electric power grid;

(7) The impact of hydrogen production on water resources in this State;

(8) The impact of limited water resources on the production of hydrogen in this State and its potential as an energy resource; and

(9) The long-term impact of various methods of hydrogen production on the air, water and other natural resources of this State and the potential for hydrogen to assist with efforts to decarbonize this State.

4. To complete the study, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure may enter into a contract or other agreement with the University of Nevada, Reno, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, or the Desert Research Institute to:

(a) Gather data concerning the feasibility of hydrogen and stored hydrogen as energy resources; and

(b) Produce a cost-benefit analysis of hydrogen as an energy resource.

5. On or before January 1, 2025, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure shall submit a report of the results of the study, including, without limitation, any recommendations for legislation, to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

6. For the purposes of this section, "hydrogen technologies" means technology used in the production, storage and distribution of hydrogen and stored hydrogen.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

Senator Harris moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Harris.

Amendment No. 883 to Senate Bill No. 451 requires the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure to conduct a study concerning the development of hydrogen and hydrogen storage as a potential energy resource in this State, including, without limitation, the development of hydrogen technologies.

Amendment adopted.

Bill ordered reprinted, engrossed and to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 15.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 16.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 46.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 77.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 140.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 151.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 161.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 184.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 195.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 203.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 226.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 232.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 239.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 246.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 257.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 299.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 304.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 310.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 345.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 376.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 443.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 457.
Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 461.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 514.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 517.

Bill read second time and ordered to third reading.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Senator Dondero Loop moved that Assembly Bills Nos. 15, 16, 77, 239, 246, 257, 310, 376, 514 and 517 be taken from the General File and re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

Motion carried.

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Bill No. 163.

Bill read third time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee on Finance:

Amendment No. 853.

SUMMARY—Requires certain health insurance to cover treatment of certain conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. (BDR 57-129)

AN ACT relating to insurance; requiring certain health insurance to include coverage for the treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence; prohibiting such insurers from engaging in certain discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression; making appropriations and authorizing certain expenditures; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires public and private policies of health insurance regulated under Nevada law to include certain coverage. (NRS 287.010, 287.04335, 422.2712-422.27241, 689A.04033-689A.0465, 689B.0303-689B.0379, 689C.1655-689C.169, 689C.194, 689C.1945, 689C.195, 695A.184-695A.1875, 695B.1901-695B.1948, 695C.1691-695C.176, 695G.162-695G.177) Existing law also requires employers to provide certain benefits for health care to employees, including the coverage required of health insurers, if the employer provides health benefits for its employees. (NRS 608.1555) Sections 1.3, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14 and 15 of this bill: (1) require certain public and private policies of health insurance and health care plans, including Medicaid, to cover the treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence; (2) authorize those policies and plans to prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the insurer will cover surgical treatment for conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for persons who are less than 18 years of age; and (3) require an insurer to consult with a provider of health care with experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment when

considering certain appeals of a denial of coverage. Sections 1.6, 3.6, 4.6, 6.6, 7.6, 8.6, 11.6 and 15.6 of this bill prohibit an insurer from engaging in certain discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression. Sections 2, 5, 9 and 12 of this bill make conforming changes to indicate the proper placement of sections 1.3, 1.6, 4, 4.6, 8, 8.6, 15 and 15.6 in the Nevada Revised Statutes.

Section 10 of this bill authorizes the Commissioner of Insurance to suspend or revoke the certificate of a health maintenance organization that fails to comply with the requirements of sections 8 and 8.6. The Commissioner would also be authorized to take such action against other health insurers who fail to comply with the requirements of sections 1.3, 1.6, 3, 3.6, 4, 4.6, 6, 6.6, 7, 7.6, 11 and 11.6. ~~of this bill.~~ (NRS 680A.200) Sections 16 and 17 of this bill make appropriations to the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services and authorize certain related expenditures for: (1) the costs of providing the coverage under Medicaid required by section 15; and (2) certain other costs associated with carrying out the provisions of this bill.

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

Section 1. Chapter 689A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 1.3 and 1.6 of this act.

Sec. 1.3. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, an insurer that issues a policy of health insurance shall include in the policy coverage for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such coverage must include coverage of medically necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:*

- (a) *Endocrinologists;*
- (b) *Pediatric endocrinologists;*
- (c) *Social workers;*
- (d) *Psychiatrists;*
- (e) *Psychologists;*
- (f) *Gynecologists;*
- (g) *Speech-language pathologists;*
- (h) *Primary care physicians;*
- (i) *Advanced practice registered nurses;*
- (j) *Physician assistants; and*
- (k) *Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.*

2. *This section does not require a policy of health insurance to include coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.*

3. *An insurer that issues a policy of health insurance shall not categorically refuse to cover medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the policy provides coverage*

for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.

4. An insurer that issues a policy of health insurance may prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the insurer covers surgical treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for an insured who is less than 18 years of age. Such requirements may include, without limitation, requirements that:

(a) The treatment must be recommended by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional;

(b) The treatment must be recommended by a physician;

(c) The insured must provide a written expression of the desire of the insured to undergo the treatment;

(d) A written plan for treatment that covers at least 1 year must be developed and approved by at least two providers of health care; and

(e) Parental consent is provided for the insured unless the insured is expressly authorized by law to consent on his or her own behalf.

5. When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, an insurer must consider the most recent Standards of Care published by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.

6. An insurer shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the insurer. If, after a reasonable effort, the insurer is unable to make such benefits available through such a provider of health care, the insurer may treat the treatment that the insurer is unable to make available through such a provider of health care in the same manner as other services provided by a provider of health care who does not participate in the network plan of the insurer.

7. If an insured appeals the denial of a claim or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the insured is not medically necessary, the insurer must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the insured when considering the appeal.

8. A policy of health insurance subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after July 1, 2023, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the policy or the renewal which is in conflict with this section is void.

9. As used in this section:

(a) "Cosmetic surgery":

(1) Means a surgical procedure that:

(I) Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;

(II) Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and

(III) Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.

(2) *Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.*

(b) *"Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:*

(1) *A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.*

(2) *A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.*

(3) *A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.*

(4) *A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(5) *A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(6) *A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(c) *"Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:*

(1) *Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;*

(2) *Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;*

(3) *Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;*

(4) *Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and*

(5) *The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.*

➤ *A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.*

(d) *"Network plan" means a policy of health insurance offered by an insurer under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the insurer. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.*

(e) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

Sec. 1.6. An insurer that issues a policy of health insurance shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under the policy on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:

1. Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue or renew a policy of health insurance on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;

2. Imposing a payment or premium that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of an insured or a family member of the insured;

3. Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and

4. Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying coverage for health care services that are:

(a) Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under the policy for the services when the services are not related to gender transition; or

(b) Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.

Sec. 2. NRS 689A.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

689A.330 If any policy is issued by a domestic insurer for delivery to a person residing in another state, and if the insurance commissioner or corresponding public officer of that other state has informed the Commissioner that the policy is not subject to approval or disapproval by that officer, the Commissioner may by ruling require that the policy meet the standards set forth in NRS 689A.030 to 689A.320, inclusive ~~[]~~, and sections 1.3 and 1.6 of this act.

Sec. 2.8. Chapter 689B of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 3 and 3.6 of this act.

Sec. 3. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, an insurer that issues a policy of group health insurance shall include in the policy coverage for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such coverage must include coverage of medically necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:

(a) Endocrinologists;

(b) Pediatric endocrinologists;

(c) Social workers;

(d) Psychiatrists;

(e) Psychologists;

(f) Gynecologists;

(g) Speech-language pathologists;

(h) Primary care physicians;

- (i) *Advanced practice registered nurses;*
- (j) *Physician assistants; and*
- (k) *Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.*

2. *This section does not require a policy of group health insurance to include coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.*

3. *An insurer that issues a policy of group health insurance shall not categorically refuse to cover medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the policy provides coverage for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.*

4. *An insurer that issues a policy of group health insurance may prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the insurer covers surgical treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for an insured who is less than 18 years of age. Such requirements may include, without limitation, requirements that:*

- (a) *The treatment must be recommended by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional;*
- (b) *The treatment must be recommended by a physician;*
- (c) *The insured must provide a written expression of the desire of the insured to undergo the treatment;*
- (d) *A written plan for treatment that covers at least 1 year must be developed and approved by at least two providers of health care; and*
- (e) *Parental consent is provided for the insured unless the insured is expressly authorized by law to consent on his or her own behalf.*

5. *When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, an insurer must consider the most recent Standards of Care published by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.*

6. *An insurer shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the insurer. If, after a reasonable effort, the insurer is unable to make such benefits available through such a provider of health care, the insurer may treat the treatment that the insurer is unable to make available through such a provider of health care in the same manner as other services provided by a provider of health care who does not participate in the network plan of the insurer.*

7. *If an insured appeals the denial of a claim or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the insured is not medically necessary, the insurer must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the insured when considering the appeal.*

8. A policy of group health insurance subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after July 1, 2023, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the policy or renewal which is in conflict with the provisions of this section is void.

9. As used in this section:

(a) "Cosmetic surgery":

(1) Means a surgical procedure that:

(I) Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;

(II) Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and

(III) Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.

(2) Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.

(b) "Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:

(1) A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(2) A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(3) A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.

(4) A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(5) A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(6) A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(c) "Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:

(1) Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;

(2) Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;

(3) Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;

(4) Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and

(5) *The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.*

↳ *A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.*

(d) *"Network plan" means a policy of group health insurance offered by an insurer under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the insurer. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.*

(e) *"Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.*

Sec. 3.6. *An insurer that issues a policy of group health insurance shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under the policy on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:*

1. *Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue or renew a policy of group health insurance on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;*

2. *Imposing a payment or premium that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of an insured or a family member of the insured;*

3. *Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and*

4. *Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying coverage for health care services that are:*

(a) *Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under the policy for the services when the services are not related to gender transition; or*

(b) *Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.*

Sec. 3.8. Chapter 689C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 4 and 4.6 of this act.

Sec. 4. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a carrier that issues a health benefit plan shall include in the health benefit plan coverage for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such coverage must include coverage of medically necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:*

(a) *Endocrinologists;*

(b) *Pediatric endocrinologists;*

(c) *Social workers;*

(d) *Psychiatrists;*

(e) *Psychologists;*

(f) *Gynecologists;*

- (g) *Speech-language pathologists;*
- (h) *Primary care physicians;*
- (i) *Advanced practice registered nurses;*
- (j) *Physician assistants; and*
- (k) *Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.*

2. *This section does not require a health benefit plan to include coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.*

3. *A carrier that issues a health benefit plan shall not categorically refuse to cover medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the plan provides coverage for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.*

4. *A carrier that issues a health benefit plan may prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the carrier covers surgical treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for an insured who is less than 18 years of age. Such requirements may include, without limitation, requirements that:*

- (a) *The treatment must be recommended by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional;*
- (b) *The treatment must be recommended by a physician;*
- (c) *The insured must provide a written expression of the desire of the insured to undergo the treatment;*
- (d) *A written plan for treatment that covers at least 1 year must be developed and approved by at least two providers of health care; and*
- (e) *Parental consent is provided for the insured unless the insured is expressly authorized by law to consent on his or her own behalf.*

5. *When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, a carrier must consider the most recent Standards of Care published by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.*

6. *A carrier shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the carrier. If, after a reasonable effort, the carrier is unable to make such benefits available through such a provider of health care, the carrier may treat the treatment that the carrier is unable to make available through such a provider of health care in the same manner as other services provided by a provider of health care who does not participate in the network plan of the carrier.*

7. *If an insured appeals the denial of a claim or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the insured is not medically necessary, the carrier must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment*

concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the insured when considering the appeal

8. A health benefit plan subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after July 1, 2023, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the plan or renewal which is in conflict with the provisions of this section is void.

9. As used in this section:

(a) "Cosmetic surgery":

(1) Means a surgical procedure that:

(I) Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;

(II) Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and

(III) Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.

(2) Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.

(b) "Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:

(1) A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(2) A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(3) A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.

(4) A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(5) A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(6) A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(c) "Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:

(1) Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;

(2) Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;

(3) Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;

(4) *Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and*

(5) *The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.*

↪ *A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.*

(d) *"Network plan" means a health benefit plan offered by a carrier under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the carrier. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.*

(e) *"Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.*

Sec. 4.6. *A carrier that issues a health benefit plan shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under the plan on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:*

1. *Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue or renew a health benefit plan on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;*

2. *Imposing a payment or premium that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of an insured or a family member of the insured;*

3. *Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and*

4. *Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying coverage for health care services that are:*

(a) *Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under the plan for the services when the services are not related to gender transition; or*

(b) *Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.*

Sec. 5. NRS 689C.425 is hereby amended to read as follows:

689C.425 A voluntary purchasing group and any contract issued to such a group pursuant to NRS 689C.360 to 689C.600, inclusive, are subject to the provisions of NRS 689C.015 to 689C.355, inclusive, and sections 4 and 4.6 of this act, to the extent applicable and not in conflict with the express provisions of NRS 687B.408 and 689C.360 to 689C.600, inclusive.

Sec. 5.8. Chapter 695A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 6 and 6.6 of this act.

Sec. 6. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a society that issues a benefit contract shall include in the benefit contract coverage for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such coverage must include coverage of medically*

necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:

- (a) Endocrinologists;
- (b) Pediatric endocrinologists;
- (c) Social workers;
- (d) Psychiatrists;
- (e) Psychologists;
- (f) Gynecologists;
- (g) Speech-language pathologists;
- (h) Primary care physicians;
- (i) Advanced practice registered nurses;
- (j) Physician assistants; and
- (k) Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.

2. This section does not require a benefit contract to include coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.

3. A society that issues a benefit contract shall not categorically refuse to cover medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the contract provides coverage for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.

4. A society that issues a benefit contract may prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the society covers surgical treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for an insured who is less than 18 years of age. Such requirements may include, without limitation, requirements that:

- (a) The treatment must be recommended by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional;
- (b) The treatment must be recommended by a physician;
- (c) The insured must provide a written expression of the desire of the insured to undergo the treatment;
- (d) A written plan for treatment that covers at least 1 year must be developed and approved by at least two providers of health care; and
- (e) Parental consent is provided for the insured unless the insured is expressly authorized by law to consent on his or her own behalf.

5. When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, a society must consider the most recent Standards of Care published by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.

6. A society shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the society. If, after a reasonable effort, the society is unable to make such benefits available through such a provider of health care, the society may treat the treatment that the

society is unable to make available through such a provider of health care in the same manner as other services provided by a provider of health care who does not participate in the network plan of the society.

7. If an insured appeals the denial of a claim or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the insured is not medically necessary, the society must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the insured when considering the appeal.

8. A benefit contract subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after July 1, 2023, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the benefit contract or renewal which is in conflict with the provisions of this section is void.

9. As used in this section:

(a) "Cosmetic surgery":

(1) Means a surgical procedure that:

(I) Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;

(II) Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and

(III) Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.

(2) Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.

(b) "Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:

(1) A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(2) A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(3) A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.

(4) A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(5) A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(6) A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(c) "Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose

or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:

(1) Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;

(2) Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;

(3) Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;

(4) Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and

(5) The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.

➤ A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.

(d) "Network plan" means a benefit contract offered by a society under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the society. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

(e) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

Sec. 6.6. A society that issues a benefit contract shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under the contract on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:

1. Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue or renew a benefit contract on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;

2. Imposing a payment or premium that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of an insured or a family member of the insured;

3. Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and

4. Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying coverage for health care services that are:

(a) Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under the contract for the services when the services are not related to gender transition;

or

(b) Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.

Sec. 6.8. Chapter 695B of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 7 and 7.6 of this act.

Sec. 7. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a hospital or medical services corporation that issues a policy of health insurance shall

include in the policy coverage for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such coverage must include coverage of medically necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:

- (a) Endocrinologists;
- (b) Pediatric endocrinologists;
- (c) Social workers;
- (d) Psychiatrists;
- (e) Psychologists;
- (f) Gynecologists;
- (g) Speech-language pathologists;
- (h) Primary care physicians;
- (i) Advanced practice registered nurses;
- (j) Physician assistants; and
- (k) Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.

2. This section does not require a policy of health insurance to include coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.

3. A hospital or medical services corporation that issues a policy of health insurance shall not categorically refuse to cover medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the policy provides coverage for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.

4. A hospital or medical services corporation that issues a policy of health insurance may prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the hospital or medical services corporation covers surgical treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for an insured who is less than 18 years of age. Such requirements may include, without limitation, requirements that:

- (a) The treatment must be recommended by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional;
- (b) The treatment must be recommended by a physician;
- (c) The insured must provide a written expression of the desire of the insured to undergo the treatment;
- (d) A written plan for treatment that covers at least 1 year must be developed and approved by at least two providers of health care; and
- (e) Parental consent is provided for the insured unless the insured is expressly authorized by law to consent on his or her own behalf.

5. When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, a hospital or medical services corporation must consider the most recent Standards of Care published by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.

6. A hospital or medical services corporation shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the hospital or medical services corporation. If, after a reasonable effort, the hospital or medical services corporation is unable to make such benefits available through such a provider of health care, the hospital or medical services corporation may treat the treatment that the hospital or medical services corporation is unable to make available through such a provider of health care in the same manner as other services provided by a provider of health care who does not participate in the network plan of the hospital or medical services corporation.

7. If an insured appeals the denial of a claim or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the insured is not medically necessary, the hospital or medical services corporation must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the insured when considering the appeal.

8. A policy of health insurance subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after July 1, 2023, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the policy or renewal which is in conflict with the provisions of this section is void.

9. As used in this section:

(a) "Cosmetic surgery":

(1) Means a surgical procedure that:

(I) Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;

(II) Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and

(III) Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.

(2) Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.

(b) "Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:

(1) A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(2) A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(3) A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.

(4) *A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(5) *A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(6) *A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(c) *"Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:*

(1) *Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;*

(2) *Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;*

(3) *Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;*

(4) *Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and*

(5) *The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.*

➔ *A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.*

(d) *"Network plan" means a policy of health insurance offered by a hospital or medical services corporation under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the hospital or medical services corporation. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.*

(e) *"Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.*

Sec. 7.6. *A hospital or medical services corporation that issues a policy of health insurance shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under the policy on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:*

1. *Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue or renew a policy of health insurance on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;*

2. *Imposing a payment or premium that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of an insured or a family member of the insured;*

3. *Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and*

4. *Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying coverage for health care services that are:*

(a) *Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under the policy for the services when the services are not related to gender transition;*
or

(b) *Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.*

Sec. 7.8. Chapter 695C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 8 and 8.6 of this act.

Sec. 8. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a health maintenance organization that issues a health care plan shall include in the health care plan coverage for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such coverage must include coverage of medically necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:*

(a) *Endocrinologists;*

(b) *Pediatric endocrinologists;*

(c) *Social workers;*

(d) *Psychiatrists;*

(e) *Psychologists;*

(f) *Gynecologists;*

(g) *Speech-language pathologists;*

(h) *Primary care physicians;*

(i) *Advanced practice registered nurses;*

(j) *Physician assistants; and*

(k) *Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.*

2. *This section does not require a health care plan to include coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.*

3. *A health maintenance organization that issues a health care plan shall not categorically refuse to cover medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the plan provides coverage for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.*

4. *A health maintenance organization that issues a health care plan may prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the health maintenance organization covers surgical treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for an enrollee who is less than 18 years of age. Such requirements may include, without limitation, requirements that:*

(a) *The treatment must be recommended by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional;*

(b) *The treatment must be recommended by a physician;*

(c) *The enrollee must provide a written expression of the desire of the enrollee to undergo the treatment;*

(d) *A written plan for treatment that covers at least 1 year must be developed and approved by at least two providers of health care; and*

(e) *Parental consent is provided for the enrollee unless the enrollee is expressly authorized by law to consent on his or her own behalf.*

5. *When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, a health maintenance organization must consider the most recent Standards of Care prescribed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.*

6. *A health maintenance organization shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an enrollee through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the health maintenance organization. If, after a reasonable effort, the health maintenance organization is unable to make such benefits available through such a provider of health care, the health maintenance organization may treat the treatment that the health maintenance organization is unable to make available through such a provider of health care in the same manner as other services provided by a provider of health care who does not participate in the network plan of the health maintenance organization.*

7. *If an enrollee appeals the denial of a claim or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the enrollee is not medically necessary, the health maintenance organization must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the enrollee when considering the appeal.*

8. *A health care plan subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after July 1, 2023, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the plan or renewal which is in conflict with the provisions of this section is void.*

9. *As used in this section:*

(a) *"Cosmetic surgery":*

(1) *Means a surgical procedure that:*

(I) *Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;*

(II) *Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and*

(III) *Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.*

(2) *Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.*

(b) *"Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:*

(1) A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(2) A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.

(3) A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.

(4) A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(5) A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(6) A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(c) "Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:

(1) Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;

(2) Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;

(3) Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;

(4) Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and

(5) The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.

➔ A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.

(d) "Network plan" means a health care plan offered by a health maintenance organization under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the health maintenance organization. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.

I "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

Sec. 8.6. A health maintenance organization that issues a health care plan shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under the plan on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:

1. *Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue or renew a health care plan on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;*

2. *Imposing a payment or premium that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of an enrollee or a family member of the enrollee;*

3. *Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and*

4. *Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying coverage for health care services that are:*

(a) Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under the plan for the services when the services are not related to gender transition; or

(b) Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.

Sec. 9. NRS 695C.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

695C.050 1. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or in specific provisions of this title, the provisions of this title are not applicable to any health maintenance organization granted a certificate of authority under this chapter. This provision does not apply to an insurer licensed and regulated pursuant to this title except with respect to its activities as a health maintenance organization authorized and regulated pursuant to this chapter.

2. Solicitation of enrollees by a health maintenance organization granted a certificate of authority, or its representatives, must not be construed to violate any provision of law relating to solicitation or advertising by practitioners of a healing art.

3. Any health maintenance organization authorized under this chapter shall not be deemed to be practicing medicine and is exempt from the provisions of chapter 630 of NRS.

4. The provisions of NRS 695C.110, 695C.125, 695C.1691, 695C.1693, 695C.170, 695C.1703, 695C.1705, 695C.1709 to 695C.173, inclusive, 695C.1733, 695C.17335, 695C.1734, 695C.1751, 695C.1755, 695C.1759, 695C.176 to 695C.200, inclusive, and 695C.265 do not apply to a health maintenance organization that provides health care services through managed care to recipients of Medicaid under the State Plan for Medicaid or insurance pursuant to the Children's Health Insurance Program pursuant to a contract with the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services. This subsection does not exempt a health maintenance organization from any provision of this chapter for services provided pursuant to any other contract.

5. The provisions of NRS 695C.1694 to 695C.1698, inclusive, 695C.1701, 695C.1708, 695C.1728, 695C.1731, 695C.17333, 695C.17345, 695C.17347, 695C.1735, 695C.1737, 695C.1743, 695C.1745 and 695C.1757 *and sections 8 and 8.6 of this act* apply to a health maintenance organization that provides

health care services through managed care to recipients of Medicaid under the State Plan for Medicaid.

Sec. 10. NRS 695C.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

695C.330 1. The Commissioner may suspend or revoke any certificate of authority issued to a health maintenance organization pursuant to the provisions of this chapter if the Commissioner finds that any of the following conditions exist:

(a) The health maintenance organization is operating significantly in contravention of its basic organizational document, its health care plan or in a manner contrary to that described in and reasonably inferred from any other information submitted pursuant to NRS 695C.060, 695C.070 and 695C.140, unless any amendments to those submissions have been filed with and approved by the Commissioner;

(b) The health maintenance organization issues evidence of coverage or uses a schedule of charges for health care services which do not comply with the requirements of NRS 695C.1691 to 695C.200, inclusive, or 695C.207 ~~or sections 8 and 8.6 of this act~~;

(c) The health care plan does not furnish comprehensive health care services as provided for in NRS 695C.060;

(d) The Commissioner certifies that the health maintenance organization:

(1) Does not meet the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 695C.080; or

(2) Is unable to fulfill its obligations to furnish health care services as required under its health care plan;

(e) The health maintenance organization is no longer financially responsible and may reasonably be expected to be unable to meet its obligations to enrollees or prospective enrollees;

(f) The health maintenance organization has failed to put into effect a mechanism affording the enrollees an opportunity to participate in matters relating to the content of programs pursuant to NRS 695C.110;

(g) The health maintenance organization has failed to put into effect the system required by NRS 695C.260 for:

(1) Resolving complaints in a manner reasonably to dispose of valid complaints; and

(2) Conducting external reviews of adverse determinations that comply with the provisions of NRS 695G.241 to 695G.310, inclusive;

(h) The health maintenance organization or any person on its behalf has advertised or merchandised its services in an untrue, misrepresentative, misleading, deceptive or unfair manner;

(i) The continued operation of the health maintenance organization would be hazardous to its enrollees or creditors or to the general public;

(j) The health maintenance organization fails to provide the coverage required by NRS 695C.1691; or

(k) The health maintenance organization has otherwise failed to comply substantially with the provisions of this chapter.

2. A certificate of authority must be suspended or revoked only after compliance with the requirements of NRS 695C.340.

3. If the certificate of authority of a health maintenance organization is suspended, the health maintenance organization shall not, during the period of that suspension, enroll any additional groups or new individual contracts, unless those groups or persons were contracted for before the date of suspension.

4. If the certificate of authority of a health maintenance organization is revoked, the organization shall proceed, immediately following the effective date of the order of revocation, to wind up its affairs and shall conduct no further business except as may be essential to the orderly conclusion of the affairs of the organization. It shall engage in no further advertising or solicitation of any kind. The Commissioner may, by written order, permit such further operation of the organization as the Commissioner may find to be in the best interest of enrollees to the end that enrollees are afforded the greatest practical opportunity to obtain continuing coverage for health care.

Sec. 10.8. Chapter 695G of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 11 and 11.6 of this act.

Sec. 11. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a managed care organization that issues a health care plan shall include in the health care plan coverage for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such coverage must include coverage of medically necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:*

- (a) *Endocrinologists;*
- (b) *Pediatric endocrinologists;*
- (c) *Social workers;*
- (d) *Psychiatrists;*
- (e) *Psychologists;*
- (f) *Gynecologists;*
- (g) *Speech-language pathologists;*
- (h) *Primary care physicians;*
- (i) *Advanced practice registered nurses;*
- (j) *Physician assistants; and*
- (k) *Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.*

2. *This section does not require a health care plan to include coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.*

3. *A managed care organization that issues a health care plan shall not categorically refuse to cover medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the plan provides coverage for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.*

4. A managed care organization that issues a health care plan may prescribe requirements that must be satisfied before the managed care organization covers surgical treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria or gender incongruence for an insured who is less than 18 years of age. Such requirements may include, without limitation, requirements that:

(a) The treatment must be recommended by a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional;

(b) The treatment must be recommended by a physician;

(c) The insured must provide a written expression of the desire of the insured to undergo the treatment;

(d) A written plan for treatment that covers at least 1 year must be developed and approved by at least two providers of health care; and

(e) Parental consent is provided for the insured unless the insured is expressly authorized by law to consent on his or her own behalf.

5. When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, a managed care organization must consider the most recent *Standards of Care* prescribed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.

6. A managed care organization shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the benefits required by subsection 1 are made available to an insured through a provider of health care who participates in the network plan of the managed care organization. If, after a reasonable effort, the managed care organization is unable to make such benefits available through such a provider of health care, the managed care organization may treat the treatment that the managed care organization is unable to make available through such a provider of health care in the same manner as other services provided by a provider of health care who does not participate in the network plan of the managed care organization.

7. If an insured appeals the denial of a claim or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the insured is not medically necessary, the managed care organization must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the insured when considering the appeal.

8. Evidence of coverage subject to the provisions of this chapter that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after July 1, 2023, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by subsection 1, and any provision of the plan or renewal which is in conflict with the provisions of this section is void.

9. As used in this section:

(a) "Cosmetic surgery":

(1) Means a surgical procedure that:

(I) Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;

(II) Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and

(III) Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.

(2) *Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.*

(b) *"Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:*

(1) *A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.*

(2) *A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.*

(3) *A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.*

(4) *A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(5) *A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(6) *A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(c) *"Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:*

(1) *Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;*

(2) *Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;*

(3) *Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;*

(4) *Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and*

(5) *The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.*

➤ *A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.*

(d) *"Network plan" means a health care plan offered by a managed care organization under which the financing and delivery of medical care, including items and services paid for as medical care, are provided, in whole or in part, through a defined set of providers under contract with the managed care organization. The term does not include an arrangement for the financing of premiums.*

(e) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

Sec. 11.6. A managed care organization that issues a health care plan shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under the plan on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:

1. Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue or renew a health care plan on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;

2. Imposing a payment or premium that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of an insured or a family member of the insured;

3. Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and

4. Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying coverage for health care services that are:

(a) Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under the plan for the services when the services are not related to gender transition; or

(b) Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.

Sec. 12. NRS 232.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

232.320 1. The Director:

(a) Shall appoint, with the consent of the Governor, administrators of the divisions of the Department, who are respectively designated as follows:

(1) The Administrator of the Aging and Disability Services Division;

(2) The Administrator of the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services;

(3) The Administrator of the Division of Child and Family Services;

(4) The Administrator of the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy; and

(5) The Administrator of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

(b) Shall administer, through the divisions of the Department, the provisions of chapters 63, 424, 425, 427A, 432A to 442, inclusive, 446 to 450, inclusive, 458A and 656A of NRS, NRS 127.220 to 127.310, inclusive, 422.001 to 422.410, inclusive, and sections 15 and 15.6 of this act, 422.580, 432.010 to 432.133, inclusive, 432B.6201 to 432B.626, inclusive, 444.002 to 444.430, inclusive, and 445A.010 to 445A.055, inclusive, and all other provisions of law relating to the functions of the divisions of the Department, but is not responsible for the clinical activities of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health or the professional line activities of the other divisions.

(c) Shall administer any state program for persons with developmental disabilities established pursuant to the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, 42 U.S.C. §§ 15001 et seq.

(d) Shall, after considering advice from agencies of local governments and nonprofit organizations which provide social services, adopt a master plan for

the provision of human services in this State. The Director shall revise the plan biennially and deliver a copy of the plan to the Governor and the Legislature at the beginning of each regular session. The plan must:

(1) Identify and assess the plans and programs of the Department for the provision of human services, and any duplication of those services by federal, state and local agencies;

(2) Set forth priorities for the provision of those services;

(3) Provide for communication and the coordination of those services among nonprofit organizations, agencies of local government, the State and the Federal Government;

(4) Identify the sources of funding for services provided by the Department and the allocation of that funding;

(5) Set forth sufficient information to assist the Department in providing those services and in the planning and budgeting for the future provision of those services; and

(6) Contain any other information necessary for the Department to communicate effectively with the Federal Government concerning demographic trends, formulas for the distribution of federal money and any need for the modification of programs administered by the Department.

(e) May, by regulation, require nonprofit organizations and state and local governmental agencies to provide information regarding the programs of those organizations and agencies, excluding detailed information relating to their budgets and payrolls, which the Director deems necessary for the performance of the duties imposed upon him or her pursuant to this section.

(f) Has such other powers and duties as are provided by law.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director, or the Director's designee, is responsible for appointing and removing subordinate officers and employees of the Department.

Sec. 13. NRS 287.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

287.010 1. The governing body of any county, school district, municipal corporation, political subdivision, public corporation or other local governmental agency of the State of Nevada may:

(a) Adopt and carry into effect a system of group life, accident or health insurance, or any combination thereof, for the benefit of its officers and employees, and the dependents of officers and employees who elect to accept the insurance and who, where necessary, have authorized the governing body to make deductions from their compensation for the payment of premiums on the insurance.

(b) Purchase group policies of life, accident or health insurance, or any combination thereof, for the benefit of such officers and employees, and the dependents of such officers and employees, as have authorized the purchase, from insurance companies authorized to transact the business of such insurance in the State of Nevada, and, where necessary, deduct from the compensation of officers and employees the premiums upon insurance and pay the deductions upon the premiums.

(c) Provide group life, accident or health coverage through a self-insurance reserve fund and, where necessary, deduct contributions to the maintenance of the fund from the compensation of officers and employees and pay the deductions into the fund. The money accumulated for this purpose through deductions from the compensation of officers and employees and contributions of the governing body must be maintained as an internal service fund as defined by NRS 354.543. The money must be deposited in a state or national bank or credit union authorized to transact business in the State of Nevada. Any independent administrator of a fund created under this section is subject to the licensing requirements of chapter 683A of NRS, and must be a resident of this State. Any contract with an independent administrator must be approved by the Commissioner of Insurance as to the reasonableness of administrative charges in relation to contributions collected and benefits provided. The provisions of NRS 686A.135, 687B.352, 687B.408, 687B.723, 687B.725, 689B.030 to 689B.050, inclusive, *and sections 3 and 3.6 of this act*, 689B.265, 689B.287 and 689B.500 apply to coverage provided pursuant to this paragraph, except that the provisions of NRS 689B.0378, 689B.03785 and 689B.500 only apply to coverage for active officers and employees of the governing body, or the dependents of such officers and employees.

(d) Defray part or all of the cost of maintenance of a self-insurance fund or of the premiums upon insurance. The money for contributions must be budgeted for in accordance with the laws governing the county, school district, municipal corporation, political subdivision, public corporation or other local governmental agency of the State of Nevada.

2. If a school district offers group insurance to its officers and employees pursuant to this section, members of the board of trustees of the school district must not be excluded from participating in the group insurance. If the amount of the deductions from compensation required to pay for the group insurance exceeds the compensation to which a trustee is entitled, the difference must be paid by the trustee.

3. In any county in which a legal services organization exists, the governing body of the county, or of any school district, municipal corporation, political subdivision, public corporation or other local governmental agency of the State of Nevada in the county, may enter into a contract with the legal services organization pursuant to which the officers and employees of the legal services organization, and the dependents of those officers and employees, are eligible for any life, accident or health insurance provided pursuant to this section to the officers and employees, and the dependents of the officers and employees, of the county, school district, municipal corporation, political subdivision, public corporation or other local governmental agency.

4. If a contract is entered into pursuant to subsection 3, the officers and employees of the legal services organization:

(a) Shall be deemed, solely for the purposes of this section, to be officers and employees of the county, school district, municipal corporation, political

subdivision, public corporation or other local governmental agency with which the legal services organization has contracted; and

(b) Must be required by the contract to pay the premiums or contributions for all insurance which they elect to accept or of which they authorize the purchase.

5. A contract that is entered into pursuant to subsection 3:

(a) Must be submitted to the Commissioner of Insurance for approval not less than 30 days before the date on which the contract is to become effective.

(b) Does not become effective unless approved by the Commissioner.

(c) Shall be deemed to be approved if not disapproved by the Commissioner within 30 days after its submission.

6. As used in this section, "legal services organization" means an organization that operates a program for legal aid and receives money pursuant to NRS 19.031.

Sec. 14. NRS 287.04335 is hereby amended to read as follows:

287.04335 If the Board provides health insurance through a plan of self-insurance, it shall comply with the provisions of NRS 686A.135, 687B.352, 687B.409, 687B.723, 687B.725, 689B.0353, 689B.255, 695C.1723, 695G.150, 695G.155, 695G.160, 695G.162, 695G.1635, 695G.164, 695G.1645, 695G.1665, 695G.167, 695G.1675, 695G.170 to 695G.174, inclusive, *and sections 11 and 11.6 of this act*, 695G.176, 695G.177, 695G.200 to 695G.230, inclusive, 695G.241 to 695G.310, inclusive, and 695G.405, in the same manner as an insurer that is licensed pursuant to title 57 of NRS is required to comply with those provisions.

Sec. 14.8. Chapter 422 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 15 and 15.6 of this act.

Sec. 15. *1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Director shall include in the State Plan for Medicaid a requirement that the State, to the extent authorized by federal law, must pay the nonfederal share of expenditures incurred for the medically necessary treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. Such treatment includes medically necessary psychosocial and surgical intervention and any other medically necessary treatment for such disorders provided by:*

(a) Endocrinologists;

(b) Pediatric endocrinologists;

(c) Social workers;

(d) Psychiatrists;

(e) Psychologists;

(f) Gynecologists;

(g) Speech-language pathologists;

(h) Primary care physicians;

(i) Advanced practice registered nurses;

(j) Physician assistants; and

(k) Any other providers of medically necessary services for the treatment of gender dysphoria or gender incongruence.

2. *This section does not require the Director to include in the State Plan for Medicaid coverage for cosmetic surgery performed by a plastic surgeon or reconstructive surgeon that is not medically necessary.*

3. *The Department shall not categorically refuse to cover any medically necessary gender-affirming treatments or procedures or revisions to prior treatments if the State Plan for Medicaid provides coverage for any such services, procedures or revisions for purposes other than gender transition or affirmation.*

4. *When determining whether treatment is medically necessary for the purposes of this section, the Department must consider the most recent Standards of Care published by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, or its successor organization.*

5. *If a person appeals the denial of a payment or coverage under this section on the grounds that the treatment requested by the person is not medically necessary, the Division must consult with a provider of health care who has experience in prescribing or delivering gender-affirming treatment concerning the medical necessity of the treatment requested by the person when considering the appeal.*

6. *As used in this section:*

(a) *"Cosmetic surgery":*

(1) *Means a surgical procedure that:*

(I) *Does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body;*

(II) *Does not prevent or treat illness or disease; and*

(III) *Is primarily directed at improving the appearance of a person.*

(2) *Includes, without limitation, cosmetic surgery directed at preserving beauty.*

(b) *"Gender dysphoria" means distress or impairment in social, occupational or other areas of functioning caused by a marked difference between the gender identity or expression of a person and the sex assigned to the person at birth which lasts at least 6 months and is shown by at least two of the following:*

(1) *A marked difference between gender identity or expression and primary or secondary sex characteristics or anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.*

(2) *A strong desire to be rid of primary or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked difference between such sex characteristics and gender identity or expression or a desire to prevent the development of anticipated secondary sex characteristics in young adolescents.*

(3) *A strong desire for the primary or secondary sex characteristics of the gender opposite from the sex assigned at birth.*

(4) *A strong desire to be of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(5) *A strong desire to be treated as the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.*

(6) A strong conviction of experiencing typical feelings and reactions of the opposite gender or a gender different from the sex assigned at birth.

(c) "Medically necessary" means health care services or products that a prudent provider of health care would provide to a patient to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury or disease, or any symptoms thereof, that are necessary and:

(1) Provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;

(2) Clinically appropriate with regard to type, frequency, extent, location and duration;

(3) Not provided primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of health care;

(4) Required to improve a specific health condition of a patient or to preserve the existing state of health of the patient; and

(5) The most clinically appropriate level of health care that may be safely provided to the patient.

↳ A provider of health care prescribing, ordering, recommending or approving a health care service or product does not, by itself, make that health care service or product medically necessary.

(d) "Provider of health care" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.031.

Sec. 15.6. The Department shall not discriminate against any person with respect to participation or coverage under Medicaid on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression. Prohibited discrimination includes, without limitation:

1. Denying, cancelling, limiting or refusing to issue a payment or coverage on the basis of the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person;

2. Imposing a payment that is based on the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a recipient of Medicaid or a family member of the recipient;

3. Designating the actual or perceived gender identity or expression of a person or a family member of the person as grounds to deny, cancel or limit participation or coverage; and

4. Denying, cancelling or limiting participation or coverage on the basis of actual or perceived gender identity or expression, including, without limitation, by limiting or denying payment or coverage for health care services that are:

(a) Related to gender transition, provided that there is coverage under Medicaid for the services when the services are not related to gender transition; or

(b) Ordinarily or exclusively available to persons of any sex.

Sec. 16. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services for the costs of providing coverage under Medicaid for

the treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence required by section 15 of this act the following sums:

For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 \$162,926

For the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 \$182,654

2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal years 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 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively, 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 20, 2024, and September 19, 2025, respectively.

3. Expenditure of \$1,239,172 not appropriated from the State General Fund or the State Highway Fund is hereby authorized during Fiscal Year 2023-2024 by the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services for the same purposes as set forth in subsection 1.

4. Expenditure of \$1,076,246 not appropriated from the State General Fund or the State Highway Fund is hereby authorized during Fiscal Year 2024-2025 by the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services for the same purposes as set forth in subsection 1.

Sec. 17. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services the sum of \$19,500 for the costs of information system upgrades and actuarial rate setting associated with carrying out the provisions of this act.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2024, 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 20, 2024, 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 20, 2024.

3. Expenditure of \$48,000 not appropriated from the State General Fund or the State Highway Fund is hereby authorized during Fiscal Year 2023-2024 by the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services for the same purposes as set forth in subsection 1.

~~Sec. 16.~~ Sec. 18. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

~~Sec. 17.~~ Sec. 19. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

Senator Dondero Loop moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Dondero Loop.

Amendment No. 853 to Senate Bill No. 163 makes General Fund appropriations of \$162,926 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and \$182,654 in FY 2025 to the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the costs of providing coverage under Medicaid for the treatment of conditions relating to gender dysphoria and gender incongruence. The amendment further authorizes related expenditures of \$1,239,172 in FY 2024 and \$1,076,246 in FY 2025 for the same purposes.

Additionally, Senate Amendment No. 853 to Senate Bill No. 163 makes General Fund appropriations of \$19,500 to the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of DHHS to cover costs for information system upgrades and actuarial rate setting associated with carrying out the provisions of this act and further authorizes related expenditures of \$48,000 for the same purposes.

Amendment adopted.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Scheible.

I know the hour is late, and it is probably not the ideal time for a long floor speech. I will try not to be too long. This, however, is an incredibly important bill to me, and I would not be doing my constituents any favors by neglecting to impart upon my colleagues the importance of it.

I know this is likely to be a party-line vote because we have politicized health care in our country. That is a tragedy I cannot solve today. What I can do is try one more time in my floor speech to earn the support of my colleagues for Senate Bill No. 163. I really hope this is the only time I speak on this floor on this policy. I hope that it is passed and signed into law this year and all of our constituents who are depending on us to stand up for them do not have to wait another two years or four years or six years or another day for their Legislators to stand up and say that, we see you, we recognize you, and we care about you.

It is not lost on me that advocating for the transgender community is part of my "thing." It is part of my "brand," and people expect me to do it. That is why I brought the bill. That is why I am the sponsor of Senate Bill No. 163. That is why I have been roaming these halls for months now bothering my own colleagues and making sure a hearing has been scheduled and a work session has been scheduled and another hearing has been scheduled and another work session has been scheduled and an amendment has been drafted and that amendment has been delivered and the bill has been delivered to the floor, and then it has been added to the General File. I care about this policy, and I take my allyship to the transgender community very seriously.

You do not have to feel that way to vote for the bill. You do not have to be an ally to the LGBTQ community to vote for the bill. You do not have to understand transgender people. You do not have to understand the history, the community or the fight that has been going on for decades, if not centuries, for equality to be a "yes" vote on the bill. You can vote "yes" simply because you, every single elected member of this body, every single one of you has transgender constituents. You might not know them. They might not be out. They might be nonbinary. They might be gender nonconforming. Someone in your district uses they/them pronouns, was assigned male at birth and now identifies as a woman and uses she/her pronouns.

What Senate Bill No. 163 does is it requires—for all our constituents who are lucky enough to have health insurance—ensures that that health insurance plan does not stand between that constituent and their doctor and tell our constituents what is and is not medically necessary and does not pick and choose for whom they will and will not cover the same procedures, treatments, medications, et cetera. What Senate Bill No. 163 does is it says that health insurance companies do not get to make the decisions about the kinds of care that patients receive in consultation with their doctors. It says that the insurance company has to cover what a doctor prescribes for their patient, and everybody is entitled to that protection.

I hope that we will have support from both sides of the aisle on this vote. I also invite my colleagues to make use of this floor session. I know it is largely a formality, but you do also have the opportunity to ask questions. If there are parts of the bill that are confusing or not clear, I welcome the opportunity to explain why each and every provision was very carefully crafted and included in this piece of legislation to ensure that we did not overstep, we did not require insurance

companies or the State of Nevada or anybody else to provide specific services in a specific manner to specific people in a specific way. We did keep the language perfectly tailored—maybe not perfect but as best we could—to accomplish the goal of protecting people whose insurance companies have been denying them coverage they are entitled to simply because they are gender nonconforming. I hope we will be able to find consensus and to fight on behalf of all our constituents who deserve to have a representative who cares about them in the legislature and even if they are not willing to stand up and make the speech, is willing to press the green button.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 163:

YEAS—13.

NAYS—Buck, Goicoechea, Hammond, Hansen, Krasner, Seevers Gansert, Stone, Titus—8.

Senate Bill No. 163 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed, as amended.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 205.

Bill read third time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee on Finance:

Amendment No. 881.

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the registration of off-highway vehicles. (BDR 43-546)

AN ACT relating to off-highway vehicles; revising provisions governing the registration of certain off-highway vehicles; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law: (1) requires the annual registration of certain off-highway vehicles, including large all-terrain vehicles, with the Department of Motor Vehicles; and (2) exempts from such requirements an off-highway vehicle which is registered or certified in another state and is located in this State for not more than 15 days. (NRS 490.082, 490.0825) Section 1.5 of this bill authorizes the owners of such vehicles to register such vehicles for a 1-year or 3-year period. Section 1.5 also provides that the existing exemption from registration for off-highway vehicles which are registered or certified in another state applies only if the off-highway vehicle is registered or certified in a state which provides a similar exemption from registration for off-highway vehicles registered in this State.

Existing law requires the Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles within the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to determine the fee for the annual registration of an off-highway vehicle. (NRS 490.084) Section 2 of this bill additionally requires the Commission to determine the fee for the triennial registration of an off-highway vehicle. Section 1 of this bill makes a conforming change to reflect the new fee structure.

Section 2.5 of this bill requires the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles to notify the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau when the Director of the Department determines that sufficient resources are available to enable the Department to carry out the provisions of sections 1, 1.5 and 2 and requires the Director to publish such notice on the

Internet website of the Department. Under section 3 of this bill, the provisions of sections 1, 1.5 and 2 become effective on the date on which the Director provides such notice.

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

Section 1. NRS 490.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:

490.070 1. Upon the request of an off-highway vehicle dealer, the Department may authorize the off-highway vehicle dealer to receive and submit to the Department applications for the:

(a) Issuance of certificates of title and registration for off-highway vehicles; and

(b) Renewal of registration for off-highway vehicles.

2. An authorized dealer shall:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, submit to the State Treasurer for allocation to the Department all fees collected by the authorized dealer from each applicant and properly account for those fees each month;

(b) Comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 5; and

(c) Bear any cost of equipment which is required to receive and submit to the Department the applications described in subsection 1, including any computer software or hardware.

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, an authorized dealer is not entitled to receive compensation for the performance of any services pursuant to this section.

4. An authorized dealer may charge and collect a fee of not more than \$2 for each application for a certificate of title or registration received by the authorized dealer pursuant to this section. An authorized dealer may retain any fee collected by the authorized dealer pursuant to this subsection.

5. The Department shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section. The regulations must include, without limitation, provisions for:

(a) The expedient and secure issuance of:

(1) Forms for applying for the issuance of certificates of title for, or registration of, off-highway vehicles;

(2) Certificates of title and registration by the Department to each applicant whose application is approved by the Department; and

(3) Renewal notices for registrations before the date of expiration of the registrations;

(b) The renewal of registrations by mail or the Internet;

(c) The collection of a fee ~~{of not less than \$20 or more than \$30}~~ *in the amount established pursuant to NRS 490.084* for the renewal of a registration of an off-highway vehicle pursuant to NRS 490.082 or 490.0825;

(d) The submission by mail or electronic transmission to the Department of an application for:

(1) The issuance of a certificate of title for, or registration of, an off-highway vehicle; or

(2) The renewal of registration of an off-highway vehicle;

(e) The replacement of a lost, damaged or destroyed certificate of title or registration certificate, sticker or decal; and

(f) The revocation of the authorization granted to a dealer pursuant to subsection 1 if the authorized dealer fails to comply with the regulations.

Sec. 1.5. NRS 490.082 is hereby amended to read as follows:

490.082 1. An owner of an off-highway vehicle that is acquired:

(a) Before July 1, 2011:

(1) May apply for, to the Department by mail or to an authorized dealer, and obtain from the Department, a certificate of title for the off-highway vehicle.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, shall, within 1 year after July 1, 2011, apply for, to the Department by mail or to an authorized dealer, and obtain from the Department, the registration of the off-highway vehicle.

(b) On or after July 1, 2011, shall, within 30 days after acquiring ownership of the off-highway vehicle:

(1) Apply for, to the Department by mail or to an authorized dealer, and obtain from the Department, a certificate of title for the off-highway vehicle.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, apply for, to the Department by mail or to an authorized dealer, and obtain from the Department, the registration of the off-highway vehicle pursuant to this section or NRS 490.0825.

2. If an owner of an off-highway vehicle applies to the Department or to an authorized dealer for:

(a) A certificate of title for the off-highway vehicle, the owner shall submit to the Department or to the authorized dealer proof prescribed by the Department that he or she is the owner of the off-highway vehicle.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 490.0825, the registration of the off-highway vehicle, the owner shall submit:

(1) If ownership of the off-highway vehicle was obtained before July 1, 2011, proof prescribed by the Department:

(I) That he or she is the owner of the off-highway vehicle; and

(II) Of the unique vehicle identification number, serial number or distinguishing number obtained pursuant to NRS 490.0835 for the off-highway vehicle; or

(2) If ownership of the off-highway vehicle was obtained on or after July 1, 2011:

(I) Evidence satisfactory to the Department that he or she has paid all taxes applicable in this State relating to the purchase of the off-highway vehicle, or submit an affidavit indicating that he or she purchased the vehicle through a private party sale and no tax is due relating to the purchase of the off-highway vehicle; and

(II) Proof prescribed by the Department that he or she is the owner of the off-highway vehicle and of the unique vehicle identification number, serial

number or distinguishing number obtained pursuant to NRS 490.0835 for the off-highway vehicle.

3. Registration of an off-highway vehicle is not required if the off-highway vehicle:

(a) Is owned and operated by:

(1) A federal agency;

(2) An agency of this State; or

(3) A county, incorporated city or unincorporated town in this State;

(b) Is part of the inventory of a dealer of off-highway vehicles and is affixed with a special plate provided to the off-highway vehicle dealer pursuant to NRS 490.0827;

(c) Is ~~registered~~ :

(1) *Located in this State for not more than 15 days; and*

(2) *Registered or certified in another state ~~and is located~~ that allows off-highway vehicles that are registered in this State to operate within the boundaries of that state without being registered or certified for not ~~more~~ less than 15 days;*

(d) Is used solely for husbandry on private land or on public land that is leased to or used under a permit issued to the owner or operator of the off-highway vehicle;

(e) Is used for work conducted by or at the direction of a public or private utility;

(f) Was manufactured before January 1, 1976;

(g) Is operated solely in an organized race, festival or other event that is conducted:

(1) Under the auspices of a sanctioning body; or

(2) By permit issued by a governmental entity having jurisdiction;

(h) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d), is operated or stored on private land or on public land that is leased to the owner or operator of the off-highway vehicle, including when operated in an organized race, festival or other event;

(i) Is used in a search and rescue operation conducted by a governmental entity having jurisdiction; or

(j) Has a displacement of not more than 70 cubic centimeters.

↪ As used in this subsection, "sanctioning body" means an organization that establishes a schedule of racing events, grants rights to conduct those events and establishes and administers rules and regulations governing the persons who conduct or participate in those events.

4. ~~The~~ *At the time of the registration or renewal of registration of an off-highway vehicle pursuant to this section or NRS 490.0825 ~~expires 1 year after its issuance.~~, the owner of the off-highway vehicle may register the off-highway vehicle for a 1-year or 3-year period.* If an owner of an off-highway vehicle fails to renew the registration of the off-highway vehicle before it expires, the registration may be reinstated upon the payment to the Department of the annual *or triennial* renewal fee, a late fee of \$10 and, if

applicable, proof of insurance required pursuant to NRS 490.0825. Any late fee collected by the Department must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Revolving Account for the Administration of Off-Highway Vehicle Titling and Registration created by NRS 490.085.

5. If a certificate of title or registration for an off-highway vehicle is lost or destroyed, the owner of the off-highway vehicle may apply to the Department by mail, or to an authorized dealer, for a duplicate certificate of title or registration. The Department may collect a fee to replace a certificate of title or registration certificate, sticker or decal that is lost, damaged or destroyed. Any such fee collected by the Department must be:

(a) Set forth by the Department by regulation; and

(b) Deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Revolving Account for the Administration of Off-Highway Vehicle Titling and Registration created by NRS 490.085.

6. The provisions of subsections 1 to 5, inclusive, do not apply to an owner of an off-highway vehicle who is not a resident of this State.

Sec. 2. NRS 490.084 is hereby amended to read as follows:

490.084 1. The Department shall determine the fee for issuing a certificate of title for an off-highway vehicle, but such fee must not exceed the fee imposed for issuing a certificate of title pursuant to NRS 482.429. ~~Money received from the payment of the fees described in this subsection must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Revolving Account for the Administration of Off Highway Vehicle Titling and Registration created by NRS 490.085.~~

2. The Commission shall determine the fee for the annual *or triennial* registration of an off-highway vehicle pursuant to NRS 490.082 or 490.0825, but such fee must not be ~~less~~ :

(a) *Less than \$20 or more than \$30 ~~[-]~~ if the off-highway vehicle is registered for a 1-year period; and*

(b) *Less than \$60 or more than \$90 if the off-highway vehicle is registered for a 3-year period.*

3. Money received from the payment of the fees described in this ~~subsection~~ *section* must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Revolving Account for the Administration of Off-Highway Vehicle Titling and Registration created by NRS 490.085.

Sec. 2.5. As soon as practicable, upon determining that sufficient resources are available to enable the Department of Motor Vehicles to carry out the amendatory provisions of this act, the Director of the Department shall notify the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau of that fact, and shall publish on the Internet website of the Department notice to the public of that fact.

Sec. 3. 1. This section ~~becomes~~ and section 2.5 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1, 1.5 and 2 of this act become effective:

(a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

(b) On ~~January 1, 2024, for all other purposes,~~ the date on which the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to section 2.5 of this act, notifies the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau that sufficient resources are available to carry out the amendatory provisions of this act.

Senator Dondero Loop moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Dondero Loop.

Amendment No. 881 to Senate Bill No. 205, as amended, requires the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles to notify the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau when sufficient resources are available to enable the Department to carry out the amendatory provisions of this act, changes the effective date for the amendatory provisions to the date on which the Director provides such notice and requires the Director to publish such notice on the Department's internet website.

Amendment adopted.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Hansen.

Senate Bill No. 205, as amended, creates the option that an owner of an off-highway vehicle may register their vehicle for either a one-year or a three-year period and provides reciprocity for limited use in Nevada of an off-highway vehicle registered in another state which provides a similar exemption from registration under certain periods of time.

This bill, as amended, is effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing preparatory administrative tasks and on the date on which the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles provides notification that sufficient resources are available to carry out the amendatory provisions of this act.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 205:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 205 having received a two-thirds majority, Mr. President declared it passed, as amended.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 450.

Bill read third time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee on Finance:

Amendment No. 807.

SUMMARY—Establishes a program for the relocation of persons residing in the Windsor Park neighborhood of the City of North Las Vegas. (BDR S-794)

AN ACT relating to housing; establishing a program for the relocation of persons residing in single-family residences in the Windsor Park neighborhood of the City of North Las Vegas; making an appropriation; requiring quarterly reports to the Interim Finance Committee; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

This bill enacts the Windsor Park Environmental Justice Act, which establishes a program for the relocation of persons residing in the Windsor Park neighborhood of the City of North Las Vegas whose residences have been damaged by the sinking of the ground beneath the residences. Section 2 of this bill sets forth a legislative declaration that is necessary to enact a law of local and special application to provide the residents of Windsor Park a solution to the unique problems of the neighborhood. Sections 3-8 of this bill define relevant terms for the Act. Section 8 defines the area that constitutes the Windsor Park neighborhood.

Section 9 of this bill requires the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry to establish and administer a program by which the owner of a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood who owns the residence on July 1, 2023, may exchange the residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood for a new residence constructed in accordance with provisions of section 9. Under section 9, the Housing Division is required to select a governmental entity, a nonprofit corporation or any other entity engaged in the development of affordable housing to develop single-family residences on vacant land adjacent to the Windsor Park neighborhood. The entity selected by the Housing Division is required to contract with qualified professionals for a study of vacant land adjacent to the Windsor Park neighborhood that could be acquired to determine whether such land will subside, acquire vacant land adjacent to the Windsor Park neighborhood if the study finds such land will not subside and enter into contracts for the development and construction of single-family residences on that land. The contracts for such development and construction must include a preference for businesses owned by a person who resides or formerly resided in the Windsor Park neighborhood. Section 9 further requires the entity selected by the Housing Division, the City of North Las Vegas and the Housing Division to enter into an agreement for the financing of the acquisition of land and the development and construction of the residences ~~which must include certain contributions from the City of North Las Vegas and appropriations from the State General Fund to the Housing Division made by section 11 of this bill.~~ Upon the issuance of certificates of occupancy for these residences, section 9 authorizes the owner of a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood who owns such a residence on July 1, 2023, to exchange that residence for a residence with at least an equal amount of square footage that is constructed pursuant to this bill. Finally, section 9: (1) authorizes the exchange of a residence encumbered by a mortgage or deed of trust if the mortgage or deed of trust is paid off and requires the Housing Division to provide assistance in arranging for financing to pay off such a mortgage or deed of trust; and (2) requires a lease of an exchanged residence to transfer to the acquired residence. Section 9.3 of this bill requires the Housing Division to establish a program to pay: (1) moving expenses for persons who move from the Windsor Park neighborhood to a single-family residence acquired pursuant

to section 9; (2) restitution for certain residents of the Windsor Park neighborhood; and (3) the cost of rehabilitating certain single-family residences. Section 9.7 of this bill makes it unlawful, with certain exceptions, to sell or list for sale a residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood.

Section 10.5 of this bill requires the Chief of the Budget Division of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor to disburse \$25,000,000 from the money received from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds by the State of Nevada to the Housing Division for the purposes set forth in this bill. Section 11 of this bill appropriates \$12,000,000 from the State General Fund to the Housing Division for the purposes set forth in this bill, and section 11.5 of this bill requires the State Treasurer to withhold certain monthly tax distributions from the City of North Las Vegas until such withheld amounts equal \$12,000,000.

Section 11.7 of this bill requires the Housing Division to submit a quarterly report to the Interim Finance Committee concerning the progress of the Housing Division in carrying out the provisions of this bill.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the Windsor Park Environmental Justice Act.

Sec. 2. The Legislature hereby finds and declares:

1. Windsor Park is a single-family residential development in North Las Vegas built between 1964 and 1966 for Black families, to allow them to own their own homes and build wealth that could be passed to future generations.

2. Windsor Park was built over geological faults, and the withdrawal of groundwater from the aquifer beneath Windsor Park, in combination with the faults, caused the ground beneath Windsor Park to sink.

3. This sinking, or subsidence, damaged homes, roads, water and gas lines, and many homes in Windsor Park became uninhabitable and had to be demolished.

4. Beginning in the late 1980's and early 1990's, the Federal Government, the State of Nevada and the City of North Las Vegas provided approximately \$14 million to help residents of Windsor Park, which was used by the City to:

- (a) Move and rehabilitate four homes;
- (b) Build and relocate residents to 45 new homes; and
- (c) Offer grants of \$50,000 or \$100,000 to residents to move to another home in North Las Vegas.

5. Under the above programs, 90 Windsor Park residents were unable to find another suitable home or move to a suitable, rehabilitated home.

6. The Windsor Park residents who could not move remain residents of Windsor Park in homes that have experienced significant damage because of ground subsidence, and these residents need a new solution to obtain new homes.

7. Because of the ground subsidence and damage unique to the Windsor Park neighborhood, it is necessary to enact a law of local and special application to provide the residents of Windsor Park a solution to this unique problem, which is found nowhere else in this State.

8. Given that a law of local and special application is necessary to accomplish the purposes of this act and given that such a law is necessary to benefit the residents of that local and special area known as Windsor Park, a general law cannot be made applicable to the purposes, objects, powers, rights, privileges, immunities, liabilities, duties and disabilities set forth in this act.

Sec. 3. As used in sections 1 to ~~9~~ 9.7, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 4 to 8, inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 4. "City" means the City of North Las Vegas.

Sec. 5. ~~"City Council" means the City Council of the City of North Las Vegas.~~ (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 6. "Housing Division" means the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry.

Sec. 7. "Single-family residence" means a parcel or other unit of real property or unit of personal property which is ~~intended~~ :

1. Intended or designed to be occupied by one family with facilities for living, sleeping, cooking and eating; and

2. Occupied by the owner of the parcel or other unit of real property or, if the parcel or other unit of real property is owned by a trust, occupied by the trustee or a member of his or her immediate family.

Sec. 8. "Windsor Park neighborhood" means the area of the City lying north of West Cartier Street, west of Clayton Street, east of Chamberlain Lane, and south of West Evans Avenue.

Sec. 9. 1. The Housing Division shall establish and administer a program pursuant to which the owner of a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood who owns that residence on July 1, 2023, may exchange that single-family residence for another single-family residence constructed in accordance with this section.

2. The Housing Division shall apply for any available grants of money from the Federal Government to carry out the provisions of sections 1 to 9.7, inclusive, of this act and shall select a governmental agency, nonprofit corporation or other entity engaged in the development of affordable housing to develop single-family residences on vacant land adjacent to the Windsor Park neighborhood. The governmental agency, nonprofit corporation or other entity selected by the Housing Division pursuant to this subsection shall, in accordance with a financing agreement entered into pursuant to subsection ~~4~~ 5, contract with qualified professionals for a study of vacant land adjacent to the Windsor Park neighborhood that could be acquired to ensure that such land will not subside, acquire vacant land adjacent to the Windsor Park neighborhood if the study finds that such land will not subside and enter into contracts to develop and construct single-family residences on that land. In

awarding such contracts, a preference with a relative weight of 5 percent must be assigned to an applicant that is a business in which at least 50 percent of the interest is owned by a resident or former resident of the Windsor Park neighborhood. Any restriction on the price which the Housing Division may pay to acquire a parcel of real property does not apply to an acquisition pursuant to this section.

3. The number of single-family residences constructed pursuant to this section must be sufficient in number to enable each household residing in a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood on July 1, 2023, to obtain such a single-family residence, and the single-family residences constructed pursuant to this section must enable a household residing in a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood on July 1, 2023, to obtain a single-family residence with the same amount of square footage as the residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood.

4. The City shall grant the employees and representatives of the governmental entity, nonprofit corporation or other entity selected by the Housing Division, and the Housing Division, access to any right-of-way owned or controlled by the City and access to any lots owned by the City within the Windsor Park neighborhood when such access is necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, and the City shall not unreasonably withhold such access.

5. The governmental entity, nonprofit corporation or other entity selected by the Housing Division pursuant to subsection 2, the City and the Housing Division shall enter into an agreement to finance the development and construction of single-family residences pursuant to this section. The agreement must require:

(a) ~~The City of North Las Vegas to contribute at least \$20 million toward the costs of acquiring land and developing and constructing single family residences pursuant this section, which may consist of the issuance of general obligations of the City in an amount not to exceed \$20 million. If the City issues general obligations of the City pursuant to this paragraph the obligations:~~

~~(1) May be issued without complying with the requirements of NRS 350.011 to 350.0165, inclusive, and 350.020, pursuant to an ordinance of the City Council, as provided in the Local Government Securities Law, and no other approval by a governmental entity or otherwise is required for the issuance of the bonds under the laws of this State.~~

~~(2) Are exempt from the limitation on indebtedness applicable to the City, and must not be included in the calculation of the indebtedness of the City for the purpose of any debt limitation applicable to the City, but the City shall not become indebted by the issuance of general obligation indebtedness for the purposes set forth in this section in an amount exceeding \$20 million.~~

~~(3) Must be treated as if the finding described in subparagraph (1) of paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NRS 361.4727 had been made by the Board of County Commissioners and approved by the debt management commission~~

~~of the County under subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NRS 361.4727.~~

~~(b) The contribution by the City of an amount of money equal to an amount of money allocated for the rehabilitation of single-family residences in the Windsor Park neighborhood, for the relocation of residents of the Windsor Park neighborhood or for other assistance to the residents of the Windsor Park neighborhood, but that has not been expended for those purposes.~~

~~(c)~~ The use of money appropriated or authorized by the Legislature to the Housing Division for the purposes set forth in this section.

~~(d)~~ (b) Any other money from any public or private source, including, without limitation, any gift, grant, appropriation or contribution, available to be used for the purposes set forth in this section.

~~5~~ 6. Upon the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for each single-family residence constructed pursuant to this section, the owner of a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood who owns that residence on July 1, 2023, may exchange that single-family residence for a single-family residence which was constructed pursuant to this section and which has at least the same amount of square footage as the residence being exchanged. If the single-family residence being exchanged is:

(a) Encumbered by a mortgage or deed of trust, the single-family residence may not be exchanged unless the existing mortgage or deed of trust is paid in full. The Housing Division shall provide assistance to arrange any financing necessary to pay off the existing mortgage or deed of trust, including, without limitation, any down payment assistance available under any program administered by the Housing Division.

(b) Leased to a tenant occupying the single-family residence under a lease agreement, the lease agreement remains in effect with the same terms and conditions.

Any single-family residence acquired pursuant to this subsection may not be sold for a period of 5 years after the single-family residence is acquired, except that such a single-family residence may be transferred in a transaction that is exempt from the taxes imposed by chapter 375 of NRS pursuant to NRS 375.090.

~~6~~ 7. The power, sewer and other connection fees imposed by the City on a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood must be transferred to a single-family residence acquired pursuant to this section as the power, sewer and the connections fees to be imposed on that single-family residence.

~~7~~ 8. Any property in the Windsor Park neighborhood that is exchanged pursuant to this section must be used only for the purposes of a public park ~~to~~ to memorialize the past and present residents of the Windsor Park neighborhood.

Sec. 9.3. 1. The Housing Division shall establish a program to pay:

(a) The moving expenses of and restitution to the owners of single-family residences in the Windsor Park neighborhood in the manner set forth in this section.

(b) The cost of the rehabilitation of the homes constructed with money received by the City from Community Development Block Grants for the purpose of rehabilitating homes in the Windsor Park neighborhood.

2. The City shall transfer to the Housing Division:

(a) Any remaining proceeds of general obligation bonds issued by the City and purchased by the Federal National Mortgage Association for the purpose of relocating residents of the Windsor Park neighborhood.

(b) Any money remaining from Community Development Block Grants awarded to the City for the purpose of relocating residents in the Windsor Park neighborhood.

(c) Any money remaining from Community Development Block Grants awarded to the City for the purpose of constructing residences for the residents of the Windsor Park neighborhood.

↳ Any money received pursuant to this subsection must be accounted for separately and may be used only to carry out the provisions of this section.

3. From amounts transferred to the Housing Division pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2, the Housing Division shall:

(a) Pay restitution in the amount of \$50,000 to the owner of a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood who resides in the neighborhood on July 1, 2023, and who was the initial occupant of that single-family residence, or to the descendants of that owner who inherited the single-family residence from the initial occupant and who reside in the single-family residence on July 1, 2023.

(b) Pay restitution in the amount of \$10,000 to the person who was the initial occupant of a single-family residence in the Windsor Park neighborhood, or to the descendants of that person who inherited the single-family residence from the initial occupant.

(c) Pay the actual moving expenses of a person who acquires a single-family residence pursuant to section 9 of this act and who moves from the Windsor Park neighborhood to that acquired single-family residence.

4. From the amount transferred to the Housing Division pursuant to paragraph I of subsection 2, the Housing Division shall pay, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 per single-family residence, the cost of rehabilitating a single-family residence constructed for a resident of the Windsor Park neighborhood using money received by the City from a Community Development Block Grant. The governmental entity, nonprofit corporation or other entity selected by the Housing Division pursuant to subsection 2 of section 9 of this act shall inspect the single-family residence to determine whether or not the rehabilitation has been satisfactorily completed.

5. To the extent that money transferred to the Housing Division pursuant to subsection 2 is insufficient to make the entire amount of the payments

required by subsection 3 or 4, the Housing Division shall reduce such payments on a pro rata basis.

Sec. 9.7. It is unlawful to sell or list for sale any real property intended for occupancy as a residence within the Windsor Park neighborhood.

Sec. 10. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 10.5. The Chief of the Budget Division of the Office of Finance created by NRS 223.400 shall disburse from the money received from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds by the State of Nevada the amount of \$25,000,000 to the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry for the purposes set forth in sections 1 to 9.7, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 11. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry the sum of ~~(\$10,000,000)~~ \$12,000,000 for the purposes set forth in sections 1 to ~~9,~~ 9.7, inclusive, of this act.

2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2025, 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 19, 2025, 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 19, 2025.

Sec. 11.5. The State Treasurer shall withhold the amount of \$250,000 per month from the payment made to the City from the Local Government Tax Distribution Account pursuant to NRS 360.690 for each month beginning on July 1, 2023, and ending in the month that the total amount withheld from the City pursuant to this section equals \$12,000,000. The money withheld pursuant to this section must be transferred to the State General Fund.

Sec. 11.7. The Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry shall, on a quarterly basis, submit a report to the Interim Finance Committee concerning the progress of the Housing Division in carrying out the provisions of this act.

Sec. 12. 1. This section and section 9.7 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1 to 9.3, inclusive, and 10 to 11.7, inclusive, of this act ~~becomes~~ become effective on July 1, 2023.

Senator Dondero Loop moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Dondero Loop.

Amendment No. 807 to Senate Bill No. 450 revises various details of the agreement between the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry and the City of North Las Vegas for the implementation of this act, including a mandate that the Housing Division creates relocation, restitution, rehabilitation and other financial support programs for the owner residents of the Windsor Park neighborhood. The amendment also revises the contribution required from the City of North Las Vegas from \$20 million to a withholding plan totaling \$12 million through

the City's monthly tax distribution by the State Treasurer until the total withheld equals \$12 million. The amendment increases the State General Fund appropriation from \$10 million to \$12 million and adds a \$25 million allocation of American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for the program. The amendment also adds that a portion of the appropriation must be used for studies of adjacent land considered for the relocation of homes, declares that it is illegal to sell or list for sale a home in Windsor Park and requires quarterly reports to the Interim Finance Committee from the Housing Division.

Amendment adopted.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senators Neal and Spearman.

SENATOR NEAL:

Senate Bill No. 450, as amended, enacts the Windsor Park Environmental Justice Act, which establishes a program for the relocation of persons residing in single family residences in Windsor Park.

This bill has been a journey of three years of working with the William S. Boyd School of Law and focusing on a remedy for these families. The act of moving this out is going to remedy 30 years of injustice for these families who have been holding out to make sure they could have a home and pass down wealth to their families. It has been such an interesting journey. Even just two days ago, a resident called me who bought her home in this neighborhood in 2021. She is a single mother, and she ended up getting downpayment assistance to move into this home from the City of North Las Vegas.

We checked the records to find out if all the statements that she was making were true. I could not figure out how she even passed inspection and got an appraisal on this property. That is why it is so important to move and make sure that these families, which are now Latino and African American and there are two Vietnamese families that live there now, to make sure that no one else is going to repurchase these homes and live in a home where pretty much the foundation is falling apart, the sidewalks are cracking and they have holes so wide that rodents can come through because the base has separated from these homes because of subsidence.

I ask my colleagues to vote for Senate Bill No. 450 because this is going to remedy a 30-year issue where families have been fighting, and the last 90 would be moved out of this neighborhood and into better homes they can pass down to their families.

SENATOR SPEARMAN:

I support Senate Bill No. 450. I would like to congratulate my colleague from Senate District 4, who has led this fight for several years and actually took it up from her father, who was a strong advocate for this. I have had an opportunity to speak to several of the residents that were there, and there were a couple comments I will forever remember. One of them was made during the hearing. One resident said, "We are tired of fighting, and it feels like they are just waiting for us to die." Another person said, "We deserve better. We put our faith and trust in what they told us, and we deserve better."

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill. It is not just Windsor Park as words, but these are families who bought their homes and indeed want to pass that down to their children. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 450

YEAS—18.

NAYS—Goicoechea, Stone, Titus—3.

Senate Bill No. 450 having received a constitutional majority, Mr. President declared it passed, as amended.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

Remarks by Senators Seevers Gansert, Goicoechea, Pazina, Spearman, Cannizzaro, Titus, Lange, Hammond, Neal, Harris, Scheible and Ohrenschall.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I have the honor of recognizing one of our distinguished colleagues who has served in this institution tirelessly for the last two decades, the Senator representing District 19, and my friend, Pete Goicoechea.

This rancher and champion for the rural communities of Nevada has left his mark as much on his legislative colleagues—both past and present—as he has on Government Affairs, Natural Resources and water policy in this State. Never failing to remind us of the severity and importance of dealing with the "over-appropriated groundwater basins" in our State—as a matter of fact, he just reminded Assemblyman Watts in Finance a few minutes ago. He has improved our understanding of Nevada's complex water and natural resource issues while also working to improve the lives of his constituents as well as the greater rural community.

A third-generation Nevada rancher in Elko, Eureka and White Pine Counties, he was born across the state line in Salt Lake City, Utah, and attended elementary school at Sacred Heart Parochial School in Ely, Nevada. He went on to attend White Pine Junior and Senior High Schools and graduated from Eureka County High School. He attended college at Utah State University in Logan, Utah.

Before returning to cattle ranching full time, he spent time working for Kennecott Copper Mining, the Eureka County Road Department, Mt. Wheeler Power and Windfall Mining. He also served his local community as a Eureka volunteer firefighter and as Director of the Eureka County High School Rodeo Club.

He was elected to the Eureka County Board of Commissioners in 1987, where he served for 16 years, and as Chair for 14 of those 16 years, until his first election to the Nevada Assembly in 2002. He served in the Assembly for ten years, until 2012 when he successfully secured a seat here in this Senate. Many of you may not know that Goicoechea means "upper house" in Basque, so I guess he was destined for the Senate.

Since his election to the Legislature, he has held many leadership positions, including Assembly Minority Whip, Assembly Minority Floor Leader, Chair of the Senate Committee on Government Affairs and Chair of the Legislative Commission's Subcommittee to Study Water. He has consistently served on the money committees every session starting in 2009 with the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means followed by six straight sessions on the Senate Committee on Finance. For those of you who serve on Finance, he is very humble. He always talks about the rurals, but he actually knows all the budget. He suggests he only knows a limited part.

During his first session in 2003, he introduced and passed a bill authorizing a county whose population is less than 15,000 to impose, following voter approval, a sales and use tax of not more than one-quarter of 1 percent for the operation and maintenance of a swimming pool. His constituents in White Pine County wanted a community swimming pool, so he carried the bill to help make it happen.

When he became a State Legislator, he already had deep roots in local government, and it was during the 2015 session when he served as Chair of the Senate Committee on Government Affairs that the Legislature passed Assembly Bill No. 493 and Senate Bill No. 29 to authorize the governing bodies of cities and counties, with certain exceptions, to exercise all powers necessary or proper to address matters of local concern for the effective operation of city or county government.

The attachés and legislative assistants who have worked with the Senator from District 19 throughout his tenure have often become like an extended family to him. Just to mention a couple of these "extended family members," Ashley O'Neill (Smith) worked with him in the 2005 and 2007 sessions, and Toshi McIntosh—who we all know and love—has worked with him for seven consecutive sessions starting in 2011 when he was serving in the Assembly.

He has counted fellow Legislators among his lifelong friends. Former Assemblyman John Carpenter welcomed him to the Assembly and the Cowboy Caucus, becoming one of his closest confidantes before his passing. Other members of this informal Cowboy Caucus—who would meet for coffee and breakfast at about 6:30 a.m. daily—included former Speakers Ocegüera and

Kirkpatrick, former Assembly Sergeant at Arms Terry Sullivan and former Assemblyman Tom Grady, to name a few. Mr. Grady—who many of you know—continues to check in with him by telephone every day and refers to him as a spokesman for the rurals during his 21 years in the Legislature, and we all know that to be true.

While he served on numerous policy and interim committees over the years, including the Senate Committee on Finance and Government Affairs, his tireless dedication to natural resources, water and rural issues has always been clear. He served on the Senate Committee on Natural Resources every session and the Legislative Committee on Public Lands every interim since first being elected—that is ten regular sessions and nine interims of analyzing natural resource, water and public lands issues, asking critical questions and helping shape essential policies that affect the lives of all Nevadans.

His dedication, honesty, integrity and passion for pursuing policies to address complex rural and water issues in this State—the driest in the nation—have been appreciated by all.

As busy in his personal life as he has been in the legislative realm, he is, first and foremost, dedicated to his community and family. Married to Gladys, with whom he will celebrate 51 years of marriage a week from now, June 10th. We all know that even during the legislative session, he chooses to drive all the way home to the ranch for the weekend whenever possible, admittedly speeding at times. We are not quite sure how fast, but he knows when to slow it down. Together, he and Gladys have three children, J.J., Jolene and Tistan. They have two granddaughters, Juliana and Amelia, who he affectionately refers to as Punkie and Mimi. His granddaughters and indeed all of us are lucky to have him in our lives, leading humbly by example. We will miss his signature mustache and hearty laugh in these halls.

Please join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to a genuine public servant who dedicated more than two decades to the Legislature and who has truly left his mark for the betterment of the people of Nevada.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I want to thank you all, for the hour is late. Please sit down. We have got lots to do. I do not need a lot of this, but I thank you, Minority Leader Gansert and all of you in the room here. It has been a great ride. I have truly been blessed.

I also want to look out to staff and the people I have worked here with over the last 20 years, and you called on some of them. There were a few people that were coming in. I said, "Yeah, you guys, don't hang around for this. We don't know when we are going to get in, when we are truly going to go in." I told my wife to go home. I told Toshi go home. I do not need any of this.

Anyway, it has been a good ride, and I have just been blessed. I am glad the people of this State saw fit to send me back here. Their mistake, but 20 years and, you know, it has been a good service. I really do enjoy representing Nevada. Again, I cannot thank you people that I have had the opportunity to work with over these last years. I hope I have been fair to you as you have to me, surely. So, thank you. I am not going to take a lot of time. We will be here tomorrow morning. Thank you.

SENATOR PAZINA:

I do not feel like we have embarrassed the Senator Goicoechea quite enough. So, I wanted to come back and just say a few words. I feel so fortunate to chair Natural Resources and to sit with such phenomenal committee members and, among them, someone who served on that committee for more than two decades, who knows more about water and over-appropriated basins than I could ever hope to learn even an ounce of that knowledge. He has been kind and a mentor on that committee, and I really am genuinely sad for those future chairs and committee members who will not have a Senator Goicoechea sitting on that committee, helping us out with so many issues that face the rural communities and with water issues in the future with the State. Thank you so much, Senator. You are not quite red enough yet. Common spelling of your last name. I will miss you so much in committee. Thank you.

SENATOR SPEARMAN:

Senator Goicoechea, I think we came in at the same time, and what I have enjoyed most about you is that when it gets really crazy, especially towards the end, you would simply sit there, and

then you stand up, say your piece and sit down. So, thank you for leading with humility and quiet strength.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

I want to share my own appreciation for all the wealth of knowledge that you bring to this building. Senator and colleague from Senate District 19, we will miss you tremendously here in the Senate. I think that your experience and perspective, especially when it comes to rural issues, we all bow down and listen to what you have to say because you not only bring that perspective to this building but also take the time to learn from all your constituents about what it is they are concerned about and to truly voice and represent them. That is the epitome of what we can do in this building.

I have enjoyed serving with you in this chamber and on committee with you. I appreciate that you are always open and honest about where you are with things, ask great questions and represent your constituents so wonderfully. When I think of you, I think of a true statesman, and I want to say thank you for your service. We will miss you very much in this building.

SENATOR TITUS:

I want you to know there is a wild side to Senator Goicoechea. He seems sometimes a humble guy, but yesterday in Finance there happened to be a highway patrolman who testified. He let it out that he was glad that he moved out of Eureka because he did not want to have to pull the Senator over anymore. So, just be a little safer on that road, sir.

SENATOR LANGE:

It is an honor to rise today to recognize one of our distinguished colleagues, who has served this chamber with grace, wisdom and oftentimes humor, the honorable Senator representing District 18, Scott Hammond.

This tall, always dapper and humble family man has established himself—although not as an attorney as he often points out—as a true, quick study and legislative scholar. With his background as an educator, the Senator Hammond was always seeking to better the lives of not only his students but also all students and children of the Silver State.

Although not a native Nevadan, Senator Hammond was born in Syracuse, New York, and that is perhaps where his love of the team in pinstripes comes from. His father served in the military, the family was later stationed in Alaska where he attended school. After graduating from Delta Junction High School in the small, remote town of Delta Junction, Alaska, he then attended the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, before transferring and earning his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Senator Hammond also received his Master's in political science from UNLV, so do not let this soft-spoken gentleman from Southern Nevada fool you; he definitely understands this political process.

Upon finishing his formal education, he earned his teaching certificate and began teaching government and Spanish for the Clark County School District and political science at UNLV. As an educator, he spent 16 years in the classroom.

As many of you know, he has been married to his wife Tonya for over 30 years. Four wonderful children have blessed their marriage: Tomas, Olivia, Sofia and Isabella, who is with us today. Together, he and Tonya are members of Families Supporting Adoption, where they are fortunate enough to adopt through that organization. In any way they can, they frequently offer support to other couples wishing to start a family through adoption.

Senator Hammond began his political career when he was first elected to the Nevada Assembly in 2010, where he served one term. In 2012, he then successfully ran for a seat in the Senate. Since his election to the Senate, he was selected as the Co-Majority Whip in 2015 and then Co-Minority Whip for six years through the 2021 session.

While he served on numerous policy and interim committees over the years, he often served on Judiciary, where he was one of the few nonattorneys and had to become a quick study of the law. He served as Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation in 2015 and also served on the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor and the Senate Committee on Growth and Infrastructure and was on the Senate Committee on Education for nearly every session that he was in the Senate. During the interim, he often served on the Legislative Commission as well as

numerous standing and interim committees, including as Chair of the Legislative Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice during the 2015-2016 interim.

His dedication to education is unequivocal. As a former teacher who spent many years in the classroom, he is the man behind Nevada's "School Choice Law," which was passed by the Legislature in 2015. The legislation created Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) and directed grants from funds given to the public school system through the Distributive School Account to individual ESAs. He was also highly instrumental in sponsoring and enacting legislation relating to charter schools, students and school safety throughout his legislative tenure. One of his proudest accomplishments is having been a founding board member of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas, a highly successful charter school with several campuses.

His public service is not limited to his work in this chamber. He has been actively involved in numerous community and professional organizations, such as the Boy Scouts of America, but more importantly, his active participation in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. As a former Spanish Club adviser, he has taken many students all over Central America and Spain. He also coached basketball, softball and youth soccer. In a single year alone, he and his wife Tonya participated in over 20 service projects to help local families. He is the true definition of a public servant.

I am sure it will surprise no one that despite keeping an extremely busy schedule as an educator, director of community outreach and a true public servant, Senator Hammond always put his faith and family above everything else. With his final regular session of the Nevada Legislature nearing an end, I am sure that his family will be grateful for the additional time they will be able to spend together.

I would also be remiss if I did not recognize the true loss that this body will feel in not having the Senator Hammond on the basketball court for the biennial Donkeys vs. Elephants basketball game. We will not feel sad about that. In fact, with the fleet-footed and smooth-shooting Senator—and I could be wrong—I do not believe that the Elephants ever lost a game during his tenure. Well, maybe there was not a game where he did not score at least double figures. We will certainly look forward to welcoming him back to the basketball court as an alumni participant.

Please join me in acknowledging a truly dedicated public servant, a gentle giant and my really great friend and colleague who has left his mark not only throughout the hallways of this building but also for the betterment of the wellbeing of the people of Nevada. I can honestly say that we could use more Senators like Scott Hammond in this body in the future.

Thank you for your service, and we will miss you.

SENATOR HAMMOND:

Thank you very much. I am truly grateful to the good Senator for her remarks. I do not want to take up a lot of time, but I am probably going to take a few minutes. I do talk a little bit more than my mustached colleague from Eureka. I will tell you, the first time I ever even heard of Reno in Nevada is when my good friend—after he graduated from high school—Terry Hayes moved to Reno. When he came back up for college later on, he told me all about his time here, and I thought it is a place I will never see. I will never go there. So I asked a lot of questions, and lo and behold, here I am many, many years later not only living in the great State of Nevada but also having the privilege and honor of representing the State and my district, but truly the whole State.

I also got here not through any sort of suggestion of my own but through my wife. I know she is listening in because she made me tell her about tonight. She is listening as well as my children. She made two suggestions many, many years ago. One of them, she said, "You know, you need to be a teacher," because that was not the course I was going towards. I was studying. I wanted to do something completely ... I did not want to be a teacher. She said, "You need to be a teacher." You know, that led to a great experience. I was in the classroom for many years and education for 16 years.

The moment I leave, and someday when I am no longer in this position as a public official and I no longer have the title of Senator, that will be okay with me because the two titles I have ever really wanted, aspired to and really loved were you can call it father, dad, old man, whatever you want to call it. That was one. The other one was coach, and I loved it. That provided me the opportunity to coach and be around young kids. I have only been surprised a few times in my life, and yesterday was one of them. I was completely, utterly shocked because I had no idea. The other

time was my last game as a coach. The former players—I coached women's basketball for about 14 years—pulled one over on me. They all snuck in while I was in the middle of the game. There were probably 15 years' worth of girls who came back, and they all crowded the stands in various places, so I never even got to see. I did not know they were there until the end because I was concentrating on the game. Then all of a sudden we had that reunion that all teachers like to have where the kids were coming up, and they brought their kids and their spouses, and here you are surrounded by all the things that you had. It is sort of a Mr. Holland's opus moment, where you realize the impact that you had on their lives. It was a really cool moment. So, my wife was right about that.

Then, the other thing is, she said to me, "You know, you ought to get into politics. You are never really angry about a lot of things, and you never really get down or depressed about things. You are sort of even-keeled. You really need to get into politics." So, I always tell people when they get mad at me and are angry about my decisions, my votes or things like that, I say, "Well, it is really my wife's fault. So, you need to take it up with her because she is the one who got me here." I always tell them where we live so they can go talk to her.

So yeah, I know you are listening, and she was right though. It has been a really good thing for me to be involved in. I have met a lot of good people over the years, and I always tell people there are two things in life that I know for sure, and that is the relationships you make with people, the time that you spend with each and every person. So, if I have ever sat down and told you a story or had a joke or I laugh or just spent some time with you, it is because I really, truly like you. I really want to know more about you, and I really wanted to understand who you are or just be present in your life for a moment because we do not have that many of those moments with people.

The other thing is this life is a series of moments: good moments, sometimes bad moments, but really good moments that you have to remember. Sitting on the floor of the Senate with a child on your lap, that is a moment that you should never, ever forget. Or having your kids, I will never forget when I was over in the Assembly on a Saturday when we were working right towards the end, I got a phone call or a text message saying, "Your daughter is coming." That is a moment I get to relive over and over again. That is what has happened over the last few years.

My children have grown up here. My son loves this place. It feels like he is a part of it. Tomas has been a wonderful son and a wonderful additional confidant in all the time because I can talk to him about these things. He understands. He has been here; he has been a part of this. Olivia, Sophia and now Isabella as well is here with me tonight, and I am so grateful that she stuck out the whole day with me. As bored as she is at times—I told her this is going to be boring, she did not realize until she was around all day—but here she is, and I have them to thank.

Over the years—I will just say this really quick—I could not have made it if it was not for my family and if it was not for two other folks. The first is Leslie Mayville, who could not stick it out. She went home. She was my legislative assistant for five of the seven sessions I was up here, and she was always there. As a professional group of folks here in the building, they are not supposed to tell us how they feel about things, and I did not know anything about where Leslie was on anything until she left. I am grateful because she was always right there rooting for me in all things, even though later on, I knew that she was not exactly there on the same side on policy. I thought to myself, there was somebody who embodies exactly what this building is about: the nonpartisan staff. She was there to make me look good, and, boy, did she have a lot of work to do. She did it really, really well because I really felt like she was there, and I was really not looking forward to her retiring. She decided to go to another job, and I thought, what am I going to do now?

She handed me over to Julie, who is here with me tonight. If I did not have Juliet Newman here, I would be going crazy because there is another well-organized ... well, she is just professional, and I really appreciate that. I would have never made it. She is somebody who likes to laugh, someone who likes music, somebody who everybody centered around because they all have questions, and they all go to Julie. My wife said, "You got lucky because you needed those two ladies to just be there and make sure you did not screw up." So, I appreciate that, and I appreciate what they have done and what you have meant. You have meant everything, the dinners over at your house with your husband, your family, you taking care of my family when they are here, everything. Thank you. I thank Leslie; I know she is listening as well—I hope she is—because they meant everything to me.

Lastly, I want to say to all those who are my colleagues, thank you. I am going to forget somebody, so I hate to even mention some of the ones. There is something you learn from every single person that you serve with, right? I learned a lot, Pete, not only your knowledge but also your presence. It was important. Of course, I knew where the boundaries were, and I knew that when we were in the Assembly. We were walking down the hall and Grady, you and I were walking, and I think Crescent Hardy was with us. I flippantly used a moniker that somebody had placed on you. It was a nice little nickname. I think it was, "Don't tax my meat, Pete." As soon as it left my lips, I knew, "What did I just do?" I stopped in my tracks thinking, "Oh, my gosh, this giant of a man is within arm's reach of me. This is dangerous territory." I did not know if I should run or what. The next thing I know, there was this barrel laugh. He went into a deep laugh, and I thought, "All right, he and I are going to be pretty good friends." So, thank you. Thank you to your wife Gladys and for all that you have meant to me over the years. Crescent Hardy, I mentioned him. Paul Anderson, a really good friend of mine. Greg Brower, by the way, I did not think I was going to mention him tonight, but Greg Brower is the guy. If we can learn a lot from our Legislators, there is one thing I learned from him and that is his grace and his gratefulness. There was not a time where if something happened to a former member of this body, he did not mention it on the floor in Order of Business 16. He mentioned birthdays and passings, and he always had something wonderfully written to say. It was not even written, actually, he was just gifted. I love that about him. Doc Hardy, who you can always go to. He was soft spoken, and he said something so beautifully to people. He always made you feel good about yourself. Mo Denis, who was just a gentleman. I loved serving with Mo Denis. Melissa Hardy, over the other side, is a wonderful friend. There are so many people I have served with, and I appreciate all that because I think you learn from people, and you absorb that. I thank you all for the time that you have spent with me to make me a better person.

Lastly, I am going to say to my favorite teacher, Miss Bomer, my second-grade teacher, more than anything Miss Bomer taught me to take the first step. Everything else will work itself out. You may not have a plan for everything in life, but if you just take the first step, it will happen. I think she is right. And that is what I did when my wife suggested that I get into politics; I took the first step, and I have been blessed ever since for that. I thank you again for the moment that I could talk to everybody here. To my kids, goodnight, go to sleep. It is time to go. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

I wanted to rise and thank you for your service, Senator. Now, I am going to rat you out just a little bit. The first time that I joined this body, I actually sat in this corner over here, and the person who sat on the one side of me is my colleague from Senate District 1. The person who sat on the other side of me is my colleague from Senate District 18. He was always very busy and really doing a lot of research on things. I thought, "You know, he is really into these bills, and he must know all the words and every single one of them because he is reading them and staring at them on his computer." Then, one day I glanced over, and I noticed that he was watching my favorite baseball team—which also happened to be his favorite baseball team—and they are doing quite well. So, I appreciated that, and I think I liked him even more now that we are rooting for the Yankees together.

I have always appreciated that you do not leave life behind just because you are in this building. I think that is a good perspective to have around here. I want to say thank you for giving so much of yourself to this process and always being—to my colleagues' points about the nonlawyer on Judiciary—very insightful into what we were doing, asking the good questions and being studious. So, despite the fact that he was routinely keeping an eye on our Yankees—as you should—I do think that he is also doing the work that is required in this building. And he does know what is in these bills, even though we are rooting for the Yankees all the time.

I just wanted to say thank you. And I wanted to leave you with a parting gift that I think you will enjoy a lot. The next time that my two-year-old is in this building, I will let him eat the rest of that big old Hershey kiss and send him up to you, and you guys can have a good time together. I think he will enjoy it, and I hope that you enjoy it.

Thank you for giving so much of yourself and thank you to your family for giving you to us. That is truly something real in this building. Thank you for always making sure that the rest of us see that you do not leave life and family behind just because you are here for 120 days. Sometimes

it can feel that way. So, I appreciate you. Thank you for your service, and we will definitely miss you.

SENATOR NEAL:

I am going to talk about my colleague from Senate District 18. I have known him for a while. We met on the Assembly side. I do not think I really liked you then. You did—I was on Education—you did the bonding which is now Somerset Academy. It had stuck with me for a really long time because I was like, "What is he doing? Why is he using public money for charter?"

But now that I have met you on this side, I have learned so much about you. You cry a lot. I love your stories. He has been the most entertaining human being, and I think I needed that this session. I do not know if you guys know that he was almost eaten by an actual orca because he was playing around on the ice in Alaska, and he almost got mauled by a mama bear. He left his friend by a trailer. He ran, left his friend outside and watched him outside of the window saying, "You should have left when I left." He said, "What is the lesson of this story?" I said, "Don't leave your friends?" He said, "No. No, that was not the lesson. Run faster than your friends."

It has been very interesting getting to know you, learning about your family and learning about your past. It has been interesting in these little three rows with our colleague from Senate District 2 with his special palm tree, that we have had the benefit of watching him speak to us through the palm tree that has no business being on his desk, and our wonderful tree that we are trying to continue to build in this body until we leave on *sine die*.

So, thank you for just being a good person. I did not realize the levels that you were. You know, everybody has rumors about who people are in this building. I figured out I really like you. I like the fact that you are just a good person. You have a good heart. I told you this in Senate Education, on my worst day, you made me laugh, and you did not know that. It has been good for me to be next to you. Last session I was not next to you. You were next to my other colleague over there. You guys had a good old time.

I want to talk about my colleague from Senate District 19 because I was with you as well on the Assembly side. When there were water issues and there were problems with water issues because we were on Government Affairs together, I would run over, find you on that back row on the Assembly side and say, "Have you seen this? You see what they are doing on water? You need to join, you know, we need to change this." I remember when we were on there, and I never knew what I learned in law school would actually—not in terms of water law—benefit me when I got into this building until I was on Government Affairs with you, and I realized this 100-year law came into being. Something that I learned in law school was going to be relevant to a bill that I was hearing in Assembly Government Affairs. I was like, this is so random. Nobody likes property, right? I went to school in Louisiana, and we had civil law and . . .

I really think that you are a really wise person. I hope the person who replaces you is just as gentle, wise and moderate and really brings and adds value to this building because we need balance, if you have not noticed. We need balance from our rural counterparts to come in and educate us on what is good about the rurals and how we should understand and respect those communities. I think you brought that to me. I really genuinely think that you are the perfect fit for our Senate Finance Committee. You are the perfect fit for this body because you give us other things to think about instead of our southern districts where we are focused on the south. Then, you come in and tell us that maybe we ought to learn a little bit about what is going on with wildfires, with why a 1965 helicopter should be moved in policy and why woodchippers matter. So, thank you. I look forward to seeing you in the future.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I want to acknowledge our colleague from Senate District 18. I am not sure if we are supposed to use numbers or names tonight, but I am so grateful for you being here. You talked about relationships and family. We know that you have this tremendous depth of love and appreciation for your family first and your friends. We are so grateful for that. I also know that wherever he is, there are pranks.

When given the opportunity to delegate or decide who should start this off, I chose the Senator from District 7 because she was your neighbor last session. You became really close because you were neighbors, and you had baseball in common. You had this tremendous bond that was just amazing and wonderful. Part of the reason you sit where you sit is because I wanted to make sure

you were near to your friend, just so you know. You probably never knew that. The reason you are where you are is because I knew she was so close to you, the Senator from District 7, and I wanted you to be close.

We all remember some of the pranks last session. One of them was when my friend to the right here from District 5 had to Zoom in. I kept saying, "You are coming across really loud." She was voting. I kept saying, "You are too loud, just tone it down. Tone it down. You just tone it down." Then I finally realized something was going on because she kept getting louder and louder to where she was kind of yelling into the mic remotely, of course, because it was Zoom. That is because the Senator from District 18 over here was telling her that we could not hear her and for some reason, she trusted him over me.

Then yesterday, I realized that the Senator from District 4 had her little chortle laugh going on and the Senator over here, the Co-Majority Whip, too. I was thinking, "Okay, what is he up to now" because the member from District 4 could not stop laughing when she was getting up to speak. Your universe is fun; it is joyous. He is great at pranks. He brings some lighthearted spirit to this body, but he also has this depth to bond with people and have those moments.

He talked about relationships and moments, and I also know everybody at the Front Desk knows him. He stops every day to talk to you. He stops in different places to talk to people and share those moments, and I think that is really important because we do not all do that. We are all in a hurry, and we just do not take the time. So, I am grateful for learning that from you. Thank you.

SENATOR HARRIS:

I am going to keep it brief. We all love Senator Hammond, but there is a silver lining. The republicans will be losing their basketball MVP, and the democrats have a chance next session. Thank you, sir.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

I rise today to honor a steadfast colleague, a fervent advocate, a truly dedicated public servant and leader, the Senator representing District 1, Pat Spearman. She is a woman of compassion, conviction, courage and faith whose story is an embodiment of the American Dream, and her career is a testament to the power of relentless perseverance.

Senator Spearman was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, and grew up in the Deep South. We have all heard a couple times her remarkable story about how she came into this world in a service elevator with her mom and how she has now made it to this point, which I think is a true testament to her truly wonderful life story thus far. As the daughter of a mother who was a traveling evangelist and a father who was professional electrician, she moved frequently. From a young age, she was instilled with a robust sense of community and duty. She carried these values with her as she pursued an education, first earning a bachelor's degree in political science from Norfolk State University, then a Master of Divinity from the Seminary of the Southwest as well as a Doctorate in business administration from Walden University. Her educational accomplishments are a testament to her tireless pursuit of knowledge, a trait that would later serve her well in the Nevada Senate. I know there are many of us who simply refer to her as Dr. Pastor Pat.

In addition to her academic achievements, Senator Spearman is a decorated veteran of the United States Army, where she served with distinction for 29 years. She concluded her career as a Lieutenant Colonel working at the Pentagon in the Army Operations Center as a member of the Army's Crisis Action Team. Her military service honed her leadership skills and deepened her commitment to public service, setting the stage for her journey in politics. Any of you who have not noticed or might remember, sitting on her desk every session are her boots to remember all those soldiers who are still out there serving and those we have lost along the way. That is a wonderful tribute.

Prior to serving in the Nevada Legislature, she held multiple appointed and elected positions. For instance, she served as the Chair of the Texas Region 6 Health and Human Service, a member of the Board of Directors for Hays County United Way, and she was elected to the San Marcos Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees in a landslide election and was later elected President of the Board by her colleagues.

Senator Spearman also received the title of Kentucky Colonel. For those of you who are not familiar with this important title, it is the highest title of honor bestowed by the Governor of

Kentucky in recognition of an individual's noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to the community, state and nation.

In 2012, she made history when she was elected to represent Senate District 1, becoming one of the first openly LGBTQ+ Black women to serve in such a capacity. A trailblazer in every sense, she is an active and prominent voice for the marginalized, championing a wide range of social justice issues from LGBTQ+ rights to racial equality.

During her tenure in the Senate, Senator Spearman has held leadership positions including Co-Majority Whip, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and Chair of the Senate Committees on Legislative Operations and Elections, Health and Human Services and Commerce and Labor.

She tirelessly advocates on behalf of her constituents and proves time and again that her service has been fueled by an unwavering belief in equality and justice for all. A leader who is not afraid to call a spade a spade, she has been instrumental in passing Nevada's Equal Rights Amendment and equal pay for equal work legislation, reinforcing her commitment to gender equality. She also champions significant advancements in Nevada's environmental policies, pushing for renewable energy and sustainable practices and creating the Nevada Green Bank to spur clean energy development, thereby establishing Nevada as a leader in the fight against climate change.

Health care is another area where the Senator Spearman leaves an indelible mark. She continues to fight relentlessly to expand access and improve affordability, ensuring that all Nevadans receive the care they need. In addition, she is a strong supporter of increasing funding for education and pay for teachers, always striving to put the needs of students first.

Senator Spearman is truly a force to be reckoned with when it comes to advocating for veterans' issues. She has championed many efforts to expand benefits and services for all veterans, and some of her most significant legislative achievements were enacting measures addressing the needs of LGBTQ+ veterans, securing childcare for families of members of the military deployed in harm's way, creating the Account to Assist Veterans Who Have Suffered Sexual Trauma and requiring the development of plans and programs to assist veterans who have suffered from military sexual trauma.

The Senator is not only a Legislator but also a minister, a mentor and a confidante. Her commitment to public service is deeply rooted in her faith, and she uses her platform to uplift those around her. Her spirited debates on the Senate floor were matched only by her warm and personable demeanor. Although she may not be known for keeping an eye on the clock, she makes time for everyone, whether they are fellow Legislators or constituents seeking her assistance. Her door is always open, and her heart is always ready to serve.

As we bid farewell to Senator Spearman in her role as State Senator, we do so with profound gratitude for her years of dedicated service. Her career is a beacon of inspiration for all who believe in the power of public service and the pursuit of justice and equality. She leaves behind a legacy in the Nevada Senate, one that is built on courage, tenacity and an unwavering commitment to her constituents. As she moves on with her next chapter, we know that she will continue to serve with the same passion and dedication that have characterized her tenure here.

Senator, thank you for your service, your leadership and your relentless pursuit of a better Nevada for all. We will truly thank you for that. Know that your impact will continue to be felt for generations to come.

As a side note, I mentioned that I sat next to my colleague from Senate District 18 my first session, and on the other side of me sat my colleague from Senate District 1. Many times when there was spirited debate on the floor, she would sit back in her chair—much as she is right this moment—and she would look at me and say, "Do not worry, we're gonna get 'em." I was here for whatever that meant. I was here for whatever we were doing. I have appreciated your friendship beside me for all these many years that we have been serving together and all of the things that we have done together.

The other thing—I know she is now heard me say this a few times—I also had the very usual bad luck of having to speak after Senator Spearman on hot topics, which is the worst place that I think you can be in the lineup, right? You want to go before she speaks, because once she is done speaking and she has given us one of her sermons and her passionate advocacy really shines through, I am not really sure what else there is for me to say because it has already been said. There is really nothing that you are going to say after she has spoken that is going to truly shake the room. I have been in that position way more times than I would like to have thought.

I will say this about my colleague from Senate District 1. She was always there to say, "You know, you have done a great job. We are fighting for this. Don't give up." I truly admire and appreciate that, especially in times where it can be very hard here to feel like you are making any progress or doing the good things that are going to change people's lives. She does not give up ever. That is one thing that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I appreciate you, my dear friend. I do not know what we will do without you. We will miss you terribly. But I know you will not be far, and I know you will be right there with all of us for the rest of our lives, whatever our pursuits are, saying "Do not worry, we're gonna get 'em." Thank you.

SENATOR SPEARMAN:

I guess it is my turn. This is so embarrassing. It was about 12 years ago, almost to the exact time—it was the Friday before the primary, and my stomach was in knots, but I was also in the hospital. I was over at Mountain View waiting for one of my great nieces to be born, and somebody called and said, "So, how do you feel?" I said, "Do not ask me that. She's—" They said, "No, no, no, no, no, not her, but how do you feel?" I said, "I am really scared to death." It was not about winning the election as much as it was fulfilling the promises that I had made.

The Majority Leader was right. It has been my faith. You all have heard me say many times my mother is the one that gave me faith and my spiritual inspiration. My dad gave me the business sense. It was my grandmother who was writing her dissertation on nutrition when she passed away at 96, and she has always been my inspiration for academics. So, I thank all of them.

I hope that my journey here has said to the people who placed their faith and confidence in me that if I did not do everything, they know that I have tried. The military experience helped me a great deal, because one of the things that I have always been very passionate about both in the military and while I was at the Pentagon and working in the Army Operations Center was a ... there were very few days that I left work and did not drive home with eyes full of tears. I kept thinking to myself, "God, how much more of this can I take?" Every day is talking about some battle that happened, talking about the carnage that was left and then going through the killed in action lists. Every day the President receives a presidential daily brief, and what we did at the Pentagon was compile all the information for the last 24 hours that the Army Chief of Staff then took to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff did whatever it was they did, and the President got it. And I just say that so the level of detail—it was something that I will never, ever forget.

When I advocate for veterans, it is because I understand not only what they go through but also, I understand the families. I understand what it means when you get called to go someplace. One time—I think I was a First Lieutenant, and I just started a company command in Fort Hood—we were told we are going to go someplace. They did not tell us, and I could not tell my family. We did not really know until we got on the plane. I remember my sister saying, "Well, would you call me when you get there?" I said, "I have no idea where we are going." Being that far away from your family and them not knowing ... so, I always say to people "When we serve, our families serve." I hope you all never forget that in this chamber. Always advocate for the veterans and for their families.

The other thing that I will say that has informed me is my life experience. The Majority Leader was right when she said I lived in the Deep South. Yes, I did, but I lived all over. By the time I was, from the eighth grade to my second semester of my junior year, I had attended more than 115 schools. I only knew that because when I got to Kansas City, we had to go back and back and back and back and back, and they had to figure out what credits would be there. I never wanted to do that again when I grew up. A matter of fact, I said, "Wherever I am, when I graduate, that is where I am going to stay." But I thank God for that experience because it taught me an appreciation for diversity. Wherever I went, I had to quickly learn what was important to other people and respect that.

That informed me also in my journey as a pastor. I ascribe to the Christian faith, but I have a deep amount of respect for other people's faith or lack thereof. I do that because regardless of who you pray to or not, I believe that we are all here on the behalf of a higher power.

Whoever sits at this desk, just tell them to bring a glass of cold water because I am going to try to leave it hot. Okay? Always know that I am going to be somewhere advocating for the least and the lost. That is why the people elected me. That is why they reelected me. That is why they

reelected me again. I have always just wanted to do what I promised them that I would do. One of the mantras that I think about and say almost daily is that in order to be a leader, you have to be a servant. All of us in this chamber 25 years from now—I think all of us will have left this chamber—whatever we do here, it will follow us into the next. Do not ever forget that because the people who elected us expect us to live up to our promise.

There is a song that I learned very early in life. It is no man is an island. No one stands alone. Each one's joy brings joy to me, and each one's sorrow is my own. We need one another. That is one of the reasons why I did the prayer from 1 Corinthians 13. So, I will defend—never forget that—I will defend each one as my family and each one as my, my friend. God bless you.

SENATOR SCHEIBLE:

I also want to recognize my friend and colleague from Senate District 1. I have not known serving in the Senate without her. I wanted to share one of my very first impressions of Senator Spearman because when I got here, I do not think we served on any committees together in my first session.

I cannot remember who I was talking to. I was talking to somebody about a bill that I had, and I was trying to figure out who might support it. They said to me offhand, "Well, you know, the Senator from District 1, if it helps people, she will jump on board." I thought they meant it as a passing comment or an exaggeration, but I kid you not. It was my bill to cover kids on Medicaid for a full year from the date of enrollment, which is now law by the way, not because of that bill, but that is a different story. The point is that it was a bill to get kids covered on Medicaid. When I went to talk to the Senator Spearman about the bill, we were talking, and she literally says to me, "Oh, that is going to help so many people. I am in."

It reminded me that the reason that we are here is to help people, and nobody does that better than my colleague from Senate District 1. Nobody keeps that closer to their heart, first thing on their mind, better than my colleague from Senate District 1. Sometimes I think about that moment, that phrase and that idea when it gets hard in here to make decisions or to figure out the right thing to do, I think of my colleague and her relentless drive to fight and to help people. I will carry that with me always, and I want to thank you for that.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL:

I just cannot thank you enough for being such a wonderful friend to me, mentor and someone always there if I needed to talk to someone to get advice whether it is about legislation or about personal things, and how awesome you have been in terms of your legislation. There is so much that stands out, whether it is the work you have done in renewable energy—it has been tremendous—or the work you have done for the disadvantaged, out of this world. You know, as a kid growing up in the '70s and '80s, I grew up around a lot of feminists, and I would hear constant stories about the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment here at the Nevada Legislature in the 1970s, how it passed in the State Senate but was killed over in the Assembly. I thought, "Well, that was a great attempt, never happen again. We will never be able to see that happen." But, lo and behold, Senator Spearman, champion of causes people think are lost said, "No, I am fighting for the Equal Rights Amendment, and I am going to see this through. We are going to make this happen." It is just tremendous work you have done. It has been such an honor to serve with you.

SENATOR NEAL:

I did not get a chance to go outside for my colleague for Senate District 1, and it has been such an interesting journey with you. You are extremely stubborn. You are—maybe I am too honest, okay—you are extremely stubborn, but you are also super passionate. When you attach to something, you cannot unattach, but that is a good thing, right? Sometimes you have to be dogmatic for the policy you want to go after, and in this building, it sometimes takes more than one session to move something.

I also have seen your strength in conflict. I have seen your strength when you have been pressured. I have seen your strength when people have not been so kind but to still be able to stand, still be able to go into leadership, still be able to hold your head up high, I think is a very important message that it sends to not only the freshman in this building but also to the people outside looking in. There have been many times where I have been somewhere, and I have been with constituents who are your constituents or mine. They have met you, and they genuinely like the energy that

you bring. They like the message that you bring. There is a genuine respect for you in the community.

I know that there have been some really tough moments when we were here in 2021. I mean, COVID changed everything. You got sick, and everything that was going on with your family. It was just constant. But you made it through, and then you came back stronger.

I had no idea where I would ever be with you on a committee. I ended up with you on Commerce and Labor. I do not know if that was a good thing or a bad thing, and I do not know if I was helping or helping to kill some bills in the committee. However, it was good to learn, to be next to you, to build off each other, to be able to think through policy and what it means and how policy can manifest in this building for years after and why it is necessary to get it right for the citizens that we serve. So, I appreciate you. I know I am going to see you unless you move to Sacramento. But if you stay in North Las Vegas, I know I am going to see you. It has been a pleasure serving with you. Continue to be who you are. I am sure you will continue your national and international travel. It has been a pleasure working with you, my colleague from District 1.

SENATOR HARRIS:

One quick story, early in the 2019 session, before I really knew anything about anyone, I remember the Majority Leader at the time. I do not remember what we were talking about, but he said to our colleague from District 1, "Now, listen. On this one, I need Senator Pat Spearman, not the Pastor Pat Spearman." I did not know what that meant, but I think we all came to see both sides. There was a lot of Pastor Spearman in this building, for the better.

There were times growing up that I thought I might want to get into politics, and I thought to myself, "I would probably only be able to run in San Francisco, right? Who's going to elect a gay, Black woman with tattoos on her arm, right? That is never going to be palatable to an electorate." Then I got appointed, and fortunately for me Senator Spearman was already here in her fullness, in herself. So, when it came time for me to actually run, I knew that I could do that as myself. So, thank you for that. It is a privilege to not be first. You are that for me, and I hope we can keep that going.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I want to acknowledge my colleague from District 1. She has this tremendous spirit and fight. She runs a tough committee. She is fair, and she works so hard all the time. What you have brought here for me is a different lens. We all see things a little bit differently, and you have shared your life story. You have shared what you have learned, and how you have been affected by different situations. It helps enlighten all of us. We all have different stories, and what you have brought is so important. Your fight for equal rights, bringing something back that people probably have not thought about for a long time, something historical that was brought to this body. And how you just rise to whatever it takes. How you rise and how you inspire people.

I am grateful for having shared this experience with you and learning from you, and I know you do amazing things. I am also appreciative of how happy I see you. Last session, 2021 was really tough, and seeing you happy and healthy is wonderful. Thank you so much for being here and for sharing your story with all of us.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SIGNING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

There being no objections, the President and Secretary signed Senate Bill No. 14 and Assembly Bills Nos. 62, 403 and 463.

GUESTS EXTENDED PRIVILEGE OF SENATE FLOOR

On request of Senator Hammond, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Isabella Hammond and Julie Newman.

On request of Senator Spearman, the privilege of the floor of the Senate Chamber for this day was extended to Vanessa Dunn.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the Senate adjourn until Saturday, June 3, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Approved:

STAVROS ANTHONY
President of the Senate

Attest: BRENDAN BUCY
Secretary of the Senate