

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**Eighty-Second Session  
April 13, 2023**

The Committee on Government Affairs was called to order by Chair Selena Torres at 10:04 a.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023, in Room 3143 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda [[Exhibit A](#)], the Attendance Roster [[Exhibit B](#)], and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at [www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/82nd2023](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/82nd2023).

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assemblywoman Selena Torres, Chair  
Assemblywoman Bea Duran, Vice Chair  
Assemblyman Max Carter  
Assemblyman Rich DeLong  
Assemblyman Reuben D'Silva  
Assemblywoman Cecelia González  
Assemblyman Bert Gurr  
Assemblyman Brian Hibbetts  
Assemblyman Gregory Koenig  
Assemblyman Richard McArthur  
Assemblyman Duy Nguyen  
Assemblywoman Angie Taylor  
Assemblywoman Clara Thomas

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst  
Asher Killian, Committee Counsel  
Sarah Delap, Committee Counsel

Minutes ID: 789



Judi Bishop, Committee Manager  
Diane Abbott, Committee Secretary  
Cheryl Williams, Committee Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

None

**Chair Torres:**

Welcome to the Committee on Government Affairs of the Nevada State Assembly. [Roll was taken. Committee rules and protocols were explained.]

We will take a one-minute recess [at 10:06 a.m.]. The Assembly Committee on Government Affairs will reconvene [at 10:07 a.m.].

We will go ahead and begin today with our work session. We will conduct a work session to take action on measures the Committee has heard in previous meetings. It is not customary for the Committee to take testimony or otherwise rehear the bills during the work session. However, I may invite a witness to come forward for clarification or questions during our consideration of a measure.

We have several bills on work session today and we are going to go ahead and start with Assembly Bill 8.

**Assembly Bill 8: Revises the composition of a metropolitan police committee on fiscal affairs. (BDR 22-396)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

As Legislative Counsel Bureau staff, I do not advocate for or oppose legislation. I am going to walk you through the work session, starting with Assembly Bill 8.

Assembly Bill 8 [\[Exhibit C\]](#) revises the membership of a metropolitan police committee on fiscal affairs. The measure increases from two to three members, those members from a participating political subdivision that is a county and changes the member selected by the committee from the general public to be a nonvoting member. That is the bill as introduced.

The attached amendment from Clark County [page 2, [Exhibit C](#)] adds a public member and makes both members representing the public voting members.

**Chair Torres:**

Committee members, do you have any questions? [There were none.] I will accept a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 8.

ASSEMBLYMAN NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 8.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GONZÁLEZ SECONDED THE MOTION.

**Chair Torres:**

Is there any discussion?

**Assemblyman D'Silva:**

I will be voting yes today, but I do want to reserve my right to vote no on the floor. I have some concerns about the power dynamics on this new commission. Hopefully, we can work that out.

**Chair Torres:**

Seeing no more discussion, we will vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN DELONG, GURR, HIBBETTS, KOENIG, AND MCARTHUR VOTED NO.)

I will assign the floor statement to myself. We will go ahead and continue with Assembly Bill 173.

**Assembly Bill 173: Revises provisions governing public works. (BDR 28-735)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

Assembly Bill 173 [[Exhibit D](#)] requires the contractors who submit one of the three lowest bids for certain public works projects to provide the names of each first-tier subcontractor who will perform work for the project for which the subcontractor will be paid not less than \$50,000.

There is an attached amendment that changes that \$50,000 threshold to \$100,000 [page 3, [Exhibit D](#)]. If you look at the amendment, there is also the addition of the words "if applicable" after the number of the licenses issued to capture individuals who are not required to be licensed or are not licensed.

Committee members, do you have any questions? [There were none.] I will accept a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 173.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GONZÁLEZ MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 173.

ASSEMBLYMAN HIBBETTS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Chair Torres:**

I will go ahead and assign the floor statement to Assemblyman Gray. Let us carry on with Assembly Bill 305.

**Assembly Bill 305: Revises provisions governing public works. (BDR 28-112)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

Assembly Bill 305 [[Exhibit E](#)] as introduced requires that at least 5 percent of the hours of labor that are required to be performed by apprentices on certain public works projects must be performed by women who are veterans or are in a minority group. Minority group means a racial or ethnic minority group, or a group of persons who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, or any other nonheterosexual or noncisgender orientation or gender identity or expression. The measure provides that such requirements do not apply to a contract for public work for which bids have been submitted before January 1, 2024.

There is an attached amendment [page 2, [Exhibit E](#)] that would change the bill to only apply to work to be performed by women. That would take out the minority group definition and the reference to women veterans. It would only apply to women, and to the extent practicable, changes the 5 percent of the hours of labor to 2 percent and then 1 percent to be performed by women.

**Chair Torres:**

Committee members, do you have any questions? [There were none.] I will accept a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 305.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DURAN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 305.

ASSEMBLYMAN NGUYEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN DELONG AND GURR  
VOTED NO.)

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno. We will carry on at this time with Assembly Bill 312.

**Assembly Bill 312: Establishes provisions relating to environmental justice.  
(BDR 40 157)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

Assembly Bill 312 [[Exhibit F](#)] as introduced creates within the Office of Minority Health and Equity of the Department of Health and Human Services the Commission on Environmental Justice, which consists of nine members who must be selected by the Governor from a list of persons submitted by the Office.

There are various changes on the amendment [page 2, [Exhibit F](#)] submitted by the bill sponsor. Those include changing the name of the body created to the Environmental Justice

Advisory Council, revising the makeup and duties of the council, removing sections related to regulatory authority and defining environmental justice, fair treatment, and meaningful involvement.

**Chair Torres:**

Committee members, do you have any questions? [There were none.] I will accept a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 312.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GONZÁLEZ MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 312.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DURAN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Committee members, is there any discussion?

I will go ahead and take a moment of privilege to thank the sponsors for working with stakeholders on this amendment language. I know that we have taken out a lot of the regulatory language which from my understanding from the hearing was really the main concern from opposition. I will note that I believe that the Vegas Chamber had spoken with the sponsors of the legislation yesterday and said that they will have a meeting to discuss a possible amendment.

My hope is that any suggested language or suggested amendments are made in good faith—that they are actively working with the sponsor to craft that amendment, and that they are actually finding solutions to coming together on this piece of legislation so that we can reach common ground.

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN DELONG, GURR,  
HIBBETTS, KOENIG, AND MCARTHUR VOTED NO.)

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblywoman Peters. We will go ahead and move on to Assembly Bill 333.

**Assembly Bill 333: Revises provisions governing housing authorities. (BDR 25-184)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

Assembly Bill 333 [\[Exhibit G\]](#) as introduced, requires each housing authority in the state to contact a person who is 60 years of age or older and has lived in any public housing or housing project that is operated or managed by the housing authority to offer to perform an inspection of the dwelling unit at least every five years. If the resident wants the inspection performed, the housing authority must conduct such inspection on a day and time that is convenient for the tenant. The bill further requires: (1) such an inspection to be conducted to determine whether the dwelling unit of the person is in a decent, safe, and sanitary condition, including, without limitation, that the fixtures, appliances, and plumbing are in good working order; and (2) the housing authority to ensure that all necessary repairs are made as soon as is

practicable after the inspection to ensure that the dwelling unit is in a decent, safe, and sanitary condition.

There was an attached amendment [page 2, [Exhibit G](#)] submitted by Ms. Mendy Elliot on behalf of the three housing authorities, Nevada Rural Housing Authority, Reno Housing Authority, and Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority to amend section 1 by requiring each housing authority to conduct an inspection of certain public housing units and ensure that needed or appropriate repairs are completed. The housing authority is further required to obtain the tenant's signature, either electronically or in writing, that the inspection was conducted. Finally, the amendment deletes subsection 1(b)(2) of *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 354.474, which defines "local government" related to the right or to levy or receive money from ad valorem or other taxes or any mandatory assessments.

**Chair Torres:**

That was a handful of a bill and of an amendment, although I do believe the bill was short. Committee members, are there any questions?

**Assemblyman Hibbetts:**

There was another amendment that was submitted with this. Is that no longer being considered?

**Chair Torres:**

Thank you for the question, and I will go ahead and clear that up too because I believe yesterday when we had the work session document, which is part of the reason I pulled it, there were three different amendments including one that was a mock-up and one that was the exact same as something that is in this amendment. Those two have been withdrawn and the only amendment being considered today is the amendment presented by Ms. Mendy Elliot. It is a friendly amendment that makes the clarifications stated earlier by the policy analyst and amends "local government" in NRS 354.474.

Committee members, do you have any additional questions? [There were none.] I will accept a motion to amend and do pass [Assembly Bill 333](#).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
[ASSEMBLY BILL 333](#).

ASSEMBLYMAN D'SILVA SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion?

**Assemblyman Gurr:**

I am going to vote no on this for one reason. It is an unfunded mandate. The people who elected me said the last thing you do is vote for an unfunded mandate. It affects local governments and county governments. That is the reason I am voting no. The rest of it is a good idea, but I wanted to explain that.

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN GURR AND MCARTHUR  
VOTED NO.)

**Chair Torres:**

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblywoman Duran. We will carry on with Assembly Bill 376.

**Assembly Bill 376: Establishes provisions governing paid family leave for certain state employees. (BDR 23-1053)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

Assembly Bill 376 [[Exhibit H](#)] provides that all eligible employees in the classified public service of the state are entitled to take 8 weeks of paid family leave over the course of a 12-month period to: (1) bond with a newborn child of the employee or a newborn child of the domestic partner of the employee; (2) bond with the newly adopted child of the employee; (3) recover from or undergo treatment for a serious illness; (4) care for a seriously ill member of the immediate family of the employee; or (5) participate in a qualifying event resulting from the military deployment to a foreign country of an immediate family member of the employee.

To be eligible for such paid family leave, an employee must: (1) be a permanent employee in the classified service of the state; (2) be employed for not less than 12 consecutive months; (3) have accrued not less than 40 hours of sick leave; and (4) have used any accrued sick leave in excess of 40 hours before taking paid family leave.

The bill further: (1) requires an appointing authority to pay an employee on paid family leave 50 percent of the regular wage the employee would have earned if the employee was not on leave; and (2) prohibits the appointing authority or designee of the appointing authority from denying an eligible employee paid family leave or retaliating or taking any adverse action against an employee for taking paid family leave.

The attached amendment [page 2, [Exhibit H](#)] from the Office of the State Treasurer expands eligibility to include all state employees, including nonclassified and unclassified.

**Chair Torres:**

Committee members, do you have any questions? [There were none.] I will accept a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 376.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 376.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TAYLOR SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblywoman Marzola. We will proceed with Assembly Bill 391.

**Assembly Bill 391: Revises provisions governing public works. (BDR 28-1031)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

Assembly Bill 391 [\[Exhibit I\]](#) authorizes a local government to award a preference of 5 percent to certain contractors who bid on a contract for: (1) a public work for which the estimated cost exceeds \$250,000; (2) a public work involving a construction manager at risk; and (3) a public work involving a design-build team. To receive the preference, a contractor must sign an affidavit ensuring that at least 50 percent of the workers employed on the public work for the duration of the project reside within the jurisdiction of the local government or within a certain specified distance of the jurisdiction of the local government, as provided by the local government.

See the attached amendment [page 2, [Exhibit I](#)]. It deletes all sections of the bill except the effective date and adds the authority for local government or governing body of a local government to enter into a prehire agreement for the provision of construction labor on public work or a series of public works projects or direct a contractor hired to complete such public works or services of public works to enter into such an agreement.

As you can see on the first page of the amendment, the rest of the text is being deleted, but the first page contains the new provisions of the bill.

**Chair Torres:**

Committee members, do you have any questions? [There were none.] I will accept a motion to amend and do pass Assembly Bill 391.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DURAN MADE A MOTION TO AMEND AND DO  
PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 391.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GONZÁLEZ SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno. Our final bill on work session for the day is Assembly Bill 423.



**Assembly Bill 423: Revises provisions governing meetings of a board of trustees of a school district. (BDR 34-847)**

**Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst:**

Assembly Bill 423 [[Exhibit J](#)] prohibits the board of trustees of a school district from taking any action at a regular or special meeting after 11:59 p.m. on the day of the meeting and before 8 a.m. the following day. The bill authorizes, but does not require, a board of trustees to restrict public comment at a regular or special meeting if the public comment meets one or both of the following criteria:

- Is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of the board of trustees; or
- Is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being slanderous or offensive.

The conceptual amendment [[Exhibit J](#)]:

- (1) Creates an exemption for subsection 6 of section 1 for an emergency, as defined in the Open Meeting Law that impacts the school district; and
- (2) Requires the meeting to reconvene no earlier than 24 hours after the originally scheduled time, but no later than 3 business days after the originally scheduled date or to allow the board to add the agenda items to its next scheduled meeting.

**Assemblywoman Taylor:**

The only question I have on this is, and I am not sure the correct way to get this considered, on number 2 of the amendments. At the very end of the amendment, it requires the board to add the agenda items to the next scheduled meeting. I am hoping that can be amended to an upcoming meeting because there are times when the next scheduled meeting is inappropriate. For an example, I will use my own experience in the Washoe County School District where sometimes we hold meetings at schools, or in Incline Village, or even sometimes in Gerlach, and that might not be an appropriate place for a controversial item to appear on the next scheduled meeting. Perhaps it is a special meeting because you are going to hire a superintendent and the meeting will be all interviews. That would not be the appropriate time. I would submit to continue the discussion on the controversial item. I would want to give those boards of trustees flexibility as to when they schedule to continue the conversation on that.

**Chair Torres:**

Then my understanding of that suggestion would be for us to strike in the amended language number 2 on our work session document, removing the word "next" and replacing it with "upcoming." That would make sense.

Committee members, are there any additional questions or discussion specifically on that question? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion to amend and do pass A.B. 423 including the amendments that are presented in the document with the suggested change from Assemblywoman Taylor.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TAYLOR MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 423.

ASSEMBLYMAN GURR SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will assign the floor statement to myself for that one. That does conclude our work session for today.

We will move on to public comment. Do we have anyone here in Carson City wishing to make a public comment? [There was no one.] Is there anyone in Las Vegas? [There was no one.] Is there anyone on the phone line wishing to testify in public comment? [There was no one.]

Is there any additional discussion from Committee members? [There was none.]

[Committee meeting reminders were given.] We will adjourn at this time [at 10:27 a.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Diane Abbott  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Assemblywoman Selena Torres, Chair

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXHIBITS**

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

[Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster.

[Exhibit C](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 8](#), presented by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit D](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 173](#), presented by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit E](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 305](#), presented by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit F](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 312](#), presented by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit G](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 333](#), by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit H](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 376](#), presented by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit I](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 391](#), presented by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit J](#) is the Work Session Document for [Assembly Bill 423](#), presented by Jennifer Ruedy, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.