

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
AND THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**Eighty-second Session  
April 24, 2023**

The joint meeting of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means was called to order by Chair Marilyn Dondero Loop at 8:10 a.m. on Monday, April 24, 2023, in Room 4100 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. [Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda. [Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

**SENATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair  
Senator Nicole J. Cannizzaro, Vice Chair  
Senator Dallas Harris  
Senator Dina Neal  
Senator Rochelle T. Nguyen  
Senator Pete Goicoechea  
Senator Heidi Seevers Gansert  
Senator Robin L. Titus

**ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Chair  
Assemblywoman Shea Backus, Vice Chair  
Assemblywoman Natha C. Anderson  
Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May  
Assemblywoman Jill Dickman  
Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow  
Assemblyman Gregory T. Hafen II  
Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui  
Assemblywoman Heidi Kasama  
Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller  
Assemblyman P.K. O'Neill  
Assemblywoman Sarah Peters

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Assemblyman Howard Watts  
Assemblyman Steve Yeager

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Wayne Thorley, Senate Fiscal Analyst  
Sarah Coffman, Assembly Fiscal Analyst  
Cathy Crocket, Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst  
Brody Leiser, Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst  
Stephanie Day, Principal Program Analyst  
Paul Breen, Committee Assistant  
Helen Wood, Committee Secretary  
Dee Chekowitz-Dykes, Committee Secretary

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Ms. Day will begin our hearing with budget account (B/A) 101-1007, the Office for New Americans.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Office For New Americans — Budget Page ELECTED-29 (Volume I)  
Budget Account 101-1007

STEPHANIE DAY (Principal Program Analyst):

The Office for New Americans begins on page 3 of the April 24, 2023, Closing List No. 7 ([Exhibit C](#)). The Office for New Americans was established within the Office of the Governor with the passage of S.B. No. 538 of the 80th Session. The Office's mission is to promote the inclusion and integration of immigrants, refugees, and aspiring Americans into the civic, economic and cultural life of Nevada.

The budget is primarily funded with General Fund appropriations. The Governor recommends General Fund appropriations in fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024 of \$10,771 and \$11,201 in FY 2024-2025 to fund out-of-State travel and in-State travel for two staff members. The Agency's base budget includes in-State travel of \$67 in each fiscal year of the 2023-2025 biennium and does not include funding for out-of-State travel. The funding as recommended by the Governor

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would allow for the travel of the director and the senior adviser as shown on page 4 of [Exhibit C](#).

In response to questions at the Agency's budget hearing on March 15, 2023, The Department of Administration, Administrative Services Division provided updated projections that would increase travel costs by \$4,995 in FY 2023-2024 and \$4,667 in FY 2024-2025. The increases are primarily related to increased projections for airfare. The updated out-of-State travel costs are shown on page 4 of [Exhibit C](#). The first two items are travel to Washington, D.C. in FY 2023-2024 and FY 2024-2025. Also shown are in-State travel costs to northern Nevada. The increase is \$4,995 in FY 2023-2024 and \$4,667 in FY 2024-2025.

A decision for the Committees is on page 4 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve General Fund appropriations of \$10,771 in FY 2023-2024 and \$11,201 in FY 2024-2025 in B/A 101-1007, decision unit E-125, for in-State and out-of-State travel as recommended by the Governor or, do the Committees wish to approve General Fund appropriations of \$15,766 in FY 2023-2024 and \$15,868 in FY 2024-2025 to allow for in-State and out-of-State travel as recommended by the Governor and to account for increased projected travel costs identified by the Agency? Fiscal staff requests authority to make technical adjustments, as necessary.

E-125 Economic Opportunity & Skilled Workforce — Page ELECTED-31

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE AS SHOWN ON PAGE 4 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS FOR B/A 101-1007 DECISION UNIT E-125 OF \$15,766 IN FY 2023-2024 AND \$15,868 IN FY 2024-2025 TO ALLOW FOR IN-STATE AND OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO ACCOUNT FOR INCREASED PROJECTED TRAVEL COSTS IDENTIFIED BY THE AGENCY WITH AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL STAFF TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR NGUYEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR CANNIZZARO WAS EXCUSED FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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Ms. DAY:

There are no Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds in the Office for New Americans' budget.

Page 7 of [Exhibit C](#) begins the Office of the Governor, Office of Finance (GFO) budgets, beginning with B/A 101-1340.

#### GOVERNOR'S FINANCE OFFICE

Governor's Ofc of Finance - Budget Division — Budget Page ELECTED-71  
(Volume I)  
Budget Account 101-1340

The GFO is responsible for developing and presenting the Executive Budget, and providing oversight to State agencies in implementing the Legislatively approved budget. Other responsibilities include evaluating policies and providing direction to Executive Branch agencies, assisting agencies with the development of strategic plans and performance measures, monitoring and forecasting State revenues, and providing recommendations and support to the State Board of Examiners (BOE). This budget is primarily funded with General Fund appropriations.

The GFO submitted two Budget Amendments on February 23, 2023, that amended the Governor's recommendations discussed in Major Closing Issues 1 and 2, and submitted three Budget Amendments on February 24, 2023, to add three additional recommendations discussed in Major Closing Issue 3. Page 15 of [Exhibit C](#) summarizes the fiscal impact of the five Budget Amendments, which results in a net reduction in General Fund appropriations of \$310,335 and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$53,210 over the 2023-2025 biennium compared to the amounts included in the Executive Budget.

There are four Major Closing Issues in this budget. Beginning with Major Closing Issue 1, the Executive Budget recommends General Fund appropriations of \$551,977 in FY 2023-2024 and \$692,954 in FY 2024-2025 for one new Executive Branch budget officer II position, grade 43, step 10, and four new Executive Branch budget officer I positions, grade 41, step 10, and ancillary expenditures in B/A 101-1340 decision unit E-127 as shown on page 7 of [Exhibit C](#).

#### E-127 Economic Opportunity & Skilled Workforce – ELECTED-73

The GFO submitted Budget Amendment No. A231021340 ([Exhibit D](#)) on February 23, 2023, that recommends General Fund appropriations of \$467,513 in FY 2023-2024 and \$452,921 in FY 2024-2025 for two new Executive Branch budget officer III positions, grade 45, step 10, for a new position classification and one new Executive Branch budget officer I position, grade 41, step 10, by converting an existing temporary overlap position to a permanent position effective July 1, 2023.

The Budget Amendment also recommends the elimination of the Governor's original recommendation to add five new budget officer positions. The Budget Amendment results in net reductions in General Fund appropriations of \$84,464 in FY 2023-2024 and \$240,033 in FY 2024-2025 compared to the amounts included in the Executive Budget.

As recommended in the Budget Amendment, the GFO would have a total of 22 positions that include managers and five teams consisting of 19 Executive Branch budget officer positions. One existing position is in the unclassified service. The health and human services team and the K-12 higher education team would each consist of five positions. One Executive Branch budget officer III position will oversee one Executive Branch budget officer II position and three Executive Branch budget officer I positions. The remaining three teams would each consist of one Executive Branch budget officer II position and two Executive Branch budget officer I positions. According to the Agency, the two new Executive Branch budget officer III positions would oversee and manage the more complex budgets, and the new Executive Branch budget officer I position would assist with the increased workload.

The Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), Fiscal Analysis Division is the most comparable State Agency to the GFO in terms of the work performed. Historically, the GFO and the Fiscal Analysis Division have had similar staffing. For comparison, the Fiscal Analysis Division has 6 teams consisting of 16 analyst positions, 4 of which are led by principal program analysts who supervise 2 budgetary program analysts, and 2 senior program analysts who supervise 1 budgetary program analyst.

The Agency has evaluated the budget teams and determined the teams with the most complex budgets are the education and the health and human services teams. The two new Executive Branch budget officer III positions would bring an extra level of knowledge to assist with those teams. The addition of an extra team member would help with the workload and allow for more complex analyses.

The higher-level positions will bring incumbents from other agencies with expertise working with multiple funding sources and the experience to provide deep analysis. The Agency anticipates the higher-level budget officer positions would benefit the GFO and the Legislature by providing better information. The GFO also stated it is difficult to compete with agencies who have grade 44 administrative service officer and deputy administrator positions, but the new Executive Branch budget officer III positions, which are proposed as grade 45, would allow the Agency to be more competitive.

The decision for the Committees is on page 9 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve Budget Amendment No. A231021340, [Exhibit D](#), which recommends General Fund appropriations of \$467,513 in FY 2023-2024 and \$452,921 in FY 2024-2025 in B/A 101-1340 for two new Executive Branch budget officer III positions and one new Executive Branch budget officer I position and eliminates the Governor's original recommendation for five new Executive Branch budget officer positions in decision unit E-127, resulting in net General Fund reductions of \$84,464 in FY 2023-2024 and \$240,033 in FY 2024-2025 compared to the amounts stated in the Executive Budget?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE AS SHOWN ON PAGE 9 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. A231021340 IN B/A 101-1340 DECISION UNIT E-127 WHICH

RECOMMENDS GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS OF \$467,513 IN FY 2023-2024 AND \$452,921 IN FY 2024-2025 FOR TWO NEW EXECUTIVE BRANCH BUDGET OFFICER III POSITIONS AND ONE NEW EXECUTIVE BRANCH BUDGET OFFICER I POSITION AND ELIMINATES THE GOVERNOR'S ORIGINAL RECOMMENDATION FOR FIVE NEW EXECUTIVE BRANCH BUDGET OFFICER POSITIONS IN DECISION UNIT E-127, RESULTING IN NET GENERAL FUND REDUCTIONS OF \$84,464 IN FY 2023-2024 AND \$240,033 IN FY 2024-2025 COMPARED TO THE AMOUNTS INCLUDED IN THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Ms. DAY:

Major Closing Issue 2 in B/A 101-1340 decision unit E-673 is on page 9 of [Exhibit C](#). The Governor originally recommended General Fund appropriations of \$84,180 in FY 2023-2024 and \$87,283 in FY 2024-2025 and ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$28,060 in FY 2023-2024 and \$29,094 in FY 2024-2025 to fund a two-grade increase for eight Executive Branch budget officer II positions from grade 43 to grade 45 including the new positions requested in decision unit E-127.

E-673 Salary Adjustment One-Time for 2023-2025 Biennium — Page ELECTED-75

The GFO submitted Budget Amendment No. A231031340 ([Exhibit E](#)) on February 23, 2023, that recommends the elimination of the Governor's original recommendation which results in reductions in General Fund appropriations of \$171,463 and ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$57,154 over the 2023-2025 biennium compared to the amounts included in the Executive Budget. During the budget hearing, the Agency confirmed it no longer requests a two-grade increase for eight Executive Branch budget officer II positions.

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A decision for the Committees is on page 9 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve Budget Amendment No. A231031340 in B/A 101-1340 to not approve the Governor's original recommendation to provide General Fund appropriations of \$171,463 and ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$57,154 over the 2023-2025 biennium to fund a two-grade increase for eight Executive Branch budget officer II positions in decision unit E-673?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE, AS SHOWN ON PAGE 9 OF [EXHIBIT C](#), B/A 101-1340 DECISION UNIT E-673 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. A231031340; AND TO NOT APPROVE THE GOVERNOR'S ORIGINAL RECOMMENDATION TO PROVIDE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS OF \$171,463 AND ARPA CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS OF \$57,154 OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO FUND A TWO-GRADE INCREASE FOR EIGHT EXECUTIVE BRANCH BUDGET OFFICER II POSITIONS IN DECISION UNIT E-673.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

Major Closing Issue 3 in B/A 101-1340 is on page 10 of [Exhibit C](#). The GFO submitted three Budget Amendments on February 24, 2023, recommending General Fund appropriations of \$185,625 and ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$3,944 over the 2023-2025 biennium for overtime for certain unclassified staff and for the reclassification of 23 positions from classified service to unclassified service.

Item 1 on page 10 of [Exhibit C](#) shows new decision unit E-128 in B/A 101-1340 for overtime for certain unclassified staff, not in the [Executive Budget](#). Budget Amendment No. A231231340 ([Exhibit F](#)) submitted on February 24, 2023, includes a General Fund appropriation of \$57,531 in FY 2024-2025 to fund 300 hours of overtime each for the unclassified director,



deputy director and budget administrator positions during the development of the proposed State budget and for the Legislative Session, or the time frame of September 1 of even-numbered years through June 30 of odd-numbered years. According to the Agency, the funding would allow for staff compensation for the increased number of hours needed to create the proposed Executive Budget and to support the budget through the Legislative Session.

According to the Agency, at the budget hearing on March 20, 2023, all Executive Branch budget officers, including the unclassified position, currently get overtime. The Agency request is for the current unclassified director, deputy director and budget administrator positions to receive overtime at straight time, limited to the period when the Executive Budget is prepared, which requires significant uncompensated overtime. In future biennia, the overtime for those positions would be included in the adjusted base budget every other year.

The next two Budget Amendments shown on page 10 of [Exhibit C](#) are for the reclassification of 23 positions from classified service to unclassified service. The GFO submitted two Budget Amendments on February 23, 2023, and revised calculations on March 9, 2023, for this reclassification.

According to the Agency, the reclassifications are recommended due to the demand for skilled and experienced high-level fiscal staff. Flexibility in recruiting and retaining the positions is crucial to the success and the effectiveness of the GFO. The Agency states the current recruitment and classification system is challenging to the hiring of high-level fiscal staff.

On page 10 of [Exhibit C](#) is a statement from Fiscal staff. Longstanding back language is included in the Pay Bill that states if a position is moved from the classified service to the unclassified service, an employee occupying such a position has the option to remain in the classified service at his or her current grade, with all rights afforded classified employees, or move to the unclassified service. If the employee chooses to move to the unclassified service, the employee cannot at a later date, choose to return to the classified service while occupying the position. Once an employee vacates the position, the replacement in the position will be in the unclassified service.

The first reclassification requested by the GFO is in the new decision unit E-817. The GFO submitted Budget Amendment No. A231241340 ([Exhibit G](#)), which, as revised, includes General Fund appropriations of \$35,903 over the 2023-2025 biennium to fund the reclassification of an Executive Branch economist position from classified service at grade 41 step 5. A step 10 for that position would have a salary of \$101,164. In unclassified service, the maximum annual salary would be \$101,163.

New decision unit E-816 is the reclassification of 22 Executive Branch budget officers. The GFO submitted Budget Amendment No. A231161340 ([Exhibit H](#)), which, as revised, includes General Fund appropriations of \$92,191 and ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$3,944 over the 2023-2025 biennium to fund the reclassification of 22 Executive Branch budget officer positions of which 18 positions are funded with General Fund appropriations. [Exhibit H](#) includes three positions recommended in decision unit E-127, as amended by A231021340 [Exhibit D](#), and four positions on the ARPA team funded with ARPA, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds.

The proposed reclassification includes two Executive Branch budget officer III positions requested in decision unit E-127, as amended by Budget Amendment No. A231021340, [Exhibit D](#), to go from classified service, grade 45, step 10, with a salary of \$121,793, to unclassified service with a maximum annual salary of \$121,788. It also requests to reclassify seven Executive Branch budget officer II positions from classified service, grade 43, step 10 with a salary of \$110,956 to unclassified service with a maximum annual salary of \$110,948. The proposed 13 Executive Branch budget officer I positions, including 1 requested in decision unit E-127 as amended by Budget Amendment No. A231021340 [Exhibit D](#), to go from classified service grade 41, step 10, salary of \$101,164, to unclassified service with a maximum annual salary of \$101,163.

The GFO is the only agency with Executive Branch economist and Executive Branch budget officer positions. The Agency is requesting statutory changes to allow the unclassified director, deputy director and budget administrator positions to receive overtime and to reclassify the positions to unclassified service. Assembly Bill (A.B.) 451 that was referred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, proposes a change to

*Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 284.148 to allow an employee in the unclassified service in the Budget Division of the GFO to receive compensation for overtime when the work is related to the preparation of the Executive Budget during the period beginning September 1 of an even-numbered year and ending on January 31 of the following year.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 451**: Revises provisions relating to certain employees in the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor. (BDR 23-1085)

The Agency indicated it would work with the LCB, Legal Division during the drafting of A.B. 451 related to overtime for certain unclassified positions to also request the inclusion of a change to NRS 223.450 to allow for the reclassification of the positions described in decision units E-816 and E-817 to unclassified service. However, the language is not included in A.B. 451. Pursuant to NRS 223.450, except as otherwise provided, employees in the GFO are in the classified service of the State.

According to the Agency, reclassifying the Executive Branch budget officer and economist positions to unclassified service would help the GFO be flexible with hiring staff quickly and efficiently without going through the typical human resources processes. While the maximum salaries of the positions are not proposed to change, the GFO staff stated they believe that moving the positions to the unclassified service would make the office more competitive because incumbents in classified positions are normally brought in at a lower step and salary while incumbents in unclassified positions are normally brought in at the maximum unclassified salary. The Agency has the option of bringing an unclassified incumbent in at a lower salary as appropriate and then increasing the salary when the incumbent is trained. The GFO staff also stated that unclassified service would give the Agency the flexibility to hire people who may not meet the minimum requirements established for the positions through the Division of Human Resource Management.

In response to questions following the budget hearing, the GFO indicated as of March 30, 2023, excluding the ARPA team, the Agency has 25 employees of the 24 Legislatively-approved positions since the Agency currently has an overlap Executive Branch budget officer I position that is requested to be converted to a full-time position. Of the 12 ARPA positions, there are 9 filled and 3 vacant positions.

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In the response, the GFO stated the challenges experienced include the length of time in the recruitment process. A recruitment cannot be opened until the position is vacant, and the minimum amount of time taken to fill a vacancy is six weeks. Depending on workloads, being short-staffed leads to errors, higher stress and employee burnout.

A decision for the Committees for B/A 101-1340 is on page 12 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve Budget Amendment No. A231231340, [Exhibit F](#), which includes a General Fund appropriation of \$57,531 in FY 2024-2025, to fund overtime for the unclassified director, deputy director, and budget administrator positions beginning September 1 of an even-numbered year and ending on January 31 of the following year, contingent upon [A.B. 451](#) or other enabling legislation? Do the Committees wish to approve Budget Amendment No. A231241340, [Exhibit G](#), and No. A231161340 [Exhibit H](#), which include General Fund appropriations of \$128,094 and ARPA, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$3,944 over the 2023-2025 biennium, to fund the reclassification of an Executive Branch economist position and 22 Executive Branch budget officer positions from classified service to unclassified service with salaries commensurate with step 10 of each position's current grade in classified service, contingent upon enabling legislation?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE AS SHOWN ON PAGE 12 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) B/A 101-1340 BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. A231231340; TO APPROVE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS OF \$57,531 IN FY 2024-2025 TO FUND OVERTIME FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED DIRECTOR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND BUDGET ADMINISTRATOR POSITIONS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1 OF AN EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR AND ENDING ON JANUARY 31 OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR, CONTINGENT UPON [A.B. 451](#) OR OTHER ENABLING LEGISLATION AS ONE-TIME FUNDING FOR THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM WITH THE INTENT TO NOT INCLUDE IT IN THE BASE BUDGET FOR THE NEXT BUDGET CYCLE, WITH THE INTENT OF [A.B. 451](#) OR OTHER ENABLING LANGUAGE TO HAVE THE NECESSARY STATUTORY CHANGES BE TEMPORARY AND SUNSET AT THE END OF THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM; TO INCLUDE A GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 IN [A.B. 451](#) OR OTHER ENABLING LEGISLATION FOR THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION TO UNDERTAKE A COMPREHENSIVE STATE EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION AND

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COMPENSATION STUDY DURING THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM; AND WOULD INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, A REVIEW OF THE SALARIES OF UNCLASSIFIED POSITIONS AND THE ELIGIBILITY TO BE PAID OVERTIME; AND NOT APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS NO. A231241340 AND NO. A231161340.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Am I correct that this will provide for overtime when employees are working on the budget, but the provision will sunset? Do you want a study for the reclassifications of the Executive Branch positions?

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Yes, that would fund those Executive Branch positions.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Do you want to decline on the reclassifications of the 22 Executive Branch budget officers and the economist position?

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

This is a third option.

WAYNE THORLEY (Senate Fiscal Analyst):

The \$500,000 for a study would include the Executive Branch. It is based on an estimate we received earlier in the Legislative Session from the Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management and would fund a study related to employment classification and compensation.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

It will be a broader study that is not just related to these positions. Will the study be paid for through ARPA funds or will it be from General Fund monies?

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

The study will be paid for with General Fund monies.

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SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I agree with allowing the overtime. I am not sure about the sunset provision because they will have the same problem every budget session. The Executive Branch, particularly the Governor's office, needs flexibility with its people, and that is the reason they want to make these positions unclassified. Making them come back every two years is micromanagement. If this is the final decision, I will be a no vote.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO:

I appreciate the comments of my colleague; however, the study would be a comprehensive look at the unclassified positions of every State employee. We have a larger problem than just the Executive Branch. The reason to enact a sunset provision at the end of the biennium is to allow time to receive the study findings and to decide how to move forward for future legislation and future biennia. It is a more comprehensive way of looking at how to fund every position at the State.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I appreciate the fact you are looking at funding a study, but we need to address the issue before us today. If this will not be approved and the study will be funded, I will be a no vote.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

Regarding the overtime for the unclassified positions, will it be paid out like our Legislative staff?

MR. THORLEY:

Yes, it would allow for the payment of straight time overtime, which is what Legislative staff is eligible for during Legislative Sessions.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAFEN:

I support that portion. I would prefer a separate vote to fund the \$500,000 for the study.

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Assembly Bill 451 will be addressing that.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

I am fine with the study; it is a good idea. I am opposed to not allowing them to do the reclassification. The Agency needs to be able to hire people and is having a difficult time doing that given the system we have. I recognize there is a separate bill for modernization of the Executive Branch that will help manage all this. There are some pieces of this I would like to support, but not how things are lined up together.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

I am comfortable with this option. We recognize there is much work that goes into budget preparation. Overtime makes sense for some positions that are not otherwise already qualified for overtime. I am also comfortable with the sunset provision because the larger conversation is, there are requests from every State agency for increases in pay or benefits to be in parity with other agencies.

This comprehensive salary study speaks to the larger conversation. The study will confirm where adjustments need to be made to eliminate disparities across agencies. The reclassifications of positions prior to the study does not make sense. I understand the arguments for wanting additional flexibility. We want to make sure we are hiring the most qualified people.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

When is the study anticipated to be completed?

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

As stated by the Assemblywoman in her motion, the plan is to have this done during the 2023-2025 biennium and completed before we return for the Eighty-third Session, so we can start making decisions moving forward.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLY MEMBERS DICKMAN, HAFEN, KASAMA AND O'NEILL VOTED NO.)

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS GOICOECHEA, SEEVERS GANSERT AND TITUS VOTED NO.)

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Ms. DAY:

Major Closing Issue 4 for B/A 101-1340, decision unit E-815, is on page 12 of [Exhibit C](#). The Governor recommends General Fund appropriations of \$13,074 in FY 2023-2024 and \$13,075 in FY 2024-2025 for the reclassification of an unclassified division administrator, annual salary of \$122,187, created by the Eighty-first Legislative Session in 2021, to an unclassified deputy director with an annual salary of \$133,060. The Agency has one deputy director position. According to the Agency, the reclassification would allow for one deputy director to oversee the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) functions and the other deputy director to oversee contracts and the BOE function.

#### E-815 Unclassified Position Changes — Page ELECTED-75

At the budget hearing on March 20, 2023, the GFO stated the deputy director oversees the Legislative function including the IFC, the Executive Budget and the normal budgeting functions. The budget administrator oversees the BOE function the Agency is requesting to reclassify to a second deputy director. The Agency indicated the position would oversee the entire BOE function including managing the analysts and agendas, briefing the Governor as needed along with the director, answering questions and providing follow-up with leases or contracts.

Regarding a decision for the Committees on page 13 of [Exhibit C](#), decisions pertaining to unclassified salaries in B/A 101-1340 and position changes will be determined by the Committees when the Pay Bill, to be introduced later this Session, is considered. Fiscal staff requests authority to make any adjustments subsequently required.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO NOT APPROVE DECISION UNIT E-815 PERTAINING TO UNCLASSIFIED SALARIES IN B/A 101-1340; AND TO NOT APPROVE POSITION CHANGES AS SHOWN ON PAGE 13 OF [EXHIBIT C](#); WITH AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL STAFF TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS SUBSEQUENTLY REQUIRED.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.



ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Ms. DAY:

The Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for the GFO B/A 101-1340 are included in the table on page 13 of [Exhibit C](#). The Governor recommends \$1.9 million in FY 2023-2024 and in FY 2024-2025. The Governor recommends ARPA Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$165,061 in FY 2023-2024 and \$159,561 in FY 2024-2025 in decision unit E-125 for a grants management data system and two consultants with travel and ancillary costs for monitoring subrecipients in decision unit E-225.

E-125 Economic Opportunity & Skilled Workforce — Page ELECTED-73

E-225 Efficiency & Innovation — Page ELECTED-74

The first item for consideration would be a web-based grants management data system for \$26,300 over the 2023-2025 biennium plus costs for two consultants, at \$132,500 in each fiscal year of the 2023-2025 biennium to assist the GFO with monitoring subrecipients. The Governor recommends Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$16,661 in each fiscal year of the 2023-2025 biennium for contract and budget staff travel for onsite fiscal and program monitoring of subrecipients in receipt of federal, State and local recovery funds. Fiscal staff recommends a technical adjustment to change the expenditure category from in-State travel to ARPA to budget expenditures in the appropriate category.

The decision for the Committees is on page 14 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$1.9 million in each fiscal year of the 2023-2025 biennium to fund the recommended grants monitoring system, contract positions and travel costs, including a technical adjustment to correct the expenditure category?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE AS SHOWN ON PAGE 14 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS OF \$1.9 MILLION IN EACH FISCAL YEAR OF THE

2023-2025 BIENNIUM IN B/A 101-1340 DECISION UNIT E-125 TO FUND THE RECOMMENDED GRANTS MONITORING SYSTEM AND CONTRACT POSITIONS AND TRAVEL COSTS IN DECISION UNIT E-225 INCLUDING A TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO CORRECT THE EXPENDITURE CATEGORY.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

There are two Other Closing Items in B/A 101-1340 described on page 14 of [Exhibit C](#) in decision units E-226 and E-227. Fiscal staff recommends the Other Closing Items be closed as recommended by the Governor and requests authority for Fiscal staff to make technical adjustments as necessary.

E-226 Efficiency & Innovation — Page ELECTED-74

E-227 Efficiency & Innovation — Page ELECTED-74

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE OTHER CLOSING ITEMS AS WRITTEN ON PAGE 14 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) B/A 101-1340 DECISION UNITS E-226 AND E-227, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH AUTHORITY FOR STAFF TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUDGET CLOSED.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

The GFO is the Division of Internal Audits B/A 101-1342 which begins on page 17 of [Exhibit C](#). The Division of Internal Audits conducts performance audits to help agencies identify ways to enhance their operation, efficiencies, effectiveness and compliance with NRS. Audits are presented to the Executive Branch Audit Committee.

Governor's Ofc of Finance-Div of Internal Audits — Budget Page ELECTED-78  
(Volume I)

Budget Account 101-1342

There is one Major Closing Issue in this budget. In decision unit E-225 the Governor recommends General Fund appropriations of \$58,335 in FY 2023-2024 and \$71,441 in FY 2024-2025 for a new administrative assistant IV position, grade 29, step 5, and ancillary expenditures to provide support to Division staff. The new position would be effective October 1, 2023. The new position would provide support to the Division in Executive Branch Audit Committee meetings, internal audit activities, statutory audit follow-up responsibilities for the Legislative Auditor, compliance review activities for the BOE delegated to the Division by the director of the GFO; statutorily required internal controls training for State agencies, personnel and recruiting functions, Division procurement actions and coordination of IT requirements.

E-225 Efficiency & Innovation — Page ELECTED-80

According to the Agency, administrative assistant staff for the GFO is pooled, and has provided assistance to the Division for major tasks such as staffing the Executive Branch Audit Committee. Normal administrative functions are performed by all Division staff including the administrator, managers, and Executive Branch auditors.

Senate Committee on Finance  
Assembly Committee on Ways and Means  
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A decision for the Committees is on page 18 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve General Fund appropriations in B/A 101-1342 of \$58,335 in FY 2023-2024 and \$71,441 in FY 2024-2025 for a new administrative assistant position to provide support to Division staff as recommended by the Governor?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS AS SHOWN ON PAGE 18 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) IN B/A 101-1342 DECISION UNIT E-225 OF \$58,335 IN FY 2023-2024 AND \$71,441 IN FY 2024-2025 FOR A NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO DIVISION STAFF AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

The Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds in B/A 101-1342 are shown on page 18 of [Exhibit C](#). The Governor recommends \$111,412 in FY 2023-2024 and \$117,493 in FY 2024-2025 to continue a State position to provide audit support for Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds through December 31, 2026, to assist with audit functions for the duration of the grant funds.

A decision for the Committees is on page 18 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds in B/A 101-1342 of \$111,412 in FY 2023-2024 and \$117,493 in FY 2024-2025 to continue supporting an auditor position to provide support for the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds through the duration of the grant funding as recommended by the Governor?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE IN B/A 101-1342 AS SHOWN ON PAGE 18 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) CORONAVIRUS

STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS IN B/A 101-1342 OF \$111,412 IN FY 2023-2024 AND \$117,493 IN FY 2024-2025 TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING AN AUDITOR POSITION TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS THROUGH THE DURATION OF THE GRANT FUNDING AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

There are two Other Closing Items in B/A 101-1342 shown on page 18 of [Exhibit C](#) in decision units E-275 and E-710. Fiscal staff recommends the Other Closing Items be closed as recommended by the Governor and request authority for Fiscal staff to make technical adjustments as necessary.

E-275 Elevating Education — Page ELECTED-80

E-710 Equipment Replacement — Page ELECTED-81

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE OTHER CLOSING ITEMS IN B/A 101-1342 AS SHOWN ON PAGE 18 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) IN DECISION UNITS E-275 AND E-710 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL STAFF TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUDGET CLOSED.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

The last budget for the GFO begins on page 21 of your closing packet, [Exhibit C](#). The Special Appropriations B/A 101-1301 is a staff-closed budget, therefore, the Committees have not heard this. Fiscal staff is responsible for developing closing recommendations for this budget.

Governor's OFC of Finance - Special Appropriations — Budget Page  
ELECTED-87 (Volume I)  
Budget Account 101-1301

The Special Appropriations budget in the GFO is used to pass through Legislatively approved General Fund appropriations to other governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. General Funds are either directly appropriated into this budget or subsequently budgeted in this account due to one-time legislation being passed and approved. This budget is funded with General Fund monies. The Governor recommends General Fund appropriations of \$8.8 million in FY 2023-2024 and \$250,000 in FY 2024-2025 in the base budget to continue funding commensurate with the funding approved by the Eighty-first Session for Holocaust Education at \$100,000 in each fiscal year of the 2023-2025 biennium, Nevada Volunteers at \$150,000 in each fiscal year of the 2023-2025 biennium, Civil Air Patrol Operations at \$25,000 in FY 2023-2024, and Graduate Medical Education at \$8.5 million in FY 2023-2024.

There are no Major Closing Issues in B/A 101-1301. There are two Other Closing Items. Other Closing Item 1 would transfer the Graduate Medical Education grant program in decision unit E-900 to the Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology to align the program funding with the staff who provide direct oversight of the program. The Graduate Medical Education grant program is included in the base budget.

E-900 Transfer from Special Approp to OSIT — Page ELECTED-88

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Other Closing Item 2 is Governor-recommended language to be added to the 2023-2025 biennium Appropriations Act establishing that the General Fund appropriation of \$25,000 in FY 2023-2024 to support Civil Air Patrol operations recommended in the base budget is available for both fiscal years and may be transferred within the same budget account from FY 2023-2024 to FY 2024-2025. Any amount so transferred must be used to pay for Civil Air Patrol operations as approved by the Legislature. The Seventy-ninth, Eightieth and Eighty-first Sessions approved similar back language that is being requested to support Civil Air Patrol operations.

Fiscal staff recommends B/A 101-1301 be closed as recommended by the Governor including the recommended 2023-2025 biennium Appropriations Act language for the Civil Air Patrol and requests authority for Fiscal staff to make technical adjustments as necessary.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE B/A 101-1301 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, INCLUSIVE OF THE RECOMMENDED 2023-2025 BIENNIUM APPROPRIATIONS ACT LANGUAGE FOR THE CIVIL AIR PATROL AND DECISION UNIT E-900 AS SHOWN ON PAGE 22 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) WITH AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL STAFF TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS, AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUDGET CLOSED.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

The Commission on Ethics B/A 101-1343 is on page 23 of [Exhibit C](#).

SPECIAL PURPOSE AGENCIES

ETHICS

Ethics – Commission on Ethics – Budget Page ETHICS-3 (Volume III)  
Budget Account 101-1343

The Commission on Ethics shown on page 23 of [Exhibit C](#), consists of eight members pursuant to NRS 281A.200 and is responsible for investigating and adjudicating public complaints involving the ethical conduct of public officers and employees; providing ethical guidance through published opinions; and providing outreach and education to public officers and employees regarding ethics requirements and prohibitions under Nevada law.

Pursuant to NRS 281A.270, each county whose population is 10,000 or more and each city whose population is 15,000 or more and is located within such a county shall pay an assessment for the costs incurred by the Commission each biennium in carrying out its functions. The Governor recommends a funding split of 28.04 percent State support and 71.96 percent local government support for the 2023-2025 biennium based on the number of State and local government public officers and employees. The funding split for the 2021-2023 biennium was 28 percent State support and 72 percent local government.

One Major Closing Issue in B/A 101-1343 is decision unit E-225 described on page 23 of [Exhibit C](#). The Executive Budget includes General Fund appropriations of \$58,210 and county reimbursements of \$149,386 over the 2023-2025 biennium for education and outreach, including the addition of a public Information officer I, grade 35, step 4, effective October 1, 2023, with associated ancillary costs. Funding would also support the continuation of a monthly subscription for the online training management system approved by the IFC on August 17, 2022, and funded with Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds.

E-225 Efficiency & Innovation – Page ETHICS-5

The new public Information officer would coordinate education and technical assistance efforts with State and local governments, respond to media and public inquiries, and maintain online education materials. According to the Agency, a focused position and approach to education and outreach to government agencies is needed to prevent ethics violations and ensure an ethical and effective government for all Nevadans. Additionally, with an



increasingly virtual and dynamic means of communications, a person with skills to leverage multiple platforms is needed.

The proposed duties for the new position include managing public relations and public information, media releases, newsletters, and brochures; producing and publishing multimedia presentations; responding to inquiries; developing and executing public relations; and planning, organizing, coordinating and publicizing a training program for State and local agencies using the Agency's new web-based training platform for basic and advanced ethics topics and issues.

A technical adjustment is described on page 24 of [Exhibit C](#). Fiscal staff notes the Executive Budget includes a total of 18 months of funding for the monthly subscription costs for the online training management system. In FY 2023-2024, there is \$14,400 for 12 months in the base budget, funded with Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds and \$7,200 for 6 months in FY 2024-2025. Fiscal staff recommends a technical adjustment to reduce FY 2023-2024 by total funding of \$7,200, made up of \$2,019 in General Fund appropriations and \$5,181 in county reimbursements.

Commission staff stated the current ethics training is primarily provided by the executive director. While ethics training of public officials and employees is not mandated by Nevada law, 1,562 people received ethics training in 2022 provided by the Commission or through an agreement with Clark County, through a 35-minute ethics training video provided by the Commission and located on the county's internal training platform.

The Agency provided anticipated workload time allocation for the new public information officer, shown on the bottom of page 24 of [Exhibit C](#). The Agency's annual public records requests, media inquiries and training request statistics are shown in the table on page 25.

A decision for the Committees is on page 25 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve General Fund appropriations of \$56,191 and county reimbursements of \$144,205 for B/A 101-1343 decision unit E-225 over the 2023-2025 biennium to fund an enhancement related to education and outreach, including a new public information officer position, including the noted technical adjustment to properly account for the online training management system costs?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS AS SHOWN ON PAGE 25 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) IN B/A 101-1343 DECISION UNIT E-225 OF \$56,191 AND COUNTY REIMBURSEMENTS OF \$144,205 OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO FUND AN ENHANCEMENT RELATED TO EDUCATION AND OUTREACH INCLUDING A NEW PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER POSITION AND THE NOTED TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO PROPERLY ACCOUNT FOR THE ONLINE TRAINING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM COSTS.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ms. DAY:

The final item in B/A 101-1343 is the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds on page 25 of [Exhibit C](#). The Governor recommends funding of \$14,400 in FY 2023-2024 and \$7,200 for FY 2024-2025 for the training management system that would coordinate education and technical assistance efforts with State and local governments.

The decision for the Committees is on page 25 of [Exhibit C](#). Do the Committees wish to approve Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$14,400 in FY 2023-2024 and \$7,200 in FY 2024-2025 to support the monthly subscription costs for the online training management system through December 31, 2024? Fiscal staff requests authority to make technical adjustments as necessary. There are no Other Closing Items in this budget.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO MOVED TO APPROVE AS SHOWN ON PAGE 25 OF [EXHIBIT C](#) CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS IN B/A 101-1343 OF \$14,400 IN FY 2023-2024 AND \$7,200 IN FY 2024-2025 TO SUPPORT THE MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION COSTS OF THE ONLINE TRAINING MANAGEMENT

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SYSTEM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024 WITH AUTHORITY FOR  
FISCAL STAFF TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO SECONDED THE MOTION.

ASSEMBLY: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUDGET CLOSED.

\* \* \* \* \*

Remainder of page intentionally left blank; signature page to follow.

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CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:  
Hearing no public comment, this meeting is adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Dee Chekowitz-Dykes,  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair

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

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Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Chair

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

| <b>EXHIBIT SUMMARY</b> |                       |   |  |                                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Bill</b>            | <b>Exhibit Letter</b> | <b>Introduced on Minute Report Page No.</b> | <b>Witness / Entity</b>  | <b>Description</b>                    |
|                        | A                     | 1   |  | Agenda                                |
|                        | B                     | 1   |  | Attendance Roster                     |
|                        | C                     | 2   | Stephanie Day / Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau | 4/24/23 Joint Full Closing List No. 7 |
|                        | D                     | 5   | Stephanie Day/ Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  | Budget Amendment A231021340           |
|                        | E                     | 7   | Stephanie Day/ Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  | Budget Amendment A231031340           |
|                        | F                     | 8   | Stephanie Day/ Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  | Budget Amendment A231231340           |
|                        | G                     | 10  | Stephanie Day/ Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  | Budget Amendment A231241340           |
|                        | H                     | 10  | Stephanie Day/ Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau  | Budget Amendment A231161340           |