

**MINUTES OF THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**Eighty-second Session  
June 2, 2023**

The Senate Committee on Government Affairs was called to order by Chair Edgar Flores at 2:34 p.m. on Friday, June 2, 2023, in Room 2134 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 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.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Edgar Flores, Chair  
Senator James Ohrenschall, Vice Chair  
Senator Pete Goicoechea  
Senator Lisa Krasner

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Skip Daly (Excused)

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Assembly District No. 1  
Assemblywoman Clara (Claire) Thomas, Assembly District No. 17

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jered McDonald, Policy Analyst  
Heidi Chlarson, Counsel  
Daniel Crossman, Legislative Auditor  
Suzanne Efford, Committee Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kabrina Feser, Operations Officer, Public Employees' Retirement System  
Christine Hess, Director, Nevada Housing Coalition  
Brooke Page, Corporation for Supportive Housing

Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 2

Arielle Edwards, Nevada HAND, Inc.  
Misty Grimmer, SilverSummit Healthplan  
Dylan Keith, Vegas Chamber  
Nic Ciccone, City of Reno  
Abbey Bernhardt, National Alliance on Mental Illness-Nevada Chapter  
Mendy Elliott, Reno Housing Authority; Southern Nevada Regional Housing  
Authority; Nevada Rural Housing Authority  
Geneva Martin  
Nick Schneider, Vegas Chamber  
Kandice Townsend, City of North Las Vegas  
Morgan Biaselli, Las Vegas City Employees Association  
Christine Saunders, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada  
Constance Brooks, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Sheila Bray, University of Nevada, Reno  
Chaunsey Chau-Duong, Southern Nevada Water Authority  
Michelle Maese, President, Service Employees International Union Local 1107  
Christopher Guy  
Steve Williams, President, National Juneteenth Foundation  
Dee Evans, Juneteenth Nevada; Vice Chair, National Juneteenth Observance  
Foundation Nevada  
Tiffany Unidentified Testifier  
Jasmine Unidentified Testifier  
Pastor Kelcey West  
Bishop Derek Rimson  
Mahaney Williams  
Sara Evans  
Quentin Savvoir, NAACP, Las Vegas Branch  
Jennifer Gachui, President, African Diaspora of Las Vegas  
Alessa Musarawa  
Jo Cato, African Chamber of Commerce and Tourism

CHAIR FLORES:

We will open the hearing with Assembly Bill (A.B.) 461.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 461**: Revises provisions relating to the Public Employees'  
Retirement System. (BDR 23-1075)

KABRINA FESER (Operations Officer, Public Employees' Retirement System):  
Assembly Bill 461 creates the position of chief administrative analyst as a member of the executive staff within the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS). This is a budget implementation bill.

The Public Employees' Retirement Board has requested the chief administrative analyst to create a series within the executive staff and allow the practical distribution of work between two analysts due to increased workload and complexity. This position will act as the liaison between businesses and executive staff and implement organization change management throughout PERS and all the stakeholders in support of the new pension administration system project.

The analysts will support agency objectives such as the audit committee of the board and the internal audit team; monitor federal and IRS regulations, such as the federal SECURE 2.0 Act as well as changes to IRS forms W-4P and W-4R and the required minimum distribution; review and update official policies to meet evolving business needs; and lead ongoing actuary inquiries and reporting.

CHAIR FLORES:

We will close the hearing on A.B. 461 and open the hearing on A.B. 517.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 517 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions governing the Legislative Counsel Bureau. (BDR 17-447)

DANIEL CROSSMAN (Legislative Auditor):

Assembly Bill 517 is an accountability bill resulting from the additional revenues allocated to public education. This bill contemplates a series of performance audits to be completed by the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Audit Division, on certain school districts.

This audit contemplates a series of audits beginning with the largest three school districts: Clark County, Washoe County and the State Public Charter School Authority. The audit reports are due no later than the end of August 2026. Section 5 of the bill encompasses the various objectives defined for evaluation. Following that initial period of audits, every four years thereafter, the Audit Division is to return and perform an additional audit of those three districts.

Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 4

Section 6 of the bill provides the opportunity for the Interim Finance Committee to assign the Audit Division to perform audits as well in that second four-year cycle on up to an additional three districts in addition to those larger three districts.

The rest of the bill follows the general processes of the Audit Division under *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 218G in presenting audits to the Audit Subcommittee and various other requirements in performing its work.

SENATOR DALY:  
Is there an Audit Subcommittee?

MR. CROSSMAN:  
The Audit Division sends reports to the Audit Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission. Existing regulations require its reports to be provided directly to the Audit Subcommittee and then a follow-up presentation to the Legislative Commission.

CHAIR FLORES:  
We will close the hearing on A.B. 517 and open the hearing on A.B. 310.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 310 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions governing affordable housing. (BDR 25-1032)

CHRISTINE HESS (Director, Nevada Housing Coalition):  
Assembly Bill 310 creates the Nevada Supportive Housing Development Fund.

Nevada is in an affordable housing crisis, but I will demonstrate the intersection between the lack of housing and homelessness. Assembly Bill 310 can provide the solution to end Nevada's homelessness crisis.

Page 2 of the presentation (Exhibit C) contains Nevada's affordable housing supply. These numbers are from 2022. The 36,187 subsidized housing units are now 37,000 so the State is moving in the right direction. When I talk about subsidized housing, I am talking about housing that has income restrictions and rent-restricted amounts below market rate. They only serve certain income levels.

I chose this data because you can see the subsidized housing inventory by the different income levels they serve. Focus on the last line indicating 30 percent to 35 percent of area median income (AMI). Depending on where you are in the State, this is \$20,000 to \$26,000 per year.

That number, 1,118 units, is from 2022. The updated number for 2023 is 1,200 units. That is the housing our unhoused neighbors need. The market does not build affordable housing, especially for households whose incomes are less than 60 percent of the AMI. Affordable housing does not build housing for the most vulnerable, at least not much. That is housing below 30 percent to 35 percent of AMI.

Many people in shelters in northern and southern Nevada are working. How can they move out of shelters if there are only 1,200 units in the entire State they could maybe move into—not to mention the services they need to help keep them stably housed. That is the solution A.B. 310 brings. This bill is transformative.

Supportive housing would serve incomes at the level of 30 percent to 35 percent of AMI. What I showed you was like bricks and sticks. Those numbers of housing units being built are restricted to serve that income level. Why are we not building it? We can build the bricks and sticks. However, in order for it to be financially feasible and to attract equity and debt financing and know those units can be restricted to those income levels for 30 years or more, you have to show you have the services alongside to support many in those homes. Those who need those services are the homeless. Some may not need any services; some may need services for a short time; and some may need them for a long time. That specialty housing is called supportive housing. It does not look any different on the outside, but it has wraparound services that come along side to keep those individuals stably housed.

When I think of it for myself, I look around my neighborhood; many of the same struggles our unhoused neighbors are having are happening in our own neighborhoods. But we have the privilege of having it behind closed doors. We get the services it takes to keep ourselves stable. Supportive housing brings that to the table.

A study done by the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) has estimated that 6,924 people in Nevada need supportive housing. We need to start

somewhere. We have some excellent developers in the State working on this. We have some excellent nonprofits providing the services. But we have not taken a targeted, strategic approach to actually provide housing to end homelessness. That is what A.B. 310 will do.

Supportive housing is cost-effective. It costs the same to keep people cycling in the emergency room for nine days, in jail for three months or in supportive housing with supportive services and rental assistance for one year.

BROOKE PAGE (Corporation for Supportive Housing):

The CSH supports A.B. 310. It provides an opportunity to define supportive housing and provide the resources necessary to ensure that people have the resources to access housing and maintain stable housing.

The first component of the bill is the services. This is different than what would traditionally be in resident services. Resident services are important to the community. We need resident services. Assembly Bill 310 gives us the opportunity to scale the services for a population that needs a more intensive service model with tenancy support and intensive case management.

This is an evidence-based model, and we know it works. It has been proven in other communities. We want to scale that intervention for Nevada. We also know when we provide supportive housing, we receive quality outcomes. People stay housed; they are satisfied with where they are living; they want to live there; and they increase their employment and their income. They ensure they receive the benefits they are entitled to. They improve their physical and mental health because housing is health care. They develop a sense of community and social connectedness.

The component of A.B. 310 important for you to be aware of is it provides the infrastructure for supportive housing. Because there is no model for the infrastructure set up in statute, this bill provides the opportunity to codify it, define what supportive housing means and to work in collaboration with the Nevada Housing Division. The Nevada Housing Division does important work for the State already. It manages many of the State's housing tools. This bill provides the State with resources in the Housing Division so it can pair this service resource with its capital and operating funds and manage it within the Nevada Housing Division.

Another important component is working across systems and sectors which provide opportunities for collaboration with the Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing. This will support those with lived experience to ensure the people most impacted by homelessness are at the table so they can show how these resources are being used.

This is one-shot funding. We are asking for \$32.2 million which is a drop in the bucket compared to the amount of need in the State. But this important one-shot investment is critical because it provides the opportunity to service over 500 people in a pilot project to show how this works. It sends signals to other funders that this is important, and this fund provides the opportunity to contribute other resources outside of the State. The State can receive resources from grants, the federal government, philanthropy and corporate sponsors. That provides an opportunity to leverage these resources and provide sustainability for the long term. Assembly Bill 310 has many important components.

We also want to build capacity. We want to help Medicaid-billable providers have long-term resources they can bill for these services. We want to help support those in the field and provide training for property managers and developers to do this intervention at high quality.

There are also resources in this bill to help with tracking the progress of who is being served, where the developments are, how people are getting access to these resources, and how they are benefitting. Are we seeing the outcomes we know work? We want to track that and report back to the Legislature in future sessions about the impact this investment is making in Nevada.

There is little inventory of this housing type for this population in the community. What we do not prioritize, we do not build. That impacts who can be housed. What we do not track, we do not measure. We have an opportunity to create infrastructure in Nevada to prioritize people who need this intervention. I urge your support of A.B. 310.

Ms. HESS:

Page 8 of the presentation, Exhibit C, shows what measuring outcome means. We are going to show how one-shot funding works. We are going to open the doors to leverage the federal funds we are not leveraging. We do not know what they are or how much they are.

Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 8

The Denver Impact Bond program on the left of the graph and the Arizona Medicaid program on the right show the savings to the public because they implemented a housing solution. Of course, crisis intervention services are needed for the unhoused population and those suffering. The Denver program noted about a \$6,600 savings per person per year. In that study, they tracked individuals who were previously unhoused. After three years, 77 percent of them maintained stable housing. That means they are doing what we all hope for, getting into the workforce, being a part of the community and being the best version of themselves.

We realize it is a heavy ask and a heavy lift, but we must take this step now.

ARIELLE EDWARDS (Nevada HAND, Inc.):

Supportive housing is important for our communities. I urge the passage of A.B. 310.

MISTY GRIMMER (SilverSummit Healthplan):

SilverSummit Healthplan supports this bill and the ability to find a location for these individuals to be in so they can get the services they need. This is where SilverSummit Healthplan comes in—to ensure they get the healthcare services they need. They need to have a place to land first. That is why supportive housing is so important. Those numbers Ms. Hess spoke about regarding the success rate of a person once in a home who can get services is so overwhelming to this argument. We encourage the passage of this bill.

DYLAN KEITH (Vegas Chamber):

The Vegas Chamber supports this bill and asks you to support it.

NIC CICCONE (City of Reno):

I say ditto. The City of Reno supports the bill.

ABBEY BERNHARDT (National Alliance on Mental Illness-Nevada Chapter):

At three years old, I was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. I experienced manic episodes and rapid cycling. I had so much anxiety, sadness and anger all at once. My favorite cartoon character was the Tasmanian Devil because I felt I could spin just like him. By middle school, the mania turned to depression. I was bullied by other students which led to binge eating. I went to multiple schools promising resources and support that never materialized. At one of the



schools, the principal called me in every day to tell me I was hopeless and helpless and was never going to amount to anything.

If you are emotionally abused every day, you start to believe what you hear. At ten years old, I attempted suicide. At the same time, I was going through a major medication adjustment, coming off ten medications. It was a nightmare. The process took years and there was no support. I was expected to live my life and do my daily activities as well as go to school as if my mind and body were not in crisis. It was hard to stabilize my condition, and I was hospitalized 13 times that year. I needed more support than an outpatient or an inpatient short-term program could provide. This supportive housing program would have helped me. Please support A.B. 310.

MENDY ELLIOTT (Reno Housing Authority; Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority; Nevada Rural Housing Authority):

Looking for solutions to provide a seamless avenue for these individuals is important. Part of the challenge is that we have not had the ability to provide those wraparound services.

Twenty years ago, I was involved in a Reno city task force talking about how to provide wraparound services and to identify the individual services these people need. The experts we need to surround these people with are expensive. But investing in this population's lives can make a difference.

We heard they have a success rate in Denver of 77 percent. If we can do that in Nevada, that would be an amazing opportunity for everyone. It is catalyst funding. It is aligned to housing which is important; it leverages Medicaid and trains the workforce.

As the State develops its qualified allocation plans through the Housing Division, it can encourage developers to build these types of projects. These services which will be aligned with this program will encourage developers to do just that, develop those types of projects.

We encourage your support of this bill. It is one-shot funding. It is data-driven which is important to all of us. We need to know our money is being leveraged and doing what it is supposed to do. These are taxpayer dollars; more importantly, these are people who need our help.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DANIELE MONROE-MORENO (Assembly District No. 1):

This bill will be transformational for people's lives. I hope we have earned your support.

MS. PAGE:

Many Nevadans need this level of intervention, and we are not developing it at a fast pace. We want an opportunity to use this to demonstrate the effectiveness of what supportive housing can do.

MS. HESS:

This bill earned a unanimous vote out of the Assembly. It is good policy. It is good fiscal policy. One hundred eleven people and organizations signed on to a support letter we previously circulated. This has broad support from tenant advocates, the Nevada Resort Association and the chambers of commerce. The business community and nonprofits are stepping up. Nevada and Nevadans need this now.

CHAIR FLORES:

I have received a letter ([Exhibit D](#)) in support of A.B. 310 from Booker Timothy Reid, Jr. We will close the hearing on A.B. 310 and open the hearing on A.B. 299.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 299 (1st Reprint)**: Creates the Nevada Medal of Distinction.  
(BDR 18-780)

GENEVA MARTIN:

I am a policy intern for the Assembly Leadership Office. The Nevada Medal of Distinction is awarded each year to one living person and one deceased person who have made significant and lasting contributions to the State.

The administration of the award will be overseen by the Nevada Awards and Honors Board. The Board will be established through the Governor's Office. The Governor will nominate five members who are residents of the State to oversee the administration of the award. The Board will also be responsible for establishing the requirements to determine whether a person is a Nevada resident or otherwise has a sufficient connection to the State to qualify for the award. The Board will procure the manufacture of the medal which will be given at the reception and celebration of the award.

The nomination process will be overseen by the Nevada Medal of Distinction selection committee. This committee will be made up of three members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, two members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and two members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nevada.

The celebration of the award will be held on alternating years between Clark County and Carson City.

There are stipulations in case of a supermajority—with the Governor of the same party as both the Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly—to make sure it remains a nonpartisan celebration of the accomplishments of Nevadans. This award is for Nevadans by Nevadans and is meant to be a celebration of everything accomplished in the State.

NICK SCHNEIDER (Vegas Chamber):

The Vegas Chamber supports A.B. 299. It is important to recognize the contributions of Nevadans for Nevada.

MS. MARTIN:

It is important to celebrate the accomplishments of the residents of this State and other people who have had lasting impacts. Assembly Bill 299 gives us an ample and wonderful opportunity to do that without the confines of partisanship. It is a celebration of all the wonderful things our State represents. I urge your support.

CHAIR FLORES:

We will close the hearing on A.B. 299 and open the hearing on A.B. 140.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 140 (1st Reprint)**: Makes Juneteenth Day a legal holiday in this State. (BDR 19-63)

ASSEMBLYWOMAN CLARA (CLAIRE) THOMAS (Assembly District No. 17):

Assembly Bill 140 makes Juneteenth Day a legal holiday in Nevada rather than a day of observance. According to the Congressional Research Service's Juneteenth fact sheet, the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect on January 1, 1863. However, it was nearly two and half years later, on June 19, 1865, when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people were freed. It is this day,

June 19, 1865, when slaves in the last geographic area in America where slavery existed learned of their freedom that we commemorate Juneteenth Day.

On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed Senate Resolution (S.R.) 475 of the 117th Congress to create Juneteenth National Independence Day. Juneteenth National Independence Day is to be observed on June 19 or the Monday following if June 19 falls on a Sunday, or the Friday preceding if June 19 falls upon a Saturday. That was added to Title 5 USC, section 6103, Holidays.

Assembly Bill 140 mirrors the provisions of the federal legislation to ensure that the holiday is observed on the same day as the federal holiday. Nevada has 11 legal holidays; Juneteenth Day will be the twelfth legal holiday for the State. The bill makes a conforming change to account for the closure of State, county and city government offices for Juneteenth Day.

The Legislative Counsel Bureau, Research Division, compiled the following information. Carson City closed all of its offices on June 20, 2022, in observance of Juneteenth Day. Humboldt County, according to the 2022-2024 law enforcement unit collective bargaining agreement, will treat Juneteenth as a recognized holiday for fiscal year (FY) 2022-2023 and FY 2023-2024 even if the Nevada Legislature does not pass legislation declaring it a State legal holiday. Lander County stated any day declared a legal holiday by the President of the United States will be observed in accordance with the presidential proclamation. Lyon County's Board of Commissioners has unanimously resolved to observe Juneteenth as a county holiday—Assemblyman Ken Gray was on the Commission at that time. Mineral County recognized the Juneteenth holiday through collective bargaining agreements. Nye County has recognized it as a holiday. Pershing County has recognized it in its personnel policies. Storey County has recognized it as a holiday. Washoe County proclaimed it a county holiday in 2021 and 2022. The City of Carlin stated any day declared a legal holiday by the President of the United States may be observed. The City of Elko stated any day declared a legal holiday by the President of the United States will be observed in accordance with the presidential proclamation. The City of Henderson's human resource department confirmed Juneteenth Day as one of the 12 paid holidays offered to employees starting in 2023. The Government Affairs Manager of the City of Las Vegas confirmed the City began observing Juneteenth as a paid holiday in June 2022. The City of Mesquite observes any day declared a legal national holiday by the President of the

United States or any holiday declared by the Governor of Nevada. The City of North Las Vegas was the first municipality in Nevada to formally recognize Juneteenth Day in June 2021. Later that year, its city council updated a collective bargaining agreement to add it as a paid city holiday. The Cities of Reno and Fernley observe Juneteenth Day.

That means a lot because people in northern Nevada tend to not believe what people in southern Nevada believe. I am proud that Nevada recognizes Juneteenth Day as a legal holiday.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I was not aware it was actually a proclaimed federal holiday. Does that process have to go through Congress? Once the President declares a national holiday, does it stay a national holiday until somebody repeals it or is that forever?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS:

Whenever the President has declared it, it is concurred with Congress.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I did not know if Congress had also acted on it.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS:

It is a legal holiday.

HEIDI CHLARSON (Legal Counsel):

Juneteenth is already a federal holiday. It has gone through the process, and it is officially a federal holiday.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I appreciate that.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL:

We have seen Congress change and repeal holidays. It is great to put it in the NRS so if new acts repeal holidays, we will still have them in statute as State holidays.

Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 14

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I am always concerned about the economic impact of holidays. If the federal government repeals a holiday, I hope the Legislature follows suit. However, because it is a federal holiday, I am on board.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS:

There has always been a concern about money. Holidays generate revenue for Nevada, especially three-day holidays or three-day weekends. The research I did before presenting the bill shows more revenue comes in than goes out when visitors come to Nevada.

I imagine people will come to northern Nevada now that it celebrates Juneteenth Day. Can you imagine people from all over the world coming to Nevada to celebrate Juneteenth like they do in Texas?

MR. CICCONE:

The City of Reno supports this bill.

KANDICE TOWNSEND (City of North Las Vegas):

I ditto my colleagues.

MR. SCHNEIDER:

The Vegas Chamber supports A.B. 140. It has been celebrating and observing Juneteenth Day as long as I have been working there.

MORGAN BIASSELLI (Las Vegas City Employees Association):

The Las Vegas City Employees Association supports A.B. 140.

CHRISTINE SAUNDERS (Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada):

The Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada supports this bill.

CONSTANCE BROOKS (University of Nevada, Las Vegas):

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, one of the most diverse institutions in the Country, supports this legislation. As a Black American Nevadan, this legislation means a lot to me personally. Thank you for your support.

SHEILA BRAY (University of Nevada, Reno):

The University of Nevada, Reno, supports this bill.

Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 15

CHAUNSEY CHAU-DUONG (Southern Nevada Water Authority):  
The Southern Nevada Water Authority supports this bill.

MICHELLE MAESE (President, Service Employees International Union Local 1107):  
The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) represents 19,000 healthcare and public sector workers throughout Nevada.

I am a long-time supervisor of the Clark County Department of Family Services. The SEIU dittos and echoes the sentiments of colleagues on behalf of the workers the SEIU represents. It urges this Committee to pass A.B. 140 to make Juneteenth Day a special State holiday. Being the first Black president of SEIU Local 1107, I am appreciative to this Committee and to Assemblywoman Thomas for bringing this forward.

CHRISTOPHER GUY:

I am a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and also a member of the NAACP. I am the grandson of Judge Addeliar Guy who is the first African-American District Court Judge in Nevada. I ditto all the comments on making Juneteenth a State holiday.

STEVE WILLIAMS (President, National Juneteenth Foundation):

The National Juneteenth Foundation is the primary advocate for the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act. I am proud of Nevada and its role in Juneteenth legislation across the Country. The father of the modern Juneteenth movement, Reverend Ronald V. Myers, Sr., often started his cross-country venture for Juneteenth in Las Vegas. It was at his and Dee Evans's urging that Juneteenth became eligible to be a national holiday. Nevada will become the thirty-ninth state in the Country to ratify it.

A statement from the National Juneteenth Foundation noted that United States troops leaving from City Point, Virginia, present day Hopewell, Virginia, as a show of force along the Texas-Mexico border ran into a storm in the Gulf of Mexico and were forced to land in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865. Over 5,000 United States troops bivouacked on the island that day to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. General Order No. 3 was posted on the door of the Black church, present day Reedy Chapel, informing all of absolute equality. This is Juneteenth, and this is what is present in Nevada through its history from the Moulin Rouge Agreement all the way up. I appreciate the effort and the work you have done,

Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 16

and we look forward to you joining the coalition of states that recognize Juneteenth.

DEE EVANS (Juneteenth Nevada; Vice Chair, National Juneteenth Observance Foundation Nevada):

I support A.B. 140 which is in coordination with S.R. 475 of the 117th Congress. Juneteenth is the realization of the freedom legislations, the actualization of the Emancipation Proclamation, General Order No. 3 and the Thirteenth Amendment making this a true holiday for all Americans as we recognize the wave of freedom in 2023. The Fourth of July freed the Country from the British; Juneteenth freed the Country from slavery. I support what Mr. Williams said previously, and we look forward to having our holiday.

MS. EDWARDS:

I echo all the comments made before me. Nevada HAND supports this legislation.

TIFFANY UNIDENTIFIED TESTIFIER:

I am an SEIU member, and I support A.B. 140. This bill will honor our ancestors who fought so hard to provide us with the freedoms we have today.

JASMINE UNIDENTIFIED TESTIFIER:

I work for Clark County Family Services. I am also a member of SEIU, and I support A.B. 140.

PASTOR KELCEY WEST:

I serve as a board member for the 100 Black Men of America, Inc., and I am a member of the NAACP. I echo the sentiments that have been shared before me, and I support A.B. 140.

BISHOP DEREK RIMSON:

I serve as the chair of the subcommittee of the NAACP Public Action and Social Justice Committee. I support A.B. 140.

MAHANEY WILLIAMS:

I am employed by the Clark County Department of Family Services and a member of SEIU Local 1107. I support A.B. 140, and I urge you to do the same.



Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 17

SARA EVANS:

I am the Vice President of the supervisory bargaining unit, SEIU Local 7, and the fundraising chair on the Nevada National Organization for Women (NOW) board. The SEIU and the Nevada NOW board support A.B. 140.

QUENTIN SAVVOIR (NAACP, Las Vegas Branch):

I support A.B. 140. It is important for us to celebrate Juneteenth in Nevada. Black history is American history. If we forget that, we forget our history as a Country. It is important to celebrate the diversity and the richness of culture on Juneteenth.

JENNIFER GACHUI (President, African Diaspora of Las Vegas):

The African Diaspora of Las Vegas supports A.B. 140 to allow Nevada to celebrate Juneteenth as a State holiday.

A robust African community lives and works in Las Vegas and calls Nevada home. Juneteenth goes to the foundation of our community, especially a community like ours. We are able to live in this adopted country and call Nevada home. It truly is a part of our heritage and freedom. We support the legislation and urge you to do the same.

ALESSA MUSARAWA:

I am a member of the African diaspora who has lived in Las Vegas since 1999. I support A.B. 140 because it supports the freedoms we have experienced as one of African descent. I came from Zimbabwe, which was a British colony. It was through the support of the African Americans that we are free in this Country. I emphasize the importance of this day to me as an African immigrant and a member of the community of the diaspora in Las Vegas.

JO CATO (African Chamber of Commerce and Tourism):

The African Chamber of Commerce supports A.B. 140. This bill will allow Nevada to celebrate Juneteenth as a State holiday. The African Chamber's membership is made up of Africans in the diaspora as well as people from the Caribbean like me. Understanding the history of this State which we call home and of how Juneteenth came about resonates with us. We are happy to live in this State, call it home and raise our families. I urge the Committee to support this bill.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN THOMAS:

Juneteenth is an important holiday for Nevada. Coming together as a Nation is something we can hang our hat on. I urge you to support the bill.

CHAIR FLORES:

I close the hearing on A.B. 140 and request motions on the bills heard today.

SENATOR KRASNER MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 140.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATOR OHRENSCHALL MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 299.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATOR OHRENSCHALL MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 310.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATOR OHRENSCHALL MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 461.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 19

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 517.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

CHAIR FLORES:

As you recall on May 24, 2023, we had a hearing on A.B. 514 presented by Assemblyman Phillip P.K. O'Neill, Minority Leader.

ASSEMBLY BILL 514 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions governing public buildings. (BDR S-1193)

The measure names the building that contains the headquarters of the Nevada Department of Transportation in Carson City as the Garth F. Dull Building in recognition of the contributions that Garth F. Dull made to the people of Nevada by maintaining and improving transportation in this State through his work for the Nevada Department of Transportation.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 514.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL SECONDED THE MOTION.

CHAIR FLORES:

I had the privilege of having an opportunity to speak with some family members, and I appreciate that they loved him and the work he did, not just for the State, but they described what an incredible family man he was.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

Senate Committee on Government Affairs  
June 2, 2023  
Page 20

CHAIR FLORES:

The meeting of the Senate Committee on Government Affairs is adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Suzanne Efford,  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Senator Edgar Flores, 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
A.B. 310	C	4	Christine Hess / Nevada Housing Coalition	Presentation
A.B. 310	D	10	Booker Timothy Reid Jr.	Letter of Support