

**MINUTES OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND LABOR**

**Seventy-third Session
March 30, 2005**

The subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor was called to order by Chair Maggie Carlton at 9:50 a.m. on Wednesday, March 30, 2005, in Room 2135 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. [Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda. [Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file at the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Maggie Carlton
Senator Sandra J. Tiffany
Senator Joe Heck

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Powers, Committee Counsel
Jeanine Wittenberg, Committee Secretary
Scott Young, Committee Policy Analyst
Jane Tetherton, Committee Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dorothy B. North, President, Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Gambling Counselors
Sharon Atkinson, Executive Director, Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Gambling Counselors
Helen A. Foley, Nevada Association of Marriage and Family Therapists
K. Neena Laxalt, Nevada Association of Marriage and Family Therapists
Bryan Gresh, Nevada State Psychological Association

CHAIR CARLTON:

The hearing is now open for discussion on Senate Bill (S.B.) 182. I have heard the initial hearing on this bill and mental health access is an important issue.

[SENATE BILL 182](#): Revises provisions governing certain alcohol and drug abuse counselors. (BDR 54-303)

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DOROTHY B. NORTH (President, Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Gambling Counselors):

The concept behind S.B. 182 is fine, but the bill needs further consideration. Since it is late in the Legislative Session, my recommendation is to withdraw the bill.

CHAIR CARLTON:

Ms. North, since you are the president of the Board, does it directly impact the Board?

Ms. NORTH:

Yes, it does. There are several items that are not in S.B. 182 that should be covered under the statutes and frankly we do not have the time to address them in the current Legislative Session.

CHAIR CARLTON:

Is that the general consensus for all at the testifiers' table?

SHARON ATKINSON (Executive Director, Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Gambling Counselors):

I agree with Ms. North.

HELEN A. FOLEY (Nevada Association of Marriage and Family Therapists):

I also agree with Ms. North.

K. NEENA LAXALT (Nevada Association of Marriage and Family Therapists):

I agree with Ms. North.

BRYAN GRESH (Nevada State Psychological Association):

I agree with Ms. North.

CHAIR CARLTON:

Are there any further questions regarding this bill?

SENATOR TIFFANY:

Mental health issues are important and I hope that everyone can work together to achieve positive solutions to this bill.

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SENATOR HECK:

The foremost issue that should be addressed in S.B. 182 is the endorsement that a licensing board issues for which it does not have jurisdiction. Nevada is one of two states that does not have a mental health counselor position offered. I think we need to review that possibility as opposed to trying to have cross endorsements between different jurisdictions.

SENATOR HECK MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND LABOR NO FURTHER ACTION BE TAKEN ON S.B. 182.

SENATOR TIFFANY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR CARLTON:

The meeting of the subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor is now adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Jane Tetherton,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Maggie Carlton, Chair

DATE: _____