

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**Seventy-Fourth Session  
May 4, 2007**

The Committee on Ways and Means was called to order by Chair Morse Arberry Jr. at 9:03 a.m., on Friday, May 4, 2007, in Room 3137 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, 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/74th/committees/](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/74th/committees/). In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (email: [publications@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:publications@lcb.state.nv.us); telephone: 775-684-6835).

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr., Chair  
Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie, Vice Chair  
Assemblywoman Barbara E. Buckley  
Assemblyman Mo Denis  
Assemblywoman Heidi S. Gansert  
Assemblyman Tom Grady  
Assemblyman Joseph P. (Joe) Hardy  
Assemblyman Joseph Hogan  
Assemblywoman Ellen Koivisto  
Assemblyman John W. Marvel  
Assemblywoman Kathy McClain  
Assemblywoman Debbie Smith  
Assemblywoman Valerie E. Weber

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Assemblyman David R. Parks

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mark W. Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst  
Carol Thomsen, Committee Secretary  
Patricia Adams, Committee Assistant

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on S.B. 336.

**Senate Bill 336 (1st Reprint): Makes supplemental appropriations to the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. (BDR S-1260)**

Pete Anderson, State Forester, Nevada Division of Forestry, explained that S.B. 336 (R1) contained the supplemental appropriation for fire suppression costs for the past year in the amount of \$1,660,873. The bill also included the costs for utilities and an incorrectly budgeted aircraft insurance amount totaling \$69,643.



Chairman Arberry asked for clarification regarding the total amount of the supplemental appropriation. Mr. Anderson explained that the bill met two separate needs, the cost of fire suppression and utilities, for a total of \$1,660,873. Chairman Arberry asked about the cost included in the original request for a supplemental appropriation. Mr. Anderson believed that the amount had remained consistent; however, there had been a slight increase in the cost of utilities.

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), noted that the Division was anxious to receive the supplemental appropriation, and he asked Mr. Anderson to explain the importance to the Committee.

Mr. Anderson explained that it was very important that the Division pay its vendors from the last fire season and pay its utilities. Mr. Anderson emphasized that the budget account for the Division was quite low at the present time.

Chairman Arberry asked how soon the Division would pay its vendors should the Committee approve S.B. 336 (R1). Mr. Anderson replied that the Division would immediately commence paying its vendors.

With no further testimony forthcoming on S.B. 336 (R1), Chairman Arberry declared the hearing closed.

The Chairman opened the hearing on S.B. 337 (R1).

**Senate Bill 337 (1st Reprint): Makes a supplemental appropriation to the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services of the Department of Health and Human Services for the Family Preservation Program. (BDR S-1256)**

Robert Forderhase, Administrative Services Officer 3, Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), explained that S.B. 337 (R1) would provide a supplemental appropriation of \$40,000 for the Family Preservation Program. The Division had evaluated its caseload and determined that it was appropriate to reduce the amount of the request to \$40,000 because caseloads were lower than projected.

Mr. Forderhase stated that the Family Preservation Program provided monthly payments of \$350 for families to provide care in their homes for family members with profound or severe mental retardation. The program was an unqualified success because it helped keep families together and reduced the burden on the State, which would otherwise need to provide institutional care or an intensive, supportive living arrangement for those persons at a much higher cost.

According to Mr. Forderhase, in 2006 the Division received a Contingency Fund allocation that allowed the Division to provide assistance to a greater number of families than the number included in its budget. The supplemental appropriation in S.B. 337 (R1) would allow the Division to continue to provide payment to families currently receiving assistance. Mr. Forderhase explained that without the funding in the bill the Division would be forced to reduce the monthly payments to families during June 2007.

Chairman Arberry asked how soon the Division would need the supplemental appropriation included in the bill. Mr. Forderhase replied that the Division could make the payments to families through May 25, 2007, at which time the supplemental funding would be needed.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there were further questions or testimony forthcoming on S.B. 337 (R1) and, there being none, declared the hearing closed.

The Chairman opened discussion of S.B. 338.

**Senate Bill 338: Makes a supplemental appropriation to the Aging Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services for relocation expenses. (BDR S-1252)**

Carol Sala, Administrator, Division for Aging Services, Department of Health and Human Services, introduced herself and Carolyn Misumi to the Committee.

Ms. Sala explained that S.B. 338 would make a supplemental appropriation to the Division for Aging Services for relocation expenses in the amount of \$39,613 related to relocation of the Division's Las Vegas regional office. The funding would pay for the cost related to the relocation, which was necessary because the lease on the current office had expired, and the facility was no longer appropriate for the agency.

Assemblyman Denis asked what the address of the office would be after relocation. Ms. Sala indicated that the office had not relocated at the present time and was awaiting tenant improvements at the new location. The office was currently located on West Sahara, and the new location would be on East Sahara. Ms. Sala explained that the Division's current landlord had refused to renew its lease at the present location.

Chairman Arberry asked why the Division was requesting the funding through a supplemental appropriation.

Carolyn Misumi, Administrative Services Officer 3, Division for Aging Services, explained that the move was unanticipated by the Division, and the supplemental appropriation represented the additional costs anticipated by the Division in addition to the tenant improvement allowance offered by the new landlord.

Chairman Arberry asked whether the Division would use a portion of the supplemental appropriation for improvements on the new location. Ms. Misumi stated that was correct. The tenant improvement allowance offered by the landlord was \$79,000, and the supplemental appropriation would pay the costs anticipated by the Division to exceed the allowance.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there were further questions or testimony to come before the Committee about S.B. 338, and there being none, the Chairman declared the hearing closed.

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on S.B. 444 (R1).

**Senate Bill 444 (1st Reprint): Makes a supplemental appropriation to the Office of the Governor for dues for the National Governors Association and other costs. (BDR S-1240)**

Elizabeth Barber, Deputy Budget Director, Department of Administration, explained that S.B. 444 (R1) contained the request for a supplemental appropriation for the Governor's Office. Ms. Barber stated that the funding was primarily for two separate contracts that totaled \$63,357, which also included the increase in dues for the National Governors Association.

Chairman Arberry noted that the amount had decreased from approximately \$80,000 to \$63,357, and he asked for an explanation. Ms. Barber explained that the bill originally included terminal leave costs, but the salaries had been covered without additional supplemental funds. Basically, Ms. Barber said, S.B. 444 (R1) requested a supplemental appropriation for the National Governors Association and two contracts.

Assemblyman Denis asked about the appropriation for a bill-tracking database. Ms. Barber stated that the contract was negotiated by the Governor's Office, and the total contract cost was \$25,000.

Mr. Denis asked whether the bill-tracking database was different from the service offered by the Legislature. Ms. Barber explained the contract included a person who tracked bills for the Governor's Office. Mr. Denis wondered why the Governor's Office wanted a person to track bills. Ms. Barber stated that she did not have further information. Mr. Denis asked for the name of the person, and Ms. Barber indicated that she would provide that information to Mr. Denis.

Assemblywoman Leslie questioned why the Governor's Office needed to hire a contractor, who would not use the Legislative Counsel Bureau's bill-tracking system, at a cost of \$25,000. Ms. Barber stated that she had no further information about the contract.

Assemblywoman Gansert opined that the person contracted by the Governor's Office would not simply track bills, but would also inform the Governor of the need to interject or testify regarding certain bills. She believed that the contract included a person to help deal with the Legislature rather than simply tracking bills.

Ms. Leslie questioned why the Governor's Office needed to hire a contractor, and she asked Ms. Barber to provide additional information to the Committee about the contract. Ms. Leslie stated that she would like to know about the duties of the contractor and whether the contractor would be advising the Governor about bills that might require intervention. Ms. Barber stated that she would provide the requested information to the Subcommittee.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there were further questions or testimony to come before the Committee about S.B. 444 (R1), and there being none, the Chairman declared the hearing closed.

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on S.B. 456.

**Senate Bill 456: Extends the reversion date of a previous appropriation to the Department of Administration for the digital microwave project. (BDR S-1151)**

Dave McTeer, Division Chief, Information Technology (IT) Division, Department of Administration, explained that S.B. 456 would extend the reversion date for a portion of the appropriation made by the 2005 Legislature to the Department of Administration for the digital microwave project. Mr. McTeer indicated that

the extension would allow the IT Division to complete phase 4 of the digital microwave project.

Assemblyman Hardy asked about the total amount of the reversion. Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), explained that the bill would provide an extension of the reversion date for a portion of the appropriation made by the 2005 Legislature. Mr. Stevens said he was not sure how much funding had been spent to date and how much would revert. He suggested that perhaps Mr. McTeer could provide additional information to the Committee.

Mr. McTeer explained that there was approximately \$2.8 million remaining of the original amount, and a portion of that would be spent between now and June 30, 2007, as work was still ongoing. However, the amount that would be carried forward rather than reverting was approximately \$2.8 million.

Assemblyman Denis asked what remained to be done on the project. Kenneth Adams, Deputy Chief, Communications Group, Department of Information Technology (DoIT), stated that work was ongoing on phase 4, which included spur sites located throughout the State. There were approximately 28 sites overall, with four sites undergoing major construction, and the remaining sites undergoing rehabilitation, replacement of old towers, and replacement of the old analog microwave system with the new digital microwave system. Mr. Adams reported that phase 4 was the last of the four-phase project.

Assemblywoman McClain asked why the funding was not included in the agency's budget. Mr. Stevens stated that the allocation was included in the budget approved by the 2005 Legislature, but the money could not be expended within the two-year period. The Division was requesting that the timeframe on reversion of the money appropriated by the 2005 Legislature be extended to allow sufficient time to expend the money needed for phase 4.

Ms. McClain said the current budget did not contain the funding for the unfinished projects in phase 4. Mr. Stevens believed that additional funding might have been requested in the current budget.

Ms. McClain stated that because the project was not completed it should be included in the budget for the upcoming biennium.

Mr. Stevens advised the Committee that it could consider two actions to provide the funding necessary to complete the project:

1. The Committee could extend the reversion date on the funding that was previously approved by the 2005 Legislature.
2. The Committee could allow the funding to revert as stipulated by the 2005 Legislature and reappropriate the same amount of money in a separate bill so that the project could be completed.

Mr. Stevens indicated that S.B. 456 seemed to be the easiest method to accomplish completion of the project.

Ms. McClain commented that the Division failed to spend the budgeted amount within two years and now assumed that it would be allowed to keep the remaining funds.

Mr. Stevens explained that the original legislation had a reversion date of June 30, 2007, but the Division had been unable to access many of the sites and had not expended the funds. The Division was now requesting that the reversion date be extended, and if the Committee did not approve the bill, the money would revert and the Division would be unable to finalize phase 4 of the project, which would impact the 800 MHz system.

Assemblyman Marvel asked whether the project would be completed over the upcoming biennium.

Mr. Adams replied that the project related directly to the microwave mountaintop sites. The permitting process to access the sites took approximately one year, and most sites required an additional environmental assessment. Mr. Adams noted that the Division was also required to submit its contract to the State Public Works Board so that the project could go through a bid process.

Generally, construction could not start until the spring and summer months and Mr. Adams explained that the Division actually had a contractor who would commence with the construction work on the sites in the near future. Mr. Adams said the timing was directly related to the amount of time required to process the requirements for the project. Mr. Adams emphasized that the project could not be completed in two years, which had also occurred in phase 2 and phase 3. The sites were directly related to the digital microwave project and DoIT did not have any mountaintop projects in its budget for the upcoming biennium, which contained only maintenance costs.

Mr. Adams believed that with use of the funds allocated by the 2005 Legislature, the project should be completed in the summer of 2009.

Assemblyman Denis referenced the statement by Mr. Adams that it took approximately one year to gain permission to access the sites, and he asked whether that was for new sites or whether it included existing and new sites. Mr. Adams explained that the process required by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management was quite intensive. The construction of a new site involved a lengthy process of environmental assessment, as well as cultural studies and raptor studies. Mr. Adams emphasized that there were many studies required prior to disturbing the soil.

Regarding current sites, Mr. Adams explained that some sites were so old that they failed to meet current standards, which required maintenance to bring those sites up to federal standards.

Mr. Denis asked about normal maintenance. Mr. Adams indicated that for normal maintenance on an existing site the Division did not need a permit.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was further testimony to come before the Committee.

Jeanette Belz stated that she wanted to take advantage of the fact that the bill dealt with Highway Fund dollars. She suggested that another line be added to the "Fiscal Note" listed at the top of each bill that depicted the fiscal effect on local government or the State, and that line would indicate whether or not the legislation would have a fiscal impact on the Highway Fund.

Ms. Belz opined that several bills presented during the 2007 Session had no fiscal impact on local government or the State, but did have an impact on the Highway Fund. Ms. Belz requested that the Committee consider adding an additional line requirement on the bills to depict the fiscal effect on the Highway Fund. Ms. Belz was aware that the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau kept the Committee aware of the demands on the Highway Fund, but she hoped that such information could also be made available to the public.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there were further questions or testimony to come before the Committee regarding SB. 456, and there being none, the Chairman declared the hearing closed.

The Chairman opened the hearing on S.B. 470.

**Senate Bill 470: Extends the reversion date of an appropriation made during the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature to the Interim Finance Committee for allocation to the Department of Business and Industry. (BDR S-1421)**

Dave McTeer, Division Chief, Information Technology (IT) Division, Department of Administration, explained that S.B. 470 would extend the reversion date on an appropriation made by the 2005 Legislature to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) for allocation to the Department of Administration on behalf of the Department of Business and Industry for the Integrated Consumer Affairs Tracking System.

Mr. McTeer stated that the Consumer Affairs Division had been unable to complete that project within the current biennium. Mr. McTeer indicated that he had authority and responsibility for that budget account and terminated further expenditures in September 2006 because, at that time, the vendor stated that the project could not be completed by June 30, 2007. Therefore, S.B. 470 requested that the reversion date be extended to allow completion of the project within the 2007-09 biennium.

Mr. McTeer pointed out that some of the work on the tracking system had been completed, such as the requirements definition and data conversion. The Department of Business and Industry, as well as the Consumer Affairs Division, was now focused on completing the project. Mr. McTeer was confident, after discussing the project with Director Mendy Elliott of the Department of Business and Industry, that the project had a very high probability of success if S.B. 470 passed.

Assemblyman Denis noted that one of the projects depicted in the bill was a video conferencing system. Mr. McTeer explained that was part of the original appropriation and was not included in the request for extension contained in S.B. 470. The funding that was requested for extension was \$341,096 for the Consumer Affairs Tracking System.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was further testimony to come before the Committee regarding S.B. 470 and, there being none, the Chairman declared the hearing closed.

Chairman Arberry discussed whether the Committee should vote on bills previously heard or consider the bills on the Agenda for the next scheduled Committee meeting at 10:30 a.m.



Mr. Stevens believed that the Committee should vote on bills previously heard because persons who wished to offer testimony on bills scheduled for the next Committee meeting would not be present until the scheduled time of 10:30 a.m.

Chairman Arberry opened discussion of A.B. 115 (R1).

**Assembly Bill 115 (1st Reprint): Enacts provisions governing mines.  
(BDR 46-858)**

Mr. Stevens explained that A.B. 115 (R1) was heard by the Committee on May 3, 2007, at which time testimony indicated that the amendment to the bill had not removed the fees. However, the mining industry was supportive of the legislation and would pay the costs related to environmental protection.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED TO DO PASS AS AMENDED  
A.B. 115 (R1).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SMITH SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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The Chairman opened discussion of A.B. 196.

**Assembly Bill 196: Makes changes concerning the limitation on the total proposed expenditures of the State. (BDR 31-946)**

Mr. Stevens reported that A.B. 196 was heard by the Committee on March 28, 2007. Currently, only construction-related appropriations were allowed to be counted outside the expenditure cap. Mr. Stevens explained that A.B. 196 would expand that to include any item that reduced an unfunded liability of the State. According to Mr. Stevens, Assemblyman Marvel sponsored the bill to address the unfunded liability in the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and the Public Employees' Benefits Program (PEBP).

Assemblyman Marvel stated that because of the requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), the State had to post its unfunded liability, which might affect the bond rating for the State.

Mr. Stevens noted that the Governor recommended that \$25 million per year be placed into a trust fund for the unfunded liability related to the subsidies provided to State employees for health insurance. If monies were placed in that trust fund, the bill would allow the trust fund to be outside the expenditure cap.

Mr. Marvel commented that it was a situation of "pay now or pay later," and he believed that the PEBP unfunded liability would be millions of dollars. Mr. Stevens agreed that the PEBP unfunded liability would become a serious issue over time, and all states were dealing with the same situation under GASB. Mr. Stevens stated that A.B. 196 was one of a number of different ways that the issue could be addressed in the future.



ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 196.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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The Chairman opened discussion on A.B. 204.

**Assembly Bill 204: Makes an appropriation to the Department of Education for video and computer equipment. (BDR S-1210)**

Mr. Stevens stated that A.B. 204 requested a one-shot appropriation that was included in The Executive Budget. A.B. 204 was the first of a number of supplemental appropriation bills recommended by the Governor to be considered for passage by the Committee. Mr. Stevens explained that the bill would also need to be heard by the Senate Committee on Finance, so that the bill would be in position for passage once the K-12 funding bill was passed. The Senate Committee on Finance would also be sending the one-shot bills currently before that committee to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means for consideration, so that those funding bills would also be in position for passage.

According to Mr. Stevens, A.B. 204 contained a one-shot appropriation to the Department of Education in the amount of \$129,000 for video conferencing and computer equipment. New pricing for personal computers and other data processing equipment was received by LCB staff from the Purchasing Division and the Department of Information Technology (DoIT), and a slight adjustment was recommended in the bill because of those pricing differences.

Mr. Stevens stated that LCB staff recommended approval of A.B. 204 with a one-shot appropriation of \$127,579.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SMITH MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
AS AMENDED A.B. 204.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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Chairman Arberry opened discussion on A.B. 259 (R1).

**Assembly Bill 259 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions governing wildlife. (BDR 45-100)**

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Committee had heard the bill during the past week. According to Mr. Stevens, A.B. 259 (R1) contained two components, the first of which was the requirement to submit a report on the obligated reserve within the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) at the beginning of each legislative session. The second component was a \$200,000 appropriation.

Mr. Stevens stated that the sponsor of the bill, Assemblyman Jerry D. Claborn, had requested removal of the \$200,000 appropriation. One option for consideration by the Committee was that the issue of reporting could be handled through a Letter of Intent to the NDOW indicating that the report needed to be provided to the Legislature. Mr. Stevens stated that the other option would be to pass the bill so that the report was required in statute.

Assemblywoman Smith asked about the information that would be included in the report. She asked whether that information would only relate to the Predator Management Fund, or whether the report would include other information.

Mr. Stevens explained that the budget for the NDOW included the Wildlife Obligated Reserve Account, into which all funding from a variety of sources was placed. Those monies were received to be spent for specific purposes, and there were a number of items related to the reserve account on which the Department reported to the Legislature each session. Mr. Stevens explained that A.B. 259 would require a comprehensive report of all monies included in the Wildlife Obligated Reserve Account, such as the remaining balance and how that balance would be expended. Mr. Stevens did not believe it would be a major hurdle for the NDOW to provide such a report to the Legislature. The decisions for the Committee were whether it wanted to require the report and what mechanism would be utilized for the report.

Mrs. Smith commented that the point of the legislation was the predator issue, and she believed that if the Committee determined to issue a Letter of Intent, the focus should be on a report regarding the Predator Management Fund.

Mr. Stevens indicated that the amendment brought forward by Assemblyman Claborn indicated that by the fifth calendar day of each session, the NDOW would submit to the Legislature a financial report for each of the immediately preceding two fiscal years setting forth the activity and status of the Wildlife Obligated Reserve Account and each subaccount within that Account. Mr. Stevens noted that if funding was included for the Wildlife Obligated Reserve Account for the Predator Management Fund, it would be included in the report.

Assemblywoman McClain believed that the legislation was needed.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
AS AMENDED A.B. 259 (R1).

ASSEMBLYMAN HOGAN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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Chairman Arberry opened discussion on A.B. 484.

**Assembly Bill 484: Requires the Legislative Committee on Education to study certain issues during the 2007-2009 interim. (BDR S-1372)**

Mr. Stevens explained that A.B. 484 would require the Legislative Committee on Education, during the 2007-09 interim, to study certain issues as listed in subsection 2 and report to the 2009 Legislature. There was a fiscal note

attached to the bill for operating expenses, but there had been questions about whether those expenses could be absorbed in the expenses provided to interim committees. Mr. Stevens noted that there was no appropriation included in the bill, and if the Committee wanted to pass the bill and require the Legislative Committee on Education to study certain issues, no amendment would be required.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN KOIVISTO MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 484.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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The Chairman opened discussion on A.B. 594.

**Assembly Bill 594: Creates a Class A certification designation for certain body shops. (BDR 43-451)**

Mr. Stevens explained that the bill would create a Class A certification for body shops for auto repair. A \$300 fee would be required from body shops that wished to receive the certification. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) indicated that it would utilize contract services to complete the review of each body shop to ascertain whether the shop complied with the requirements of the bill.

Mrs. Koivisto stated that she was not in favor of A.B. 594.

Mr. Stevens indicated that there was a fiscal note of \$28,000 in each fiscal year attached to the bill and the bill also included a fee requirement, which would offset the corresponding expenditures. Mr. Stevens noted that no Highway Fund dollars or General Fund dollars would be necessary because the certification would be self-supporting.

Chairman Arberry said that the fiscal note of \$28,000 simply indicated the amount of fee revenue that would need to be generated to fund the certification process. Mr. Stevens concurred, and stated that body shops wishing to apply for certification would be required to pay \$300 to cover the cost of the review process.

Assemblywoman Gansert believed that passage of the bill would simply create another expense for body shops for a certificate to hang on the wall. There did not appear to be a great deal of substance to the bill, but Ms. Gansert said perhaps she had misinterpreted the bill.

Assemblyman Hardy referenced the \$28,000 included in the fiscal note and wondered whether the \$300 fee would be an annual fee. Previous testimony indicated that 30 percent of the auto body shops would qualify for certification. Dr. Hardy questioned whether the bill would be self-supporting because the bill assumed that every body shop that qualified would be willing to pay \$300 to hang a certificate on the wall.

Chairman Arberry announced that the Committee would take no action on A.B. 594.

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The Chairman opened discussion on S.B. 282 (R1).

**Senate Bill 282 (1st Reprint): Makes supplemental appropriations to the Department of Corrections for increased costs at various facilities. (BDR S-1258)**

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Committee had heard testimony regarding S.B. 282 (R1) on two prior occasions. The bill would make a supplemental appropriation to the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) to address a budget shortfall for the current fiscal year.

Previous testimony indicated that the amount should be changed from \$6,473,243 to \$7,554,981, which included an increase of approximately \$1 million in surplus funds. Mr. Stevens noted that the increase represented the amount of money required by the NDOC to operate its various institutions during the current fiscal year. Mr. Stevens indicated that LCB staff recommended approval of the bill in a timely manner because the NDOC was in need of the funding.

Assemblywoman Leslie asked whether LCB staff had reviewed the current figure, and she wondered why the amount had increased. Mr. Stevens replied that the NDOC experienced a budget shortfall for the current fiscal year. A portion of that shortfall was addressed with salary adjustment dollars, but there was only a certain amount that could be provided to an agency from salary adjustment funds. Mr. Stevens explained that the amount of salary savings was calculated by the Budget Division, but the Division later determined that the figure was over the actual amount that could be provided in salary adjustment funds. Therefore, the additional funding was added to S.B. 282 (R1) because the NDOC was at the maximum in salary adjustment funding for the current fiscal year.

Ms. Leslie stated that she understood the problem. Mr. Stevens indicated that LCB staff had reviewed the calculations and were comfortable with the \$7,554,981 figure.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
AS AMENDED S.B. 282 (R1).

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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Chairman Arberry opened discussion on S.B. 336 (R1).

**Senate Bill 336 (1st Reprint): Makes supplemental appropriations to the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. (BDR S-1260)**

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Committee had heard S.B. 336 (R1) earlier in the meeting, and he pointed out that the Nevada Division of Forestry was in need of the funding.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED TO DO PASS S.B. 336 (R1).

ASSEMBLYMAN HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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Mr. Stevens explained that there would be other supplemental appropriation bills for the Committee to consider in the near future. He indicated that he would review the Senate bills heard by the Committee during the meeting today and bring them back before the Committee for consideration at its May 7, 2007, meeting. Chairman Arberry concurred that the Committee would review the Senate Bills from today's meeting on May 7, 2007.

Chairman Arberry asked the Committee to consider introduction of BDR S-1463, which would make an appropriation to the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services.

**BDR S-1463: Makes an appropriation to the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services for allocation to the Nevada Covering Kids and Families Coalition for outreach activities to identify and assist persons who are eligible for public programs of health care. (A.B. 611)**

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED FOR COMMITTEE INTRODUCTION OF BDR S-1463.

ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Parks was not present for the vote.)

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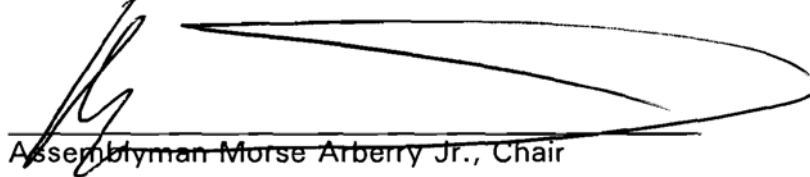
With no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Arberry adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Carol Thomsen  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:



Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr., Chair

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

<b><u>EXHIBITS</u></b>			
<b>Committee Name:</b> <u>Committee on Ways and Means</u>			
<b>Date:</b> <u>May 4, 2007</u>		<b>Time of Meeting:</b> <u>9:00 a.m.</u>	
<b>Bill</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>	<b>Witness / Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>
* * *	A		Agenda
* * *	B		Attendance Roster