

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

**Seventy-Fourth Session
May 30, 2007**

The Joint meeting of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, was called to order by Senator William J. Raggio, Chair, at 5:41 p.m., on Wednesday, May 30, 2007, in Room 4100 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/. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (email: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775-684-6835).

SENATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator William J. Raggio, Chair
Senator Bob Beers, Vice Chair
Senator Dean A. Rhoads
Senator Barbara K. Cegavske
Senator Bob Coffin
Senator Dina Titus
Senator Bernice Mathews

ASSEMBLY 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
Assemblyman David R. Parks
Assemblywoman Debbie Smith
Assemblywoman Valerie E. Weber

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Ghiggeri, Senate Fiscal Analyst
Mark W. Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Barron Brooks, Committee Secretary
Patricia Adams, Committee Assistant



Senator Raggio indicated that the Chairmen of the Joint Committee would like to extend apologies to committee members and those in the audience who had been standing by awaiting the beginning of the meeting. Chairman Raggio explained that negotiating teams had attempted to reach an accord without exorbitant delays in the process, and the teams had been meeting to attempt to reach a preliminary resolution about the matters in which the Senate and the Assembly differed on budget closing issues.

Chairman Raggio stated that members of the negotiating teams hoped to save time and make recommendations to their respective committees, which did not mean that input was not invited from members of the Joint Committee. During negotiations and discussion, the negotiating teams might have overlooked an issue that was important to a member of the Joint Committee. Having said that, Chairman Raggio advised Chairman Arberry of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means that the Senate Committee on Finance was prepared to review the list provided to the Joint Committee by Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) staff, [Exhibit C](#), which depicted the differences in the closing of budgets in the respective budget accounts.

Senator Raggio advised committee members and the audience that Gary Ghiggeri, Senate Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), would present the closing issues for the Senate, and Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB, would present the closing issues for the Assembly in all budget accounts.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE—HIGH LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE (101-1005)

BUDGET PAGE—ELECTED-11

Mr. Ghiggeri reported that the Senate closed the budget by approving the Governor's initial General Fund budget reductions of Nevada Protection category expenditures by \$259,232 in FY 2008 and by \$255,901 in FY 2009.

Mr. Stevens stated that the Assembly closed the budget as originally recommended by the Governor without budget reductions. The Governor had revised the recommended reduction of Nevada Protection expenditures to \$136,034 in FY 2008 and \$37,308 in FY 2009.

Senator Raggio believed that the Senate should concur with the Assembly budget closing, and he called for such a motion.

SENATOR BEERS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE
ASSEMBLY IN CLOSURE OF BA 1005, HIGH LEVEL NUCLEAR
WASTE.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE—ENERGY CONSERVATION OFFICE (101-4868)

BUDGET PAGE—ELECTED-28

Mr. Ghiggeri reported that the Senate closed BA 4868 by approving the Governor's budget amendment to restore two grants and projects analyst positions with General Fund support that were initially recommended for elimination. In doing so, the Senate delayed the two positions until October 1, 2007. The Senate also approved the Governor's revised General Fund reductions of \$6,268 in FY 2008 and \$2,063 in FY 2009.

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Assembly closed the budget by restoring one grants and projects analyst position with General Fund support effective July 1, 2007. The Assembly also approved the Governor's initial General Fund budget reduction of \$11,945 in FY 2008 and \$14,145 in FY 2009.

Chairman Arberry believed that the Assembly should concur with the Senate budget closure of BA 4868, with a letter of intent to the agency, and he stated that he would accept such a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONCUR WITH THE SENATE IN CLOSURE OF BA 4868, INCLUDING A LETTER OF INTENT TO THE ENERGY CONSERVATION OFFICE THAT WOULD INDICATE ONE OF THE NEW POSITIONS WOULD BE DESIGNATED FOR ACTIVITIES INVOLVING THE LEED PROGRAM.

ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mr. Stevens explained that the Committee had discussed issuing a Letter of Intent that indicated one of the two new grants and projects analyst positions, as far as practical, would be designated for activities involving the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System program.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Chairman Raggio informed the members of the Senate Finance Committee that the only difference in the Assembly closing of BA 4868 was the addition of the Letter of Intent. The Letter of Intent would indicate that, insofar as possible, one of the two new grants and projects analyst positions would be designated for activities involving the LEED program, in view of the requirements being imposed upon the Governor's Energy Conservation Office as a result of changes in the LEED program.

Chairman Raggio indicated that he would accept a motion to concur with the Assembly regarding the Letter of Intent.

SENATOR TITUS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE ASSEMBLY IN CLOSURE OF BA 4868, INCLUDING THE ISSUANCE OF A LETTER OF INTENT.

SENATOR BEERS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS
AG—SPECIAL FUND (101-1031)
BUDGET PAGE—ELECTED-54

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate closed the budget approving the Governor's General Fund budget reduction in nuclear waste litigation costs of \$477,885 in FY 2008. The Assembly did not approve the reduction.

Chairman Raggio suggested that the Senate concur with the Assembly budget closure, and he would accept such a motion.

SENATOR BEERS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE
ASSEMBLY IN CLOSURE OF BA 1031.

SENATOR TITUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS
AG—TORT CLAIM FUND (715-1348)
BUDGET PAGE—ELECTED-80

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate closed the budget by approving \$9,030,810 over the 2007-09 biennium for replenishment of the Tort Claim Fund.

Senator Raggio pointed out that the Assembly closed the budget by approving a reduction in the Tort Claim fund expenditure to \$3,500,000 in FY 2008 and \$3,949,000 in FY 2009. Senator Raggio suggested that the Senate concur with the Assembly budget closure.

SENATOR TITUS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE
ASSEMBLY BUDGET CLOSURE OF BA 1348.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS
CONTROLLER'S OFFICE (101-1130)
BUDGET PAGE—ELECTED-102

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate closed the budget by approving the Controller's revised budget request for training costs of \$42,500 per year.

Senator Raggio noted that the Assembly closed the budget by reducing the training costs by \$10,625 per year, or a reduction of 25 percent. He suggested that the Senate concur with the Assembly budget closure.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH
THE ASSEMBLY BUDGET CLOSURE OF BA 1130.

SENATOR COFFIN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREME COURT (101-1494)
BUDGET PAGE—COURTS-1

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate closed the budget by adding \$32,500 in FY 2008 for live audio streaming of court sessions over the Internet.

Mr. Stevens stated that the Assembly did not approve funding for live audio streaming.

Chairman Arberry stated that he would accept a motion that the Assembly concur with the Senate.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE IN CLOSURE OF BA 1494.

ASSEMBLYMAN HOGAN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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K-12 EDUCATION
EDUCATION STATE PROGRAMS (101-2673)
BUDGET PAGE—K-12 ED-19

Senator Raggio asked whether a difference in budget closure remained between the Senate and Assembly.

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that the budget closings were close. The Senate approved a new parental involvement coordinator position, providing that the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) was successful in identifying a funding source, such as federal funds, to support the position.

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Assembly withheld any decision on the parental involvement coordinator position awaiting the availability of funding.

Assemblywoman Smith stated that the position was important and would impact certain legislation. She asked whether the position could be considered by the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) after a funding source had been identified; she believed that the position was critical.

Senator Beers suggested that the position be included in the budget closure, funded with non-General Fund revenue, and upon locating a funding source, the NDE could simply fill the position without approaching the IFC.

Senator Raggio indicated that was the Senate closing action. Senator Beers agreed, and stated that the Senate closing action was to include the parental involvement coordinator position in BA 2673, funded with non-General Fund revenue.

Chairman Arberry remarked that the position appeared to be a critical, and he wondered whether the position could be funded by General Fund revenue to ensure that the position was available.

Assemblywoman Buckley said it appeared that the Joint Committee agreed that a parental involvement coordinator position was crucial for the NDE, but she believed that the budget account should be closed. Perhaps, an opportunity for a one-shot pilot program, federal funding, or some other source of funding would be available in the future. Ms. Buckley reiterated that BA 2673 should be closed to avoid further delays in budget closures.

Chairman Raggio asked Ms. Buckley whether her suggestion was to close the budget according to the Senate closure. Ms. Buckley stated that was correct. The Joint Committee could reserve the right to consider a pilot program with possible state funding. She indicated that the closing action should be generic, thereby allowing the NDE to locate a funding source to support the position.

Chairman Arberry called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE IN APPROVAL OF THE
PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR POSITION, FUNDED
WITH NON-GENERAL FUND REVENUE, IN BA 2673.

ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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Chairman Raggio stated that it had come to his attention that under budget closures for K-12 Education, there was a misunderstanding as to the amount of money available for career technical education (CTE) programs. There was an understanding on one side that the closure approved a total of \$7 million, when the total was actually \$9 million.

Assemblywoman Buckley indicated that the Assembly and Senate negotiating teams agreed to split the mistake and recommend approval of \$8 million for CTE program funding.

Chairman Raggio noted that the agreement was that the budget closure would include funding of \$8 million for CTE programs. He indicated that he would accept a motion that the Senate approve funding of \$8 million for CTE programs, including the amount in the budget, or \$4 million in each year of the biennium.

SENATOR TITUS MOVED THAT THE SENATE APPROVE FUNDING OF \$8 MILLION FOR CTE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT IN THE BUDGET, OR \$4 MILLION IN EACH YEAR OF THE BIENNIUM.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

Chairman Arberry called for a similar motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY APPROVE FUNDING OF \$8 MILLION FOR CTE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT IN THE BUDGET, OR \$4 MILLION IN EACH YEAR OF THE BIENNIUM.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

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Senator Titus asked whether the budget closure for BA 2673 included the gifted and talented coordinator position.

Chairman Raggio asked Mr. Ghiggeri to explain the closing action regarding the position referenced by Senator Titus.

Mr. Ghiggeri explained that the Senate Finance Committee had recently reconsidered its closing action involving BA 2673 and had approved the funding for the gifted and talented coordinator position. The Senate and Assembly were now in concurrence on the funding for that position.

NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
WICHE LOAN AND STIPEND (101-2681)
BUDGET PAGE—WICHE-1

Mr. Ghiggeri explained that the Senate closed the budget by increasing veterinary slots to five slots in each fiscal year, not approving the new Dental Lab Technician program, and not approving the new Clinical Lab Scientist program.

Mr. Stevens stated that the Assembly closed the budget by reducing veterinary slots to four in the first year in the biennium, further reducing the slots to three in the second year of the biennium, and approving the new Dental Lab Technician and Clinical Lab Scientist programs.

Chairman Arberry stated that he would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 2681.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
WICHE ADMINISTRATION (101-2995)
BUDGET PAGE—WICHE-5

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate closed the budget as recommended by the Governor.

Mr. Stevens said that, in its budget closure, the Assembly did not approve the new program officer 1 position for the Las Vegas area or the reclassification of the current program officer 1 to a program officer 2.

Chairman Arberry stated that he would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN HOGAN MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONCUR
WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 2995.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GANSERT SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (101-2870)
BUDGET PAGE—CULTURAL AFFAIRS-17

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that the Senate closed the budget by approving the purchase of back issues of Nevada's newspapers on microfilm as recommended.

Chairman Raggio recognized Assemblywoman Buckley.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE IN CLOSURE OF BA 2870.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN WEBER SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY – LV (101-2943)
BUDGET PAGE—CULTURAL AFFAIRS-28

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that the Senate closed the budget with a revised opening date of February 1, 2009, for the new Las Vegas Springs Preserve Museum, with the net 12.51 positions recommended by the Governor.

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Assembly closed the budget with a revised opening date of April 1, 2009, and eliminated two positions, a grants analyst position and a public information officer position.

Chairman Arberry stated that he would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 2943, INCLUDING
THE OPENING DATE OF FEBRUARY 1, 2009, OR LATER, AND
INCLUDING THE TWO POSITIONS.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GANSERT SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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Chairman Raggio noted that the positions would be authorized effective with the opening date of the facility.

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL (101-2979)
BUDGET PAGE—CULTURAL AFFAIRS-71

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate closed the budget approving the recommended conversion of a part-time contract clerical position to a full-time state administrative assistant to act as the front receptionist for the new Southern Nevada Records Center/Museum at the Lorenzi Park facility.

Mr. Stevens stated that the Assembly did not approve the conversion and approved continuation of the existing half-time contract clerical position resulting in a General Fund savings of \$44,339.

Chairman Raggio suggested that the Senate concur with the Assembly budget closing.

SENATOR MATHEWS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH
THE ASSEMBLY CLOSURE OF BA 2979.

SENATOR BEERS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
ARCHIVES AND RECORDS (101-1052)
BUDGET PAGE—54

Mr. Ghiggeri said the Senate closed the budget adjusting the opening of the Springs Preserve Museum to February 1, 2009, which affected the remodel date for the existing Lorenzi Park facility, resulting in a savings of \$54,440. The Senate also approved the four positions recommended by the Governor.

Mr. Stevens said the Assembly approved the opening date of April 1, 2009, and eliminated one of the four positions recommended by the Governor, the supply assistant position, resulting in savings of \$164,374.

Chairman Arberry stated he would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED THAT, TO CONCUR WITH THE SENATE, THE ASSEMBLY CLOSE BA 1052 WITH THE REVISED OPENING DATE OF FEBRUARY 1, 2009.

ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Ghiggeri explained that for the Senate to concur with the Assembly closure, a motion to eliminate the supply assistant position would be necessary.

Chairman Raggio called for a motion.

SENATOR MATHEWS MOVED THAT, TO CONCUR WITH THE ASSEMBLY, THE SENATE CLOSE BA 1052 WITH ELIMINATION OF THE SUPPLY ASSISTANT POSITION.

SENATOR BEERS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIVISION OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (101-4551)
BUDGET PAGE—AGRICULTURE-53

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate approved reserve funding to replace one vehicle in FY 2008.

Mr. Stevens said the Assembly did not concur with the Governor's recommendation to replace one vehicle because of the low reserve level.

Chairman Arberry said he would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 4551.

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (101-1526)
BUDGET PAGE—ECON DEV & TOURISM-1

Chairman Raggio reported that the Assembly budget closure removed \$5 million per fiscal year in grants to the Nevada Development Authority (NDA) and Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN). Rural development authorities would split \$995,000. The Senate closed the budget as recommended by the Governor including the \$5 million for regional economic development authorities, NDA and EDAWN.

According to Chairman Raggio, the negotiating teams had agreed, pursuant to approval by the Joint Committee, that the funding for regional development authorities, NDA and EDAWN, would be approved at \$2.5 million, or half of the amount recommended by the Governor.

Senator Raggio stated that, providing the solution was agreeable to the Joint Committee, he would accept a motion to that effect.

Senator Beers was under the impression that there was a separate appropriation to the urban and rural development authorities and both would be funded at half the level recommended by the Governor.

Senator Raggio indicated that the recommendation to the Joint Committee would be that the appropriation to urban regional development authorities, NDA and EDAWN, would be funded at half the amount recommended by the Governor, while the funding for the rural development authorities would not be reduced.

SENATOR BEERS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CLOSE BA 1526 BY APPROVING ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, OR \$2.5 MILLION, FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES, NDA AND EDAWN.

SENATOR RHOADS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

Chairman Arberry indicated that he would accept a similar motion from the Assembly.

ASSEMBLYMAN PARKS MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CLOSE BA 1526 BY APPROVING ONE-HALF THE AMOUNT RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, OR \$2.5 MILLION, FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES, NDA AND EDAWN.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
COMMISSION ON TOURISM (101-1522)
BUDGET PAGE-ECON DEV & TIOURISM-23

Mr. Ghiggeri reported that the Senate closed BA 1522 by not approving an electronic newsletter for Taiwan and by reducing funding for the Commission's enhanced website from \$100,000 to \$25,000 in FY 2007-08.

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Assembly closed the budget approving funds for an electronic newsletter for Taiwan and \$100,000 for the Commission's enhanced website.

Chairman Arberry stated that he would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 1522 REGARDING
THE ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER FOR TAIWAN AND THE FUNDING
FOR THE COMMISSION'S ENHANCED WEBSITE.

ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

Senator Beers asked about the remaining items.

Chairman Raggio indicated that the Assembly closed the budget by eliminating \$125,000 in each fiscal year for the Reno-Tahoe Winter Games, reducing the host fund for the POW WOW conference in FY 2007-08, and not approving additional out-of-state travel for trips not taken in FY 2005-06. The Senate closed the budget by approving the funding for the Reno-Tahoe Winter Games, approving the host fund for the POW WOW conference, and approving funding for additional out-of-state travel for trips not taken in FY 2005-06.

Chairman Arberry called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 1522 REGARDING
FUNDING FOR THE RENO-TAHOE WINTER GAMES AND THE
HOST FUND FOR THE POW WOW CONFERENCE.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GANSERT SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

Senator Beers noted that the Senate had not concurred with removal of the funding for the additional out-of-state travel.

SENATOR BEERS MOVED THAT THE SENATE NOT APPROVE
FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR TRIPS
NOT TAKEN IN FY 2005-06.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

Senator Beers believed that the Assembly should also move for elimination of funding for additional out-of-state travel, because its motion had been to concur with the Senate closure of the budget.

Chairman Arberry called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONCUR WITH THE SENATE IN NOT APPROVING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR TRIPS NOT TAKEN IN FY 2005-06.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS THE ASSEMBLY.

Senator Beers understood that the Assembly closure concurred with the Senate closure for funding for the Reno-Tahoe Winter Games and funding for the host fund for the POW WOW conference, and by not approving additional out-of-state travel.

Mr. Stevens explained that that the Assembly closed the budget not approving travel and registration fees of \$12,000 in each fiscal year for the India office and not approving \$100,000 in each fiscal year for a new office in Mexico.

Chairman Raggio indicated that he would accept a motion.

SENATOR BEERS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE ASSEMBLY IN CLOSURE OF BA 1522, NOT APPROVING TRAVEL AND REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE INDIA OFFICE AND NOT APPROVING A NEW OFFICE IN MEXICO.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE SECONDED THE MOTION.

Senator Coffin believed that it would be a mistake to eliminate the office in India. The market in India was growing quite rapidly, and India was the third largest superpower in the world, and the location of the office would be in an area that included a huge middle-class population. There were many persons in India who had the means to travel, and Senator Coffin believed it would be a mistake for Nevada to miss out on that booming market. He felt that the Senate should stand firm on its original motion. Senator Coffin stated that he had no strong feelings about the Mexico office.

Senator Beers indicated that he would stand by his motion to not approve the funding for the offices in India and Mexico.

Chairman Raggio stated that he did not disagree with Senator Coffin, but the problem was that the State was facing declining revenues, and the new offices in Mexico and India could be reconsidered by the 2009 Legislature.

Chairman Raggio called for a vote on the motion before the Senate.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE—HEALTHY NEVADA FUND (262-3261)
BUDGET PAGE—DHHS DIRECTOR'S OFFICE-21

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that the Senate voted to authorize a transfer of tobacco settlement funds to the Medicaid account for the payment of prescription co-pays for Medicare and full Medicaid beneficiaries (dual eligibles). The Executive Budget recommended only \$221,198 in each year in General Fund revenue for the payment of co-pays, which were projected to total \$546,000 per year.

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Assembly voted to allow the Nevada Medicaid account to absorb the shortfall in funding within its legislatively approved budget.

Chairman Arberry indicated that he would accept a motion.

Ms. Leslie stated that, as the Chairwoman of the Joint Subcommittee on K 12/Human Resources, she would agree that there should be a cushion in the Medicaid account, and she offered the following motion:

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 3261.

ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY—NEVADA MEDICAID (101-3243)
BUDGET PAGE—HCF&P-12

WELFARE DIVISION – TANF (101-3230)
BUDGET PAGE-WELFARE23

Mr. Ghiggeri noted that BA 3243, HCF&P–Nevada Medicaid, and BA 3230, Welfare Division–TANF, should be considered simultaneously.

Mr. Ghiggeri explained the Assembly closure of BA 3243 approved an increase in the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance grant of 15 percent, which resulted in TANF recipients remaining eligible for Medicaid for a longer period of time. The fiscal impact would be \$563,628 in General Fund revenue for FY 2009.

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that there would be no additional General Fund cost for the TANF cash assistance increase of 15 percent in BA 3230, Welfare Division—TANF.

Chairman Raggio indicated that the Joint Committee would consider the budgets simultaneously, as the action regarding the TANF grant increase would impact the TANF funding in both budget accounts.

Assemblywoman Leslie suggested that, given the additional cost to the General Fund, the Joint Committee consider approving a 10 percent increase for TANF recipients. She offered that option knowing that there would be some additional funding required for Medicaid, but she reminded the Joint Committee that Welfare recipients had not received an increase since 1992. Ms. Leslie indicated that the 10 percent increase would represent an additional \$34.80 each month for TANF recipients.

Chairman Raggio believed that Ms. Leslie's suggestion to increase the payment to TANF recipients by 10 percent was a reasonable compromise, which would also impact BA 3230.

Chairman Raggio stated that he would accept a motion.

SENATOR COFFIN MOVED THAT THE SENATE CLOSE BA 3243, HCF&P – MEDICAID, AND BA 3230, WELFARE DIVISION – TANF, INCLUDING A 10 PERCENT CASH GRANT INCREASE FOR TANF RECIPIENTS.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

Chairman Arberry called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 3243, HCF&P—MEDICAID, AND BA 3230, WELFARE DIVISION—TANF, INCLUDING A 10 PERCENT CASH GRANT INCREASE FOR TANF RECIPIENTS.

ASSEMBLYMAN HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY—CHECK-UP (101-3178)
BUDGET PAGE—HCF&P-31

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Assembly redirected General Fund savings from closing the Health Insurance Flexibility and Accountability (HIFA) Holding account to increase enrollment in the Nevada Check-Up program by 144 children per month in FY 2008, and 813 children per month in the second year of the biennium.

Chairman Raggio indicated that the numbers included in the Assembly budget closing more accurately reflected the projected enrollment in the program. Mr. Stevens concurred and stated that redirecting the General Fund savings

would increase the number of children covered by the Check-Up program. The savings in General Fund revenue was generated by budget closings, and the Assembly redirected those savings to increase Nevada Check-Up enrollment.

Chairman Raggio noted that the budget account was capped, and if the savings was not redirected, there would be no availability in the program for additional children.

Mr. Stevens agreed that enrollment was capped within the Nevada Check-Up program.

Senator Raggio called for a motion from the Senate.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH
THE ASSEMBLY CLOSURE OF BA 3178.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY – HIFA MEDICAL (101-3247)
BUDGET PAGE – HCF&P-42

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Assembly redirected General Fund savings from closing the Health Insurance Flexibility and Accountability (HIFA) Holding account to increase the number of pregnant women that could be covered in the HIFA Medical budget by 120 pregnant women in FY 2008 and 360 pregnant women in FY 2009.

Chairman Raggio stated that he would accept a motion to concur.

SENATOR BEERS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE
ASSEMBLY BUDGET CLOSURE OF BA 3247.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY –
HIFA HOLDING ACCOUNT (101 3155)
BUDGET PAGE – HCF&P-45

Mr. Stevens stated that the Assembly redirected General Fund savings from closing the HIFA Holding account to increase enrollment in the Check-Up program and to increase the number of pregnant women covered in the HIFA Medical budget.

SENATOR TITUS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE
ASSEMBLY CLOSURE OF BA 3155.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
SOUTHERN NEVADA ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (101-3161)
BUDGET PAGE—MHDS-43

Mr. Ghiggeri indicated that the Senate approved the Governor's recommendation to eliminate four psychiatric nurse positions in BA 3161.

Mr. Stevens stated that the Assembly concurred with that action, but added five new positions, two psychiatric caseworkers and three mental health counselors, in support of the Psychiatric Ambulatory Services Unit.

Chairman Raggio suggested that if the Senate wished to concur with the Assembly that it also consider the outreach program for northern Nevada.

Assemblywoman Leslie explained that the proposal was to consider a Mobile Crisis Outreach program, similar to the program currently operating in southern Nevada, for northern Nevada.

Senator Raggio stated that he would accept a motion that the Senate concur with the Assembly in closure of BA 3161, contingent upon approval by the Assembly of the Mobile Crisis Outreach program for northern Nevada.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH
THE ASSEMBLY IN CLOSURE OF BA 3161, CONTINGENT UPON
APPROVAL BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MOBILE CRISIS
OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR NORTHERN NEVADA.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

Chairman Arberry called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CLOSURE OF BA 3161 INCLUDE APPROVAL OF THE MOBILE
CRISIS OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR NORTHERN NEVADA.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SMITH SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WELFARE DIVISION—WELFARE ADMINISTRATION (101-3228)
BUDGET PAGE—WELFARE-1

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that the Senate closed the budget with the addition of federal Food Stamp Information Program funds in FY 2009 to provide for a training officer and related expenses. The training officer would inform seniors and low-income families about the availability of food stamp assistance and the eligibility criteria to qualify for assistance and would work to expand the network of entities participating as trusted partners by directly assisting individuals in applying for food stamp assistance.

Chairman Arberry called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 3228.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND REHABILITATION
CAREER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (205-4767)
BUDGET PAGE—ESD-10

Mr. Ghiggeri reported that the Senate closed BA 4767 with \$1.5 million in each year of the biennium to provide for unemployment worker client services and \$1 million in FY 2008 for the incumbent worker training program.

Mr. Stevens stated that the Assembly closed the budget by providing funding of \$1 million in each year of the biennium for the incumbent worker training program and concurred with other closing action taken by the Senate.

Chairman Raggio called for a motion.

SENATOR BEERS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE
ASSEMBLY CLOSURE OF BA 4767.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND REHABILITATION
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY-SPECIAL FUND (235-4771)
BUDGET PAGE—ESD-17

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that the Senate closed the budget as amended by the Governor to increase funding by \$180,088 for the unemployment contribution and benefits system replacement study. The Senate also placed the funding in reserve for future allocation by the Interim Finance Committee (IFC).

Chairman Arberry stated he would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 4771.

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
BUDGET PAGE—CORRECTIONS-1

Mr. Ghiggeri said that, overall, the Senate and Assembly concurred in budget closings within the accounts for the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC). The only difference was that the Assembly also approved the additional savings that resulted from closure of the NDOC's budgets to be appropriated to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC), whereas the Senate did not take that action.

Chairman Raggio indicated that realistic savings should result from the Legislature's action in dealing with prison overcrowding, and any savings realized from that action should be directed to the IFC and used, insofar as possible, for rehabilitation programs or programs that would reduce recidivism.

Chairman Raggio suggested that the Senate concur with the Assembly.

SENATOR COFFIN MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH
THE ASSEMBLY IN DIRECTING ANY SAVINGS RESULTING FROM
LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN CLOSING THE NDOC BUDGETS TO THE
IFC TO BE USED FOR REHABILITATION PROGRAMS OR
PROGRAMS THAT WOULD REDUCE RECIDIVISM.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
DMV, FIELD SERVICES (201-4735)
BUDGET PAGE—DMV-94

Chairman Raggio indicated that the Assembly closed the budget including the addition of an express office in North Las Vegas, which was projected to open July 1, 2008, and the Senate did not approve that office.

Chairman Raggio called for a motion.

SENATOR MATHEWS MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH
THE ASSEMBLY CLOSURE OF BA 4735.

SENATOR BEERS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
DMV, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (201-4745)
BUDGET PAGE—DMV-32

Chairman Raggio pointed out that the closing issue in BA 4745 was the issue of either adding Highway Funds to the budget or increasing the fees currently charged for driver's licenses. The Assembly closed the budget with increased fees and the Senate closed the budget with the addition of Highway Funds.

Senator Raggio indicated that the Department of Motor Vehicles had the authority to increase fees, and he did not believe that further action was necessary. He suggested that the Senate concur with the Assembly in closing BA 4745.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH
THE ASSEMBLY CLOSURE OF BA 4745.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY (101-3675)

Chairman Raggio noted that the Assembly did not approve the transfer of the Office of Homeland Security to the Governor's Office, while the Senate approved the transfer. However, Chairman Raggio pointed out that the Governor had the authority to move the Office of Homeland Security by Executive Order, and he did not believe that further action was needed by either the Senate or Assembly.

Chairman Raggio indicated that the Senate approved an amendment from the Governor to add General Fund revenue in both years of the biennium for establishment of a fusion center in Carson City, which was not approved by the Assembly. Also, the Senate supported access by the agency to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) for an allocation from the Contingency Fund for the fusion center, if federal Homeland Security funds did not materialize, which was not supported by the Assembly.

Chairman Raggio stated that if the Governor and appropriate law enforcement entities could reach some accord, the Joint Committee would be willing to place funding under the control of the IFC and allow the agency to approach the IFC once a plan had been established.

Chairman Raggio recognized Assemblywoman Buckley, who offered the following motion:

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
SUPPORT THE APPROPRIATION OF GENERAL FUND OF \$333,269

IN FY 2008 AND \$318,224 IN FY 2009 FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUSION CENTER IN CARSON CITY AND ALLOW THE GOVERNOR AND THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES TO APPROACH THE INTERIM FINANCE COMMITTEE (IFC) TO REQUEST FUNDING ONCE AN APPROPRIATE PLAN HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Chairman Raggio stated that he would accept a motion from the Senate to concur with the action passed by the Assembly.

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED THAT THE SENATE CONCUR WITH THE ASSEMBLY MOTION REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUSION CENTER IN CARSON CITY.

SENATOR MATHEWS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIGNITARY PROTECTION (101-4738)
BUDGET PAGE—PUBLIC SFETY-68

Mr. Ghiggeri stated that the Senate approved the Governor's amendment to add General Funds to provide training expenses for officers who were new to the Dignitary Protection Unit, replacement equipment, and equipment relating to the safety of the Governor, First Lady, and officers assigned to the Unit.

Chairman Raggio recognized Assemblywoman Buckley, who offered the following motion:

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 4738.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GANSERT SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

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PEACE OFFICERS STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION (101-3774)
BUDGET PAGE—POST-1

Chairman Raggio stated that the Assembly closed the budget with a \$300 fee for partial support of the Professional Development Program, and the Senate closed the budget as recommended by the Governor, which provided funding for the Program entirely through court Administrative Assessment fees.

Assemblywoman Buckley offered the following motion:

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 3774.

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Chairman Arberry stated that the Assembly would like to offer a blanket motion regarding the budget accounts under the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in which there were budget closing differences.

Chairman Raggio stated, for the record, that those budget accounts included:

- BA 4173, State Lands
- BA 4162, State Parks
- BA 4171, Water Resources
- BA 3185, DEP Air Quality
- BA 3186, DEP Water Pollution Control
- BA 4149, State Environmental Commission

Chairman Arberry called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE BUDGET CLOSURE OF BA 4173,
BA 4162, BA 4171, BA 3185, BA 3186, AND BA 4149.

ASSEMBLYMAN HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATION (101-4452)
BUDGET PAGE—WILDLIFE-1

SPECIAL PURPOSE AGENCIES
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY (101-3650)
BUDGET PAGE—MILITARY-1

Assemblywoman Buckley advised Chairman Raggio that she would like to make a motion regarding BA 4452 and BA 3650, and she offered the following:

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED THAT THE ASSEMBLY
CONCUR WITH THE SENATE CLOSURE OF BA 4452 AND
BA 3650.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF THE
ASSEMBLY.

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Chairman Raggio referenced [Exhibit D](#), "Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau, Differences Only Closing Report," which included BA 2631, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

Assemblywoman Buckley asked whether it would be possible to hold further action on the Legislative Counsel Bureau budget. She advised the Chairman that Senator Beers was willing to meet with Assemblyman Mortenson to discuss other options.

Chairman Raggio concurred with Assemblywoman Buckley's request.

Chairman Raggio asked whether the Joint Committee could review the budget differences for the Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs), and Mr. Stevens indicated that LCB staff would review the decisions made by the Senate and the Assembly and would provide a report to both Committees on May 31, 2007.

With no further business to come before the Joint Committee, Chairman Raggio declared the hearing adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Barron Brooks,
Committee Secretary

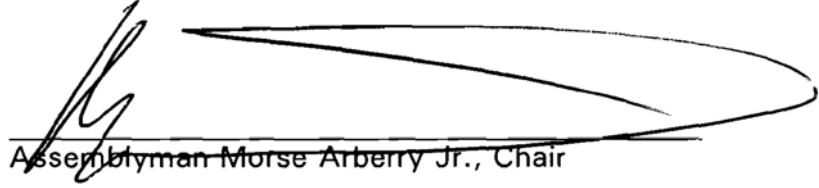
Carol Thomsen
Transcribing Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator William J. Raggio, Chair

DATE: _____

APPROVED BY:



Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr., Chair

DATE: _____

<u>EXHIBITS</u>			
Committee Name: <u>Assembly Committee on Ways and Means/Senate Committee on Finance</u>			
Date: <u>May 30, 2007</u>		Time of Meeting: <u>10:00 a.m.</u>	
Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
***	A		Agenda
***	B		Attendance Record
***	C	Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB	Differences—May 28, 2007
***	D	Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB	Differences ONLY Closing Report