

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

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

Chairman Morse Arberry Jr. adjourned the previous Committee on Ways and Means hearing that recessed at 8:37 a.m. and called a new hearing of the Committee on Ways and Means to order at 9:55 a.m., on Monday, June 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/. 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).

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

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson, Assembly District No. 17
Senator B. Warren Hardy, Senate District No. 12
Senator Dennis Nolan, Senate District No. 9

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark W. Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Connie Davis, Committee Secretary
Patricia Adams, Committee Assistant

Senate Bill 301 (1st Reprint): Revises various provisions governing the Fort Mohave Valley Development Law. (BDR 26-1317)

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill 301 (R1).

Senator Warren B. Hardy, representing Clark County, Senate District No. 12, testified in support of S.B. 301 (R1), a bill that revised provisions governing the Fort Mohave Valley Development Law. The bill was jointly sponsored by



Senator Hardy and Assemblyman Hardy, and Senator Hardy provided the following information:

- The Fort Mohave Valley Development Account was established to benefit the city of Laughlin.
- Acreage under the control of the Colorado River Commission (CRC) was sold, and the proceeds were to be deposited into the Fort Mohave Development Account to support Laughlin.
- A lawsuit occurred, which the CRC settled for \$5 million.
- The CRC lacked the funding to pay the \$5 million, and in a disputed transaction removed it from the Fort Mohave Development Account to settle the lawsuit.

Senator Hardy reported that the Clark County Commission threatened to sue the State over the transaction before he intervened with legislation that became S.B. 301 (R1). The bill was originally drafted to include a \$5 million appropriation from the State General Fund to the Fort Mohave Development Account and, for that reason, was brought before the Senate and Assembly money committees. However, Senator Hardy advised that the bill was amended to delete the \$5 million appropriation when it was realized that the State was facing a funding shortfall. Senator Hardy defined the revised bill as a settlement agreement to the potential lawsuit against the State.

Senator Hardy explained that S.B. 301 (R1) transferred 9,000 acres of public lands and some funds administered by the CRC, under the Fort Mohave Valley Development Law, to Clark County and the powers and duties of the CRC, under the Fort Mohave Valley Development Law, to the Clark County Commission.

Senator Hardy reiterated that S.B. 301 (R1) was a settlement agreement to prevent the State from being sued.

Assemblyman Hardy, a joint sponsor of the bill, reported that he had just ended a phone conversation with members of the Laughlin community who had expressed their support of the bill.

In response to questions Assemblyman Marvel asked regarding the land held in Laughlin by the CRC, Senator Hardy indicated he was uncertain of other land held by the CRC, but for the purposes of the city of Laughlin, 9,000 acres would be transferred to Clark County.

James D. Salo, Manager, Government Affairs, Colorado River Commission, advised that the 9,000 acres was the only land the CRC owned in the Laughlin area, and all 9,000 acres would be transferred to Clark County with passage of S.B. 301 (R1). Mr. Salo indicated that the CRC also had land interests in the Boulder City and Lake Mead area, but that land had nothing to do with Laughlin and would not be affected by S.B. 301 (R1).

Assemblyman Parks questioned whether the intent of the bill required the concurrence of either the Bureau of Reclamation or the Bureau of Land Management.

Mr. Salo advised that the bill did not require federal approval since the legal title to the land was transferred to the state of Nevada under the control of the Colorado River Commission decades ago.

Senator Hardy asked the Division of State Lands' administrator to provide clarification regarding language in Section 11 of the bill.

Pamela Wilcox, Administrator, Division of State Lands, advised that language regarding the State Land Registrar and the Division of State Lands appeared to have been inadvertently placed in Section 11, pages 9 and 10 of the bill. Ms. Wilcox advised that the Division of State Lands had no interest in the lands managed by the Colorado River Commission but was, however, interested in the bed of the Colorado River, which was a navigable body of water that belonged to the people of the State in perpetuity. Ms. Wilcox made it clear that it was not the intent of the legislation to transfer lands other than the acreage in Laughlin but told the Committee that the Division of State Lands would be happy to assist the Colorado River Commission to transfer the 9,000 acres to Clark County.

Senator Hardy advised that he believed that the State Land Registrar was included in the bill to provide any assistance that was needed in transferring the 9,000 acres to Clark County but not to inadvertently transfer other land in which the State had an interest.

Mr. Salo expressed confidence that the language could be modified to protect the State and transfer the appropriate land to Clark County.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to bill and, there being none, closed the hearing on S.B. 301 (R1).

Senate Bill 443 (1st Reprint): Makes various appropriations. (BDR S-1234)

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on S.B. 443 (R1).

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided the Committee with information on the disbursement of appropriations included within S.B. 443 (R1).

Section 1 created a disbursement account for the allocation of appropriations within the Legislative Counsel Bureau rather than the Department of Administration.

Mr. Stevens explained that the following sections provided appropriations to various nonstate entities that were included in The Executive Budget for appropriations either from surplus or ongoing funds:

- Section 2 – The Nevada Cancer Institute would be provided \$5 million "in one-time monies" for the expansion of laboratory and clinical space.
- Section 4 – The Nevada Cancer Institute would be provided \$2.5 million in ongoing funds for research, community outreach, and education for fiscal year 2007-2008.
- Section 6 – The Nevada Cancer Institute would be provided an additional \$2.5 million for research, community outreach, and education for fiscal year 2008-2009.

- Section 8 – The following groups would receive one-time appropriations:
 - a) High Sierra Industries would be provided \$1 million for the establishment of a center to provide services ranging from life skills training to employment counseling for persons with disabilities.
 - b) Opportunity Village would be provided \$3 million for vocational training, employment, and social recreation for persons in southern Nevada with intellectual disabilities.
 - c) Washoe Arc would be provided \$1 million for the construction of a facility in Washoe County to serve the needs of persons with developmental disabilities.
- Section 10 – The Institute for Neuro-Immune Disease would be provided \$2 million for faculty, staff and operating costs related to the research of neuro-immune disorders.
- Section 12
 - a) The Clark County Public Education Foundation, Inc. would be provided \$250,000 for new programs and expansion of outreach efforts.
 - b) Washoe County School District Educational Foundation, Inc. would be provided \$150,000 for new programs and expansion of outreach efforts.
- Section 14 – The Lou Ruvo Brain Institute would be provided \$3 million in "one-time monies" for research, clinical studies, operations, and educational programs at the Institute.
- Section 16 – the Nevada Discovery Museum in Reno would be provided \$1 million for capital construction and initial operating expenses.
- Section 18 – The Lied Discovery Children's Museum would be provided \$500,000 for the costs of planning a new facility.
- Section 20 – The Las Vegas Natural History Museum would be provided \$500,000 for the support and improvement of the Museum.
- Section 22 – White Pine County would be provided \$1.5 million for the design of a courthouse.

Mr. Stevens reported that the various appropriations totaled \$23,900,000.

Assemblywoman Gansert recalled that funds were requested to expand the bathrooms and security system in the White Pine County Courthouse and questioned whether the \$1.5 million appropriation in Section 22 for the design of the courthouse could be used for those purposes.

Chairman Arberry advised that the funding could only be used for design.

Assemblywoman Leslie commented that the appropriations listed in S.B. 443 (R1) were the result of a long negotiation process and recalled that the appropriation for White Pine County listed in Section 22 was not a part of the

agreement. Assemblywoman Leslie suggested amending the bill to remove the \$1.5 million appropriation.

Assemblyman Marvel expressed concern relative to the poor condition of the White Pine County Courthouse, which he indicated was a liability for the State and a "disaster waiting to happen." Assemblyman Marvel also expressed concern for the safety of witnesses and recommended that the appropriation for White Pine County remain in the bill.

Chairman Arberry expressed agreement with Assemblywoman Leslie's recommendation.

In response to questions Assemblyman Hardy asked regarding the \$1.5 million appropriation, Chairman Arberry indicated that no discussions had taken place regarding a design-build concept for the White Pine County Courthouse.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to S.B. 443 (R1) and, there being none, declared the hearing closed.

Senate Bill 393 (3rd Reprint): Makes various changes concerning transportation. (BDR 58-109)

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill 393 (R3).

Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson, representing Clark County, District No. 17, and Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Transportation, appeared before the Committee to testify in support of a proposed amendment (Exhibit C) to S.B. 393 (R3), a bill making various changes concerning transportation.

Assemblyman Atkinson provided the following background information:

- Senate Bill 393 (R3), addressed the Transportation Services Authority (TSA) and was first heard in the Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security on April 5, 2007.
- The legislation would change the name of the Transportation Services Authority (TSA) to the Nevada Transportation Authority to avoid confusion with the federal agency. The bill would also require the Authority to appoint a Deputy Commissioner and would set forth the qualifications and duties for the position. A fiscal note initially attached to the bill was deleted.

Assemblyman Atkinson referenced language on page six of the proposed amendment (Exhibit C) that was distributed to the Committee. Passage of S.B. 393 (R3) with the proposed amendments would place the following advisory questions on the November 4, 2008, ballot:

1. Should a tax be imposed by the State on heavyweight trucks at the rate of 15 cents per mile traveled in the State for the purpose of raising additional revenue for the construction and maintenance of public highways?
2. Should the depreciation schedule used to calculate the annual governmental services tax due for a used vehicle in the State be revised for the purpose of raising additional revenue for the construction and maintenance of public highways?

3. Should the State impose a surcharge on each taxicab fare in the amount of 80 cents per taxicab trip for the purpose of raising additional revenue for the construction and maintenance of public highways?
4. Should the State use toll roads for the purpose of raising additional revenue for the construction and maintenance of public highways?
5. Should the State charge a toll for the use of lanes added to a public highway for the purpose of raising the revenue to pay for the construction and maintenance of the additional lane?

Assemblyman Atkinson also referenced A.B. 595 (R3), a bill he endorsed that would make various changes related to taxes on fuels and the provision of funding for highway projects. However, he said that the State needed additional revenue sources for highway projects, and placing the proposed advisory questions on the ballot was a way to ask the voters how they wanted to pay for roads in the future.

Assemblyman Grady indicated he could not support a 15-cent per mile tax on heavyweight trucks because the shortest distance across Nevada was in the southern area of the State. He reasoned that more trucks would take that route and create the adverse effect of placing too many trucks on an already heavily congested route.

Assemblyman Hardy recognized the challenges involved in determining ways to fund the construction and maintenance of public highways but expressed concern that the voters would negatively respond to advisory questions regarding the imposition of taxes.

Assemblyman Atkinson reiterated that the advisory questions provided a method for the Legislature to receive some direction from the members of the public.

Assemblywoman Buckley expressed support for placing the advisory questions on the ballot and pointed out that ultimately the "hard decisions" would rest with the Legislature. Assemblywoman Buckley indicated that the Legislature took a first step during the 2007 Session to divert existing resources and agreed that resolving the State's long-term road problems could be assisted by direction from the voters.

Assemblywoman Buckley questioned the 15-cent per mile rate and whether a benefit could be gained by leaving the rate open.

Mr. Atkinson indicated he was not opposed to a change in the language and advised that initial discussions included language on whether the State should impose "a weight and distance program" rather than the 15-cent per mile rate.

Assemblywoman Weber asked whether advisory questions placed on the ballot would include statements written both in favor of and in opposition to the question.

Mr. Atkinson responded that ballot questions typically included pro and con statements.

Senator Dennis Nolan, representing Clark County, District No. 9, and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security, provided the following information on the merits of S.B. 393 (R3):

- During the 2005 Legislative Session and prior to that, the State was experiencing problems with the Transportation Services Authority (TSA), the agency that regulated carriers, operators of tow cars, limousines, charter-bus services, and cab companies outside of Clark County.
- A bill developed by Assemblyman Ocegüera and Senator Nolan during the 2005 Legislative Session was vetoed, and during the interim between legislative sessions, a number of improvements to the TSA were made and other issues were self-remedied.
- The initial provisions of S.B. 393 (R3) were to address other concerns and help the TSA run more efficiently. The bill was heard and amended by the Assembly Committee on Transportation, and the Senate agreed to the amendments.

Senator Nolan referenced the latest amendment ([Exhibit C](#)) and said that if the people were to be polled by a ballot initiative, some regard would have to be given to their response. Senator Nolan pointed out that the voters' decision on ballot questions, although not binding, would weigh heavily on legislative decisions.

Senator Nolan indicated that the issues related to funding the construction and maintenance of public highways were complicated, and it appeared the advisory questions only presented a small part of an entire picture that had been debated over the past four months of the Legislative Session. Senator Nolan indicated that using "arbitrary numbers" did not serve to educate the voters regarding the extent of the funding problem or how the funds would be spent.

In reference to the advisory question on whether to impose an 80-cent surcharge per taxicab trip, Senator Nolan indicated that most everyone would agree that tourists should contribute more to help fund the continuing deficit to construct and maintain Nevada's public highways. However, Senator Nolan pointed out that the amount of funding needed in the future was an unknown.

Senator Nolan indicated the advisory questions, as written in the proposed amendment, appeared to be disingenuous and designed to draw voters to a predetermined conclusion. Senator Nolan indicated he was committed to working with Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Transportation and advocated waiting until the 2009 Legislative Session to develop a funding formula rather than to approve ballot questions on the last day of the 2007 Session.

Assemblywoman Buckley expressed confidence in the voters' intelligence and indicated it made sense to conduct a survey of public opinion that would aid legislative decisions. Additionally, she said that because the questions were advisory, the Legislature could consider other factors. Assemblywoman Buckley discussed the aftermath that resulted from toll roads being instituted in other states wherein the voters had created "mayhem on the political front" because they disagreed with the imposition of toll roads.

Senator Nolan pointed out the voters might respond differently if a toll road advisory question was phrased to ask about toll lanes designated primarily for the use of tourists and truckers rather than a question asking about the imposition of tolls to pay for roads.

Senator Nolan discussed the work of the Blue Ribbon Task Force studying the funding problem and the best method of communicating how using revenue

lanes could help fund a billion-dollar project. He defined the funding issue as complex and one that could not be framed in a three- or- four-sentence ballot initiative question. Senator Nolan said that although he agreed that advisory questions could provide the Legislature with direction, he reiterated that the decision of the voters would weigh heavily on the Legislature's decisions.

Assemblywoman Buckley commented that the voters could examine the complexities of the issues in the pro and con statements, and she said the people were being well served by continuing efforts to resolve the funding problem.

Assemblyman Hardy indicated other funding sources, such as sales tax, had been discussed and agreed that additional consideration should be given to advisory questions that would be placed on the ballot.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to S.B. 393 (R3) and, there being none, declared the hearing closed.

Senate Bill 287 (1st Reprint): Makes an appropriation to the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to enroll rangers in the Police and Firefighters' Retirement Fund. (BDRS-976)

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill 287 (R1).

Ronald P. Dreher, Government Affairs Director, Peace Officers Research Association of Nevada, appeared before the Committee on behalf of the professional peace officers of Nevada to testify in support of S.B. 287 (R1). If approved, the bill would appropriate funds to the Division of State Parks to enroll 31 state park rangers who were Category 1 Peace Officers in the Police and Firefighters' Retirement Fund. Mr. Dreher extended his thanks to Senator Mathews for sponsoring the legislation.

Mr. Dreher reported that the request for the funding appropriation was not included in The Executive Budget because the Police Fire Advisory Board did not complete the application process until April 2007, and the PERS Board recommended approval on May 18, 2007. Mr. Dreher advised the Committee that Category 1 Peace Officers did the same work as other peace officers, and he reported that there were 24 state parks with 2.7 million visitors a year, which equated to approximately one park ranger for every 80,000 visitors.

Mr. Dreher testified that if approved, the bill would become effective on July 1, 2007, and any park ranger hired by the Division of State Parks thereafter would be included in the Police and Firefighters' Retirement Fund. However, of the 31 park rangers currently in the System, approximately two-thirds or 20 would enroll.

Mr. Dreher advised that the Senate Committee on Finance favorably passed S.B. 287 (R1) out of Committee and asked for the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means' favorable consideration to provide the appropriation to the Department of Conservation.

Robert L. Holley, President, Park Ranger Association of Nevada, also testified in support of S.B. 287 (R1) and indicated that the PERS Board determined unanimously that the Park Rangers' work warranted the coverage.

Mr. Holley advised the Committee that the appropriation to the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources was needed to fund

the cost of the state's share of the Police and Firefighters' Retirement Fund benefit. Mr. Holley indicated that the State Parks' budget could not absorb the cost and asked for the Committee's favorable consideration of the bill.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to S.B. 287 (R1) and, there being none, declared the hearing closed.

Senate Bill 466 (1st Reprint): Makes appropriations to restore the balance in the Contingency Fund. (BDR S-1268)

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill 466 (R1).

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised that S.B. 466 (R1), if approved, would appropriate \$15.5 million to the Interim Finance Committee's Contingency Fund. The Senate Committee on Finance increased the funding by \$1.5 million from the \$14 million recommended in The Executive Budget.

Mr. Stevens explained that the State Budget Director had appeared before the Senate Committee on Finance to request an additional \$1.5 million for the Board of Examiners' Statutory Contingency Fund. The Senate Committee on Finance decided instead to place the \$1.5 million in the Interim Finance Committee's Contingency Fund for availability to the Board of Examiners, if needed. Funds not needed by the Board would be available to the Interim Finance Committee for other emergencies during the interim.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to S.B. 466 (R1) and, there being none, declared the hearing closed.

Senate Bill 575: Increases salaries of certain state employees. (BDR S-1527)

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill 575.

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided the following information regarding S.B. 575, a bill that would increase the salaries of classified and unclassified state employees:

- Section 1 of the bill "set forth" the salaries for positions in the unclassified service of the State.
- Sections 2 through 14 "set forth" the funding for the 2 percent salary increase effective July 1, 2007, for classified and unclassified employees and a 4 percent salary increase effective July 1, 2008, for classified and unclassified employees.
- The funding contained an appropriation from both the Highway Fund and General Fund to provide for the salary increases.
- Section 8 provided the 2 percent and 4 percent increases specifically for the professional and classified employees of the Nevada System of Higher Education.
- Section 10 provided a two-grade pay increase for nurses, health counselors, psychologists, clinical social workers, construction inspectors, and related positions.

- Section 11 provided a 4.9 percent increase for employees of the Gaming Control Board and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to S.B. 575.

Shelley D. Blotter, C.P.M., Chief, Technical Services Division, Department of Personnel, testifying on behalf of the Department of Personnel, expressed concern that, if approved, S.B. 575 would perpetuate a problem created in 2005 when the Legislature granted a step increase to classified employees that did not include an adjustment for unclassified salaries.

Ms. Blotter noted that, as pointed out by Mr. Stevens, only the Gaming Control Board and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor would receive the 4.9 percent increase during the 2007-2009 biennium. Ms. Blotter cited the following examples of the compaction problem created by the legislation:

- The deputy administrator for Mine Safety, Division of Industrial Relations, Department of Business and Industry, would earn \$76,908 per year while the administrator's subordinate Safety Manager 3, a classified employee with civil service protection, would earn \$76,504 per year.
- The administrator for the Division of Plant Industries, Department of Agriculture, would earn \$76,908 per year while regional managers who reported to the administrator and who enjoyed classified service protection would earn \$76,504.

Assemblywoman Buckley said that she recognized the points brought forth were valid but indicated it was too late in the Legislative Session to address the compaction problem. She explained that attempting to revise and process the bill on the last day of the Session would jeopardize the salary increase for others but provided assurance that the money committee members would work with the Director of the Department of Personnel during the interim to resolve the compaction problem.

Ms. Blotter expressed her thanks to the members of the Committee for listening to her testimony and said that the Department of Personnel looked forward to working with the Legislature during the interim on the salary disparity issue.

There being no further testimony to come before the Committee, Chairman Arberry declared the hearing on S.B. 575 closed.

**Senate Bill 576: Authorizes expenditures by agencies of the State Government.
(BDR S-1530)**

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill 576.

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised the Committee that S.B. 576 authorized expenditures by agencies of the State.

Mr. Stevens indicated that the Committee had previously reviewed the "back language" of the bill, which began on page 16. The first 15 pages related to revenue other than from the Highway Fund and the General Fund that were included within the budgets approved by the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. Additionally, Mr. Stevens pointed out that S.B. 576 was the companion to the Appropriations Act that

was passed out of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means on June 3, 2007.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to S.B. 576 and, there being none, declared the hearing closed.

Senate Bill 326 (1st Reprint): Creates the Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders. (BDR 40-1138)

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill 326 (R1), a bill sponsored by Senator Townsend.

Rosetta Johnson, M.P.A., President and CEO, Human Potential Development, testified in support of S.B. 326 (R1), which proposed the creation of the Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders.

Ms. Johnson advised that S.B. 326 (R1) was based on recommendations made during the Nevada Symposium on Co-Occurring Disorders Strategies to Improve Treatment Outcomes for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders held on November 6, 2006, by the following entities:

- Department of Health and Human Services
- Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services
- The criminal justice and judicial systems
- The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Institute of Addiction and Prevention Studies
- Private nonprofit community-based agencies
- Department of Corrections
- Consumer and family members

The participants of the symposium made the following key recommendations:

- Utilize a comprehensive approach to clinical and administrative improvements to support the integration of substance abuse and mental health services, and the criminal justice systems.

Ms. Johnson advised that the first approach aligned training, financing, licensing, certification, corresponding data collection, and outcome measurement requirements. Ms. Johnson indicated that training and best practices alone would not produce the results if the infrastructure, financing, licensing, and reporting requirements did not jointly support the implementation of coordinated and integrated practices. The symposium participants wanted to emphasize the necessity of joint efforts to ensure coordinated and integrated services that improved treatment outcomes for individuals with co-occurring disorders.

- Formation of the Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders to confirm the state's commitment to and expectations for the treatment of persons with co-occurring disorders.
- Establish training and technical assistance through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Co-Occurring Center for Excellence and/or other resources to support the development and implementation of a comprehensive system of care for persons with co-occurring disorders in Nevada.
- Co-occurring disorders must be simultaneously treated.

In closing, Ms. Johnson advised that passage of the legislation would bring excellence in the treatment of co-occurring disorders through an integrated-systems approach. This was an approach in which funding would be utilized so that there was no "wrong door" for help, and recidivism to care providers, homelessness, prison, and violent acts would be "significantly" reduced and the quality of life returned to individuals and their families.

Chairman Arberry noted that the bill did not provide funding for the Committee members' travel.

Ms. Johnson indicated the Administrator for the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Services had prepared a fiscal note.

Chairman Arberry advised that staff would confer with Senator Townsend regarding the funding for Committee members' travel.

Assemblywoman Gansert commented that it was brought to her attention that language regarding the American Osteopathic Board's approval of certain members of the Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders was not included in the bill.

Chairman Arberry asked whether there was any further testimony for or in opposition to S.B. 326 (R1) and, there being none, declared the hearing closed.

[Assembly Bill 434](#): Revises provisions governing education. (BDR 34-1270)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Assembly Bill 434.

Copies of a proposed amendment ([Exhibit D](#)) to A.B. 434, a bill related to education and eligibility for a millennium scholarship, were distributed to the Committee. Assemblymen Munford, Kihuen, Koivisto, Manendo, Marvel and Segerblom sponsored the bill, and Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie provided the following information:

- The amendment proposed that the Board of Regents establish criteria relative to students who had a parent or legal guardian on active duty in the military and who were living outside of the State to exempt such students from the residency requirement for the millennium scholarship.
- The amendment also proposed that the Board of Regents establish a procedure by which an applicant for a millennium scholarship was required to execute an affidavit declaring eligibility for the scholarship. The affidavit would include a declaration that the applicant was a United States citizen or had lawful immigration status or had filed an application to legalize his or her immigration status.

Assemblywoman Leslie advised that, if approved, the requirements proposed by the amendment would become a part of the certificate that every millennium scholar currently was required to sign.

Additionally, Assemblywoman Leslie advised that Assemblyman Munford requested a letter of intent that would include original language in the bill to ask the State Board of Education to review multicultural educational requirements and instruction pertinent to the Constitution of the United States and the government of the State of Nevada.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 434.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Smith was not present for the vote.)

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Senate Bill 123 (2nd Reprint): Makes various changes to provisions relating to public records. (BDR 19-462)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Senate Bill 123 (R2), a bill that would make various changes to provisions relating to public records. Senator Care sponsored the legislation.

Assemblywoman Buckley proposed to remove the language in Section 3 and the definition pertaining to Section 3 on page 5, lines 10 through 13. Assemblywoman Buckley defined the language in Section 3 and on page 5 as "imperfect" and advised that Senator Care agreed to delete the language, which would be reviewed again during the 2009 Legislative Session.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 123 (R2).

ASSEMBLYMAN PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Smith was not present for the vote. Assemblywoman Gansert, Assemblyman Hardy, Assemblywoman Weber voted nay.)

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Senate Bill 166 (1st Reprint): Requires payment of increased salaries to certain school employees holding national certification. (BDR 34-1149)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Senate Bill 166 (R1), a bill that required payment of increased salaries to certain school employees holding national certification.

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised the Committee that the bill, if approved, would require school districts to pay increased salaries to certain professional school librarians who hold certain national certification.

ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS MOVED TO DO PASS S.B. 166 (R1).

ASSEMBLYMAN HOGAN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Smith was not present for the vote.)

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Senate Bill 443 (1st Reprint): Makes various appropriations. (BDR S-1234)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Senate Bill 433 (R1).

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised that S.B. 443 (R1), considered earlier in the hearing, included a number of nonstate agencies recommended in The Executive Budget to receive appropriations. Mr. Stevens reported that the various appropriations totaled \$23,900,000, a reduction from the amount proposed in The Executive Budget.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 443 (R1) BY REMOVING \$1.5 MILLION FOR THE DESIGN OF A COURTHOUSE IN WHITE PINE COUNTY.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MCCLAIN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Smith was not present for the vote, Assemblywoman Gansert, Assemblyman Grady, Assemblyman Hardy and Assemblyman Marvel voted nay.)

Senate Bill 466 (1st Reprint): Makes appropriations to restore the balance in the Contingency Fund. (BDR S-1268)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Senate Bill 466 (R1).

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised that S.B. 466 (R1), previously considered by the Committee, would appropriate funding to restore the balance to the Interim Finance Committee Contingency Fund.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED TO DO PASS S.B. 466 (R1).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Smith was not present for the vote.)

Senate Bill 471 (2nd Reprint): Revises provisions relating to sex offenders and offenders convicted of a crime against a child. (BDR 14-1426)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Senate Bill 471 (R2).

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised that S.B. 471 (R2), a bill revising provisions relating to sex offenders, was considered by the Committee in a previous hearing during which Senator Titus testified.

ASSEMBLYMAN PARKS MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS S.B. 471 (R2) TO INCLUDE A PROVISION EXEMPTING THE STATE BOARD OF PAROLE COMMISSIONERS FROM THE OPEN MEETING LAW WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Chairman Arberry declined to accept the amendment. Assemblywoman Buckley suggested holding the bill to determine whether the Legal Division had the time to draft the amendment.

Chairman Arberry agreed to hold consideration of S.B. 471 (R2).

Senate Bill 575: Increases salaries of certain state employees. (BDR S-1527)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Senate Bill 575.

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised that S.B. 575, considered earlier in the hearing, was the salary bill for classified and unclassified state employees.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MCCLAIN MOVED TO DO PASS S.B. 575.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Smith was not present for the vote.)

Senate Bill 576: Authorizes expenditures by agencies of the State Government. (BDR S-1530)

Chairman Arberry called for the Committee to vote on Senate Bill 576.

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised that S.B. 576, a bill considered earlier in the hearing, was the General Authorizations Act.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED TO DO PASS S.B. 576.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUCKLEY SECONDED THE MOTION.

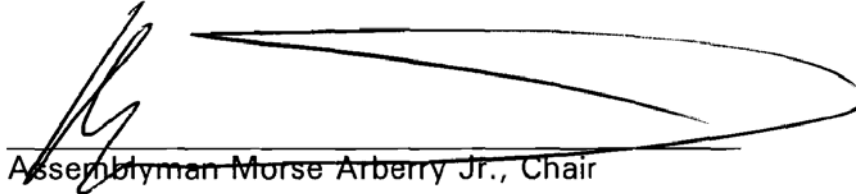
THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Smith was not present for the vote.)

Chairman Arberry adjourned the hearing at 11:06 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Connie Davis
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:



Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr., Chair

DATE: _____

Committee Name: Committee on Ways and Means

Date: June 4, 2007

Time of Meeting: 9:55 a.m.

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
<u>S.B. 393</u>	C	Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson	Proposed Amendment 1140 to <u>S.B. 393</u> .
<u>A.B. 434</u>	D	Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie	Proposed Amendment 4175 to <u>A.B. 434</u> .