

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

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

The Committee on Ways and Means was called to order by Chair Morse Arberry Jr. at 5:41 p.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/](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  
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  
Assemblyman David R. Parks  
Assemblywoman Debbie Smith  
Assemblywoman Valerie E. Weber

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Assemblywoman Barbara E. Buckley  
Assemblywoman Kathy McClain

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mark W. Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst  
Steve Abba, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst  
Barron Brooks, Committee Secretary  
Patricia Adams, Committee Assistant

Chairman Arberry opened the hearing on Senate Bill (S.B.) 556 (1st Reprint).

**Senate Bill 556 (1st Reprint): Makes various changes concerning the judicial system. (BDR 1-1475)**

Arthur Ritchie, District Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court, stated there were eight Family Court judicial positions: two positions in Washoe County and six in Clark County. The positions were created in 1993 and were called "off-cycle," which meant they were elected off the cycle when later judicial salary increases were approved. The bill would provide a mechanism to equalize salary for those eight judicial positions in the District Court and provide equity in judicial salaries



for the five Nevada Supreme Court Justices who were off-cycle. The Nevada Constitution prevented them from taking the raise in salary, so law library commissions were created instead. "This is a reconstitution of the bill that was passed in 2001." Judge Ritchie explained the bill would allow for equalization for District Court judges salaries in 2009-10 and would solve the issue of library commissions as it related to District Court judges by taking the eight positions and putting them on cycle by 2015. Each of the judges had agreed that their terms, beginning in 2011, would be four-year terms. Judge Ritchie asked for Committee support in the reconstitution of the commissions to allow judges, some of whom had been serving over 10 years, to receive equitable salaries.

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED TO DO PASS S.B. 556 (R1).

ASSEMBLYMAN HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLYWOMEN BUCKLEY AND MCCLAIN WERE NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE. ASSEMBLYWOMAN LESLIE ABSTAINED.)

\* \* \* \* \*

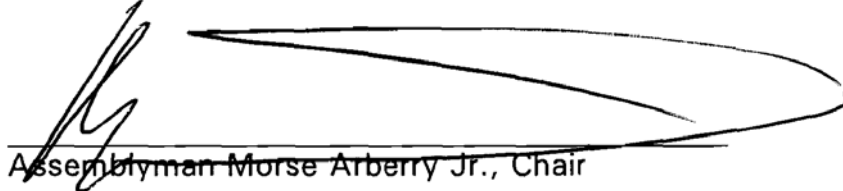
Chairman Arberry adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Barron Brooks  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Morse', is written over a horizontal line.

Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr., Chair

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

<b><u>EXHIBITS</u></b>			
<b>Committee Name: <u>Committee on Ways and Means</u></b>			
<b>Date: <u>June 4, 2007</u></b>		<b>Time of Meeting: <u>5:41 p.m.</u></b>	
<b>Bill</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>	<b>Witness / Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster