

**MINUTES OF THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**Seventy-fourth Session  
February 19, 2007**

The Senate Committee on Government Affairs was called to order by Chair Warren B. Hardy II at 1:32 p.m. on Monday, February 19, 2007, in Room 2149 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. [Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda. [Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Warren B. Hardy II, Chair  
Senator Bob Beers, Vice Chair  
Senator William J. Raggio  
Senator Randolph J. Townsend  
Senator Dina Titus  
Senator Terry Care  
Senator John J. Lee

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Olivia Lodato, Committee Secretary  
Eileen O'Grady, Committee Counsel  
Michael J. Stewart, Committee Policy Analyst  
Erin Miller, Committee Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, Department of Health and Human Services

CHAIR HARDY:

We have Senate Bill (S.B.) 83 on the agenda today.

**SENATE BILL 83:** Revises provisions governing the Grants Management Advisory Committee of the Department of Health and Human Services. (BDR 18-593)

LAURA HALE (Chief, Grants Management Unit, Department of Health and Human Services):

This is a straightforward bill. We have an advisory committee that oversees several of our federal and state grant funds. We are looking to provide flexibility to those committees. Instead of requiring the superintendent to represent the school district on our committee, section 1 authorized a representative of the school district or a designee. A representative or designee could represent the local agency rather than the director of the agency. Rather than a representative of a broad-based, nonprofit organization, S.B. 83 allows someone who has knowledge and skill with building partnerships between the public and private sectors as a representative. The changes establish flexibility for our quorum and appointments to this board.

CHAIR HARDY:

In this Committee, we like to focus on what problems we are fixing. Please give us an example of why it is a problem that the superintendent be required to represent the district.

MS. HALE:

The superintendents are stretched fairly thin. In our last round of appointments, the superintendent of Pershing County wanted to opt out, but no other superintendents were willing to take his place so he had to step forward again. If they have a representative appointed, that gives us flexibility. Sometimes, it is difficult for the director for Washoe County Department of Social Services to make all of our meetings. Therefore, it is difficult to reach our quorum.

CHAIR HARDY:

Are you able to represent that the superintendents and directors support S.B. 83? We can assume by their absence they do not oppose the bill.

MS. HALE:

We did have the bill draft presented to that committee and approved by them.

SENATOR CARE:

Who would appoint the representative of the school district? Would that be done by the superintendent, board of trustees or the school board?

MS. HALE:

We would probably look to the superintendent to designate someone from the district to serve with us.

SENATOR CARE:

The superintendent comes off the board, but retains the power to select a representative.

CHAIR HARDY:

I assumed that because it says "his designee." I read it to mean the superintendent makes the appointment.

EILEEN O'GRADY (Committee Counsel):

I believe the representative selected could designate who sits for them.

SENATOR LEE:

You removed somebody who represented the Juvenile Justice Services. What was the thought process on that?

MS. HALE:

It was to allow us more flexibility to retain someone who has experience working with youths, but not necessarily that specific a position.

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CHAIR HARDY:

We will close the hearing on S.B. 83 and hold the bill for work session. This meeting is adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Erin Miller,  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Senator Warren B. Hardy II, Chair

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