

**MINUTES OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

**Seventy-fourth Session
April 20, 2007**

The subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Judiciary was called to order by Chair Mark E. Amodei at 9:01 a.m. on Friday, April 20, 2007, in Room 2149 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, Room 4412E, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Mark E. Amodei, Chair
Senator Mike McGinness
Senator Valerie Wiener

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Assemblyman John C. Carpenter, Assembly District No. 33
Assemblywoman Susan Gerhardt, Assembly District No. 29

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Linda J. Eissmann, Committee Policy Analyst
Brad Wilkinson, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel
Gale Maynard, Committee Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ed Ewert, Chief Deputy District Attorney, Family Support Division, Clark County
Paula Berkley, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
Kristin L. Erickson, Nevada District Attorneys Association
Julianna Ormsby, Nevada Women's Lobby
Louise Bush, Chief, Child Support Enforcement, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Department of Health and Human Services
Alan Glover, County Fiscal Officers Association
George Ross, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce
Beverly Salhanick, Nevada Trial Lawyers Association

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CHAIR AMODEI:

We call this meeting of the subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Judiciary to order and open the hearing with Assembly Bill (A.B.) 90.

ASSEMBLY BILL 90 (1st Reprint): Creates the crime of paternity fraud.
(BDR 15-147)

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SUSAN GERHARDT (Assembly District No. 29):

I present to this Subcommittee my written testimony ([Exhibit C](#)).

ED EWERT (Chief Deputy District Attorney, Family Support Division, Clark County):

I present to the Subcommittee my written testimony ([Exhibit D](#)). I, as well as others in my office, wish to express our support of A.B. 90.

CHAIR AMODEI:

Assemblywoman Gerhardt, what are your thoughts on misdemeanor versus gross misdemeanor?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN GERHARDT:

It should be a gross misdemeanor, but there was some reluctance in our committee and a mood to not burden the system.

CHAIR AMODEI:

Let your colleagues know that when we work session this bill, the issue will be misdemeanor versus gross misdemeanor. Is there more testimony for A.B. 90?

PAULA BERKLEY (Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence):

We support this bill.

KRISTIN L. ERICKSON (Nevada District Attorneys Association):

I would like to give my support for this bill.

CHAIR AMODEI:

Do you have any thoughts on misdemeanor versus gross misdemeanor?

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MS. ERICKSON:

The differences between the two are a misdemeanor is six months in Washoe County jail and a \$1,000 fine whereas a gross misdemeanor puts it into district court for a formal probation and increases the penalty to one year in jail along with a \$2,000 fine.

JULIANNA ORMSBY (Nevada Women's Lobby):
We urge your support for A.B. 90.

LOUISE BUSH (Chief, Child Support Enforcement, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Department of Health and Human Services):
I have given the Subcommittee my written testimony ([Exhibit E](#)).

CHAIR AMODEI:

Is there anyone else to testify on A.B. 90? We will close the hearing on A.B. 90 and open the hearing on A.B. 20.

ASSEMBLY BILL 20 (1st Reprint): Revises the provisions pertaining to travel costs that jurors are entitled to receive. (BDR 1-323)

ALAN GLOVER (County Fiscal Officers Association):

This bill was the result of a discussion at an annual meeting of clerks. After gathering information from jurors and potential jurors, it was a burden on people to serve for those who travel great distances. It was proposed to amend the travel allowance to compensate the travel time.

CHAIR AMODEI:

Are there any questions for Mr. Glover?

GEORGE ROSS (Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce):

It is a fundamental right to serve as a juror, and A.B. 20 will help broaden the pool of jurors. We are in favor of this bill.

CHAIR AMODEI:

We will close the hearing on A.B. 20 and open the hearing on A.B. 117.

ASSEMBLY BILL 117 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to the exclusion of certain persons from divorce proceedings. (BDR 11-217)

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ASSEMBLYMAN JOHN C. CARPENTER (Assembly District No. 33):
I have prepared written testimony for this subcommittee ([Exhibit F](#)).

CHAIR AMODEI:
Is there anyone else to testify on A.B. 117?

BEVERLY SALHANICK (Nevada Trial Lawyers Association):
We support this bill as amended.

CHAIR AMODEI:
We will close the hearing on A.B. 117. If there is no other business to come before this Subcommittee, we are adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Gale Maynard,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Mark E. Amodei, Chair

DATE: _____