

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**Seventy-Fifth Session
April 20, 2009**

The Committee on Government Affairs was called to order by Chair Marilyn K. Kirkpatrick at 9:03 a.m. on Monday, April 20, 2009, in Room 3143 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4406 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, 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/75th2009/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:

Assemblywoman Marilyn K. Kirkpatrick, Chair
Assemblyman David P. Bobzien, Vice Chair
Assemblyman Paul Aizley
Assemblyman Jerry D. Claborn
Assemblyman Ed A. Goedhart
Assemblywoman April Mastroluca
Assemblyman Harvey J. Munford
Assemblywoman Peggy Pierce
Assemblyman James A. Settelmeyer
Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel
Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson (excused)
Assemblyman Chad Christensen (excused)
Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury (excused)

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Senator Joyce L. Woodhouse, Clark County Senatorial District No. 5

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Scholley, Committee Policy Analyst
Cynthia Carter, Committee Manager
Michelle Smothers, Committee Secretary
Olivia Lloyd, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Greg Smith, Administrator, Department of Administration
David Slater, Teacher, John R. Beatty Elementary School, Las Vegas,
Nevada
Lexie Arancibia, Student, John R. Beatty Elementary School, Las Vegas,
Nevada
Ryan Underwood, Student, John R. Beatty Elementary School,
Las Vegas, Nevada
Meagan Anders, Student, John R. Beatty Elementary School, Las Vegas,
Nevada

Chair Kirkpatrick:

[Roll called.] We will begin the hearing with Senate Bill 392 this morning.

Senate Bill 392: Repeals an obsolete statute relating to annual payment for the purchasing warehouse building and adjacent land in Las Vegas. (BDR 27-1212)

Greg Smith, Administrator, Department of Administration:

Senate Bill 392 should take less than 30 seconds, I cannot imagine anybody will speak against this bill. The bill repeals the law that became outdated in November, 2008, when we made the final \$171,000 payment on the Las Vegas warehouse. There is no outstanding balance due anymore; therefore, this language requiring our office to make annual payments is obsolete.

ASSEMBLYMAN STEWART MOVED TO DO PASS
SENATE BILL 392.

ASSEMBLYMAN BOBZIEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

Is there any discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN ATKINSON, CHRISTENSEN, AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN WOODBURY WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Kirkpatrick:

We will now open the hearing on Senate Bill 166.

Senate Bill 166: Designates the official state insect of Nevada. (BDR 19-914)

Senator Joyce L. Woodhouse, Clark County Senatorial District No. 5:

[Spoke from prepared testimony ([Exhibit C](#)).]

Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart, Clark County Assembly District No. 22:

I am here to advocate for the Vivid Dancer Damselfly, as the state insect. The name itself rolls off of your tongue if you will notice. [Spoke from prepared testimony ([Exhibit C](#)).] Some of the staff asked me why this insect? I told them this is a marvelous insect. First, it has a beautiful name; second, it is a beautiful insect having the colors of our state, silver and blue; and third, it is found throughout the state. Someone asked me about the mosquito. I said this is a useful insect: this insect actually eats mosquitoes, so you will be well-served during mosquito season up here in the north to get a few of these damselflies for pets and have them hang out in your bedroom so you can keep your window open. We will turn the time over to these outstanding students from the John R. Beatty Elementary School.

Assemblyman Claborn:

That is a beautiful looking specimen, but I call that insect a dragonfly. Is that its other name? I understand that is the real name: the Vivid Dancer Damselfly. We call them dragonflies when we are out quail or duck hunting. I see thousands of those insects, and we call them dragonflies. Could that be the same thing, and I just did not know what they were?

Senator Woodhouse:

We should defer your question to the students, because they did all this wonderful research, and I do not want to preempt what they want to tell you.

Assemblyman Claborn:

I love it, I really do, the insect matches the colors for the north. I have seen them for many years and called them dragonflies. I know what the real name is now, though.

Assemblyman Settlemeyer:

You said this was done statewide, so statewide was this the winner or were there certain regions or certain areas that had a different choice?

Senator Woodhouse:

There were 74 classrooms that sent in their essays, and we had some that repeated different nominations, but John R. Beatty Elementary School was the only one that nominated this particular one. All seven judges had the essay for this insect as their top choice. The decisions were based on the appropriateness, scientific research, and the students' preparation because we wanted to make sure that the students followed the concepts of science in choosing this insect.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

What were some of the other choices?

Senator Woodhouse:

There were a number of them. Yes, the mosquito was one. There were some students who submitted a tarantula, and of course, that is not an insect under the scientific term. There were bees and butterflies and others such as those that were nominated as well.

Assemblyman Munford:

How many other states have a state insect? I have never heard of too many states having a state insect.

Assemblyman Stewart:

There are only eight states that do not have a state insect, and Nevada is at the bottom of the list on many issues. This is one way that we can correct Nevada's deficiency very rapidly and in a very nonpartisan manner, so we urge your support on this. We do not want to be part of those eight states anymore.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

We will now move to Las Vegas.

David Slater, Teacher, John R. Beatty Elementary School, Las Vegas, Nevada:

[Spoke from prepared testimony ([Exhibit D](#)).] Chairwoman Kirkpatrick, with your approval I would now like my students to read their essay into the record.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

Did the fourth graders learn a piece of Nevada's history on the different insects as well, as they were going through this?

David Slater:

One of the things that our research showed was that this insect was first classified a year after Nevada became a state.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

There are always different ways to teach, so I think this is interesting.

Lexie Arancibia, Student, John R. Beatty Elementary School, Las Vegas, Nevada:

[Spoke from prepared testimony ([Exhibit D](#)).]

Ryan Underwood, Student, John R. Beatty Elementary School, Las Vegas, Nevada:

[Spoke from prepared testimony ([Exhibit D](#)).]

Meagan Anders, Student, John R. Beatty Elementary School, Las Vegas, Nevada:

[Spoke from prepared testimony ([Exhibit D](#)).]

David Slater:

[Spoke from prepared testimony ([Exhibit D](#)).]

Chair Kirkpatrick:

Does anyone have any questions?

Assemblyman Claborn:

Do they also call the Damselfly, a Dragonfly?

David Slater:

Lexie would like to try and answer that. Assemblyman Claborn asked, is the Damselfly the same thing as a Dragonfly, or are they just related?

Lexie Arancibia:

They are just related, but it depends on how you ask the question.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

She has learned the legislative process already, she is doing well.

Assemblywoman Pierce:

Have you been able to go out and see one of these Damselflies in the wild?

Ryan Underwood:

The flight season of the Vivid Dancer Damselfly is probably just starting because it goes from April to October, so they are probably just coming out right now.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

What was the most interesting part or the most frustrating part about the legislative process that you learned throughout this?

Lexie Arancibia:

I do not know?

David Slater:

What did you enjoy most about our trip to Carson City?

Lexie Arancibia:

I loved learning about the bills and how bills became laws and all that stuff.

Ryan Underwood:

I perhaps share the same answer as Lexie.

Meagan Anders:

I will say the same for me.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

We will have to send Mr. Aizley, Mr. Stewart, and Ms. Woodhouse out to your school a little more often. Are there any other questions from the Committee? Is there anyone else who would like to testify in support of Senate Bill 166?

Senator Woodhouse:

We do not have any other speakers, but we want to thank you very much for your kind attention and hope that you will support the bill that these students have brought forth.

Assemblyman Stewart:

I just hope that we will all treat this insect with more respect when we see it in the future, as it becomes our state insect.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

Is there anyone that would like to testify in support of S.B. 166? [There were none.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in the neutral position on S.B. 166? [There were none.] Is there anyone who is in opposition on S.B. 166? [There were none.] We will close the hearing on S.B. 166.

Did they tell you how this process works once you have made it through the Senate? You have to now make it through the Assembly. Did they tell you what happens with this process next Lexie, Ryan, or Meagan?

David Slater:

We did, but I think we have forgotten exactly how the process works.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

It has been heard by this Committee, so we have closed the hearing on S.B. 166. Ms. Mastroluca has made a motion to Do Pass and a second was made by Ms. Pierce.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MASTROLUCA MOVED TO DO PASS
SENATE BILL 166.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN PIERCE SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Kirkpatrick:

Is there any discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN ATKINSON,
CHRISTENSEN, AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN WOODBURY WERE
ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Kirkpatrick:

Your bill has passed, so it will now go to the floor, and you have three weeks in the Assembly to make sure it gets back to the Senate, then the Governor signs it, and you have successfully passed a bill. Good job students, but it is not over yet, so you have to follow up with us. With that, are there any comments from the public? [There were none.] Are there any questions from the Committee? [There were none.] We will adjourn the meeting until Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned [at 9:27 a.m.]

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Michelle Smothers
Committee Secretary

Denise Sins
Editing Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Marilyn K. Kirkpatrick, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

Committee Name: Committee on Government Affairs

Date: April 20, 2009

Time of Meeting: 9:03 a.m.

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
S.B. 166	C	Senator Woodhouse and Assemblyman Stewart	Prepared testimony
S.B. 166	D	David Slater	Prepared testimony