

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
AND THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON K-12 EDUCATION/HIGHER EDUCATION

Seventy-Fifth Session
March 13, 2009

The Assembly Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance, Joint Subcommittee on K-12 Education/Higher Education was called to order by Chair Morse Arberry Jr. at 8:10 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2009, in Room 4100 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada and Great Basin College, 1500 College Parkway, Electrical & Industry Technology Building, Room 203, Elko, 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).

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr., Chair
Assemblywoman Debbie Smith, Vice Chair
Assemblywoman Barbara E. Buckley
Assemblyman Mo Denis
Assemblywoman Heidi S. Gansert
Assemblyman Tom Grady
Assemblyman John Ocegüera

SENATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Bernice Mathews, Chair
Senator Steven A. Horsford
Senator Warren B. Hardy II
Senator William J. Raggio

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Stevens, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Brian M. Burke, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Alexander Haartz, Program Analyst
Linda Blevins, Committee Secretary
Vickie Kieffer, Committee Assistant

Chair Arberry called the meeting to order and advised the Subcommittee they would be hearing testimony from higher education students regarding the proposed budget for the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE).

The following students and faculty presented testimony in opposition to proposed budget cuts for NSHE:

- Chris Shope, student, Desert Research Institute (DRI) ([Exhibit C](#))
- Kristien K. C. King, DRI
- Adam Cronis, undergraduate student body president, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)
- Jessica Lucero, graduate student body president, UNLV, ([Exhibit D](#))
- Robert Madden, College of Education doctoral student, UNLV,

Assemblywoman Smith noted that the kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) budget was facing severe budget cuts. The professional development program was marked for elimination. She requested the opinion of Mr. Madden regarding the professional development program funding and the significance of the program as it related to Mr. Madden.

Mr. Madden explained that the State of Nevada required the elementary educators to take one course in social studies, which was Nevada history. The UNLV required two additional survey courses in either world or U.S. history. It had been his experience that elementary grade teachers had a significant lack of content knowledge of civics and citizenship.

Testimony opposing NSHE budget cuts continued from the following students and faculty:

- Leslie Fidance, Boyd School of Law, UNLV,
- Elana Graham, Boyd School of Law, UNLV,
- Nate Hawley, School of Dental Medicine, UNLV
- Jeremy Cox, School of Dental Medicine, UNLV
- Ilona Somers, Great Basin College (GBC), Winnemucca
- Tom Reagan, faculty, Secondary Education, GBC
- Saul Quintero, GBC, Elko
- Carrie Bruno, faculty, Physical Science, GBC
- Kyle Farley, GBC, Elko
- Sergio Arteaga, Western Nevada College (WNC) ([Exhibit E](#))
- Dr. Robert Morin, Division Chair, Political Science Professor, WNC

Senator Horsford commented that the Subcommittee appreciated the testimony from Dr. Morin and thanked the faculty who served with the NSHE.

Testimony from the following students and faculty opposing the budget cuts for NSHE continued:

- Dr. Judy Cordia, Director of Nursing/Allied Health, WNC
- Jeanette McGinley, WNC
- Michelle Sanchez-Bowers, WNC
- Ed Martin, Chair, Applied Technology Division, WNC
- Carmen Ortiz, student government president, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)

Assemblywoman Smith thanked the students for their testimony. She commented that the testimony had reinforced the value of what schools and faculty provided to Nevada. The human strength and opportunity was moving and uplifting.

Testimony from the following students and faculty opposing the budget cuts for NSHE continued:

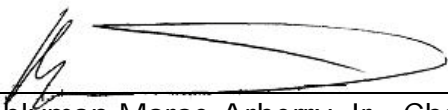
- Steven Bale, faculty senate chair, TMCC ([Exhibit F](#))
- Dusty Masuch, student, Nevada State College (NSC)
- Gwen Sharp, faculty, NSC
- April Krell, Site Coordinator, assistant principal, Moapa Valley High School
- Chuck Milne, Instructor, Biological Sciences, College of Southern Nevada
- Eli Reilly, student body president, University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)
- Karen Levy, UNLV
- Travis Cochran, UNLV
- Scott A. Mensing, PhD, faculty, UNR ([Exhibit G](#))
- Joseph Alexander, CSN

Chair Arberry thanked the students and faculty for their testimony. There being no further comments or questions, the Subcommittee adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

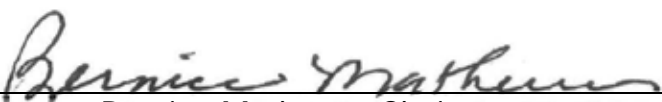
Linda Blevins
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:



Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr., Chair

DATE: _____



Senator Bernice Mathews, Chair

DATE: _____

<u>EXHIBITS</u>			
Committee Name: <u>Assembly Committee on Ways and Means/Senate Committee on Finance Joint Subcommittee on K-12 Education/Higher Education</u>			
Date: <u>March 13, 2009</u>		Time of Meeting: <u>8:10 a.m.</u>	
Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance roster
	C	Chris Shope, student, Desert Research Institute	Prepared testimony
	D	Jessica Lucero, UNLV, student	Prepared testimony
	E	Sergio Arteaga, WNC, student	Prepared testimony
	F	Steve Bale, TMCC, faculty	Prepared testimony
	G	Dr. Scott Mensing, UNR, faculty	Prepared testimony