

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND  
MINING**

**Seventy-Seventh Session  
May 28, 2013**

The Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining was called to order by Chair Skip Daly at 2:47 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, in Room 3161 of the Legislative Building, 401 S. Carson St., 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 [nelis.leg.state.nv.us/77th2013](http://nelis.leg.state.nv.us/77th2013). 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 Skip Daly, Chair  
Assemblyman Paul Aizley, Vice Chair  
Assemblyman Richard Carrillo  
Assemblywoman Lesley E. Cohen  
Assemblyman John Ellison  
Assemblyman Ira Hansen  
Assemblyman James W. Healey  
Assemblyman Pete Livermore  
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank  
Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson  
Assemblyman Jim Wheeler

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Assemblyman Paul Anderson

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

None



**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst  
Randy Stephenson, Committee Counsel  
Cheryl Williams, Recording Secretary  
Ashlynd Baker, Committee Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

None

**Chair Daly:**

[Roll was called.] We have four bills in this work session. I do not anticipate having any problems; they have no amendments, and we heard them Thursday of last week. We will be taking them out of order, and we will start with Senate Bill 464.

**Senate Bill 464:** Renames the State Sealer of Weights and Measures and the Division of Measurement Standards within the State Department of Agriculture. (BDR 50-1148)

**Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:**

[Ms. Welden read an explanation of the bill from the work session document ([Exhibit C](#)).]

**Chair Daly:**

I will accept a motion to do pass Senate Bill 464.

ASSEMBLYMAN ELLISON MOVED TO DO PASS  
SENATE BILL 464.

ASSEMBLYMAN WHEELER SECONDED THE MOTION.

**Chair Daly:**

Are there any questions or comments from the Committee? [There were none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN AIZLEY AND PAUL  
ANDERSON WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

**Chair Daly:**

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblyman Ellison. We will move to Senate Bill 490.

**Senate Bill 490:** Revises provisions relating to certain commodity food programs. (BDR 27-1149)

**Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:**

[Ms. Welden read an explanation of the bill from the work session document ([Exhibit D](#)).]

**Chair Daly:**

I will accept a motion to do pass Senate Bill 490.

ASSEMBLYMAN LIVERMORE MOVED TO DO PASS  
SENATE BILL 490.

ASSEMBLYMAN CARRILLO SECONDED THE MOTION.

**Chair Daly:**

Are there any questions or comments from the Committee? [There were none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMAN PAUL ANDERSON WAS  
ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

**Chair Daly:**

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblyman Thompson. We will move to Senate Bill 83 (1st Reprint).

**Senate Bill 83 (1st Reprint):** Revises provisions relating to animal fighting. (BDR 50-148)

**Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:**

[Ms. Welden read an explanation of the bill from the work session document ([Exhibit E](#)).]

**Chair Daly:**

I will accept a motion to do pass Senate Bill 83 (1st Reprint).

ASSEMBLYMAN CARRILLO MOVED TO DO PASS  
SENATE BILL 83 (1ST REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SWANK SECONDED THE MOTION.

**Chair Daly:**

I think the key word in this is there has to be intent to use the listed implements in cockfighting. Are there any questions or comments from the Committee?

**Assemblyman Hansen:**

I am voting no on this bill. I think it is crazy that we are creating a felony for people having chickens fight. You are going to send people to prison for this? That is really what we are talking about here. In this bill, you can also send people to prison if they are just attending a cockfighting event. While I agree they should be punished, the idea of sending people to prison when we are already talking about overcrowding in the prisons, and we have attempted to reduce the number of felonies so we can reduce our prison population, having this does not make any sense at all. I believe a gross misdemeanor, as in the current law, is more than sufficient.

**Assemblyman Ellison:**

I was hoping there would be an amendment to make it a gross misdemeanor. The testimony revealed there were only a few cases. The other issue is the police force trying to catch these people in a group. I am also in opposition.

**Chair Daly:**

Are there any further questions or comments? [There were none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEN ELLISON AND HANSEN  
VOTED NO. ASSEMBLYMAN PAUL ANDERSON WAS ABSENT  
FOR THE VOTE.)

**Chair Daly:**

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblyman Carrillo. We will move to Senate Bill 465 (1st Reprint).

**Senate Bill 465 (1st Reprint):** Revises provisions governing the special tax on certain livestock. (BDR 50-1147)

**Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:**

[Ms. Welden read an explanation of the bill from the work session document ([Exhibit F](#)).]

**Chair Daly:**

I will accept a motion to do pass Senate Bill 465 (1st Reprint).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN COHEN MOVED TO DO PASS  
SENATE BILL 465 (1ST REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SWANK SECONDED THE MOTION.

**Chair Daly:**

Are there any questions or comments from the Committee?

**Assemblyman Ellison:**

I am going to vote yes, but I would like to reserve my right to change my vote on the floor. I did talk to the Cattlemen's Association and the American Farm Bureau Federation, who were in favor of this bill. I would like to check with some other ranchers.

**Assemblyman Wheeler:**

From what I have seen lately, we need more enforcement in this area and this money will pay for that. The Cattlemen's Association and everyone I have spoken to who are actually paying the fees are in favor of paying a little extra to get that additional enforcement.

**Assemblyman Livermore:**

I agree with my colleagues and their comments. Normally, I vote no for additional taxes and it requires a two-thirds vote to move forward. However, because of the testimony from the Cattlemen's Association and others here, I will be supporting the measure.

**Chair Daly:**

Are there any additional questions or comments from the Committee? [There were none.] As was testified to, raising the tax probably saves money for the people who are paying the tax through better enforcement and less loss to theft. It is counterintuitive, but raising the tax actually saves money. I want everyone to think about that also, because when you cut a tax, it does not always actually save money. Sometimes it costs more money by cutting that tax. Remember, it works both ways.

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMAN PAUL ANDERSON WAS  
ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

**Chair Daly:**

I will assign the floor statement to Assemblyman Healey. I will open the microphones for public comment. [There was none.] I do not believe there is any other business before us at this time.

This meeting of the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture and Mining is adjourned [at 2:59 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Cheryl Williams  
Recording Secretary

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Lori McCleary  
Transcribing Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Assemblyman Skip Daly, Chair

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

**EXHIBITS**

**Committee Name:** Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining

**Date:** May 28, 2013

**Time of Meeting:** 2:47 p.m.

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>	<b>Witness / Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
S.B. 464	C	Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst	Work session document
S.B. 490	D	Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst	Work session document
S.B. 83 (R1)	E	Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst	Work session document
S.B. 465 (R1)	F	Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst	Work session document