# MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE Seventy-Seventh Session May 7, 2013

The Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Chair Debbie Smith at 10:05 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2013, in Room 2134 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412E of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. <a href="Exhibit A">Exhibit A</a> is the Agenda. <a href="Exhibit B">Exhibit B</a> is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Debbie Smith, Chair Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Vice Chair Senator Moises (Mo) Denis Senator David R. Parks Senator Pete Goicoechea Senator Ben Kieckhefer Senator Michael Roberson

# **GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

Senator Aaron D. Ford, Senatorial District No. 11

# **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mark Krmpotic, Senate Fiscal Analyst Alex Haartz, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst Cynthia Clampitt, Committee Secretary

# **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Carolyn G. Goodman, Mayor, City of Las Vegas
Nicolas Cage
Mike Nilon, Kritzer, Levine, Wilkins, Griffin and Nilon Entertainment
Chris Ramirez, Producer, Silver State Production Services
Sean T. Higgins, Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority
Nathan Scott, Forum Enterprises
Kevin Columbus, Forum Enterprises

Randy Soltaro, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States and Canada, AFL-CIO

Sumiko Maser, Deputy Director, Department of Taxation Robert Scoville Carole Vilardo, Nevada Taxpayers Association

## Chair Smith:

I will open the hearing on <u>Senate Bill (S.B.) 165</u>. This is Arts Day at the Nevada Legislature and this bill is a timely proposal to expand arts in a different way.

**SENATE BILL 165 (1st Reprint)**: Provides for transferable tax credits to attract film and other productions to Nevada. (BDR 32-781)

# Senator Aaron D. Ford (Senatorial District No. 11):

For far too long Nevada sat on its hands while other states, such as New Mexico, attracted job-creating film productions through tax incentives.

From the beautiful scenery in rural Nevada, to the bright lights of Las Vegas and the expansive mountain ranges across the State, Nevada should be a top destination for film incentives. Unfortunately, we are letting other states outpace us. We fail to offer incentives for production companies to come to Nevada. Bringing film productions to Nevada through tax incentives will create jobs for Nevada families at a time when they are desperately needed.

Nevada continues to suffer from one of the highest unemployment rates in the country. We should be pursuing all opportunities to create jobs for the middle class. That is why I introduced <u>S.B. 165</u>. The policy of this bill was presented to and amended by the Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development.

The current form of <u>S.B. 165</u> allows tax incentives for qualifying production companies. The bottom line for the Legislature today is to determine if we are willing to take the risk and whether it is worth the return on investment for such a risk. Others present today can answer that question.

# Carolyn G. Goodman (Mayor, City of Las Vegas):

I ran on a platform seeking diversification of our economy, specifically including the film industry. I have lived in Las Vegas for 49 years and seen many changes

during that time, including the fact that gaming was the rock of Nevada economy. Now, gaming is present throughout the world. That makes it more important than ever to diversify our economy.

As mentioned, Nevada's unemployment rate remains high and we are holding the losing hand in diversification for the State. We need to respond to that need right now. Over the past 2 years, a steady stream of representatives for the film industry has been coming into my office seeking incentives.

Nevada is not at all in the game of drawing the film industry to Nevada. I was disappointed that A.B. No. 506 of the 76th Session did not pass. I respect the vision of Senator Aaron Ford and Assemblywoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick and the other sponsors of this bill for recognizing the potential of the film industry for this State.

We need a vehicle that creates an opportunity to open doors allowing the film industry to consider Nevada for their productions. Nevada is close to Los Angeles, which is the hub for producers, directors, actors and the entire industry that could bring something incredible to our State. We have not made this happen thus far.

Nevada has the logistical support for the film industry throughout the State including caterers, entertainers, lawyers, hotels and vacant warehouse space. There is so much Nevada can provide to support the industry. We have the most incredible talent throughout the State. This proposal has potential beyond the film industry to include worldwide recognition.

Through our university system, a new film major could be offered. That would provide an academic method for training and for building and expanding on this new business.

Whether in Louisiana, New Mexico, Florida or Canada, we are seeing filmmaking occur everywhere except in Nevada. There is no better place than Nevada, where we enjoy no corporate or personal income tax.

We need an important incentive package that gives the entire film industry the desire to bring their productions to Nevada.

When Nicolas Cage came to my office, I shared with him that he was among groups of people who approached me asking why Nevada is not offering incentives to the film industry.

We have to look beyond the drain of gaming going worldwide and put something bigger in place. The timing is now right. Mr. Cage understands the business from end to end and has worldwide connections.

This is a good time for economic development and to look beyond the immediate costs to the State. It is possible this legislation could be implemented as a pilot project for a few years allowing us to evaluate its worth. If we wait, we will fall further and further behind, as other States jump ahead of us.

I was delighted Nicolas Cage was willing to take his time to appear today. He cares, and he is a Nevada resident. He has more than 70 films to his credit.

# Nicolas Cage:

I am an American filmmaker and have been working in the film industry for 35 years. I am also a Nevadan. Therefore, I have personal reasons for wanting to pass legislation that would invite more filmmaking at home. I want to take my children to school, go to work and have dinner with my family at the end of the day. I currently have four scripts that could easily be filmed in Nevada.

Those are the simple reasons; however, there are other reasons. When I began making movies, the lion's share of films was produced in California. Because of that, the international community began to view America as a land of beaches, sunsets and palm trees. Since then, California has made it economically unfeasible to film there, chasing independent and even some studio filmmakers to other states.

Now, the international community views America as swamps and wrought iron. I request we make our beautiful State of Nevada—with its mountains, ridges, forests, lights, glamour, history and style—the new face of America. Movies are the way to do that. They are the American dream. We can reach more people through one film than any other export. We deal in dreams, fantasy, style, art, emotion and design.

One movie can invite many people around the globe to Nevada by the way we present it, through the culture of film. We will not only be rewarded financially,

by passing the bill that makes film companies want to come to Nevada, but also culturally. We will be investing in our own cultural perception and the perception of our natural geographic beauty by displaying it in the most loving way to the rest of the world.

There has been some discussion that if Nevada were to do this, we would be behind the curve in some way. Let me assure you that is absolutely untrue. I know the film community. I know they are tired of filming in some of these other states. They do not want to photograph what has already been photographed. They do not want to repeat what has already been done. They want to show something new.

Directors like William Friedkin, who directed "The Exorcist," recently told me he would love to make a movie in Nevada. They are thirsting for something new. In addition, we are close to Hollywood. It would be easy to bring the creative folks involved to Nevada.

We should not forget our own infrastructure. We have talent here. We have people who know how to make movies right here at home. We have film crews, sound departments and people who understand filmmaking who need jobs. We would help them, too. Nevada has the ability to provide excellent accommodations for film companies during production. I discussed that particular aspect with Mayor Goodman.

Finally, if we are successful, how about Nevada being home to one of the premier movie studios in America, built to provide jobs for our State? We will keep the jobs, the financial gain and the culture right here at home.

# Mayor Goodman:

I would ask Mike Nilon to discuss some of the well-known names of producers and directors who might seek to make films in Nevada.

# Mike Nilon (Kritzer, Levine, Wilkins, Griffin and Nilon Entertainment):

I am the manager for Mr. Cage. Mr. Cage commented that there are four scripts ready for production at this time. However, there are dozens of projects that would benefit from shooting their scripts in Nevada.

The filmmaking community tends to go where the best deal is. I had a meeting last week with a producer and director on a film that Mr. Cage is considering. It

is set in the desert. I asked them where they were planning on shooting and their reply was that they were considering a shoot in Georgia. I asked what part of Georgia and their response was that perhaps they would not shoot in Georgia, but somewhere in the New Orleans, Louisiana area. The actual reason is that those states offer some kind of incentives.

# **Chair Smith:**

It is difficult to imagine how you would film a desert scene in Georgia, but I will leave that to the experts.

# Mr. Nilon:

It is not necessary for Nevada to offer an incentive that is groundbreaking in the percentages it gives back to film production. All that is really needed is to put something on the table and get "in the game."

The filmmaking community already wants to be here. All they need is a small step in the right direction. I think you would be amazed at the number of productions that would come to Nevada immediately.

#### **Senator Denis:**

Mention was made of the ability into the future to bring permanent facilities to Nevada. Please describe what <u>S.B. 165</u> proposes. What kind of permanent facilities would be willing to move to Nevada, even though we are so close to California?

# Mr. Cage:

My goal would be to keep Nevadans working at the studio in Nevada, because I am interested in providing jobs. Nevada has talented individuals that could facilitate that. I could provide a list of names of individuals who have tried to build studios in Nevada in the past. Senate Bill 165 needs to pass for it to make sense for people to want to film at a Nevada studio.

A number of individuals are interested in investing in a studio here, including some of my friends in the entertainment industry. One of those is Scott "Carrot Top" Thompson, who I think would be a great talk show host. We could build a television studio and have him be one of the premier talk show interviewers on a late night program. Why not have Nevada be one of the places for a top late night show? That is one aspect of a movie studio.

#### Mr. Nilon:

<u>Senate Bill 165</u> does not specifically address the implementation of a movie studio in Nevada. However, other states that have provided film incentives have had film studios follow shortly thereafter. A studio was built in Shreveport, Louisiana, because of the volume of production projects in that state. It was the same case in North Carolina.

When the film industry produces films in Nevada, they will know the most cost-effective method. If it makes more sense to film both exterior and interior shots here, through a studio, that will happen in short order.

### **Senator Denis:**

Do you think the provisions of <u>S.B. 165</u> are sufficient to draw the film industry to Nevada?

# Mr. Nilon:

Yes, I do. It is what I mentioned earlier, that Nevada does not need to have a groundbreaking bill; it just needs to offer an incentive that makes it competitive.

## Mr. Cage:

Both Mr. Nilon and I know investors throughout the world who have provided funding for movie studios and who I am certain would be delighted to fund a movie studio in Nevada.

In 6 months, I could provide a list of names in Hollywood who would love to come to Nevada to make a movie. Pretty much everyone wants to come to Nevada to make a movie.

## Chair Smith:

I have always assumed that even a smaller incentive, coupled with the fact we have the talent and ancillary businesses and the low tax environment, must make an enticing package.

#### Mr. Cage:

That is extraordinarily attractive.

## Chair Smith:

Nevada is a great place to do business.

# **Mayor Goodman:**

The most important piece, from our perspective, is to open the door with some kind of incentive. There is a list of producers and directors who are waiting for this to happen because of the economic situation and because Nevada has talented individuals already.

# Mr. Cage:

There is a reason Louisiana is still offering its incentive. It is working for them. I am sure we could find models to attest to that. If we could try an incentive, even for 1 year, we should be very excited about the results.

## Senator Kieckhefer:

The bill proposes a transferable tax credit that has not been utilized before in Nevada. Is that the same mechanism being used in other states and is it the right mechanism for helping film production to take place in this State?

## Mr. Nilon:

That is a question for Senator Ford. Other states run the gamut in the way their incentives are provided. I cannot speak to every nuance of the bill. In terms of the percentages and timing offered, S.B. 165 seems to be competitive.

## Chair Smith:

I will now open the discussion to public testimony.

# Senator Ford:

Chris Ramirez, with me today, is a local producer in Las Vegas with Silver State Production Services. He will discuss the ability of productions to come to Nevada, if <u>S.B. 165</u> were to pass. Others are present in Las Vegas to provide testimony as well.

# Chris Ramirez (Producer, Silver State Production Services):

I will give three examples of the past, the present and the future of jobs or projects in Nevada.

The production of "Pete" starring Jason Statham, is just beginning. It is a remake of a Burt Reynolds movie from the 1980s. One hundred percent of the script takes place in Las Vegas. We are expecting the production crew to arrive soon from Louisiana, where they have been for approximately 3 or 4 months shooting the entire movie.

They came to view Las Vegas at Christmas so they could recreate the scene in Louisiana. I tried diligently to show them unique locations that could not be duplicated. In the past, that worked and was competitive enough to swing the creative forces on a project to Las Vegas. That is no longer the case. When they return, they will be here 3 or 4 days rather than the 3 or 4 months that could have been, if the movie had been produced in Nevada.

My company was a big part of the movie "Hangover 3" that filmed in Las Vegas. With the help of Mayor Goodman, much of that was filmed in the downtown area. There were nearly 100 employees for the duration of the filming. That was a great economic impact for Nevada and Las Vegas.

I just got a call from coworkers at Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. from the producer of "Batman," who I worked with on "Hangover 3", regarding a new Christopher Nolan movie, asking if I could find him the right building for the new film. I suggested the old Sahara Hotel. They thought the tax incentives were already in place and I explained if the legislation passed, it would not be effective until January 2014. They said, "Okay, thanks. We will call you next year."

"Ironman 3," which just filmed in North Carolina, brought \$180 million to that state. It included 2,043 employees, \$104 million in labor income, and the film engaged with 719 vendors in 84 communities. That is about the same size as the Christopher Nolan movie we just missed.

We brought a movie production to northern Nevada including Reno, Carson City and Lake Tahoe a couple of years ago. Now that company is waiting to bring another one to the area, once an incentive package is passed.

A company such as mine not only adds dozens, if not hundreds, of jobs with the productions, but we engage with all the cleaners, propane dealers, caterers and other ancillary businesses that would love to have a chance at this income.

## Chair Smith:

It is helpful to hear your personal involvement and perspective on what is happening of which Nevada is not a part.

# Sean T. Higgins (Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority):

I am here to express our support for <u>S.B. 165</u>. I also want to express the apologies of Christopher Baum, who was unable to attend today. Mr. Baum was one of the first supporters of <u>S.B. 165</u> in the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA). The RSCVA sees this bill as a boon, not only to Las Vegas, but also to northern Nevada, Lake Tahoe and all of Nevada. Nevada can offer unique beauty and scenery that other areas cannot, without building something to look similar.

## Chair Smith:

Mr. Baum had a great personal story because he came from Detroit, Michigan, where he had dealt with film industry incentives.

# Mr. Higgins:

Mr. Baum and Chris Stillman, who assisted Senator Ford with the drafting of S.B. 165, were both involved with the efforts in Michigan. The Michigan tax incentive was slightly larger than the one offered in this bill. Both men expressed their belief that Nevada does not need to offer the highest incentive, but to make a reasonable offer.

# **Nathan Scott (Forum Enterprises):**

I want to discuss Nevada and community involvement if  $\underline{S.B.}$  165 is passed. Our company provides job opportunities. Partnerships and on-the-job training can be initiated to put small programs and curricula together for the film industry. These are basic steps to empower these companies to bring their productions to Nevada. The curriculum for production assistants is simple, but can provide from 100 to 150 jobs for each production. The cultural diversity already existing in Nevada attracts individuals from the film and television industry. We want to take advantage of these opportunities. We support  $\underline{S.B.}$  165.

# **Kevin Columbus (Forum Enterprises):**

We are currently in control of certain productions because we produce and finance the making of films. We are currently in production of five films in partnership with Lions Gate Entertainment Corporation. Unfortunately, although our company is based in Nevada, we are looking at other states to produce these projects. We are considering Georgia and Louisiana.

We have the ability and the desire to produce films and television shows in Nevada. I can commit myself to between 3 to 5 films in Nevada with budgets that range from \$3 million to \$6 million. All of our projects employ from 100 to 200 individuals.

We can provide jobs, production and distribution of films immediately. Unfortunately, since  $\underline{S.B.\ 165}$  has not yet become law, we must continue to look for locations in other states. If the bill passes, we can begin production immediately.

# Mr. Scott:

Our partners have already shown considerable interest for a solid "brick and mortar" studio facility in Nevada.

## Mr. Columbus:

With that said, once this measure is passed we can begin to acquire space and build a studio.

## **Senator Denis:**

You have seen the provisions of <u>S.B. 165</u> and heard earlier testimony stating Nevada did not need to offer the highest incentives, but is the proposed enticement sufficient, with the cultural advantages of the State, to encourage filmmaking here?

# Mr. Ramirez:

I am one of the first individuals contacted when a film is to be made in Nevada because I am a location scout. My experience has been that producers are surprised there is no incentive in light of the cultural offerings of the State.

Just being competitive with Louisiana and North Carolina will allow us to win some of those jobs. Production companies have so much further to travel and work to complete the infrastructure for those locations that will help fill the gap. We have the hotel rooms, rental cars and construction crews that are being trained for production work.

# **Senator Denis:**

I would like a response from those present in Las Vegas as well.

#### Mr. Scott:

Nevada is at the tipping point. Simply showing that Nevada is willing to provide something will cause the film industry to respond and we will have the ability to meet all the original goals.

In the future, we may have to review the incentive provided to become even more competitive.

# Randy Soltaro (International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States and Canada, AFL-CIO):

We are here to support <u>S.B. 165</u>. We originally testified at the economic development hearing and represent individuals who are a part of the movie-making industry. Everyone gets up and leaves the movie once the credits begin to roll, but all those names and jobs are a part of making a movie.

More importantly, we also provide a training mechanism. As the industry develops in Nevada, a training mechanism will already be in place with training centers in both the northern and southern parts of the State.

The University of Nevada, Reno and University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) already conduct classes on filmmaking. Generally, once the individuals are trained, they leave the State because of the lack of job opportunities. We want to ensure those families stay in Nevada to raise their children, buy homes and become a part of their communities.

## Chair Smith:

I would like someone from Nevada's Department of Taxation to discuss the fiscal implications of S.B. 165.

# Sumiko Maser (Deputy Director, Department of Taxation):

The Nevada Department of Taxation has submitted a fiscal note on <u>S.B. 165</u>. We received information from the Office of the Governor, Office of Economic Development reporting that approximately 300 companies each year create films that meet the criteria for the proposed transferable tax credit.

The Department of Taxation assessed the need to track all approved credits and amounts used in transfer for these companies. The increased workload would

require one additional tax examiner, effective October 1, to administer these tax credits.

In addition, the bill requires, as a condition of approval, that the producer must consent to an audit by the Department. These companies must be audited going forward to ensure they continue to meet the criteria of the transferable tax credit. The Department would require five additional auditor II positions to audit these companies in the next biennium at a cost of \$670,000.

## **Chair Smith:**

<u>Senate Bill 165</u> is effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performance of the tasks to prepare for implementation of the measure on January 1, 2014. When would the Department begin tracking the tax credits since they would be used at a later date?

# Ms. Maser:

The Department felt it was appropriate to hire a tax examiner in October to allow time to create an internal system for tracking the credits manually. The cost to update the Unified Tax System was much greater.

Regarding the timing of the tax credits being issued, the Department did not have enough information to identify when the first tax credits would be issued. It is unknown whether that time frame would be 30 days, 6 months or even 1 year.

We requested the tax examiner in October to be prepared if the tax credits began immediately after January 1, 2014.

## Senator Kieckhefer:

What would the duties of the tax examiner be once the manual system is established?

## Ms. Maser:

I assume we would receive technical questions from companies interested in receiving the tax credits. Those might include questions coming through the Office of Economic Development concerning what constitutes Nevada's tax structure, how the taxes work or how to utilize our tax credits.

#### Senator Kieckhefer:

Is it possible the tax examiner would be reassigned other duties?

## Ms. Maser:

It is always possible that we can have positions provide support in other areas.

#### **Chair Smith:**

I do not typically support contracting services for State functions. Would it be a possibility in this case, while the effectiveness of the program is assessed?

# Ms. Maser:

The Department can provide an estimate of those costs.

## **Robert Scoville:**

I have worked in the film industry since 1988 and have a comment on the last question given to the Department of Taxation representative. If a position started in October and the workload was insufficient, they could be utilized to educate individuals on the Office of the Governor's Division of Motion Pictures, or members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE).

That outreach would allow those in the industry to bring outside production companies to Nevada. The companies already know how to implement the tax credits so the person who is responsible for these tax credits does not need to duplicate the effort.

I have worked as an independent filmmaker, but I have had to go to Utah over the past 2 years, for 6 months and 8 months, respectively to work because there is no film work in Nevada.

Three years ago, I worked on a pilot television program in Nevada that was not financially feasible for the studio that produced it. It was not successful.

A couple of years ago, the television program called "Vegas" was proposed to be filmed in Nevada, but it is now filming in Santa Fe, New Mexico, even though the program is about Las Vegas.

One of my friends moved to Louisiana 3 years ago because there was no film work in Nevada. He has worked 50 weeks a year since then.

I go to Utah for jobs frequently because I worked there for 8 years on the filming of "Touched by an Angel," which was filmed in Salt Lake City. It was produced there for 9 seasons in a warehouse converted to a studio. As Mr. Cage mentioned, there are individuals willing to invest in a film studio in Nevada, once the incentives are in place.

I am not a member of IATSE, but I am in their system and I am dispatched through them. They have a wonderful facility for instructing individuals in all facets of the film industry. Nevada has many skilled craftspeople who can provide training through that facility.

The Nevada Film Office only has three staff and I do not think that is sufficient. Perhaps UNLV could offer internships to the Office, if funding is not available to expand the Office.

Mr. Ramirez, as a location manager, is the first person engaged when a production is proposed for Nevada and his company works closely with the Film Office.

It is frustrating when I have to leave my home and family here in Nevada to go elsewhere to find work.

### **Senator Denis:**

You mentioned that you often work in Utah. Does Utah offer incentives to the film industry?

#### Mr. Scoville:

Utah offers good incentives. I attended a film festival in St. George, Utah, a couple of years ago and spoke to independent filmmakers, not those who work for the studios. They were raving about the Utah film incentives. I have read the Utah law and it looks enticing. I am not a producer, but I am one of the individuals who would be hired by a producer for a production. Utah offers a 20 percent incentive. An additional 5 percent incentive is offered if they hire local residents.

# **Chair Smith:**

I have heard that Nevada is the only Western State that does not offer incentives for the film industry.

# Carole Vilardo (Nevada Taxpayers Association):

I do not have a problem with providing incentives. However, I am opposed to this incentive.

Nevada provided abatements until the passage of S.B. No. 8 of the 20th Special Session. The film incentive was removed at that time. I have not testified against any abatement bill. I have testified as neutral. My concern is that while everyone is looking for additional revenue sources, we are discussing removal of revenue with this measure.

I want to see legislation that will consider State revenue and what offsets are included. My problem is not that incentives may be approved.

After listening to testimony today, I get the feeling that the steamroller is coming through, and <u>S.B. 165</u> will pass. If that is the case, you should know that tax credits are coming under scrutiny in other states. I have two reports on states being scrutinized and one of those is Louisiana. That is because the return on investment has not been realized.

In light of that scrutiny, I would provide two suggestions if this measure is passed. Page 3, section 7, subsection 1, subparagraphs (a) through (k), of S.B. 165 discusses films. Beginning in subparagraph (I), the bill addresses video games and mobile applications. I do not consider those provisions as being related to the film industry.

I perceive the bill is on a fast track to passage and nothing I can say will change that. However, if it were changed to an abatement, I would remove my opposition to the tax credit. Why is the legislation not enacted as a pilot project?

The bill reporting requirements do not specifically look for a return on investment as part of the calculation. With the provisions on page 8 of <u>S.B. 165</u>, the calculation for the base amount of transferable credits and eliminating the credit in the base calculation after January 2019, it would be appropriate to make this a pilot program. I am not suggesting a 1-year pilot, because enough data may not be available in that time, but perhaps a pilot of 2 or 3 years.

I appreciate the fact that the total amount of the credits was reduced from the original \$50 million to \$35 million in the first reprint of the bill. That is still a lot of money and it could represent a 1 percent restoration of State employee salaries or benefits.

To summarize, I am concerned this is proposed as a tax incentive rather than abatements. The bill is open-ended with a laundry list of many items that would be exempted or eligible for the tax credit.

Tax credits have become so lucrative for the film industry that states act as a business, selling tax credits. That is very much like buying cattle or coffee futures or any other marketable item.

## **Chair Smith:**

I appreciate your input and the suggestion of a pilot program. I will dispute that this legislation has been fast tracked. Today is May 7 and the bill has been heard in multiple sessions. We have scrutinized <u>S.B. 165</u> in the policy committee and it is here now concerning the fiscal impacts.

## Ms. Vilardo:

My reference to fast tracking the measure is because of where we are in this Legislative Session. This is a Senate Bill still in the first House.

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Chair Smith: I will close the hearing on <u>S.B. 165</u> and adjourn this meeting at 11:05 a.m.				
	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:			
	Cynthia Clampitt, Committee Secretary			
APPROVED BY:				
Senator Debbie Smith, Chair				

Senate Committee on Finance

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

May 7, 2013

<u>EXHIBITS</u>				
Bill	Ex	hibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	Α	1		Agenda
	В	2		Attendance Roster