

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Seventy-Seventh Session
February 26, 2013**

The Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections was called to order by Chair Pat Spearman at 8:02 a.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2013, in Room 2144 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 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.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Pat Spearman, Chair
Senator Mark A. Manendo, Vice Chair
Senator Kelvin Atkinson
Senator Barbara K. Cegavske
Senator James A. Settelmeyer

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carol M. Stonefield, Policy Analyst
Melissa Mundy, Counsel
Kaci Kerfeld, Committee Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jon Caredis, Vice President, Pan Arcadian Federation, Alea Chapter, Las Vegas

Chair Spearman:

I will now open the hearing on Senate Joint Resolution (S.J.R.) 4.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 4: Urges the Government of Turkey to grant the Ecumenical Patriarch international recognition and to respect the human rights and property rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. (BDR R-885)

Senator Barbara K. Cegavske, Senatorial District No. 8:

I will read from prepared testimony ([Exhibit C](#)).

Jon Caredis (Vice President, Pan Arcadian Federation, Alea Chapter, Las Vegas):
I approached Senator Cegavske with this issue several months ago. She agreed to have legislation drafted without regard to party affiliation. This is not anti-Turkish—it is a human rights and religious freedom issue. I urge all of you to pass this resolution to stand behind religious freedom.

Chair Spearman:
Is the issue a litmus test with respect to religious beliefs in regard to the Ecumenical Patriarch of Turkey? Are Orthodox Christians being ostracized because they ascribe to the Orthodox Christian religious or theological beliefs?

Senator Cegavske:
Yes, that is correct.

Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections
February 26, 2013
Page 3

Chair Spearman:

This meeting is now adjourned at 8:09 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Kaci Kerfeld,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Pat Spearman, Chair

DATE: _____

<u>EXHIBITS</u>				
Bill	Exhibit		Witness / Agency	Description
	A	1		Agenda
	B	1		Attendance Roster
S.J.R. 4	C	5	Senator Barbara K. Cegavske	Prepared Testimony