
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5—SENATORS SPEARMAN,
FORD, KIHUEN, MANENDO, PARKS; ATKINSON, DENIS,
SEGERBLOM AND WOODHOUSE

MARCH 16, 2015

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Directs the Legislative Commission to appoint a committee to conduct an interim study relating to the working conditions at state correctional institutions and facilities and to the supervision of offenders. (BDR R-536)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to appoint a committee to conduct an interim study relating to the working conditions at state correctional institutions and facilities and to the supervision of offenders.

1 WHEREAS, This State needs safe, secure, efficient and effective
2 correctional institutions and facilities for the proper functioning of
3 the criminal justice system and for the maintenance of a well-
4 functioning society in this State; and

5 WHEREAS, Safe, secure, efficient and effective correctional
6 institutions and facilities cannot exist without the dedicated,
7 hardworking correctional officers, employees and other persons who
8 work in these potentially difficult, stressful and dangerous
9 environments; and

10 WHEREAS, The correctional officers, employees and other
11 persons who work at this State's correctional institutions and
12 facilities cannot do their work efficiently and effectively
13 and maintain safe and secure environments in these institutions and
14 facilities without appropriate staffing levels, without well-designed
15 policies and procedures governing the entire system of institutions
16 and facilities and without well-monitored and supportive
17 management practices in place at each institution and facility; and



1 WHEREAS, Appropriate staffing levels and the proper
2 functioning of this State's criminal justice system can be
3 significantly impacted by the systems, policies and procedures
4 which govern the parole and probation of offenders in this State; and

5 WHEREAS, The staffing levels at this State's correctional
6 institutions and facilities, the policies and procedures affecting this
7 State's system of correctional institutions and facilities, including,
8 without limitation, those affecting parole or probation of offenders,
9 and the management practices at each institution and facility all
10 dramatically affect working conditions and the proper functioning of
11 this State's criminal justice system and should be regularly
12 examined to ensure that they remain appropriate and effective for
13 the physical safety and psychological support of correctional
14 officers, employees and other persons who work at this State's
15 correctional institutions and facilities, in providing safe, secure,
16 efficient and effective correctional institutions and facilities for all
17 offenders, all other persons associated with the institutions and
18 facilities and all other members of the public; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
20 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is
21 hereby directed to appoint a committee to conduct an interim study
22 of:

23 1. The working conditions at this State's correctional
24 institutions and facilities to ensure that:

- 25 (a) The staffing levels are adequate and appropriate;
- 26 (b) The system-wide policies and procedures are appropriate and
27 effective;
- 28 (c) Appropriate and effective management practices are in place
29 to protect the physical safety and to support the psychological well-
30 being of all correctional officers, employees and other persons who
31 work at the institutions and facilities; and
- 32 (d) The system as a whole is providing the safe, secure, efficient
33 and effective correctional institutions and facilities this State needs
34 and deserves; and

35 2. The systems, policies and procedures which govern the
36 supervision of offenders in this State to ensure that they are
37 appropriate and effective; and be it further

38 RESOLVED, That, as soon as practicable after July 1, 2015, the
39 Legislative Commission shall appoint a committee composed of
40 three members of the Senate and three members of the Assembly to
41 conduct the study, one of whom must be appointed by the
42 Commission to serve as chair of the committee; and be it further

43 RESOLVED, That the committee shall consult with and solicit
44 input from persons and organizations with expertise in matters
45 relevant to the study, including, without limitation, consulting with



1 and soliciting input from correctional officers, employees and other
2 persons who work at this State's correctional institutions and
3 facilities, as well as persons who have experience relating to the
4 supervision of offenders; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the study must include, without limitation:

6 1. A review of other states' laws, staffing levels, policies,
7 procedures and management practices relating to correctional
8 institutions and facilities;

9 2. Consideration of the advisability of using staffing
10 committees comprised of both persons who hold managerial
11 positions and persons who hold nonmanagerial positions to develop
12 staffing plans and to make recommendations for policies,
13 procedures and management practices relating to this State's
14 correctional institutions and facilities;

15 3. A survey of the parole systems of this State and the other
16 states and territories of the United States;

17 4. A review of data from states that replaced discretionary
18 parole systems with determinate sentencing systems;

19 5. A review of whether the Division of Parole and Probation of
20 the Department of Public Safety or any of its functions or duties
21 should be reorganized or transferred to the Department of
22 Corrections; and

23 6. A review of any other matter relating to the supervision of
24 offenders that the committee determines is relevant to the study; and
25 be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the committee appointed by the Legislative
27 Commission to conduct this interim study shall submit a report of its
28 findings, including, without limitation, any proposed changes to
29 staffing levels, policies, procedures or management practices
30 relating to this State's correctional institutions and facilities, and
31 policies and procedures relating to the supervision of offenders and
32 any recommendations for legislation, to the 79th Session of the
33 Nevada Legislature; and be it further

34 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
35 transmit a copy of this resolution to each member of the Board of
36 State Prison Commissioners and to the Director of the Department
37 of Corrections.

