

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Seventy-Eighth Session
February 3, 2015**

The Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections was called to order by Chair Lynn D. Stewart at 4:02 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2015, in Room 3142 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, 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 www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/78th2015. In addition, copies of the audio or video of the meeting may be purchased, for personal use only, through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (email: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775-684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart, Chair
Assemblywoman Shelly M. Shelton, Vice Chair
Assemblyman Elliot T. Anderson
Assemblywoman Michele Fiore
Assemblyman John Moore
Assemblyman Harvey J. Munford
Assemblyman James Ohrenschall
Assemblywoman Victoria Seaman
Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson
Assemblyman Glenn E. Trowbridge

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

None



STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carol M. Stonefield, Committee Policy Analyst
Kevin Powers, Committee Counsel
Sara Menke, Committee Manager
Patricia Hartman, Committee Secretary
Nancy Davis, Committee Secretary, Assembly Committee on Judiciary
Olivia Lloyd, Committee Assistant
David Moore, Proofreader

OTHERS PRESENT:

Priscilla Maloney, representing Retiree Chapter, Local 4041, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

Chair Stewart:

[Roll was taken.] We welcome you to our first meeting and are happy to see all of you. Before we make our introductions, we are going to adopt our Assembly Legislative Operations and Elections Committee Policies ([Exhibit C](#)). The general Committee procedures were handed out and voted on yesterday, and if you have not reviewed them, I urge you to do so. The policies for our Committee were adopted last session, and we have basically the same policies today. Please take a moment to review them.

ASSEMBLYMAN OHRENSCHALL MOVED FOR ADOPTION OF THE
ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE POLICIES.

ASSEMBLYMAN ELLIOT ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Stewart:

We will now start with introduction of the members.

Assemblywoman Shelton:

I am Shelly Shelton, representing Assembly District No. 10, and am very excited to be a part of this Committee. I learned a lot about election laws during the past campaign and look forward to issues that will be brought to the Committee.

Assemblyman Munford:

I am Harvey Munford and represent Assembly District No. 6, which is in what would be identified as West Las Vegas. After this session, I will be term limited. This is my fourth time as a member of this Committee during my six sessions with the Legislature.

Chair Stewart:

Assemblyman Munford failed to mention he graduated from Montana State University at Billings and was designated as one of their distinguished graduates two sessions ago. Last session, he was the keynote speaker at their graduation ceremony.

Assemblywoman Fiore:

I am Michele Fiore and this is my second term. I represent Assembly District No. 4, which is in the northwest part of Las Vegas Valley, and am happy to be here.

Chair Stewart:

I will now introduce the former Chairman of the Legislative Operations and Elections Committee, Assemblyman James Ohrenschall.

Assemblyman Ohrenschall:

I am James Ohrenschall, representing Assembly District No. 12, which includes portions of the City of Henderson, unincorporated Clark County, Sunrise Manor—the area around Sunrise Mountain, or Frenchman Mountain to those of us who live there. Mr. Chair, I have had many people tell me how much respect they have for you and Assemblyman Munford as educators and how that has helped shape their lives. Our citizens' future depends on this Committee, and I am proud of the work I was involved in last session.

Chair Stewart:

Assemblyman Ohrenschall is from a legislative family. His mother, Genie Ohrenschall, was a very distinguished Assembly member as well.

Next is Assemblyman Elliot Anderson, who was Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Education last session.

Assemblyman Elliot Anderson:

I represent Assembly District No. 15 and look forward to working with you on this Committee. I will particularly enjoy studying election issues and the *Nevada Constitution*.

Chair Stewart:

Assemblyman Anderson will be graduating from the William S. Boyd School of Law this year, and we offer our congratulations.

One of the newest members of the Assembly is Assemblyman Trowbridge, who had a distinguished career in government before he joined us.

Assemblyman Trowbridge:

My name is Glenn Trowbridge, and I represent Assembly District No. 37, which is the west side of Las Vegas Valley. It includes the Sun City and Desert Shores areas. I look forward to serving on the Legislative Operations and Elections Committee. I understand there will be several exciting issues brought before us, and I look forward to proper solutions to all the issues we are asked to consider.

Assemblyman Moore:

My name is John Moore. I represent Assembly District No. 8 in the southwest part of Las Vegas. This is my first legislative session. I look forward to working on this Committee and serving my constituents. Previously I served 24 years in the military, of which 15 years were active service.

Chair Stewart:

Next is Assemblywoman Victoria Seaman, who is a small business owner and the first Latina Republican Assemblywoman.

Assemblywoman Seaman:

It is an honor to serve with you on this Committee. I am a first-time legislator representing Assembly District No. 34. I also received a quick education on election law in my campaign.

Assemblyman Thompson:

I represent Clark County Assembly District No. 17, and I am a native of and represent a core part of North Las Vegas. I served on this Committee the final 40 days of last session and look forward to discussing the issues that relate to our community.

Kevin Powers, Committee Counsel:

I am Kevin Powers, Committee Counsel for this Committee and also the Chief Litigation Counsel for the Legislative Counsel Bureau's (LCB's) Legal Division. I have been associated with LCB for more than 18 years. This is my tenth session. In addition to my legislative duties, I have litigated several cases on behalf of the Legislature and its members before the Nevada Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court, and the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Chair Stewart:

Now I would like to introduce our staff members. [The Chair introduced Sara Menke, Committee Manager; Patricia Hartman, Committee Secretary; Mike Zajac, Support Services Technician; Nancy Davis, Committee Secretary for the Assembly Committee on Judiciary; Olivia Lloyd, Committee Assistant; and David Moore, Proofreader.]

Carol M. Stonefield, Committee Policy Analyst:

I am Carol M. Stonefield, the Committee Policy Analyst and a Research Analyst with LCB since 2002. This is my third session staffing Legislative Operations and Elections, although I was with the Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections for the previous two sessions. I was also on the staff of the Assembly Committee on Education and have worked with Chair Stewart and Assemblyman Munford as a committee policy analyst.

I am presenting the Committee Brief ([Exhibit D](#)) for your consideration. It is intended as a background paper on the Committee itself. We provide statistics and topics from the last session, identify likely topics for this session, and provide the all-important contact list.

The Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections considers bills relating to elections and campaign practices, including campaign finance and reporting. This Committee also considers issues relating to the Legislature itself, ethics in government, constitutional amendments, and reapportionment and redistricting. This Committee reviews resolutions that propose interim committee studies and any other bills relating to permanent committees of the Legislature. There are bills relating exclusively to the Legislature that will be exempt from many of the bill passage deadlines. For that reason, the Legislative Operations and Elections Committee may be busier after the other committees have met their deadlines, because some bills considered by this Committee do not have to meet those deadlines.

The third section of the Committee Brief gives you an idea of the workload in the previous session. There were 54 measures referred to this Committee. Usually, there will be between 50 and 65 measures, depending upon the issues that are important in any particular session. On page 3, the major issues from 2013 are identified. There are two proposed constitutional amendments you will recognize, as they were on the ballot in 2014. They are Senate Joint Resolution 14 of the 76th Session and Senate Joint Resolution 15 of the 76th Session. These measures are required to be passed by the Legislature in two consecutive sessions in exactly the same form before they are placed on a ballot. Both of these joint resolutions were considered by this Committee in

2011, although in 2013 they were referred to other committees for consideration. There are also bills listed on page 3 that relate to elections and campaigns, such as campaign finance, simplified ballot language, and the Uniform Faithful Presidential Electors Act.

Under "Legislative Operations," these bills reflect items the Legislature would like to review periodically to clean up its own operations. For example, Assembly Bill No. 350 of the 77th Session changed requirements regarding reports that will expire after five years unless there is a reason to continue the reports. This is a message from the Legislature to itself on how it handles some of its work. Assembly Bill No. 412 of the 77th Session relates to requesting bill drafts.

On page 4, there is a list of the prefiled bills referencing campaign finance, sample ballots via electronic mail, election for nonpartisan offices, and advisory questions. Also, reference is made to a Senate joint resolution, if introduced to the Committee, relating to electing the Lieutenant Governor jointly with the Governor. There are joint resolutions that urge the United States Congress, the President, or a federal or state department to act on issues, as a statement from the Legislature.

Of the approximately 17 bills that were vetoed last session, 4 of them were from the Legislative Operations and Elections Committee, and you can see those topics on page 5. The last table on page 5 relates to two constitutional amendments. Senate Joint Resolution 8 of the 77th Session and Senate Joint Resolution 13 of the 77th Session were first heard in 2013. If they are passed again by the Senate, they would more than likely be referred to this Committee.

Page 6 lists policy and program reports relating to issues considered by this Committee, such as elections, ethics, and the Legislature. You can find those by following the link provided in this section. I can also provide you with a hard copy. You probably have seen the 120-day calendar.

Page 7 has highlighted dates that we need to keep in mind, including the deadline for your bill draft requests or the Committee's bill draft requests. On April 10, Committee passage of bills from the first house is due, so there will be a significant workload leading up to that date. There also is contact information for key election officials in Nevada. Pages 8 and 9 include a listing of county election officials.

Please note there will be a presentation from the Office of the Secretary of State on Thursday, February 5, regarding election laws. The county election officials are scheduled to make a presentation to the Committee next week on Tuesday, February 10.

Page 10 of the Committee Brief includes contact information for members of the Commission on Ethics. We will be hearing from them on Thursday, February 5. At the same meeting, we will be considering Assembly Bill 60, which has been requested by the Commission on Ethics. This concludes my remarks.

Chair Stewart:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] Is there any public comment?

Priscilla Maloney, representing Retiree Chapter, Local 4041, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees:

In this session, I will be representing mainly the retirees. I am also going to be assisting the Nevada Alliance for Retired Americans (NARA) on their Law and Legislative Committee. I represent seniors who are concerned about disenfranchisement of their right to vote, topics such as photo identification, and how these matters might impact them. I am looking forward to working with the Committee on those issues.

Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

February 3, 2015

Page 8

Chair Stewart:

Thank you for your testimony. Is there other public comment? [There was none.]

The meeting is adjourned [at 4:26 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Patricia Hartman
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

Committee Name: Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

Date: February 3, 2015

Time of Meeting: 4:02 p.m.

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	Exhibit A		Agenda
	Exhibit B		Attendance Roster
	Exhibit C	Carol M. Stonefield	Committee Policies
	Exhibit D	Carol M. Stonefield	Committee Brief