

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**Seventy-Eighth Session
May 11, 2015**

The Senate Committee on Government Affairs was called to order by Chair Pete Goicoechea at 5:02 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2015, in Room 2135 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4404B 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 Pete Goicoechea, Chair
Senator Joe P. Hardy, Vice Chair
Senator Mark A. Lipparelli
Senator David R. Parks
Senator Kelvin Atkinson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Ruedy, Policy Analyst
Heidi Chlarson, Counsel
Darlene Velicki, Committee Secretary

Chair Goicoechea:

We will begin with Assembly Bill (A.B.) 15.

ASSEMBLY BILL 15: Creates the Account for the Protection and Rehabilitation of the Stewart Indian School. (BDR 18-360)

Jennifer Ruedy (Policy Analyst):

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit C](#)). We have a letter of support for A.B. 15 from the Vice Chair of the Stewart Advisory Committee ([Exhibit D](#)). No amendments were presented on this bill.

Chair Goicoechea:

This is the Clear Creek property. There is no problem with the sale of the property and where the money goes. The issue for me and other members of

the Committee is that most of us understand what Clear Creek represents. I would entertain a motion that the Committee send a letter to the State Land Office indicating our preference that the Carson City Board of Supervisors consider the land be maintained as open space in the future before going through any public process or instituting zoning changes. We would hope that whoever purchased the property would recognize the value and that it should be maintained as open space.

Senator Hardy:

I love that particular piece of property. It is very soothing. If I had my druthers, I would sell something else to accomplish this. I recognize that the Stewart Indian School obviously needs resources. The letter would go a long way to helping us protect something that needs protection.

Senator Atkinson:

Are you suggesting sending a letter instead of processing this bill as is?

Chair Goicoechea:

No, we would process the bill but send an attendant letter saying this Committee wishes that the property, to the extent possible, be maintained as open space. Clearly, it is State land that has to be sold. All this bill does is direct the proceeds from the sale to the Stewart Indian School. I am fine with that.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 15 WITH AN ACCOMPANYING LETTER.

SENATOR ATKINSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

We will now take up A.B. 20.

ASSEMBLY BILL 20 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to the budget of the Executive Department of State Government. (BDR 31-287)

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Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit E](#)).
There were no amendments presented to this bill.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 20.

SENATOR LIPPARELLI SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR ATKINSON VOTED NO.)

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Chair Goicoechea:

We will now take up A.B. 34.

ASSEMBLY BILL 34 (1st Reprint): Makes various changes to provisions governing certain fire protection districts and fire safety. (BDR 42-369)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit F](#)).
Two amendments are incorporated in Proposed Amendment 7097.

Chair Goicoechea:

The two amendments, allowing municipalities to charge and allowing agriculture and public utilities to request an annual permit, are reasonable.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 34 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 7097.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

Next, we will take A.B. 43.

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ASSEMBLY BILL 43 (1st Reprint): Clarifies confidentiality provisions governing certain documents. (BDR 35-377)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit G](#)). There were no amendments presented on this bill.

SENATOR PARKS MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 43.

SENATOR HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

We now will take up A.B. 53.

ASSEMBLY BILL 53 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to administrative procedure. (BDR 18-160)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit H](#)). There were no amendments presented.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 53.

SENATOR LIPPARELLI SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

We will now hear A.B. 59.

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ASSEMBLY BILL 59 (1st Reprint): Revises the authority of the Administrator of the State Public Works Division of the Department of Administration regarding leases for certain office rooms for state agencies, boards and commissions. (BDR 27-299)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit I](#)). The list of exempt boards is an attachment to my presentation. There were no amendments presented.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 59.

SENATOR LIPPARELLI SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

Next is A.B. 62.

ASSEMBLY BILL 62 (2nd Reprint): Revises certain provisions relating to veterans. (BDR 19-298)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit J](#)). The bill makes several changes with respect to veterans' services. There were no amendments to the bill.

SENATOR PARKS MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 62.

SENATOR HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

Let us take up A.B. 65.

ASSEMBLY BILL 65 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to notaries public and document preparation services. (BDR 19-445)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit K](#)). The work session document contains three amendments, two proposed by the Secretary of State and one presented by Scott Scherer on behalf of the Nevada Registered Agent Association. The Association asked to remove that language because commercial registered agents provide a number of different services.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 65 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 7118.

SENATOR LIPPARELLI SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

Next, we will take A.B. 88.

ASSEMBLY BILL 88 (1st Reprint): Makes various changes to the Charter of the City of Reno. (BDR S-478)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit L](#)). There are no amendments offered on this bill.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 88.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

We will take up A.B. 236.

ASSEMBLY BILL 236 (1st Reprint): Enacts provisions related to the promotion of public engagement by state agencies. (BDR 18-697)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit M](#)). The first amendment, presented by Assemblywoman Dina Neal, makes minor changes in section 1. The second, Proposed Amendment 7099, essentially deletes all of the bill except for a statement of policy in the first seven lines of section 1.

Chair Goicoechea:

The Chair would entertain a motion to incorporate Proposed Amendment 7099 to A.B. 236.

Senator Lipparelli:

I have a suggestion, if my colleagues are willing to go along.

SENATOR LIPPARELLI MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 236 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 7099, REINCORPORATING REDACTED LANGUAGE BEGINNING AT LINE 7, "TO ASSIST IN ...," AND CONTINUING WITH SECTION 1, SUBSECTION 1, PARAGRAPH (a) UP TO AND INCLUDING LINE 17, ENDING WITH "... ELECTRONIC MAILING LISTS, ONLINE FORUMS AND SOCIAL MEDIA," AND REINCORPORATING THE DEFINITIONS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA AND STATE AGENCY BEGINNING ON PAGE 2 OF THE AMENDMENT, LINES 28 THROUGH 35.

This satisfies the State Gaming Control Board's concern and expands Assemblywoman Neal's ideas about what she intends to accomplish.

Senator Atkinson:

Does Assemblywoman Neal know about these changes?

Chair Goicoechea:

Yes, I told Assemblywoman Neal that we only had the votes for the first piece of the bill. I knew of the concern expressed from the State Gaming Control

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Board. Senator Lipparelli chose to expand it, and I assume Assemblywoman Neal will be fine with that since he restored the original language. I did not know of the expansion until right now. If it is better for you, we could take it back to the first eight lines. This was just a nudge to get agencies to move that way.

SENATOR HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Goicoechea:

We will now take A.B. 293.

ASSEMBLY BILL 293 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to public administrators. (BDR 20-168)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit N](#)). Of two amendments offered for consideration, the first was proposed by Brian Hardy, representing the Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool.

The second amendment provisions were mentioned during the Committee hearing. Senator Parks suggested removing the population caps from the new bill provisions added in section 2, subsection 3 to *Nevada Revised Statute* (NRS) 253.0415 and section 3, subsection 3 to NRS 253.091. These are located on page 5, but they have not been incorporated into Proposed Amendment 7109.

Chair Goicoechea:

Senator Parks, there seems to be a sticking point with the population cap. Do you have any insight into that?

Senator Parks:

In general, I have certain concerns about population caps. I think we use them more often than we should. As I told the public administrators from Washoe and Clark Counties, I was probably thinking out loud in making my previous

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statement. Through a series of email discussions, I am now good with the bill as proposed in Proposed Amendment 7109.

Chair Goicoechea:

Are you good with the cap remaining?

Senator Parks:

Yes.

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 293 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 7109, DELETING THE
AMENDMENT ON POPULATION CAPS.

SENATOR LIPPARELLI SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Goicoechea:

We are voting on the bill with Proposed Amendment 7109 without the amendment proposed by Senator Parks regarding population caps.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Goicoechea:

We will now take up A.B. 312.

ASSEMBLY BILL 312 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions governing the Public Employees' Retirement System. (BDR 23-975)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit O](#)). There were no amendments proposed.

Heidi Chlarson (Counsel):

Tina Leiss, Executive Director of the Public Employees' Retirement System, suggested making the effective date consistent with S.B. 406 in order to avoid creating a different tier of employees. In S.B. 406, the effective date is July 1, 2015; in A.B. 312, the effective date is July 1, 2016. It is not a problem from a

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legal perspective if the Committee wants to keep the effective date of A.B. 312 the same as S.B. 406.

SENATE BILL 406 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to public retirement systems. (BDR 23-1049)

Senator Lipparelli:

I intended to raise that as well. There was a request by the Agency to make the effective dates consistent so we would not have multiple qualifiers in various categories. I would agree that creating a common start date would create a better outcome for all of us.

Chair Goicoechea:

Do you propose to go to 2015?

Ms. Chlarson:

If you make A.B. 312 consistent with S.B. 406, it would amend A.B. 312 for the purpose of changing the effective date from July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2015.

SENATOR LIPPARELLI MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 312.

SENATOR HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS ATKINSON AND PARKS VOTED
NO.)

Chair Goicoechea:

We will take A.B. 428 next.

ASSEMBLY BILL 428: Exempts the Nevada Rural Housing Authority from the Local Government Purchasing Act. (BDR 27-1098)

Ms. Ruedy:

My remarks are contained in the applicable work session document ([Exhibit P](#)). No amendments are on this bill.

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SENATOR ATKINSON MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 428.

SENATOR HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Chair Goicoechea:

The meeting is adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Darlene Velicki,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Pete Goicoechea, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBIT SUMMARY				
Bill	Exhibit / # of pages		Witness / Entity	Description
	A	1		Agenda
	B	4		Attendance Roster
A.B. 15	C	5	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 15	D	1	Terri McBride / Stewart Advisory Committee	Letter of Support
A.B. 20	E	1	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 34	F	4	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 43	G	1	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 53	H	1	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 59	I	2	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 62	J	1	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 65	K	14	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 88	L	1	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 236	M	4	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 293	N	7	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 312	O	1	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document
A.B. 428	P	1	Jennifer Ruedy	Work Session Document