

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**Seventy-Ninth Session
April 13, 2017**

The Committee on Ways and Means was called to order by Chair Maggie Carlton at 9:06 a.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2017, in Room 3137 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/79th2017.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair
Assemblyman Jason Frierson, Vice Chair
Assemblyman Nelson Araujo
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams
Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz
Assemblyman Chris Edwards
Assemblyman John Hambrick
Assemblyman James Oscarson
Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel
Assemblyman Michael C. Sprinkle
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank
Assemblywoman Robin L. Titus

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Assemblyman Paul Anderson
Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, Assembly District No. 17

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Sarah Coffman, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Anne Bowen, Committee Secretary
Lisa McAlister, Committee Assistant



After the call of the roll, Chair Carlton called for public comment. There being none, Chair Carlton stated that Assembly Bill 139 and Assembly Bill 141 would not be heard today.

Chair Carlton requested that Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson come to the table because she wanted to inform him about the status of Assembly Bill 141. A discrepancy had been found between a closing and a budget affected by the bill, and needed to be addressed. Chair Carlton further explained that in one of the Subcommittee closings, a position was addressed in one area as unclassified but in another area as classified. Fiscal Analysis Division staff wanted to meet with Assemblyman Thompson to discuss how to proceed on the bill.

Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, Assembly District No. 17, thanked Chair Carlton for her consideration.

Assembly Bill 98: Revises provisions governing the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management of the Department of Administration. (BDR 18-580)

At the request of Chair Carlton, Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided a brief overview of Assembly Bill (A.B.) 98, which revised provisions for the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management, Department of Administration. This bill was heard on April 3, 2017. Ms. Jones said the bill removed the limit on the number of employees that the Administrator was required to employ and instead required the Administrator, within the limits of funding available, to employ persons in unclassified service as he or she might deem necessary. As mentioned during the work session, there was a request for a classified position in this budget account. As was discussed at the bill hearing, an amendment would be recommended by Fiscal Analysis Division staff to Section 1, line 6 of the bill to add the words "classified or" before the word unclassified, so that the Administrator had the ability to hire persons for both types of positions to align the bill with the budget. Ms. Jones explained that passing A.B. 98 in this way did not obligate the Legislature to approve the position, but provided the ability for the Legislature to approve the classified position in the budget.

There being no questions or comments, Chair Carlton requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUSTAMANTE ADAMS MOVED TO AMEND
AND DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 98.

ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson and Benitez-Thompson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton requested that Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams handle the floor statement.

Assembly Bill 108: Provides for the periodic review of Medicaid reimbursement rates. (BDR 38-209)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, said that Assembly Bill 108 required the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Health and Human Services, to review, every four years, the adequacy of the Medicaid reimbursement rates that it used in the program. Currently those rates were reviewed approximately every five years. The bill also required that the Division make recommendations based on that rate review for a future Legislature to consider. A fiscal note was submitted by the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy on February 14, 2017. The fiscal note indicated that either of the two management analyst positions included in The Executive Budget in a maintenance decision unit would perform the necessary work, and if those positions were not approved, the Division would still require two additional positions. However, during the hearing, the agency clarified and supported its amended fiscal note that regardless of the approval of those positions in the budget, it would be able to perform the work. Assemblyman Oscarson presented the bill, and representatives of the Personal Care Association of Nevada and the Assisted Living Association of Nevada testified in support of the bill. Ms. Jones said no testimony was provided that indicated any opposition to the bill.

Assemblywoman Titus disclosed that she was a Medicaid provider, although this bill would not directly benefit her any more than it would any other Medicaid provider.

There being no comments or questions, Chair Carlton said she would accept a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIAZ MOVED TO DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 108.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson and Benitez-Thompson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton requested Assemblyman Oscarson handle the bill on the floor.

Assembly Bill 139: Provides for the voluntary establishment of a program of dual language immersion in certain public elementary schools. (BDR 34-442)

Assembly Bill 139 was agendized but not heard.

Assembly Bill 141: Revises the organizational structure and purposes of the Office of Minority Health. (BDR-18-214)

Assembly Bill 141 was agendized but not heard.

Assembly Bill 488: Revises provisions relating to the system modernization project of the Department of Motor Vehicles. (BDR S-910)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill 488 was heard by the Committee on April 10, 2017. This bill revised provisions related to system modernization for the replacement of the Genesis system at the Department of Motor Vehicles. The bill authorized the carrying forward of funds that were provided to the agency during this biennium in support of the project. The funds being carried forward amounted to \$811,183 and were being used to facilitate the payment of a 10 percent holdback provision in the modernization project contract. The funds were approved for the total amounts that were expected to be paid this biennium; however, the holdback provision required the funds would be paid later after certain deliverables were met. Ms. Jones said this simply balanced forward that money for the same purpose into the upcoming biennium. Testimony in favor of the bill was provided by Amy McKinney, Deputy Director, Department of Motor Vehicles. There was no opposition or neutral testimony on the bill and there were no amendments.

Chair Carlton called for any questions or comments regarding the bill and seeing none said she would accept a motion. Chair Carlton said she would handle the floor statement.

ASSEMBLYMAN FRIERSON MOVED TO DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 488.

ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson and Benitez-Thompson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton called for public comment and, hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Anne Bowen
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

[Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster.