

**MINUTES OF THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**Seventy-ninth Session  
May 23, 2017**

The Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Chair Joyce Woodhouse at 8:26 a.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, in Room 2134 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 Joyce Woodhouse, Chair  
Senator David R. Parks, Vice Chair  
Senator Moises Denis  
Senator Aaron D. Ford  
Senator Ben Kieckhefer  
Senator Pete Goicoechea  
Senator Becky Harris

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

Senator Tick Segerblom, Senatorial District No. 3

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mark Krmpotic, Senate Fiscal Analyst  
Alex Haartz, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst  
Jeff Ferguson, Senior Program Analyst  
Cathy Crocket, Program Analyst  
Jaimarie Dagdagan, Program Analyst  
Colby Nichols, Committee Secretary  
Edgar Cervantes, Committee Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Rocky Finseth, Adam's Place

Joseph L. Pollock, Deputy Administrator for Regulatory and Planning Services,  
Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Department of Health and  
Human Services

Erin Breen, Director, Vulnerable Road Users Project, University of Nevada,  
Las Vegas; Nevada Strategic Highway Safety Program

Christine Adams, Administrator and Victim Impact Panel Manager, Northern  
Nevada DUI Task Force

Laurel Stadler, Rural Coordinator, Northern Nevada DUI Task Force, Rural Victim  
Impact Panel

Caleb Cage, Chief, Emergency Management, Division of Emergency  
Management and Homeland Security, Nevada Department of Public  
Safety

Cadence Matijevich, Deputy Secretary for Operations, Nevada Office of the  
Secretary of State

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We will open our hearing with Senate Bill (S.B.) 355.

**SENATE BILL 355**: Increases the fee for a certificate of death to fund grief  
support services. (BDR 40-114)

SENATOR TICK SEGERBLOM (Senatorial District No. 3):

In 2007, Adam Thomas, a University of Nevada, Reno student and legislative  
intern for Senator Mike Schneider, sustained life-ending injuries from a car  
collision. His mother founded a grief support system in Las Vegas known as  
Adam's Place. Senate Bill 355 attempts to find a permanent funding source for  
Adam's Place. We have worked with the Department of Health and Human  
Services (DHHS) to gain access to one of their funds and thus have eliminated  
the fiscal note.

ROCKY FINSETH (Adam's Place):

Adam's Place is a nonprofit organization based in southern Nevada.  
Adam's Place is a children's bereavement center and is focused on grieving  
children who have lost a parent or sibling by offering grief counseling. In  
northern Nevada, Solace Tree serves a similar purpose.

The Proposed Amendment 4609 (Exhibit C) addresses some critical fiscal  
concerns raised by DHHS. Section 2 creates a Grief Support Trust Account. The  
funds in the Account are to be used for grief support services for children who

have experienced a loss of a relative or other person who had a significant emotional relationship with the child. Such grief support services may also be provided to parents and adult caregivers who have experienced the loss of a child.

Section 5 of the amendment changes the fee on certificates of death to fund the Account from \$2 to 50 cents. Grant funds from the Account will be handled by DHHS in their Grants Management Advisory Committee. Organizations like Adam's Place and Solace Tree are among the organizations that may be eligible for such funds.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

Are the services provided by Adam's Place provided by licensed practitioners? Are they billable to insurance companies or Medicaid?

MR. FINSETH:

Our providers may include some professionals, but it is primarily volunteers. The issue was brought to my attention by an acquaintance who lost her husband at a young age, leaving her with a young daughter. This mother participates as a grief counselor now. Her daughter works in a peer-to-peer group.

SENATOR PARKS:

How much revenue is projected to be generated from this 50-cent fee?

MR. FINSETH:

I believe that it is about \$250,000, but the Coroner's Office could better answer that.

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Does anyone wish to testify in support, opposition or neutral to S.B. 355?

JOSEPH L. POLLOCK (Deputy Administrator for Regulatory and Planning Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services):

We have existing reserves that we would like to use to cover the cost of this bill in order to prevent the cost of death certificates from being raised. Every year, we average about 133,000 death certificates. I believe the figure mentioned earlier was based on the \$2 fee in the original bill. Based on the proposed

amendment, the revenue would be approximately \$66,500. We believe our existing reserves can cover that indefinitely.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

I thought it was going to be managed by the DHHS Grants Management Advisory Unit. Are you proposing transferring funds out of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) to the Grief Support Trust Account for purposes of grant management?

MR. POLLOCK:

That is correct.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

How much reserve are you carrying forward?

MR. POLLOCK:

Currently, we have a bit under \$1 million in reserves in the Office of Vital Records. We have a large upgrade to our death registry for which some of the funds are earmarked. We have about \$400,000 available that could be used for the Grief Support Trust Account.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

Do you transfer any other money out of reserves for grants management purposes?

MR. POLLOCK:

Not that I am aware of. I would have to check to be sure.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

Will the reduced funding generate a shortfall?

MR. POLLOCK:

At the previous \$2 fee level, we figured our reserves could fund it for three years, or possibly longer. At the level in the amendment, we feel we can fund it indefinitely.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

We made substantial cuts out of the Grants Management Unit based on declining tobacco settlement revenues. To hear that you are sitting on

\$400,000 that could have been put toward some of those programs that were cut—it is tough to hear that with two weeks left in the Legislative Session.

SENATOR SEGERBLOM:

Thank you for considering this bill. This worthy cause has done good things in both northern and southern Nevada. I hope you can support the bill.

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We are going to go to work session now. We will begin with S.B. 66.

**SENATE BILL 66 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to work-based learning programs. (BDR 34-254)

MARK KRMPOTIC (Senate Fiscal Analyst):

Senate Bill 66 was heard by the Committee on May 1. The bill would allow for successful completion of certain work programs and authorize the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school to apply for a grant from the Department of Education (NDE) to develop and implement certain work-based learning programs. The bill was presented by Brett Barley of the NDE.

The Chair requested an amendment on this bill. A conceptual amendment ([Exhibit D](#)) was offered by NDE regarding a reporting requirement, since this is a pilot program. The amendment provides for reporting to the State Board of Education. The Committee may wish to change that to require the report be submitted to the Legislature.

The conceptual amendment also amended section 2, subsection 5, to read, "participation by a pupil in a work-based learning program must lead to the pupil receiving a high school diploma and the pupil must take an assessment approved by the State Board." The amendment would delete the requirement for a national credential, certificate or certification. This would align coursework with industry sector councils and the Governor's Office for Economic Development. Existing assessments would be at no additional cost to NDE.

The funding for this program would be provided through a portion of the monies approved last week for college and career readiness grant programs. The Committee authorized between \$500,000 and \$750,000 of college and career readiness monies during the biennium for the work-based learning pilot

programs that are provided for under S.B. 66. The appropriations for career and college readiness that were approved in each year of the biennium total \$5 million.

There were fiscal notes submitted by the school districts. The language in the bill in section 1, subsection 1 is permissive. It would not add a fiscal impact to the school district if the school district did not apply. There was no fiscal note submitted by the Charter School Authority or NDE.

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

I would suggest that regarding the reporting requirement, we leave the State Board of Education and add the Legislature. I want the State Board to receive the information.

SENATOR HARRIS MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 66 WITH THE CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT FROM THE NDE AND ADDING THE REQUIREMENT THAT A REPORT BE SUBMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We will now move on to S.B. 69.

**SENATE BILL 69 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions governing state agencies, boards and commissions that regulate occupations and professions.  
(BDR 54-229)

MR. KRMPOTIC:

Senate Bill 69 was heard by the Committee on May 15. This bill authorizes the Governor to issue an executive order directing a regulatory body to expedite action on pending applications for licensure. The bill requires a regulatory body, that is not otherwise authorized or required by specific statute, to issue a license to engage in an occupation or profession in this State to persons who

have been issued a comparable license by another jurisdiction. The bill also requires the regulatory body to adopt regulations for the issuance of a license by endorsement in order for persons to engage in an occupation or profession.

There were various fiscal notes submitted on this bill from the Department of Agriculture and various occupational licensing boards. All have either removed their fiscal note or have indicated they can absorb the fiscal impact that was originally identified in the bill. This is a first reprint; there were no further amendments offered on the bill.

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 69.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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MR. KRMPOTIC:

Senate Bill 74 was heard by the Committee on April 17. It was presented by Jason King, Administrator, Division of Water Resources (DWR), Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. His testimony is admitted as ([Exhibit E](#)).

**SENATE BILL 74 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to water.  
(BDR 48-178)

Fiscal staff has had Proposed Amendment 4939 ([Exhibit F](#)) drafted. The amendment is based on a combination of changes to the Water Resources budget account 101-4171 that was approved by the money committees and provisions included in other bills that would be duplicative of S.B. 74.

DCNR - Water Resources — Budget Page DCNR-72 (Volume III)  
Budget Account 101-4171

Section 1 is proposed for deletion, as it was included in Assembly Bill (A.B.) 138, which is due to be heard on the Senate floor. Sections 2 and 3 are proposed for elimination, since their provisions are included in A.B. 209, which was passed by both houses of the Legislature.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 138**: Authorizes the de minimus collection of precipitation under certain circumstances. (BDR 48-445)

**ASSEMBLY BILL 209**: Revises provisions governing the forfeiture of water rights. (BDR 48-308)

Section 4 would no longer be applicable since sections 5, 6 and 7 would be removed. Sections 5, 6 and 7 are proposed for removal since the provisions provided for in these sections were not approved in the budgets by the money committees. Sections 8 through 11 are proposed for deletion at the request of the DWR. Of the original bill, the amendment would propose to retain sections 12 through 14.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 74 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 4939.

SENATOR FORD SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We will move on to S.B. 124.

ALEX HAARTZ (Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst):

Senate Bill 124 revises provisions concerning the ownership, possession and control of firearms by certain persons. The Committee heard this bill on May 8.

**SENATE BILL 124 (2nd Reprint)**: Revises provisions concerning the ownership, possession and control of firearms by certain persons. (BDR 3-307)

The bill revises provisions concerning the surrender, sale or transfer of any firearm by an adverse party subject to an extended order for protection against domestic violence. It also requires a person convicted of a battery that constitutes domestic violence and a person convicted of stalking in certain circumstances to permanently surrender, sell or transfer any such firearm. The bill also adds additional persons to the list of persons who are prohibited from



owning, or having in their possession, custody or control, any firearm and establishes penalties related to violating these provisions.

There is a fiscal impact. On May 5, the Department of Public Safety Criminal History Repository submitted written notice ([Exhibit G](#)) that its previous fiscal note had been reduced to \$5,300 in each year of the biennium. They noted that the funds were needed for in-State travel to perform their function as the official point of contact for training for local sheriffs and law enforcement. They indicated there was potentially federal grant funds to cover the cost of that travel; if not forthcoming, they may need to use Point of Contact fees.

Three individuals testified in support of the bill and two individuals testified in opposition. There was no neutral testimony on the bill. The bill is in its 2nd reprint, there are no additional amendments on the bill. The bill becomes effective October 1, 2017.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER MOVED TO DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 124.

SENATOR HARRIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR GOICOECHEA VOTED NO.)

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:  
We will continue with S.B. 132.

MR. KRMPOTIC:  
Senate Bill 132 provides for the establishment of an individual graduation plan for certain pupils to allow them to remain in high school for an additional period to work towards graduation. It also requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to determine certain requirements for eligibility for such a plan and revises provisions relating to academic plans for high school pupils.

**SENATE BILL 132 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to public high schools. (BDR 34-47)

There was a fiscal note submitted by the State Charter Public School Authority, which has been removed. There was testimony from the Clark County School District, but the amendment to the original bill removed its fiscal note as well.

Proposed Amendment 4733 ([Exhibit H](#)) was submitted by the sponsor of the bill, Senator Harris. The amendment adds to section 1, subsection 1(c), the language "have or will attend school in another country as a foreign exchange student for at least one semester," as well as other language additions.

SENATOR HARRIS:

I want to explain the reason for the amendment. Stellar students who are able to qualify for grant programs and have out-of-country experiences to expand the scope of their education are counted as dropouts when they return. The language is changed so we can capture such students in our graduation rates.

All fiscal notes on this bill have been removed.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 132 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 4733.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR GOICOECHEA VOTED NO.)

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We will move on to S.B. 189.

**SENATE BILL 189 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to childcare facilities. (BDR 38-61)

MR. HAARTZ:

Senate Bill 189 was heard by the Committee on May 8. This bill revises provisions relating to childcare facilities pertaining to training of employees and background checks on employees. It requires DPBH to establish by regulation a system of rating childcare facilities and requires that information be posted on the Division's Website.

On May 10, the DPBH submitted a letter ([Exhibit I](#)) indicating it had removed its fiscal note based on a closer look at the intent of the bill. There was no testimony offered in support or opposition to the bill. There was testimony from DPBH of their understanding of the bill at that time. There are no new proposed amendments on the bill. The bill becomes effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and other preparatory tasks and January 1, 2018, for all other purposes.

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 189.

SENATOR HARRIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

I am concerned that section 2.2 applies to the smallest of facilities that serve fewer than five children. I think the rating system is duplicative of the Child Care Quality Rating System that facilities already undergo. I will be voting no at this time.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS GOICOECHEA AND KIECKHEFER VOTED NO.)

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We will move on to S.B. 229.

**SENATE BILL 229 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to guardianships.  
(BDR 13-87)

MR. HAARTZ:

Senate Bill 229 revises provisions related to guardianships. This bill was heard by the Committee on May 18. The bill establishes a process and model form by which a person may request to nominate another person to serve as his or her guardian and requires the Secretary of State's Office to make the form available on its Website. It also revises provisions relating to the Nevada Lockbox maintained by the Secretary of State's Office to include forms requesting to nominate a guardian and who shall have access to the forms contained in the Lockbox. Lastly, the bill revises provisions governing registered agents to authorize a person to serve as a registered agent for a nonresident guardian.

The Secretary of State's Office had submitted a fiscal note of \$2,975 for fiscal year (FY) 2017-2018 and \$2,725 for FY 2018-2019. The Secretary of State's Office testified in support of the bill. There was no testimony in opposition or neutral on S.B. 229.

The sponsor offered a conceptual amendment during the presentation of the bill to add language to allow for the acceptance of gifts, grants and donations to support Lockbox operations in carrying out the provisions of the bill. The bill is effective upon passage and approval for the purposes of adopting regulations and preparatory administrative tasks and January 1, 2018 for all other purposes.

SENATOR HARRIS:

I would add something to clarify that conceptual amendment. There is already statutory language for the Lockbox program, and I would just like those who want to give grants, bequests and monetary donations to be able to designate the Lockbox as the recipient.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 229 WITH A CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT TO ADD LANGUAGE TO ALLOW FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS, GRANTS AND DONATIONS TO SUPPORT LOCKBOX OPERATIONS IN CARRYING OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THE BILL.

SENATOR FORD SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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MR. HAARTZ:

Senate Bill 443 was heard by the Committee on May 18. The bill makes an appropriation for the transfer of four sign language interpreter positions currently contracted with the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) of DHHS to State employee positions. The bill contains a General Fund appropriation of \$378,953.28 to fund the cost of four full-time sign language interpreter positions. Fiscal staff would note that the appropriation was not included in the *Executive Budget*.

**SENATE BILL 443**: Makes an appropriation for the transfer of contracted sign language interpreter positions to state employee positions. (BDR S-145)

During the bill hearing, ADSD testified that the appropriation was not needed as the Division had funding through the TTY telephone surcharge fees collected by the Public Utilities Commission and transferred to the ADSD. One individual testified in support of the bill. There was no testimony in opposition. There was neutral testimony offered by both ADSD and the State Division of Human Resource Management (DHRM) ([Exhibit J](#)). Peter Long of the DHRM testified regarding establishing the grade level and step language in the bill. Mr. Long provided follow-up information to Fiscal staff on May 22, indicating the DHRM felt the positions should be in the unclassified service of State government, due to the specialized nature of the positions. The DHRM felt the Legislature should establish the pay level.

There are several changes the Committee may wish to consider with regard to S.B. 443. The first would be to amend section 1, line 3, to remove the General Fund appropriation of \$378,953.28. The second would be to amend section 1, line 5, to remove the reference to the positions being at grade 37, step 5. The Committee may wish to add conceptual language specifying that the four positions be in the unclassified service and requiring the DHRM to review the position's duties and recommend an appropriate compensation level for approval by the Interim Finance Committee (IFC). If the appropriation were removed, section 2 in its entirety would no longer be needed. The bill as written would be effective July 1, 2017.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 443 WITH THE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION REMOVED, LANGUAGE REGARDING GRADE AND STEP REMOVED, SECTION 2 REMOVED, AND DIRECTION TO DHRM TO REVIEW THE POSITION'S DUTIES AND RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE COMPENSATION FOR IFC CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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MR. HAARTZ:

Senate Bill 445 was heard by the Committee on May 18. The bill makes an appropriation to the Eighth Judicial District Court for a veterans court coordinator. The bill contains a General Fund appropriation of \$200,222 to fund the cost of the salary of a veterans court coordinator. That appropriation is not included in the *Executive Budget*.

**SENATE BILL 445**: Makes an appropriation to the Eighth Judicial District Court for a Veterans Court Coordinator. (BDR S-148)

Testimony was presented at the hearing by Andres Moses of the Eighth Judicial District Court and Senator Hardy. There were several individuals who testified in support of the bill. There was no testimony in opposition. There was neutral testimony by Katherine Miller, Director, Department of Veterans Services. Mr. Moses submitted a conceptual amendment ([Exhibit K](#)). The first action would be to amend section 1 to reduce the General Fund appropriation from \$200,222 to \$98,356 based upon the balance of funding being provided through the Administrative Office of the Courts. Section 1, subsection 2, would be deleted in its entirety. The bill is effective July 1, 2017.

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 445 WITH THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT FROM ANDRES MOSES OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT.

SENATOR HARRIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We will move on to S.B. 458.

**SENATE BILL 458 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to the development and operation of the statewide longitudinal data system. (BDR 34-331)

CATHY CROCKET (Program Analyst):

Senate Bill 458 was heard by the Committee on May 18. The bill, as amended, revises provisions relating to the Statewide longitudinal data system known as

Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research (NPWR) Data System. The NPWR system links data relating to early childhood education programs and K-12 public education with data relating to postsecondary education and the State's workforce. The bill abolishes the P-20W Advisory Council and creates the P-20W Research Data System Advisory Committee. Support for the Committee would be provided by the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN). The executive director of OWINN is required to oversee the NPWR system. The Committee will support and advise the director of OWINN, develop a plan for collaborative research and assist with certain duties relating to the NPWR system.

With regard to fiscal impact, the Nevada P-20 Workforce Reporting budget account, 101-3270, was closed with travel costs for Committee members of approximately \$22,000 over the biennium. The bill was presented by Brian Mitchell, Director, Office of Science, Innovation and Technology. Testimony in support of the bill was provided by the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE). There was no testimony in opposition or neutral on the bill.

Nevada P20 Workforce Reporting — Budget Page ELECTED-92 (Volume I)  
Budget Account 101-3270

A conceptual amendment ([Exhibit L](#)) was offered by Manny Lamarre, Director, OWINN. The amendment proposes to eliminate section 3, subsection 6, in its entirety, which states that members of the Advisory Committee serve without compensation and are not entitled to travel or per diem expenses. As I mentioned previously, the budget as approved, does contain travel expenditures for the Committee members. The bill would be effective July 1, 2017.

SENATOR PARKS MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED  
S.B. 458 WITH THE ELIMINATION OF SECTION 3, SUBSECTION 6.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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MR. KRMPOTIC:

Senate Bill 490 was heard on May 18 and was presented by Senator Harris. The bill would continue the Foreclosure Mediation Program, which was due to be terminated as enacted by the 78th Legislature. The Program would be continued by transferring it to Home Means Nevada, Inc., a nonprofit organization.

**SENATE BILL 490 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to the foreclosure of real property. (BDR 9-488)

One of the issues with the Program is the funding. The Program reserves have slowly decreased over time due to fewer foreclosures going through the program and the applicable fees. The revenues have decreased, as have the corresponding expenditures.

Proposed Amendment 4788 ([Exhibit M](#)) would enact some increases in fees with the intention of providing sufficient funding for the Program over the next two years. Fiscal staff has received information from Senator Harris regarding the projected revenues and expenditures for Program. Those figures show revenues of \$1 million in FY 2017-2018. The revenue would include \$300,000 in reserves that would be transferred from the existing Foreclosure Mediation Program within the Judicial Branch to the new Foreclosure Mediation Assistance Program with Home Means Nevada. Section 9 of the bill would provide for such a transfer.

On a continuing basis, the revenues for the Program, with the increased fees in the amendment, are estimated to be \$730,000. This amount would provide sufficient funding to create a slight surplus, allowing for continued operation into the next biennium. Page 15, paragraph (d), of the Proposed Amendment increases the fee from \$400 to \$600. The new language directs \$100 of that fee to be directed to the new Account for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance. Sections 7 and 8 on page 27 provide that if the account is not sufficient to support the mediation process, Home Means Nevada may request an allocation from the IFC Contingency Account. That provides some relief in the event of a shortage, but I would emphasize that the projected surplus would be approximately \$150,000 in FY 2017-2018 and \$219,000 in FY 2018-2019.

SENATOR HARRIS:

The fee for notice of default on page 9 of [Exhibit M](#) will increase from \$45 to \$95. I think the amendment did not adequately capture that. Concerning the



\$300,000 in reserves on the fiscal note, that is a conservative amount that is being estimated by Home Means Nevada. We are going to be very careful with the funds. The funds that are being transferred are closer to \$500,000, but we do not have an exact number because they are closing out the Program as we speak.

I understand that there is some interest in sunseting the Program. I would suggest that we have that conversation when this bill goes to the Assembly. Senator Ford recommended that we decrease the filing fee for the homeowners and the lenders by \$100 each, resulting in each paying \$250. The \$200 fee for each party to participate would be maintained, with an additional \$50 fee to help fund the Program.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

While I support the Program, at some point it will have to come to an end, given the dwindling numbers of participants. I will support continuing it for now, but I would hope to see a sunset provision added.

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED  
S.B. 490 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT 4788.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Senator Harris, Mr. Krmpotic will be working with you to make sure we have all the pieces in the amendment.

MR. KRMPOTIC:

Senate Bill 496 was heard in Committee on May 1. The bill revises provisions governing the issuance of revenue bonds and other securities by NSHE. Section 5 provides for specific language to finance the project by the issuance of bonds and other securities totalling \$58,710,000 for an engineering building and a residence at the University of Nevada, Reno, and a total of \$22 million for a fitness complex at Truckee Meadows Community College. Based on the recent actions by the money committees in closing the Capital Improvement

Program for the upcoming biennium, Fiscal staff would suggest this bill be a do pass.

**SENATE BILL 496**: Revises provisions governing the issuance of revenue bonds and other securities by the Nevada System of Higher Education. (BDR S-1083)

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO DO PASS S.B. 496.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:  
We will move on to S.B. 500.

**SENATE BILL 500**: Revises provisions relating to the Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry. (BDR 18-909)

JAIMARIE DAGDAGAN (Program Analyst):  
Senate Bill 500 was heard by this Committee on May 18. The bill consolidates the Manufactured Housing Division and Housing Division of the Department of Business and Industry (B&I). The bill also creates the Account for Housing Inspection and Compliance and creates a housing advocate position within the Housing Division. The bill implements the *Executive Budget*.

On May 5, the Joint Subcommittees on General Government approved the consolidation of the two divisions and, on May 15, the Joint Full Committees concurred with the Subcommittees' recommendation.

The bill was presented by Stephen Aichroth, Administrator, Manufactured Housing Division, B&I, and C.J. Manthe, Administrator, Housing Division, B&I. There was testimony in support of the bill from the Nevada Housing Alliance and the Manufactured Home Community Owners. There was no testimony in opposition, and one individual testified in neutral.

The Housing Division submitted a conceptual amendment ([Exhibit N](#)) that restores the fees paid by manufactured home owners in statute, as opposed to establishing those fees through regulations. The amendment authorizes the Housing Division to expend real property transfer tax revenue of up to \$75,000 annually in addition to the money received by the Division for supplementing the monthly rent of an eligible person for the manufactured home lot.

The amendment also restores the eligibility requirements for the monthly rent assistance in statute as opposed to establishing those requirements through regulations. The bill is effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing preparatory tasks and on July 1, 2017, for all other purposes.

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED  
S.B. 500 WITH THE CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT FROM THE HOUSING  
DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

SENATOR HARRIS:

I have to make a disclosure. I sit on the Board of a low-income manufactured housing entity. I reviewed S.B. 500 and find that it applies to everybody equally, so I will be voting on the bill.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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JEFF FERGUSON (Senior Program Analyst):

Senate Bill 511 was sponsored by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources on behalf of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor. It was heard on May 10.

**SENATE BILL 511**: Revises provisions governing boating and wildlife.  
(BDR 45-896)

The bill would remove various fees associated with the issuance of annual licenses and limited permits for resident and nonresidents. It revises the types of licenses and permits that the Department of Wildlife (NDW) is required to issue

and establishes the fees that must be paid for those licenses and limited permits. It also provides that licenses to hunt, fish or trap during open seasons are valid for one year beginning on the date of the purchase of the license. The bill also repeals the requirement for upland game bird stamps, duck stamps and trout stamps. In lieu of the stamps, it requires a certain percentage of the general licensing and permitting fees charged and collected by NDW to be used for certain purposes relating to wildlife.

This is a budget implementation bill. Accordingly, there is a cost of \$72,450 in sportsman fees that has been approved by the money committees in the Wildlife Operations budget account 101-4461 that would fund the necessary modifications to NDW's information systems to implement the license simplification measures.

Wildlife - Operations — Budget Page WILDLIFE-10 (Volume III)  
Budget Account 101-4461

The bill was presented by Tony Wasley, Director, NDW. Testimony in support of the bill was presented by Ernie and Will Adler on behalf of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Marla McDade Williams from the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, and Doug Busselman from the Nevada Farm Bureau. There was no testimony in opposition or neutral on the bill.

There were two conceptual amendments. The first ([Exhibit O](#)), from the Adlers representing the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, would include language that acknowledges the indigenous hunting and fishing rights of Nevada tribal members and allows resident Native Americans to obtain a specialty combination hunting and fishing license in the same manner in which all other persons obtain them. The second proposed amendment ([Exhibit P](#)), from Senator Goicoechea, would allow the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to increase the maximum number of deer and antelope tags that may be issued annually as compensation for damage caused by deer and antelope. The increase would be from 1.5 percent to 2.5 percent of the total number of tags authorized to be issued annually throughout the State. Mr. Wasley testified that both amendments were friendly to NDW.

The bill would become effective upon passage and approval for the purposes of adopting regulations and performing preparatory administrative tasks and on January 1, 2018, for all other purposes.

Senate Committee on Finance  
May 23, 2017  
Page 21

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I want to make sure my proposed amendment will be effective upon passage and approval. In Lincoln County, we are short on the landowner tags, so this provision needs to come forward immediately.

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 511 WITH THE CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENTS FROM SENATOR GOICOECHEA AND WILL AND ERNIE ADLER ON BEHALF OF THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

SENATOR FORD:

I want to note that I received confirmation from NDW that it is supportive of these amendments.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

MR. KRMPOTIC:

Senate Bill 518 was heard on May 4 and presented by Steve Canavero, Superintendent of Public Instruction, NDE. The bill removes the provision authorizing interest and income on money earned in the Contingency Account for Special Education Services to be credited to the Account. This is primarily for the purpose of avoiding increases in the maintenance of effort in future years. I would add that the budget for the Account was closed by the money committees last week.

[SENATE BILL 518 \(1st Reprint\)](#): Revises provisions relating to certain accounts used for the education of pupils enrolled in public schools. (BDR 34-1094)

SENATOR FORD MOVED TO DO PASS AS AMENDED S.B. 518.

SENATOR DENIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

\* \* \* \* \*

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

We are done with the work session. I will open the hearing on S.B. 440.

**SENATE BILL 440 (1st Reprint)**: Extends to all counties the requirement for certain employees of establishments where alcoholic beverages are sold to complete certain training. (BDR 32-1003)

ERIN BREEN (Director, Vulnerable Road Users Project, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Nevada Strategic Highway Safety Program):

I want to introduce an important upgrade to Nevada law that is currently only required in Clark and Washoe Counties. Senate Bill 440 would expand server training to all Nevada counties. We have gone from a low of 69 alcohol-impaired fatalities in 2010 to 97 in 2015. We have seen a steady rise in the carnage on our roads because impaired individuals choose to get behind the wheel of a car. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) tracks fatalities across the United States. Their statistics show that, in 2011, Nevada's .29 alcohol-related fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles travelled (VMT) was below the national average of .33 fatalities per 100 million VMT. Just four short years later, the number is reversed. Nevada is at .33 fatalities and the national average has dropped to .29. In fact, Nevada's alcohol-related fatalities have jumped 10 percent in that period.

This is alarming on many levels, especially now that voters have chosen to legalize recreational use of marijuana. The front-line personnel are those serving the drinks, selling the alcohol and patrolling the establishments where liquor is served. We need them to be better equipped to help in the fight to end drunk driving, and thereby, end drunk-driving fatalities and critical injuries. There is also a misperception that the problem of impaired driving is only in the urban areas of the State where this law is already in place. When alcohol-related fatalities are analyzed based on population, Clark and Washoe Counties have a lower percentage of fatalities, and three of the rural counties are in the bottom third of fatality rates.

Rural Nevada counties need this law; in fact, they are the ones asking for this law. Alcohol-server training will help identify when to stop serving a patron and, importantly, how to identify those not yet of legal age to drink. In 2016, in Nevada, we had 13 fatalities in which the driver was under the legal age to drink and was impaired. Eight of the 13 had blood alcohol content over .08, the legal limit for an adult; 3 were THC positive, the active metabolite in marijuana,

and one was THC positive in combination with another drug. These are kids who should not be drinking at all, but are the cause of fatalities when they choose to get behind the wheel.

Passing this law has the potential to save lives. Christine Adams will walk you through the bill.

CHRISTINE ADAMS (Administrator and Victim Impact Panel Manager, Northern Nevada DUI Task Force):

As a member of the Strategic Highway Safety Program, I am the Chairperson on a subcommittee on server training laws, which is part of the impaired driving critical emphasis area. I personally spent 17 years employed by the alcohol service industry. I now work in harm reduction and prevention. It is my strong belief that there is a bridge between responsible beverage service and traffic safety as it relates to impaired driving.

Responsible beverage service training is a key component to NHTSA's guide to reducing impaired driving. For those who serve an impairing substance, it brings thoughtful education on the clinical effects of alcohol on the human body, how to recognize signs of impairment and how to discontinue service to intoxicated patrons. The training provides methods of preventing access to alcohol by minors and trains employees of the industry on how to recognize false or altered identification. Additionally, it provides alcohol servers with the tools necessary to handle difficult situations and prevent altercations that can endanger public safety. Research shows that effective, responsible beverage service training programs reduce blood alcohol levels of bar and restaurant patrons, increase server compliance with identification checks and reduce alcohol sales to minors.

With those goals in mind, S.B. 440 seeks to extend alcohol server training requirements to all counties in Nevada. Existing law requires establishments that sell alcoholic beverages by drink for on-premise consumption to ensure employees successfully complete alcohol awareness training and imposes a civil fine for a violation of this requirement. Currently, this requirement is imposed by State statute in counties with populations of more than 100,000. That only includes Clark and Washoe Counties. Section 2 of this bill would extend that requirement to all counties.

The bill requires that after July 1, 2019, a person who owns or operates an establishment located in a county whose population is less than 100,000 shall

not hire, or continue to employ, a person to sell or serve alcoholic beverages or perform the duties of a security guard unless the person hired has successfully completed a certified alcohol awareness program and holds a valid alcohol education card or gets one within 30 days.

An amendment that was included in the first reprint allows for the certified program to be presented through audiovisual technology if the audiovisual technology allows the instructor to interact visually and verbally with the student. In speaking with Sheriff Furlong from Carson City, he made the point that the specific training is best delivered in a setting that allows interaction between the instructor and the student. This strategy allows for question and answer sessions, in-depth conversation about local laws and opportunities to role-play that engage the students.

The second incorporated amendment in the first reprint is in section 2, subsection 7, paragraph (b), and allows for fines collected in counties whose populations are less than 100,000 to be split equally between a fund to provide assistance to victims of crime and a fund for the education and enforcement of underage drinking laws.

This law falls upon our peace officers to enforce through compliance checks. In Washoe County, compliance checks are funded primarily through grant funding. With grant funding limited for enforcing underage drinking laws, many rural community law enforcement agencies have made compliance checks a priority in their line-item budgets. This provision allows any civil penalties collected to remain in the jurisdiction where the citation was written. This would reward jurisdictions that value the benefit of compliance checks.

We urge you to support S.B. 440.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

Who can teach these classes in the rural areas?

Ms. ADAMS:

They could be taught by the sheriff's office. There are also local substance abuse coalitions conducting classes in the rurals. Some of the rural communities have made this mandatory for special use permits, and I believe there are trainers in those areas who can handle these classes.



SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

Does the bill require anyone working in an establishment that sells alcohol to have a card?

MS. ADAMS:

Yes, it does.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

I have talked to some of the establishments in my district and the owners seem to be okay with the bill. It is important to me that it can be done at a local level, because if a person had to travel to take these classes, it would be quite an impediment.

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Is there anyone wishing to testify in support of S.B. 440?

LAUREL STADLER (Rural Coordinator, Northern Nevada DUI Task Force rural Victim Impact Panel):

I have spent 27 years in driving-under-the-influence (DUI) prevention. In that time, I have spoken to over 20,000 convicted DUI offenders in rural northern Nevada.

I am here to encourage support of S.B. 440. The Northern Nevada DUI Task Force is always looking for ways to keep drunk and drugged drivers off the streets and highways of the State. Senate Bill 440, which mandates server training in all Nevada counties, will ensure that employees of alcohol establishments have the proper alcoholic beverage awareness program training. We see this as an education bill for servers that will lower the number of DUI drivers on Nevada's roads, making those roads safer for all of us. It should also greatly lower the number of young people, those under 21, who are illegally served alcohol in public venues.

I know from experience that it can be difficult to get the training to all rural areas. That is why the addition of the telecommunication classes as an option is so important.

The task force has always said that we would rather have the crime of DUI not committed than to have to sanction it and support victims afterward. This bill would work hand-in-hand with that goal. Please vote yes on S.B. 440.

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Is there anyone else wishing to testify on S.B. 440? Seeing no one, I will close the hearing on S.B. 440 and open the hearing on A.B. 495.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 495**: Makes a supplemental appropriation to the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety for a projected shortfall for activities related to reimbursements for the 2017 floods. (BDR S-1171)

CALEB CAGE (Chief, Emergency Management, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Nevada Department of Public Safety):

This calendar year has started out to be an impressive disaster year with respect to flooding, particularly in northern Nevada. January flooding, which affected most of the eastern Sierra counties in northern Nevada, caused about \$14 million in damages. The affected counties were approved for public assistance and hazard mitigation disaster relief. The Federal Emergency Management Agency Major Disaster Declaration 4307 was the second presidential major disaster declared in Nevada so far this year. That flooding happened in many northern Nevada counties in February, spreading from Washoe County to Elko County, causing about \$15 million in damages. We are preparing for additional flooding in the Walker River, Carson River and Truckee River basins later this summer due to the large amount of snow on the mountains.

To put all of this in context, the last presidential major disaster declaration in Nevada was in 2014. We have two so far in this calendar year, with a potential third coming. We are one of the smallest emergency management organizations in the Nation, with 33 total full-time employees. The passage of this bill would give us some money right now to contract additional personnel to assist in the recovery process.

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Seeing no one wishing to testify on A.B. 495, I will close the hearing and open the hearing on A.B. 496.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 496**: Makes a supplemental appropriation to the Office of the Secretary of State for a projected shortfall related to credit card processing fees. (BDR S-1168)

Senate Committee on Finance  
May 23, 2017  
Page 27

CADENCE MATIJEVICH (Deputy Secretary for Operations, Nevada Office of the Secretary of State):

Assembly Bill 496 provides for an additional General Fund appropriation to the operating budget of the Office of the Secretary of State of \$598,200. This funding will cover a portion of a projected shortfall in expense authority to pay the costs of credit card processing fees for revenues collected by the Office in the current fiscal year.

We have submitted a work program for the difference between the amount requested in this bill and the total projected shortfall for your approval at the June IFC meeting.

Remainder of page intentionally left blank; signature page to follow.

Senate Committee on Finance  
May 23, 2017  
Page 28

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Is there anyone wishing to testify regarding A.B. 496? Seeing no one, is there anyone wishing to make public comment? Having concluded our business, this meeting is adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Barbara Williams,  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Chair

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

| <b>EXHIBIT SUMMARY</b> |                                 |    |  |                             |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>Bill</b>            | <b>Exhibit /<br/># of pages</b> |    | <b>Witness / Entity</b>                            | <b>Description</b>          |
|                        | A                               | 2  |  | Agenda                      |
|                        | B                               | 4  |  | Attendance Roster           |
| S.B. 355               | C                               | 5  | Rocky Finseth / Adam's Place                       | Proposed Amendment 4609     |
| S.B. 66                | D                               | 1  | Department of Education                            | Conceptual Amendment        |
| S.B. 74                | E                               | 4  | Jason King / Division of Water Resources           | Testimony in Neutral        |
| S.B. 74                | F                               | 13 | Mark Krmpotic                                      | Proposed Amendment 4939     |
| S.B. 124               | G                               | 2  | Julie Butler / Department of Public Safety         | Letter Revising Fiscal Note |
| S.B. 132               | H                               | 6  | Senator Becky Harris                               | Proposed Amendment 4733     |
| S.B. 189               | I                               | 1  | Cody L. Phinney / DPBH                             | Letter Revising Fiscal Note |
| S.B. 443               | J                               | 1  | Peter Long / Division of Human Resource Management | Testimony                   |
| S.B. 445               | K                               | 1  | Andres Moses / Eighth Judicial District Court      | Conceptual Amendment        |
| S.B. 458               | L                               | 1  | Manny Lamarre / OWINN                              | Conceptual Amendment        |
| S.B. 490               | M                               | 44 | Senator Harris                                     | Proposed Amendment 4788     |
| S.B. 500               | N                               | 9  | C.J. Manthe / Housing Division                     | Conceptual Amendment        |
| S.B. 511               | O                               | 1  | Will and Ernie Adler / Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe   | Conceptual Amendment        |
| S.B. 511               | P                               | 2  | Senator Pete Goicoechea                            | Conceptual Amendment        |