

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**Seventy-ninth Session
June 5, 2017**

The Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Chair Joyce Woodhouse at 9:38 a.m. on Monday, June 5, 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 Julia Ratti, Senatorial District No. 13
Assemblyman Nelson Araujo, Assembly District No. 3

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Krmpotic, Senate Fiscal Analyst
Alex Haartz, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Brenda Erdoes, Legislative Counsel
Felicia Archer, Committee Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Scott Anderson, Chief Deputy, Nevada Secretary of State

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

I will open the hearing on Assembly Bill (A.B.) 423.

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ASSEMBLY BILL 423 (4th Reprint): Requires the Secretary of State to collect and report information related to gender equality in the workplace.
(BDR 7-1047)

SENATOR JULIA RATTI (Senatorial District No. 13):

Assembly Bill 423 represents a merging of two bills presented this Session on similar subjects. The bill requires the Secretary of State to collect and report information related to gender equality in the workplace. The Office of the Secretary of State has indicated they can absorb most of the administrative costs.

The bill also provides for the reforming of the Nevada Commission for Women. The Commission does not have a support staff, but the Department of Administration has offered assistance.

ASSEMBLYMAN NELSON ARAUJO (Assembly District No. 3):

The Department of Administration has submitted a fiscal note ([Exhibit C](#)). They estimate a cost of \$107,772 in fiscal year (FY) 2017-2018 and \$81,672 in FY 2018-2019.

SENATOR FORD:

Does the Nevada Commission for Women have a budget in place?

SENATOR RATTI:

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Assembly District No. 5 submitted a bill which contemplated a survey on gender equality. When her bill was heard in the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, the Department of Administration submitted a fiscal note. An appropriation has been made by the Assembly to support the Commission. The Office of the Secretary of State has offered to absorb the costs of the survey. With the combining of the two bills, we may need to do some fine tuning on the fiscal impact and requirements of A.B. 423.

SENATOR FORD:

We will rely on Fiscal staff for the details, but I support the bill. Many communities are represented in this Legislative Session. We have augmented the Department of Consumer Affairs and established a position for the Commission on Minority Affairs. This bill supports the mission of diversity.

SCOTT ANDERSON (Chief Deputy, Nevada Secretary of State):

When A.B. 423 was initially introduced, a sizable fiscal note was included. Our office has determined that we can use our Silverflume system to administer the survey at no additional cost.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

The funds outlined in section 5.5 of A.B. 423 would be used to hire staff for the Commission. Is that correct?

CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Yes.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

These are funds related to developing the survey. When the survey is drafted, that ends the Commission's role in this legislation. Will there be additional duties for the person hired with these funds?

SENATOR RATTI:

There are two distinct parts of A.B. 423. One is the survey, and one is staff support for the Commission. Once the survey is completed, the Commission will continue to require staff. This is similar to the position authorized for the Commission on Minority Affairs.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

Usually, when we hire staff it is in the second year of the biennium.

MARK KRMPOTIC (Senate Fiscal Analyst):

The appropriations in this bill are based on a fiscal note submitted by the Department of Administration and includes personnel costs and IT and operating expenses. The IT and operating expenses in the first year total \$53,000 and the personnel costs are \$49,000. Both numbers are approximate. The salary expenses are phased in during the first year. The IT costs are largely related to services provided by the Division of Enterprise Information Technology. If the Secretary of State's office provides IT services, the fiscal note will be adjusted and will be much lower.

The Nevada Commission for Women is in a nonexecutive budget account. This appropriation would need to be made in the budgets reviewed by the Legislature which are included in the *Executive Budget*.

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SENATOR RATTI:

The fiscal note applied to A.B. 423 in the Assembly version was to support an entry-level position. We are contemplating an analyst position with a higher salary, and the fiscal note should be adjusted accordingly. I have modeled the position based on the minority affairs management analyst position authorized in Senate Bill (S.B.) 373.

SENATE BILL 373 (1st Reprint): Requires the appointment of a Minority Affairs Management Analyst in the Office of the Director of the Department of Business and Industry. (BDR 18-1108)

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

I would support approving A.B. 423 and authorizing a position consistent with that incorporated in S.B. 373. We can defer to our Fiscal staff for a cost analysis.

SENATOR FORD:

The approved position in S.B. 373 was allocated \$71,306 in fiscal year (FY) 2017-2018 and \$87,828 in FY 2018-2019.

We have supported many communities of people who have not been represented including LGBTQ and ex-offenders. Assembly Bill 423 presents another opportunity to support diverse groups of Nevadans.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 423 WITH APPROVAL FOR FISCAL STAFF TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NEEDED.

SENATOR FORD SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR WOODHOUSE:

Seeing no further public comment, the meeting is adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Jan Brase,
Transcribing Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBIT SUMMARY				
Bill	Exhibit / # of pages		Witness / Entity	Description
	A	1		Agenda
	B	2		Attendance Roster
A.B. 423	C	2	Department of Administration	Fiscal Note