

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

**Seventy-ninth Session
March 14, 2017**

The Senate Committee on Judiciary was called to order by Chair Tick Segerblom at 1:36 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 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 Tick Segerblom, Chair
Senator Nicole J. Cannizzaro, Vice Chair
Senator Moises Denis
Senator Aaron D. Ford
Senator Don Gustavson
Senator Michael Roberson
Senator Becky Harris

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patrick Guinan, Policy Analyst
Eileen Church, Committee Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Melissa A. Saragosa, Las Vegas Township Justice Court, Department 4, Clark County
Keith L. Lee, Nevada Judges of Limited Jurisdiction
John McCormick, Rural Courts Coordinator, Administrative Office of the Courts, Nevada Supreme Court

CHAIR SEGERBLOM:

I will open the hearing of the Senate Committee on Judiciary with Assembly Bill (A.B.) 37.

ASSEMBLY BILL 37: Revises provisions relating to justice courts and municipal courts. (BDR 1-397)

MELISSA A. SARAGOSA (Las Vegas Township Justice Court, Department 4, Clark County):

This bill has two main parts. The first part is to authorize and have the same sort of procedures in place for the appointment of a chief judge with the same responsibilities or administrative duties with the court that the District Court has currently for the justice courts and municipal courts in our state.

The second part addresses the procedure for disqualification motions of a judge. There is a specific statutory procedure in place for the district courts, and that procedure is not outlined in our laws for justice courts or municipal courts. This bill addresses that absence and provides the exact same procedure in terms of a motion to disqualify a judge.

KEITH L. LEE (Nevada Judges of Limited Jurisdiction):
We support A.B. 37.

CHAIR SEGERBLOM:

Seeing no more people wanting to testify for or against, I will close the hearing on A.B. 37 and open the hearing on A.B. 63.

ASSEMBLY BILL 63: Revises provisions relating to court interpreters. (BDR 1-393)

JOHN MCCORMICK (Rural Courts Coordinator, Administrative Office of the Courts, Nevada Supreme Court)

This bill gives the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) the statutory authority to conduct full FBI background checks on potential court interpreters.

An issue was identified when the Department of Public Safety was preparing for an FBI audit and found that we did not have FBI-required specific statutory language to do the background checks. In working with General Services and the Records Bureau, we came up with the language that puts the authorization into statute so we can continue to do full background checks on potential interpreters.

Since this issue was discovered, we have been using a private background check vendor, and it is not as thorough of a background check. If this bill is not passed, we will have to increase the fees for the interpreter to pay for the continued use of that private background check vendor.

SENATOR GUSTAVSON:
Who currently pays for the background checks?

MR. MCCORMICK:
Currently, the AOC covers those costs through the fees that are charged in the program pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* 1.520. If this language does not go into effect, the AOC will probably have to increase fees charged to the interpreters to continue to pay for the private background check vendor.

CHAIR SEGERBLOM:
If there is no more testimony on this bill nor any public comment, I will close the hearing on A.B. 63 and introduce Bill Draft Request (BDR) 16-546. I will take a motion.

BILL DRAFT REQUEST (BDR) 16-546: Provides for documentation and assistance to help inmates released from jail or detention to obtain driver's licenses or identification cards and makes other changes relating to inmates. (Later introduced as [Senate Bill 268](#).)

SENATOR GUSTAVSON MOVED TO INTRODUCE BDR 16-546.

SENATOR HARRIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SEGERBLOM:

Having no further business on the agenda, I adjourn this Committee meeting at
1:43 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Eileen Church,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Tick Segerblom, Chair

DATE: _____

| EXHIBIT SUMMARY | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Bill | Exhibit / # of pages | | Witness / Entity | Description |
| | A | 1 | | Agenda |
| | B | 4 | | Attendance Roster |