

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

**Eightieth Session
May 31, 2019**

The Committee on Ways and Means was called to order by Chair Maggie Carlton at 9:22 a.m. on Friday, May 31, 2019, in Room 3137 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4404B of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, 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/80th2019.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair
Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson, Vice Chair
Assemblyman Jason Frierson
Assemblyman John Hambrick
Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui
Assemblyman Al Kramer
Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno
Assemblywoman Dina Neal
Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank
Assemblywoman Robin L. Titus
Assemblyman Jim Wheeler

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

After roll was called, Chair Carlton noted that there were seven bills to be heard and the Committee was waiting for the distributive school account (DSA) bill to be received. Before any bills were heard, the Chair wanted to correct previous action taken on a bill.



Senate Bill 537: Extends the prospective expiration of the Consumer Affairs Unit of the Department of Business and Industry. (BDR 18-1206)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, explained that Senate Bill (S.B.) 537 was a request to remove the sunset date for the Consumer Affairs Unit, Department of Business and Industry. That action was approved by the Committee. After consultation with the Legal Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, it was determined that the Consumer Affairs Unit derived its authority from a Consumer Affairs Division that had not been active since the recession. As funding allowed, the Consumer Affairs Division was reinstituted as a Consumer Affairs Unit. Removing the sunset date would require deleting the Consumer Affairs Division and all the references in statute, a difficult task to complete late in a session. To remedy the situation, Fiscal Analysis Division staff recommended rescinding the motion to make the Consumer Affairs Unit permanent and include a new sunset date, while the dissolution of the Consumer Affairs Division was researched further.

Chair Carlton recognized the problem with the existing motion and asked for a motion to rescind the previous motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SPIEGEL MOVED TO RESCIND THE PREVIOUS MOTION FOR SENATE BILL (S.B.) 537 THAT REMOVED THE SUNSET DATE FOR THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS UNIT.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Benitez-Thompson, Frierson, Jauregui, and Wheeler were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton requested a new motion for S.B. 537.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SPIEGEL MOVED TO DO PASS SENATE BILL (S.B.) 537 WITH A SUNSET DATE OF JUNE 30, 2021.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Benitez-Thompson, Frierson, Jauregui, and Wheeler were not present for the vote.)

Senate Bill 458 (1st Reprint): Makes an appropriation for the creation and maintenance of school gardens for certain Title I schools. (BDR S-580)

Ciara Byrne, Founder and Co-Executive Director, Green Our Planet, presented Senate Bill (S.B.) 458 (1st Reprint). Green Our Planet was a nonprofit organization based in Las Vegas that built school gardens and ran garden programs in Nevada. During the 2017-2018 school year, only 23 percent of fifth-graders were proficient in science and 38 percent of fifth-graders were proficient in mathematics. Yet the growth rate for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) jobs in Nevada was 16.7 percent, outpacing the national growth rate of 9.2 percent. The median salaries for Nevada STEM jobs was \$37 per hour as compared to the \$17 per hour rate for nonSTEM jobs. Research that documented the lack of student performance in STEM studies in Nevada highlighted three causes, including a lack of time spent teaching STEM subjects, a lack of teacher training in STEM subjects, and a lack of suitable real world opportunities and resources to conduct experiential STEM learning.

One goal of S.B. 458 (R1), Ms. Byrne continued, was to increase the amount of time spent teaching STEM classes in gardens. There were eight horticulturists on the Green Our Planet team, each of whom managed 20 school gardens and worked with teachers to provide 120 hours of science instruction in each school. Other nonprofit organizations used the gardens to teach students about STEM and nutrition.

Teacher training was provided for STEM concepts, Ms. Byrne said. Green Our Planet had trained over 2,500 teachers since 2014, provided resources to schools, built 168 school gardens across southern Nevada, and installed hydroponics systems throughout Nevada. Green Our Planet provided outdoor garden curricula for prekindergarten through grade 5, and the hydroponics program was the only prekindergarten through grade 5 program in the nation.

Ms. Byrne cited a 2013 national study that reviewed research on school garden programs that showed gardens and hydroponic systems could improve students' academic performance. In a comprehensive review, it was determined that 93 percent of the studies reported improved performance in science, 80 percent saw an improvement in mathematics, and 72 percent reported an improvement in language arts. Gardens also increased children's vegetable consumption, expanded the variety of vegetables that children ate, instilled a lasting respect for nature, and increased community engagements at schools. Many principals and teachers told stories of how gardens helped to engage students. As an example, Ms. Byrne mentioned that at Helen Herr Elementary School and J.T. MacWilliams Elementary School, low-income schools where 100 percent of the students received free or reduced-price lunches, both principals analyzed attendance data. In looking for ways to encourage children to attend school more often, the principals recognized that students rarely missed classes on days when gardening classes were scheduled. Those schools had started to offer garden programs on Mondays and Fridays as an incentive to get children to school on days students most often missed school.

Another example Ms. Byrne cited was in November 2013 when 5th grade students at John S. Park Elementary School were trained to run the first farmer's market in the Clark County School District (CCSD). Over 200 farmer's markets were run by students in the last school year. Last week in northern Nevada, for the first time, students in Reno and Dayton ran farmer's markets at their schools. The garden and hydroponics programs provided opportunities for students to improve their skills in the STEM area, to train teachers, and to engage students in schools.

Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Senate District No. 5, spoke about S.B. 458 (R1) which continued funding for school garden education programs in certain Title I schools. For many years, the Nevada Legislature encouraged school districts to ensure each school district participated in the federal fresh fruit and vegetable program because this program exposed students to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables in hopes that children would develop healthy eating habits. Since the passage of Assembly Bill (A.B.) 337 of the 77th Session (2013), school districts were encouraged to establish farm-to-school and school garden programs to promote the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, and schools incorporated nutrition-based curriculum and provided students with experiential learning opportunities, including farm visits and garden-based learning opportunities.

Senator Woodhouse said that Senate Bill (S.B.) 167 of the 79th Session (2017) for the first time appropriated State General Funds to support the creation and maintenance of school garden programs in Nevada. She noted that there was a waiting list of schools who wanted to participate in the programs, and S.B. 458 (R1) continued that funding for school garden programs. The bill appropriated \$410,000 in fiscal year (FY) 2020 and \$205,000 in FY 2021 for schools to use to create and maintain school gardens, including hydroponic gardens, the same level of funding that was approved during the 79th Session (2017). Currently, the State Department of Agriculture administered the school garden program and the school nutrition program; however, since the two programs were not tied together, S.B. 458 (R1) moved the school garden program administration to the Department of Education where the curriculum standards for this area were assigned.

Funding from S.B. 458 (R1), Senator Woodhouse explained, would support grants to nonprofit organizations that met certain requirements and which then supported programs at qualifying schools. The bill authorized funding to be used for the development of a school-site food safety plan, to fund attendance for teachers at school garden conferences, and to fund related teacher professional development that linked school garden curriculum to STEM topics and vocational training. She urged Committee members to support this bill, which continued funding for the creation and maintenance of school garden programs in Nevada. She believed this program was the epitome of students studying across curricula with hands-on learning from student gardens as it developed workforce skills necessary for later in life.

Chair Carlton asked about proceeds from the farmer's markets and whether the proceeds were used for the program. Ms. Byrne said that every school had a line item for the school garden in its budget, and part of the curriculum was for the students to write a business plan for the

gardens, organize farmer's markets at the schools, and to work with bankers. In addition, Green Our Planet ran farmer's markets outside of schools. All of these monies went toward the line items in the schools' budgets. She noted that students and teachers determined how the funds were spent, including choices such as planting trees or buying humming bird feeders.

Chair Carlton had noted two schools with gardens on her drive to work, and she wondered what happened to the gardens when schools were closed for the summer. Ms. Byrne said that Green Our Planet horticulturists tended gardens during the summer, and every school determined what happened to its produce. Choices included, but were not limited to, donating the produce to a nearby food bank or making arrangements with families to pick their produce during the summer.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any additional questions, and hearing no questions, she opened the hearing to public comment on S.B. 458 (R1) and asked to hear from those in support of the bill.

Kyle J. Davis, a paid lobbyist and President, Davis Strategies, representing the Nevada Conservation League, spoke in support of S.B. 458 (R1). The program encouraged children to get outside, explore the natural world, and to be in touch with local food chains.

Cortney Bloomer, Food Systems Manager, Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey Counties, spoke in support of S.B. 458 (R1). The Coalition had worked with school garden programs in Lyon County for approximately ten years. The school garden program began with a need to connect families in the community to a healthy source of food. During the downturn in the economy, Lyon County suffered greatly, and school gardens played an important role in the community even as the economy recovered. The gardens allowed children to connect with their food, to develop healthy eating habits, and to develop community ties because local farmers and volunteers from the Lyon County agricultural community talked to students and helped to develop usable agricultural skills. Lyon County, as one of the top agricultural producers in Nevada, was uniquely positioned to provide students with agricultural job opportunities if agricultural skill sets had been developed.

Ms. Bloomer said that for children who chose not to pursue a career in agriculture, school gardens were still a valuable resource for teaching STEM education and for connecting children to other important initiatives such as sustainability and environmental responsibility. One initiative in Lyon County school gardens was the development of pollinator gardens. Local farmers in connection with the Department of Wildlife and the state tree nursery were creating pollinator habitat to attract pollinators. From this effort, children could study ecosystems and the environment.

Ms. Bloomer stated that whether the benefit was learning about healthy eating, cultivating their own food, understanding the role everyone played in society, recognizing how food played a role in families and the community, or being responsible to the environment, school

gardens were a tool to provide hands-on learning experiences in many subject areas and tied the students classroom learning to real world situations.

Wendy Madson, Healthy Hub Liaison, Healthy Communities Coalition, spoke in support of S.B. 458 (R1). She had the opportunity to witness the development of school garden programs, and she believed school gardens provided a tool for the empowerment of youth. The Coalition partnered with local farmers and school districts, and during the summer, the Coalition used grant funds as a stipend for students. The stipend provided an opportunity not only for students to work for the summer but also for students to develop peer-to-peer and mentor relationships and to be part of the food produce system. In rural communities, she noted, hoop houses, sustainability, and interdependence were important factors. When salad bars were offered with student-grown garden produce, lunch numbers rose.

As an aside, Ms. Madson told the story of a school in Silver Springs that became alarmed when a school climate survey conducted several years ago noted a large number of students felt unsafe in the school cafeteria. The school instituted a family-style dining approach from an edible schoolyard training session, longer lunch breaks were incorporated, teachers were encouraged to sit with students, and cell phones were not allowed at the table. The participants at a table would get in line together, food items were shared, and conversations flowed. The number of cafeteria incidents that required immediate attention dropped from 28 incidents to 2 incidents. She concluded by stating that school gardens provided students with a purpose.

Chair Carlton asked whether there was anyone else in support of, in opposition to, or neutral on S.B. 458 (R1), and hearing no one, she closed the public comment on S.B. 458 (R1). The Chair noted that because this was an appropriations bill, the bill would move to the "parking lot."

Senate Bill 505 (1st Reprint): Makes an appropriation to the Office of Finance for an adjustment to school districts affected by the district of residence issue. (BDR S-1173)

Heidi Haartz, Deputy Superintendent, Business and Support Services, Department of Education (NDE), introduced Senate Bill (S.B.) 505 (1st Reprint). This bill made an appropriation of \$8,184,670 for an adjustment to school districts affected by the district of residence problem experienced during the 2019-2021 biennium.

Chair Carlton explained that this bill came from an incident during the interim where there was a misunderstanding about the district of residence. Ms. Haartz confirmed that the incident pertained to charter schools and affected Washoe County and Carson City.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any questions.

Assemblywoman Spiegel asked for more detail about the district of residence problem.

Ms. Haartz said that her understanding was that charter schools were funded based on the district of headquarters when the funding should have been determined by the students' district of residence.

Chair Carlton explained that the formula was developed based on the location of the headquarters when the children served were located throughout Nevada. The funding was not determined by the students, but by headquarters, and this adjustment corrected the funding formula.

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, clarified that the funding was \$8,184,670 as amended by the Senate. The original appropriation as included in The Executive Budget was \$8,600,000. Assemblyman Kramer noted that the calculation was performed by NDE for the state, and now it was recognized that there was error. He asked whether his statement was correct. Ms. Haartz said that Assemblyman Kramer was correct.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any other questions on S.B. 505 (R1), and hearing no other questions, she requested public comment and asked to hear from anyone in support of S.B. 505 (R1).

Lindsay Anderson, a paid lobbyist representing the Washoe County School District, spoke in support of S.B. 505 (R1).

Natha Anderson, a paid lobbyist representing the Nevada State Education Association, spoke in support of S.B. 505 (R1).

Mary Pierczynski, a paid lobbyist representing the Nevada Association of School Superintendents spoke in support of S.B. 505 (R1). Washoe County and Carson City were members of the Association, and she appreciated the correction in the bill.

Chair Carlton asked whether there was anyone else in support of, in opposition to, or neutral on S.B. 505 (R1), and hearing no responses, Chair Carlton closed public comment on S.B. 505 (R1). She noted that this was another bill that would move to the "parking lot."

Senate Bill 542: Extends the imposition of a technology fee on certain transactions by the Department of Motor Vehicles. (BDR 43-1210)

Julie Butler, Director, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), explained that Senate Bill (S.B.) 542 established the System Technology Application Redesign budget that extended a \$1 technology fee included in DMV transactions through June 30, 2022. The technology fee was needed to ensure a stable source of funding for the Department's information technology (IT) modernization project and to minimize use of State Highway Funds for this effort over the 2019-2021 biennium.

Chair Carlton stated that this was a current technology fee that was being extended through the completion of the modernization project. Ms. Butler confirmed the Chair's statement.

Chair Carlton requested public comment on S.B. 542 and asked to hear from those who were in support of the bill, in opposition to the bill, or neutral on the bill.

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that this was a budget implementation bill, and the System Technology Application Redesign budget was included in The Executive Budget. The revenue had been approved by Committee members already.

Hearing no further comments, Chair Carlton noted that there were no proposed amendments and closed the hearing on S.B. 542.

Senate Bill 545: Revises provisions governing the distribution of certain tax proceeds.
(BDR 32-1241)

Susan Brown, Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor, explained that Senate Bill (S.B.) 545 was a budget implementation bill that placed the retail marijuana tax in the Distributive School Account (DSA), a budget that was closed contingent on the passage of S.B. 545.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, the Chair requested public comment on S.B. 545.

Paul J. Moradkhan, a paid lobbyist and Vice President, Government Affairs, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, representing the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of the fiscal and policy shift in S.B. 545.

Hawah Ahmad, a paid lobbyist representing Silver State Government Relations and Scientists for Consumer Safety, spoke in support of S.B. 545.

Natha Anderson, a paid lobbyist, representing the Washoe Education Association and Nevada State Education Association, spoke in support of S.B. 545.

Hearing no other testimony in support of S.B. 545, Chair Carlton asked to hear from those in opposition to or neutral on the bill. Hearing no responses, the Chair closed the hearing on S.B. 545.

**Senate Bill 548: Makes an appropriation to the Millennium Scholarship Trust Fund.
(BDR S-1275)**

Susan Brown, Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor, explained that Senate Bill (S.B.) 548 was a State General Fund appropriation to the Millennium Scholarship Trust Fund. The bill continued the program for the 2019-2021 biennium with a \$33 million appropriation.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, the Chair requested public comment on S.B. 548.

J. Kyle Dalpe, a paid lobbyist and Interim Executive Director of Legislative Affairs, representing the Nevada System of Higher Education, spoke in support of S.B. 548.

Hearing no one else in support of S.B. 548, Chair Carlton asked for anyone in opposition to or neutral on the bill. Hearing no one, Chair Carlton closed the hearing on S.B. 548 and returned to Senate Bill (S.B.) 542.

Senate Bill 542: Extends the imposition of a technology fee on certain transactions by the Department of Motor Vehicles. (BDR 43-1210)

Chair Carlton explained that Senate Bill (S.B.) 542 removed the sunset date on a technology fee for Department of Motor Vehicles' transaction fees. The Chair asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, the Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON MOVED TO DO PASS
SENATE BILL (S.B.) 542.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SWANK SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Titus and Wheeler voted no.
Assemblyman Frierson was not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton said that she would present the floor statement for S.B. 542.

**Senate Bill 545: Revises provisions governing the distribution of certain tax proceeds.
(BDR 32-1241)**

Chair Carlton explained that Senate Bill (S.B.) 545 revised the provisions for distribution of the 10 percent excise marijuana tax. The Chair asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, the Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON MOVED TO DO PASS
SENATE BILL (S.B.) 545.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Frierson was not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton said that she would present the floor statement for S.B. 545.

Chair Carlton opened the meeting for public comments. Hearing no public comment, the Chair recessed the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

Chair Carlton reconvened the meeting at 11:12 a.m. and explained that three bills had been returned to Committee members for action.

**Assembly Bill 543: Makes various changes regarding state financial administration and makes appropriations for the support of the civil government of the State.
(BDR S-1280)**

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 543 made various changes regarding financial administration and made an appropriation for the support of the civil government of the state. State General Fund appropriations included in A.B. 543 totaled \$2.8 billion in fiscal year (FY) 2020 and \$2.9 billion in FY 2021, or \$5.7 billion over the 2019-2021 biennium. The bill, Ms. Jones noted, also included State Highway Fund appropriations of \$131 million in FY 2020 and \$133 million in FY 2021 and was a summary of all budget appropriations that were discussed during the 80th Session.

Chair Carlton asked for verification that this bill needed to sit on the Chief Clerk's desk for 24 hours before the bill could advance to the Senate, and Ms. Jones confirmed the Chair's understanding.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, the Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON MOVED TO DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL (A.B.) 543.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Frierson was not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton said that the floor statement for A.B. 543 would be divided and shared.

Assembly Bill 541: Authorizes and provides funding for certain projects of capital improvement. (BDR S-1282)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 541 authorized and funded certain projects in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). This bill appropriated \$60,842,548 from the State General Fund to the State Public Works Division for support of projects included in the CIP, and provided bond funding. The bonds were supported via a \$0.1575 property tax levy to fund debt service in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium which included \$0.0125 to be used exclusively for the purpose of repaying Q1 bonds issued in 2002. The bill, Ms. Jones summarized, included State General Fund and bond funding for CIP projects and authorized the property tax levy that supported the projects for the next four years.

Chair Carlton listed several projects including the South Reno Department of Motor Vehicles building, cemetery expansion in southern Nevada, columbarium expansion in northern Nevada, Marlette Lake projects, the Northern Nevada Veteran's Home, and maintenance efforts throughout the state. The bill functioned as a Nevada jobs bill that improved state infrastructure while providing employment for Nevadans. Given financial restrictions, the Chair acknowledged that the bill was not as extensive as she would like to have had but demonstrated priorities in a conservative manner that included inflation adjustments.

Ms. Jones stated that bond funding for the CIP was approximately \$191 million in General Obligation bonds. Other smaller projects, including the Lake Tahoe environmental improvement program (EIP), were funded within the \$0.17 total property tax levy. Chair Carlton stated that this bill required a two-thirds vote.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, the Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON MOVED TO DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL (A.B.) 541.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Frierson was not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton said that the floor statement for A.B. 541 would be divided and shared.

Assembly Bill 542: Provides for compensation of state employees. (BDR S-1283)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 542 established maximum allowable salaries for certain employees not in classified service, including employees of the Judicial Branch. The bill made appropriations from the State General Fund and the State Highway Fund for a 3 percent salary increase for employees in fiscal year (FY) 2020 that was included in The Executive Budget. The bill that would become effective on July 1, 2019, also authorized the Department of Health and Human Services to fund call-back pay for certain medical professionals and authorized the Gaming Control Board to continue its credential pay plan.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, the Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON MOVED TO DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL (A.B.) 542.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblyman Frierson was not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton opened the meeting for public comment. Hearing no public comment, the Chair recessed the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Chair Carlton reconvened the meeting at 4:33 p.m. and explained that Committee members would review the K-12 public education funding bill draft request (BDR) 34-1279. This bill would be designated as a Senate bill but would be reviewed by the Committee before Senate review.

Chair Carlton encouraged Committee members to ask questions during the presentation instead of holding questions until the end.

BDR 34-1279: Ensures sufficient funding for K-12 public education for the 2019-2021 biennium. (Later introduced as [Senate Bill 555](#).)

Adam Drost, Senior Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided an overview of the K-12 funding bill for the 2019-2021 biennium. Section 1 of the bill was a new section that provided total public support for school districts and charter schools at an estimated average of \$10,227 per pupil for fiscal year (FY) 2020. He noted that this amount included all state, federal, and local funding sources, excluding federal revenue provided directly to school districts.

In section 2, Mr. Drost explained that the total public support for FY 2021, comparable to section 1, was an estimated average of \$10,319 per pupil.

Mr. Drost noted that as stated in section 3, the basic support guarantee for school districts on a statewide basis for FY 2020 was an estimated weighted average of \$6,218 per pupil. This section also provided the estimated basic support guarantee for each school district.

Section 4, Mr. Drost continued, specified the basic support guarantee for school districts on a statewide basis for FY 2021 was an estimated weighted average of \$6,288 per pupil. This section also provided the estimated basic support guarantee for each school district. The estimates for FY 2021, he noted would be recalculated in FY 2021 based on updated property tax projections provided by the Department of Taxation.

Section 5, Mr. Drost stated, included the appropriation from the State General Fund to the Distributive School Account (DSA). That appropriation was \$1,166,677,713 in FY 2020 and \$1,162,939,824 in FY 2021, which represented the entire DSA and included several categorical programs such as class size reductions and special education funding.

Section 6 authorized DSA expenditures totaling \$495,451,456 in FY 2020 and \$508,259,870 in FY 2021 and included all non-State General Fund revenue in the DSA. Those amounts included the out-of-state local support school tax, a 10 percent retail tax on recreational marijuana, and room tax revenue.

Chair Carlton asked whether the \$1.17 billion State General Fund appropriation for the DSA in FY 2020 was in addition to amounts indicated in section 6. Mr. Drost said the amounts in section 6 were in addition to the State General Fund amounts in section 5.

Assemblyman Kramer noted that the \$10,227 per pupil average excluded money provided directly to a public school or school district by the federal government. He wondered whether the \$10,227 included matching state dollars for federal funds, or whether there was federal funds in that number. Chair Carlton explained that there were two sets of federal

funds, federal funds that flowed through the state and could be tracked and federal funds that were provided directly to schools and which could not be tracked by the state. Assemblyman Kramer noted that the funds he referred to were the funds that were provided directly to schools.

Mr. Drost explained that there were federal funds that flowed from the federal government to school districts that were not included in his chart. His chart included federal funds that flowed from the federal government through the Department of Education to school districts. Any direct federal grants awarded to school districts were not included in his charts.

Assemblywoman Neal asked whether the difference between the \$6,218 per pupil amount for basic support for school districts referenced in section 3 and the \$10,227 per pupil amount referenced in section 1 was federal funds. Mr. Drost explained that the \$6,218 per pupil amount was a guaranteed portion that included one-third property tax, the in-state local school support, and the state share of the basic guarantee. Additionally, the \$10,227 included local revenue not guaranteed by the state, categorical funding provided by the state, and federal grants that were provided through the state to school districts.

Section 9, Mr. Drost said, included the transfer from the DSA that funded pupils with disabilities, otherwise referred to as special education funding. For FY 2020, this amount was \$211,504,167 and for FY 2021, this amount was \$218,041,746.

Mr. Drost explained that section 10 provided transfers from the DSA for persons with disabilities and reflected funding provided to those students above the 13 percent enrollment for special education by school districts. That funding totaled \$1.5 million for each year of the 2019-2021 biennium.

Section 11 provided funding for special transportation costs, Mr. Drost stated. That amount in FY 2020 was \$142,555 and in FY 2021 that amount was \$145,650.

Section 12 provided funding for a national school lunch program state match requirement, Mr. Drost noted. In each year of the 2019-2021 biennium, that funding was \$588,732.

Assemblyman Kramer asked about the special transportation costs in section 11. He asked whether that transportation was for pupils with disabilities. Mr. Drost explained that this transportation was for Native American students to attend school in a district that was closest to the students' residences.

Assemblyman Kramer asked about the matching funds for the national school lunch program in section 12. Mr. Drost explained that the funding shown was state categorical funding; however, federal funding was provided to the Department of Agriculture and was not included.

Section 14, Mr. Drost said, was the start of a class-size reduction program that specified a standard ratio of 17 pupils to each licensed teacher in grades 1 and 2 and 20 pupils to each licensed teacher in grade 3.

Mr. Drost indicated that section 15 provided funding of \$161,650,216 in FY 2020 and section 16 provided funding of \$165,487,286 in FY 2021 for the class-size reduction program.

Mr. Drost stated that section 17 provided an alternative class-size reduction program that was available for smaller school districts, while section 18 provided the prioritization of class-size reduction funding.

Section 19, Mr. Drost continued, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$91,939,398 in FY 2020 and \$90,616,782 in FY 2021 to the Other State Education Programs Account. Also included in this section was a balance forward amount of \$1,200,000.

Chair Carlton asked whether funds appropriated from State General Funds were monies that flowed through the DSA or whether these were additional dollars. Mr. Drost clarified that this funding was in addition to the previous dollars and was a new budget with a separate appropriation.

Section 19, subsection 4, Mr. Drost stated, provided funding of \$19,260,398 in both fiscal years of the 2019-2021 biennium for courses associated with the adult standard high school diploma.

Section 19, subsection 7, paragraph (a), Mr. Drost said, provided \$49,285 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the National Board Certification Program. Paragraph (c) provided \$668,740 in both years of the 2019-2021 biennium for a 5 percent salary increment for Nationally Board Certified School Counselors and School Psychologists. Paragraph (e) provided \$13,543,822 in both years of the 2019-2021 biennium for career and technical education programs. Paragraph (f) provided \$5,106,546 in FY 2020 and \$4,201,645 in FY 2021 for the Jobs for America's Graduates program. Paragraph (k) included \$750,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the Nevada Institute on Teaching and Educator Preparation, and paragraph (l) provided \$500,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for transfers to the Clark County Public Education Foundation for educational leadership training programs.

Section 20, Mr. Drost noted, was a parallel section contingent upon approval of Assembly Bill (A.B.) 309.

Assemblyman Kramer noted that those sections were not included in the DSA, and asked which category those items would be included under. Mr. Drost explained that those items would be included under the state categorical funding and noted that another categorical, adult education, had been excluded.

Assemblywoman Neal asked whether these K-12 items were in addition to the DSA, and Chair Carlton stated that these items were in addition to the DSA.

Assemblywoman Neal referred to section 16, the class-size reduction effort. She noted that the section covered teacher salaries and asked whether the funding was only for those teachers in the class-size reduction program. Mr. Drost said that Assemblywoman Neal was correct, the funding was only for those teachers in the reduced class-size program.

Mr. Drost continued that section 21 provided funding of \$1,314,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for incentive grants to public high schools for college and career-ready high school diplomas. Section 22 provided \$8,274,243 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for gifted and talented education programs, and section 23 provided funding of \$5 million in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the college and career readiness grant program which supported dual enrollment, as well as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) grant programs.

Section 24, Mr. Drost explained, provided funding of \$2.5 million in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for an underperforming turnaround schools program. Section 25 provided funding of \$31,454,516 in FY 2020 and \$31,429,229 in FY 2021 for the Read by Grade 3 program. Subsection 2 of section 25 provided the eligible uses for that funding.

Section 26, Mr. Drost said, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$49,950,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the ZOOM program. Subsection 3 of section 26 provided the distribution of that funding between the Clark County School District and the Washoe County School District based on a count of English learner students. Subsection 4 required a recalculation based on updated counts. Subsection 5 provided funding of \$5,051,416 in FY 2020 to other school districts for English learner programs, an amount which would be recalculated for FY 2021 based on counts.

Section 27, Mr. Drost continued, provided a State General Fund appropriation of \$10 million in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the Nevada Ready 21 Technology competitive grant program for statewide one-to-one pupil technology devices. Section 28 provided State General Fund appropriations of \$21,768,829 in FY 2020 and \$23,824,084 in FY 2021 for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation for the Victory Schools Program. Mr. Drost noted that subsection 4 of section 28 authorized expenditures of \$3,231,171 in FY 2020 and \$1,175,916 in FY 2021 and were amounts that typically reflected interest earnings.

Section 29, Mr. Drost stated, included State General Fund appropriations of \$2.5 million in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to be used as financial incentives for newly hired teachers. According to subsection 3 of section 29, eligible teachers needed to be full-time teachers in schools that were Title I schools or underperforming schools. Eligible teachers also included full-time licensed special education teachers.

Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno asked whether section 29 only applied to newly hired teachers or whether teachers already hired into schools were eligible. Mr. Drost said that section 29 only applied to newly hired teachers.

Chair Carlton noted that existing teachers were not included in this bill. Newly hired and newly transferred teachers were included, but existing teachers were in a different bill.

Mr. Drost indicated that transfer teachers were addressed later in the bill.

Assemblywoman Neal referred to section 28, subsection 4 and asked for more detail on the interest earnings. Mr. Drost explained that subsection 4 was for non-State General Fund revenue and authorizations for expenditures. There would be a balance forward amount from FY 2019 into FY 2020, as well as interest earnings, and this subsection provided authority to expend revenue.

Section 30, Mr. Drost highlighted, provided a State General Fund appropriation of \$2.5 million to the Account for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation. This funding was for new teachers hired at Title I schools or at those schools designated as underperforming. Section 30, subsection 2 provided a State General Fund appropriation of \$2.5 million for teachers who transferred to Title I schools or a school designated as an underperforming school.

Mr. Drost explained that section 31 provided State General Fund appropriations of \$7,667,393 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the Professional Development Programs Account for regional professional development programs. Section 32 outlined how the bulk of the amounts appropriated in section 31 would be distributed between the three school districts that served as fiscal agents for the regional professional development programs.

Mr. Drost noted section 33 authorized transfers of \$100,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Statewide Council for the Coordination of Regional Training Programs that provided training opportunities for educational administrators in Nevada. Appropriations supporting these transfers were provided in section 31. He noted that section 34 was a parallel section that reflected funding if Senate Bill (S.B.) 314, related to financial literacy, passed.

Chair Carlton asked whether S.B. 314 was funded with a State General Fund appropriation, in addition to other dollars. Mr. Drost confirmed that section 34 was another increase.

Assemblywoman Neal referred to section 32, training dollars for teachers, and asked whether the training dollars for early literacy were in addition to other training dollars that had been discussed under other sections. Jaimarie Ortega, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, explained that those training dollars were separate and were specifically intended for the Regional Professional Development Programs.

Chair Carlton asked whether the training dollars for the Regional Professional Development Programs were funded with State General Fund and whether those training dollars were in addition to other training funds. Ms. Ortega confirmed that the funding was State General Fund dollars and that the funding was in addition to other funding.

Section 35, Mr. Drost continued, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$4,907,254 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the Great Teaching and Leading Fund that was used for professional development, professional teacher preparation, and leadership training. Section 35, subsection 5 authorized \$94,591 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for the Great Teaching and Leading Fund. This subsection was an authorization for expenditures from interest earnings.

Section 36 was a parallel section if Assembly Bill (A.B.) 309 passed, Mr. Drost said.

Section 37 provided State General Fund appropriations of \$1.3 million in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Professional Development Programs Account to be used for support of the peer assistance and review program. Subsection 2 of section 37 provided the guidelines for the use of the funding.

Chair Carlton asked whether funding for section 37 was in addition to other professional development funding because the other training did not include peer assistance and review. Mr. Drost said this funding was in addition to other funding.

Chair Carlton asked whether the peer assistance and review was for Clark County and Washoe County. Ms. Ortega verified that the peer assistance and review funding was specific to Clark County and Washoe County.

Julie Waller, Senior Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, clarified that in the 2017-2019 biennium, the peer assistance and review funding was appropriated at \$1.2 million for FY 2017 and \$1.3 million for FY 2018. There was an additional \$100,000 allocation in FY 2018 that was for rural counties to begin peer assistance and review programs. There was \$100,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium for rural counties, as well.

Section 38, Mr. Drost stated, was a parallel section if Assembly Bill (A.B.) 309 passed.

Section 39, subsection 1, according to Mr. Drost, included State General Fund appropriations of \$100 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Contingency Account for Special Education Services. Subsection 2 authorized expenditures of \$1,999,900 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium that reflected a balance forward amount also in the Contingency Account for Special Education Services. The \$2 million in each fiscal year was available for extraordinary special education services.

Section 40, Mr. Drost explained, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$1 million in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Grant Fund for Incentives for Licensed Educational Personnel to purchase 20 percent of one year of retirement service credit.

Section 41, Mr. Drost noted, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$45,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Bullying Prevention Account.

Section 42, Mr. Drost said, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$2,428,280 in FY 2020 and \$2,407,861 in FY 2021 to the Teach Nevada Scholarship Program Account. Subsection 3 authorized expenditures of \$4,889,311 in FY 2020 and \$5,514,311 in FY 2021, which reflected balance-forward amounts.

Section 43, Mr. Drost said, included State General Fund appropriations of \$16,603,728 in FY 2020 and of \$21,382,611 in FY 2021 to the School Safety Account. Subsection 2 specified that \$14,592,588 in FY 2020 and \$18,068,101 in FY 2021 would fund block grants for social workers or other licensed mental health workers in schools. Subsection 3 further defined the eligible workers. Subsection 6 specified that \$1.5 million in FY 2020 and \$3 million in FY 2021 was to be used to fund additional school resource officers or school police officers.

Assemblywoman Neal referred to section 43, subsection 7 and the separate accounting for funds. She wondered whether the public could look at the school district's website or the Department of Education's website to find the accounting. Mr. Drost said that per subsection 7, the school district was required to account for the funding separately, and in addition, the Department of Education would track and report the funding separately. The report could be found on the Department of Education website.

Section 44, Mr. Drost explained, provided a State General Fund appropriation of \$7.5 million to provide competitive grants to school districts and counties with populations less than 100,000 and charter schools for school safety facility improvements. He noted that this section would be effective upon passage and approval, so funding would begin in FY 2019 and would have expenditures through FY 2021.

Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno asked whether the school safety funding referred to in section 44 was available for all schools in Nevada or whether the school safety funding was additional funding for smaller school districts. Mr. Drost confirmed that the funding provided in section 44 was only for school districts with populations less than 100,000 and was specific to facility improvements in those districts and for all charter schools.

Section 45, Mr. Drost continued, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$69,937,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Account for the New Nevada Education Funding Plan, also known as Senate Bill (S.B.) 178 of the 79th Session (2017). Subsection 3 authorized expenditures of \$22,044 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium which reflected interest earnings.

Assemblywoman Neal asked whether the funding in section 45 was provided to schools, and Mr. Drost said that the increased funding was provided to schools for students in the lowest quartile.

Assemblywoman Neal stated that this funding for the lowest quartile, the ZOOM funding, the Victory funding, the turnaround funding, and the Read by Grade 3 funding were all intended to help students who were attempting to improve academic achievement. Mr. Drost confirmed Assemblywoman Neal's understanding.

Assemblyman Kramer asked whether all the funding sources mentioned were state categorical funds. Mr. Drost confirmed that the funding was all state categorical funds.

Section 46, Mr. Drost said, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$4,499,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Teachers' School Supplies Reimbursement Account. This funding reimbursed teachers for out-of-pocket expenditures. Mr. Drost noted that subsection 3 provided authorizations for expenditures of \$1,000 in each fiscal year.

Section 47, Mr. Drost said, authorized expenditures of \$187,177,000 in FY 2020 and \$190,585,000 in FY 2021 in the State Supplemental School Support Account. Mr. Drost noted that this authorization reflected room tax revenue. Subsection 2 provided the transfer of room tax revenue to the Distributive School Account (DSA) as a state revenue source through the 2019-2021 biennium.

Section 48, Mr. Drost explained, provided State General Fund appropriations of \$750,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 biennium to the Account for Instruction in Financial Literacy. He noted that subsections 2 and 3 would be used if Senate Bill (S.B.) 314 was passed.

To ensure that K-12 education was funded first in the state budget, funding for the Department of Taxation's Marijuana Regulation and Control Account was included in the K-12 funding bill. Subsection 1 of Section 49, Mr. Drost explained, provided authorization if Assembly Bill (A.B.) 533 was not enacted. This section provided authorization of expenditures for the Department of Taxation, Marijuana Regulation and Control Account, in the amount of \$55,574,846 in FY 2020 and \$57,242,070 in FY 2021. Subsection 2 included provisions if A.B. 533 was enacted. Subsection 3 allowed any balance from FY 2020 for the Department of Taxation's Marijuana Regulation and Control Account to be transferred to the Cannabis Compliance Board created in A.B. 533.

Chair Carlton asked for further detail differentiating section 49, subsection 2 from section 49, subsection 3. Mr. Drost explained the first year of the biennium would fall under the Department of Taxation and the second year of the biennium would fall under the Cannabis Compliance Board.

Chair Carlton asked whether section 49 intentionally aligned with an initiative that required a three-year time period before any changes could be made. Ms. Ortega explained that the effective date would be July 1, 2020, with a provision that the executive director and

necessary personnel could be hired for the transitional period. Section 49, subsection 3, allowed any remaining funds in the Department of Taxation's Marijuana Regulation and Control Account to roll over to the Cannabis Compliance Board.

Sections 50 and 51, Mr. Drost continued, were conforming changes related to the transfer of room tax revenue to the DSA as a state revenue source. Section 52 provided effective dates for the bill.

Chair Carlton stated that for FY 2020, the total support for school districts and charter schools was an average of \$10,227 per pupil. The Clark County support guarantee amount was \$6,067 per pupil, an increase of approximately \$300 per student. Adjustments approved by Committee members included \$120 million in marijuana monies for each year of the 2019-2021 biennium, inflation was added at \$11 million per year, and \$20 million was added for rebalancing each year. The basic support was \$6,033 per pupil, plus \$120 per pupil in marijuana funding, \$22 per pupil for inflation, and \$41 per pupil for the rebalancing based on growth at local levels. Those increases, after adjusting for rounding resulted in a per pupil amount of \$6,216 in the first year. Mr. Drost confirmed these amounts.

Chair Carlton asked Committee members to focus on whether the funding was a transfer from the DSA or additional State General Fund dollars. She believed that this focus had been lacking in previous discussions. She cautioned Committee members that those appropriations did not include prekindergarten and adult education amounts, but she wanted the record to reflect all the components that went into funding education in Nevada.

Assemblywoman Spiegel calculated that from FY 2019 to FY 2020 there was an increase in education spending from all sources of \$878 per pupil. When FY 2019 was compared to FY 2021, she calculated an increase in education spending from all sources of \$970 per pupil. Mr. Drost believed that her calculations were correct, and that was a fair comparison.

Assemblywoman Neal asked whether the federal funds in this budget were already committed to Nevada. Mr. Drost explained that the federal funds were projections in the Department of Education's budgets, identified as "direct aid to schools" that required legislative approval.

Assemblywoman Titus asked about the basis for estimates of federal awards. Mr. Drost noted that most of the grant amounts were stable grants that continued from year to year.

Assemblywoman Titus asked why there were no increases in federal grants from FY 2018 to the 2019-2021 biennium. Mr. Drost explained that the federal funding was Title funding as well as Individuals with Disabilities Act funding based on enrollment and population counts.

Assemblywoman Titus asked whether the SNAP program and funding for school meals was included in this bill. Mr. Drost said that the national school lunch program was not administered by the Department of Education.

Assemblyman Kramer asked about children who were eligible for more than one category, for example, English-learners who were developmentally disabled. He wondered whether that school would receive categorical funding for each category. Mr. Drost confirmed that schools received funding for each category that a student qualified under.

Chair Carlton noted that the average basic support per pupil for the second year of the current biennium [FY 2019] was \$5,967 and the second year of the 2019-2021 biennium [FY 2021], was \$6,288, a \$321 average increase per pupil.

Assemblywoman Titus asked whether every student would see an increase of that amount. Chair Carlton said that the \$321 increase was an average amount, that was then included in a formula. Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, explained that there were also local decisions that factored into the per pupil amounts, and not every school and every student received the same amount of basic support. Decisions at the local level were dependent on how resources were distributed between the schools and the students.

Assemblywoman Titus had been told that students who were eligible for more than one category of funding would receive the category with the highest rate. Ms. Jones stated that not all categories of funding would be stacked, but the allotments would depend on a combination of factors. Hearing no other questions on bill draft request (BDR) 34-1279, Chair Carlton requested the next bill presentation.

Assembly Bill 519: Makes appropriations to restore the balances in the Stale Claims Account and the Contingency Account. (BDR S-1240)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, explained that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 519 was heard on May 6, 2019, and was rescinded for adjustments to account for other legislative actions. The original request was for \$2.5 million to replenish the Stale Claims Account and \$16,253,908 to restore the balance in the Contingency Account. Several actions necessitated additional funds for the Contingency Account since then, including the Department of Corrections' medical costs. Fiscal Analysis Division staff recommended that the Stale Claims Account be increased from \$2.5 million to \$2.7 million, reflecting a four-year average of stale claims activity according to the Office of Finance, Office of the Governor. Restoration of the Contingency Account was adjusted to \$23,167,598, and when combined with the existing balance, the new total would be approximately \$25 million.

Additionally, Ms. Jones noted, the original request did not include a replenishment of the Statutory Claims Account. The Office of Finance, Office of the Governor, had requested additional funds for this account. Fiscal staff believed that there could be claims from those who were wrongly incarcerated as a result of approval of Assembly Bill (A.B.) 267. The adjusted amount for the Statutory Claims Account was \$12,133,919.

Chair Carlton asked Ms. Jones to present a summary of the different accounts included in this bill.

Ms. Jones said that the Stale Claims Account was established under the *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 353.097 to pay claims for a prior year that an agency could not absorb in its current budget. The Statutory Contingency Account was under the control of the Board of Examiners and allowed for certain types of claims caused by liability of the state. The Interim Finance Committee (IFC) Contingency Account was administered by the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance between legislative sessions for unexpected costs that state agencies funded with State General Funds might experience. In summary, there were three different accounts each with a specific use. Two of the accounts were under the oversight of the Board of Examiners and one was under the oversight of the IFC.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any questions.

Assemblyman Kramer recognized that there were three different contingency accounts, and he knew that the Stale Claims Account had increased from \$2.5 million to \$2.7 million. He asked for the total State General Fund contribution for the three accounts. Ms. Jones stated that the total amount was approximately \$38 million. The amounts for the Statutory Contingency Account and the IFC Contingency Account were higher than the historical amount because of additional actions taken by the Legislature during this session, including setting aside funds for prison medical costs, any potential wrongful conviction claims from A.B. 267, and for any potential claims from other items. These accounts allowed the Office of the Governor and IFC to handle matters during the interim without having to convene a special session for additional funding to resolve claims or liabilities.

Sarah Coffman, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that the total amount for the three accounts was \$38,001,517.

Ms. Jones explained that it was common for the IFC Contingency Account to have a balance between \$17 million and \$18 million, and the occurrence of several fires when funds were not available in the Fire Suppression Account had caused the account to be drawn down.

Hearing no other questions on A.B. 519, the Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON MOVED TO AMEND AND
DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 519.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TITUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Carlton asked Committee members for any discussion on the motion, and hearing no discussion, the Chair called for a vote.

THE BILL PASSED. (Assemblyman Frierson was not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton stated that she would present the floor statement for A.B. 519 with backup from Assemblyman Kramer if needed.

Chair Carlton recessed the meeting at 5:39 p.m., and the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Anne Bowen
Recording Secretary

Carmen M. Neveau
Transcribing Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

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