# MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

# Eightieth Session May 14, 2019

The Senate Committee on Growth and Infrastructure was called to order by Chair Yvanna D. Cancela at 2:31 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, in Room 2135 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. <a href="Exhibit A">Exhibit A</a> is the Agenda. <a href="Exhibit B">Exhibit B</a> is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Yvanna D. Cancela, Chair Senator Chris Brooks, Vice Chair Senator Moises Denis Senator Pat Spearman Senator Marcia Washington Senator Joseph P. Hardy Senator James A. Settelmeyer Senator Scott Hammond

# **GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Assembly District No. 1 Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel, Assembly District No. 20

# **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marjorie Paslov Thomas, Committee Policy Analyst Darcy Johnson, Committee Counsel Tammy Lubich, Committee Secretary

# OTHERS PRESENT:

Rose McKinney-James, Managing Principal, Energy Works, LLC Judy Stokey, Vice President, Government and Community Strategy, NV Energy Leonard B. Jackson, Reverend, Director, Faith Organizing Alliance; RenewNV Victor Rivera, Chispa Nevada

Jerry Holliday, President, Uplift Foundation of Nevada

Danny Thompson, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 1245 and 396

Rusty McAllister, Nevada State AFL-CIO

Kyle Davis, Nevada Conservation League

Aleta Dupree

Donna Samatulski, Indivisible OWLS, Las Vegas

Robert Johnston, Senior Staff Attorney, Western Resource Advocates

Cassandra Rivas, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club

Annette Magnus, Executive Director, Battle Born Progress

Jennifer Taylor, Deputy Director, Intergovernmental Relations, Office of Energy,
Office of the Governor

Rafael Arroyo, Registration Services Association of Nevada

Tonya Laney, CPM, Administrator, Field Services Division, Department of Motor Vehicles

Andy MacKay, Executive Director, Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association Sarah Marks, Automotive Business Services Inc.

Maggie O'Flaherty, Tow Operators of Northern Nevada

#### CHAIR CANCELA:

We will open the hearing on Assembly Bill (A.B.) 465.

ASSEMBLY BILL 465 (1st Reprint): Establishes provisions relating to solar energy. (BDR 58-872)

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DANIELE MONROE-MORENO (Assembly District No. 1):

Assembly Bill 465 provides for implementation of a solar access program by certain electric utilities. The concept of this bill is not new to the Nevada Legislature. Senate Bill No. 392 of the 79th Session, which allowed for community solar gardens, was passed by the Legislature but vetoed by former Governor Brian Sandoval. Community solar is once again being considered by the Legislature because we believe in the importance of allowing more Nevadans to take advantage of solar energy. Community solar programs allow those who would not typically be able to invest in distributive generation (DG), such as renters, condo owners and those with insignificant financial means, to participate in a DG program.

In his veto message, former Governor Sandoval noted that it was not the intent of S.B. No. 392 of the 79th Session that caused concern nor the idea of

community solar gardens. His concern was with the timing and framework of S.B. No. 392 of the 79th Session. He wrote that passage of S.B. No. 392 of the 79th Session could disrupt Nevada's energy market at a time when those markets faced uncertainty due to the possibility of voters approving State Question No. 3 of the 2018 general election, the "Energy Choice Initiative." However, the voters overwhelmingly opposed State Question No. 3.

Throughout the Interim, Legislators, stakeholders and members appointed to the Governor's Committee on Energy Choice (CEC) reviewed other community solar garden programs and considered how to best implement such a system in Nevada. I was not a member of the CEC. The CEC recommended and encouraged the Legislature to revisit the topic of community solar gardens during the 2019 Legislative Session.

Assembly Bill 465 is not a typical community solar bill. Assembly Bill 465 is an expanded solar access program which provides for a method to address many of the goals of traditional community solar. The proposed program meets these goals by providing opportunities for low-income residents, disadvantaged businesses and those residing in multifamily and rental properties to gain access to the benefits of solar energy.

Assembly Bill 465 was crafted with input from many stakeholders and concerned citizens. While I have learned a lot about this subject matter, I do not in any way claim to be an expert. There have been a number of revisions, deletions, rewrites and redrafts of this legislation to get to the final bill you see before you. I have also submitted a proposed amendment (Exhibit C).

<u>Assembly Bill 465</u> requires an electric utility to offer an expanded solar access program to residential customers and certain nonresidential customers who consume less than 10,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month.

The bill instructs the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) to adopt regulations establishing standards for the expanded solar access program. The bill requires the PUCN to review an electric utility's plan for implementing the program and issue an order approving the plan within 210 days if certain requirements are met. These requirements are listed in section 1, subsection 2 of the bill. The definitions of "community-based solar resource," "utility scale solar resource" and other terms are established in section 1, subsection 6 of the bill.

ROSE MCKINNEY-JAMES (Managing Principal, Energy Works, LLC):

I am here in support of  $\underline{A.B.}$  465. We have worked with a broad range of stakeholders to try to arrive at a measure that expands access to solar beyond what we have had in the past.

This body has worked over many years to advance a suite of policies that support our vast renewable resources. We started in 1995 with an initial effort to provide a focus on indigenous resources and make them a priority for economic development in this State. We moved to our first renewable portfolio standard (RPS) in 1997. The RPS was expanded in 2001, expanded and revised in 2005 and 2007, and increased in 2009. The process has been both incremental and targeted. It has given decision makers an opportunity to test and measure the effectiveness of these revisions.

I led and worked with the proponents of each of the previous measures. For 24 years, Nevada has focused on policies designed to leverage our considerable resources. Large-scale systems have been constructed in special zones which are designed to maximize resources on federal land. Resources have been distributed to dot rooftops all over the State. We have seen the cost of solar technology decline and become competitive with traditional resources. Through these collective efforts, we have established a new industry, created thousands of jobs and provided access to solar to thousands of residents. In 2017, the Legislature approved a measure which was designed to provide greater access to solar. That measure was vetoed by former Governor Sandoval.

Millions of dollars of commerce have been created as a result of the State's efforts to capture and maximize solar resources. We have not been able to provide these benefits to all of our citizens. This measure will provide a creative path to partially achieving that goal.

NV Energy has frequently asked for the opportunity to be included in efforts to meet the goal of providing the benefits of solar to every citizen. We appreciate the fact that NV Energy has been an active participant in the stakeholder discussions to craft the concept which serves as the basis for <u>A.B. 465</u> and in developing the language of the measure. The bill targets those people who have not yet been provided an opportunity to fully participate in the benefits of solar resources. The bill allows the PUCN to convene stakeholder meetings and conduct rulemaking sessions to structure the expanded solar access program.

It is important that in a public setting we focus on the wide and broad benefits this measure will provide. Section 1, subsection 2, paragraph (c) of the bill contains the language to allow the community to participate in the siting of the community-based resources. Section 1, subsection 2, paragraph (d) of the bill provides for solar workforce programs. This is innovative. This morning, *The Nevada Independent* carried an article focused on <u>A.B. 465</u>. Unfortunately, the article did not focus on the workforce component.

We will have the benefit of working with the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) on the workforce development portion of the bill. Under Dr. Tiffany Tyler, the leadership team at DETR has demonstrated unique and creative approaches to workforce development. Our library system also has a program that focuses on providing solar tech certification. The economic development component of the bill will allow us to leverage many resources that we already have in the State.

This is not a traditional community solar bill. Some people are disappointed that it is not a traditional community solar bill. This bill makes additional, incremental steps toward advancing resources and focusing on an aspect of our community which has continued to pay into the programs without receiving full benefits from them.

I am grateful to the sponsor and to NV Energy for their willingness to step up. I am grateful for all those who have worked to craft the proposed amendment, <a href="Exhibit C">Exhibit C</a>. We are committed to working with the Legislature to make this a successful program. Rate design has specific nuances, but we have been working with the PUCN. The PUCN is prepared to work through those issues.

JUDY STOKEY (Vice President, Government and Community Strategy, NV Energy): I am here in support of A.B. 465.

Before you is a comprehensive bill that has had a lot of hard work put into it to get it to where it is today. This expanded solar access program will benefit all customers. The program allows people to be able to participate who have not been able to participate in any of our solar programs in the past. This is especially true for our low-income residents, who will also see some kind of discount on their bill. As with all of our customers, these low-income residents have been paying into the program rate that we have been collecting for all of

our renewable programs but without the opportunity to participate in the programs. This bill will give them that opportunity.

Since the inception of the renewable energy programs, we have built over 26,000 residential projects, over 300 school projects, over 60 low-income and nonprofit projects, and over 350 public projects.

## SENATOR HARDY:

How many people would be serviced by a 240,000 megawatt-hour (MWh) facility project?

## Ms. STOKEY:

We could see over 40,000 participants if the project was fully subscribed. With the size of this program, we anticipate 240,000 MWh for one utility and another 160,000 MWh for the other.

### SENATOR HARDY:

Is that 40,000 participants in one project or in little projects everywhere?

#### Ms. Stokey:

We can make this affordable by continuing to build large-scale solar projects that were approved by the PUCN at the end of last year and then adding the smaller solar projects in the communities. The smaller projects are more expensive, but we can combine the two and get a blended rate. We can offer a lower rate for low-income residents, and everyone helps pay for the program. It also depends on how many people sign up for this program. We will have to do some educational outreach. We have a large project that will offset a portion of the costs for the smaller projects within the community.

## SENATOR HARDY:

Will the smaller projects be subsidized by a larger project?

Ms. STOKEY:

Yes.

# SENATOR HARDY:

How many people will the smaller projects provide power to?

## Ms. STOKEY:

If the program reaches full subscription, the total number of residents served could be over 40,000.

# SENATOR HARDY:

But that would not be per little project.

Ms. STOKEY:

No.

# SENATOR HARDY:

How many people would be served by each little project?

## Ms. STOKEY:

It depends on the size of the project within the community and the size of the land available for development. We would like to look at some brownfield sites. It also depends on if we have to purchase the land or if local governments are willing to offer land for this purpose. The size of what we can build will determine the expense of the project and how many people it can serve.

## SENATOR HARDY:

This will not be a "robbing Peter to pay for Paul's little project" situation? The big project will subsidize the little projects, instead of big companies subsidizing the little projects.

#### Ms. Stokey:

We could not make this program affordable to the residents if we did not include the large-scale project.

## SENATOR HARDY:

How many megawatts (MW) is that big project going to produce?

# Ms. STOKEY:

In order to reach the 400,000 MWh called for in the bill, the big project would need to be approximately 100 MW.

## SENATOR HARDY:

Where is the project going to be located?

## Ms. STOKEY:

We have been approved to build projects producing 1,001 MWh Statewide. Three projects will be located in southern Nevada, and three will be in northern Nevada. Part of one of those projects will help us fund this program.

## **SENATOR BROOKS:**

Page 3, lines 40 through 42 of Proposed Amendment 5822, <u>Exhibit C</u>, state that an eligible customer will have to submit "a statement which satisfies the requirements established by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (p) that they cannot install solar resources on their premises." Requirements based on this statute are going to have to be created through rulemaking from the PUCN. Do you have an idea of what those requirements would be? What would be the parameters for a customer to quality for this program?

# Ms. McKinney-James:

Representatives from the PUCN helped craft this language. As far as specifying the criteria, the PUCN will look to use criteria similar to that which is already established for similar situations. The PUCN wants to curate and craft policies that make sense, without specifying language in <u>A.B. 465</u>. We want to require documentation for anyone coming forward to claim he or she does not have access to solar resources. That is why we have the language. The PUCN wants this language in order to give it the ability to establish criteria to ensure some form of enforcement.

# **SENATOR BROOKS:**

I appreciate all of the hard work that went into this effort to expand access and address workforce development and community involvement while still protecting the nonparticipating ratepayers. It is a fine balance to not take from one ratepayer while giving to the other ratepayer. It is a conversation we constantly have when we talk about anything distributed. This looks like it strikes a good balance.

LEONARD B. JACKSON, REVEREND (Director, Faith Organizing Alliance; RenewNV): I will read my written testimony ( $\underbrace{\text{Exhibit D}}$ ) in support of  $\underbrace{\text{A.B. 465}}$ . I have submitted to the Committee a letter of support signed by our clean energy coalition partners ( $\underbrace{\text{Exhibit E}}$ ). In the letter, we have included the names of thousands of supporters who signed pledge cards with our organizations to ask for expanded solar access. In addition to the 4,790 written pledges we have collected since March, we have spoken with another 3,490 supporters by

telephone. In a matter of weeks we have identified 8,280 clean energy advocates throughout Nevada who support this legislation.

VICTOR RIVERA (Chispa Nevada):

I will read my written testimony (Exhibit F) in support of A.B. 465.

JERRY HOLLIDAY (President, Uplift Foundation of Nevada):

We are a local 501(c)(3) charitable organization working extensively with youth and families who are typically disenfranchised and lower income. We support A.B. 465. We believe this bill will provide an opportunity for those who have the most need and who will benefit most from expanded solar access.

I was alarmed by an article which indicated that CO2 levels in the atmosphere had reached an all-time high on May 12, 2019. This bill, along with other measures that the Legislature is considering and which have passed, will be a step toward addressing those environmental issues. These bills will benefit our community and help the next generation. Millennials will not have to struggle with the mess we might be leaving them.

DANNY THOMPSON (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 1245 and 396):

We support <u>A.B. 465</u>. This is an opportunity for all residents of Nevada and customers of NV Energy to participate in solar energy. It will create jobs and will be good for the environment.

RUSTY McAllister (Nevada State AFL-CIO):

We support A.B. 465. We believe it provides a great opportunity for job creation, workforce development and apprenticeship programs. A provision in the bill mandates that at least 50 percent of the workforce used to build the projects must come from Nevada. That is a great thing for creating Nevada jobs. This is a great program, a great start. It moves us closer to a 50 percent renewable energy portfolio.

KYLE DAVIS (Nevada Conservation League):

We support A.B. 465. We appreciate the earlier discussions of the nuances between the various policy options to expand access to solar and give more Nevadans access to our clean energy economy. This bill is not traditional community solar, but it is a step forward, especially for low-income ratepayers. This bill will result in additional solar resources built in the communities served

by the utility and offers opportunities for members of the community to participate in the construction of these projects. We look forward to working with Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno and this Committee as we implement A.B. 465 and continue to find ways to expand solar opportunities to all parts of our State.

### **ALETA DUPREE:**

I support A.B. 465. I am an individual consumer of electricity. I rent a two-bedroom apartment with a roommate. I have never had property, never had a garage and never had a rooftop that I control. There is equity in this bill. I want to be able to participate in the stable pricing and other aforementioned benefits of clean energy. I am willing to be first in line to sign up for this program. This is a good start. Everybody should be able to participate in renewable energy because the sun's rays fall on everyone without regard for who they are. I ask that you pass this bill so that we all can have our chance to participate in renewable energy.

# DONNA SAMATULSKI (Indivisible OWLS, Las Vegas):

Solar is abundant in the State. It is Nevada's most valuable natural resource; it is free to us, shining every day. All Nevadans live and thrive under these solar rays, and we all should reap the benefits that solar power provides. Every rooftop in Nevada should be producing power savings to every Nevadan who uses power. I myself am proud to have solar panels on my residential rooftop. I love producing my own power. I love the savings which producing my own power provides. Please support A.B. 465 so all Nevadans can share the benefits of the sun every day of our lives.

ROBERT JOHNSTON (Senior Staff Attorney, Western Resource Advocates): We support <u>A.B. 465</u>. As summarized by Ms. McKinney-James, this is another step in the right direction. It continues a long history of this Legislature, supporting smart, intelligent policies that will move us toward clean energy.

Cassandra Rivas (Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club):
I will read my written testimony (Exhibit G) in support of A.B. 465.

ANNETTE MAGNUS (Executive Director, Battle Born Progress):

We are here in support of our community partners, from whom you have already heard. We are here to represent the more than 20,000 subscribers to our Battle Born Progress network Statewide. We are here in support of

A.B. 465. The components of this bill that we care about most are ensuring a lower rate for low-income communities and creating meaningful workforce development. This bill is on the right track to help ensure that benefits of solar power and clean energy are not just a privilege for families who can afford it but instead are available for more Nevadans.

## CHAIR CANCELA:

We have received two letters in opposition to <u>A.B. 465</u>. One letter comes from Jeff Cramer of the Coalition for Community Solar Access (<u>Exhibit H</u>). The other letter comes from Sara Birmingham of the Solar Energy Industries Association (<u>Exhibit I</u>).

JENNIFER TAYLOR (Deputy Director, Intergovernmental Relations, Office of Energy, Office of the Governor):

I will read my written testimony (<u>Exhibit J</u>). The Governor's Office of Energy is officially neutral on <u>A.B. 465</u>. We appreciate the creation of new solar resources and workforce development programs.

# ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO:

I am so excited about what A.B. 465 will do in our communities. I look forward to working with the PUCN as it receives the plan from NV Energy. If needed, the PUCN has the opportunity to make any modifications that are reasonable to enhance the plan it receives. I look forward to the 25 percent of "the capacity of the program" which is guaranteed to go to low-income families. I look forward to providing access to solar resources to disadvantaged businesses and to renters and other people who have not had the opportunity to take advantage of solar.

# CHAIR CANCELA:

I will close the hearing on A.B. 465 and open the hearing on A.B. 288.

ASSEMBLY BILL 288 (1st Reprint): Makes various changes relating to motor vehicles. (BDR 43-938)

ASSEMBLYWOMAN ELLEN B. SPIEGEL (Assembly District No. 20):

Under federal law, ballots must be printed in languages other than English when there is a large enough concentration of people who speak a foreign language. In Clark County, this means that ballots must be printed in English, Spanish and

Tagalog. In Washoe County, ballots must be printed in English and Spanish. In all other counties, ballots are only printed in English.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) provides services, including some voter registration services, to many people who speak languages other than English in Washoe and Clark Counties. There should be at least one employee in each DMV office in Clark and Washoe Counties who can speak the language in which ballots are provided in that county. These foreign language services should be provided in any other county which gets large enough to need ballots in a language other than English. These employees can fulfill services for people who come in and do not speak English. Section 1 of <u>A.B. 288</u> requires the DMV to have staff members who are able to provide services to certain non-English-speaking Nevadans.

Rafael Arroyo will present the conceptual amendment (<u>Exhibit K</u>) which affects the rest of the bill. The amendment, <u>Exhibit K</u>, reflects the hard work of Mr. Arroyo, the Registration Services Association of Nevada, the Franchised Auto Dealers, the tow truck drivers, leadership from the DMV and the Secretary of State's Office.

RAFAEL ARROYO (Registration Services Association of Nevada):

The amendment to A.B. 288 is about DMV third-party registration services (TPRS). We are licensed document preparers under *Nevada Revised Statutes* 240A, which includes a fingerprint background check and a \$50,000 bond. We register vehicles for people who do not want to go to the DMV or who do not have the time.

A customer will drop off his or her paperwork to us. We will review the paperwork and take it to the DMV. The DMV processes a transaction, then we give the completed transaction back to the customer. In the past, this transaction was completed at a window designated for businesses like ours. The purpose of the amendment is to get back to the DMV's TPRS policy, which was changed about one year ago. The amendment has been agreed to by all parties.

Assembly Bill 288 will put into statute the previous DMV policy for TPRS and car dealerships which use these windows. The bill will require each office in a county with a population of 50,000 or more to have 1 window to help with TPRS and car dealers. This would apply to the Reno and Carson City areas. The

bill will require each DMV office in a county with a population of 700,000 or more to have 2 windows to help TPRS and dealerships. This would apply to the Clark County area.

I will read further comments from my written testimony (Exhibit L).

### SENATOR HARDY:

A fiscal note from the DMV of \$2 million to \$4 million was attached to the bill. You must have found a way to remove it.

# ASSEMBLYWOMAN SPIEGEL:

Yes, the fiscal note was removed during the Assembly hearing when we agreed to take out most of what was in the original bill.

# SENATOR HARDY:

You are basically going back to the way TPRS transactions were handled before the DMV took the dedicated window away. Did the DMV actually save money when it took the window away, or did we do something different that allows us to say we are not going to need that much money?

## ASSEMBLYWOMAN SPIEGEL:

The DMV changed its policies and procedures in March 2018. As a result of the new processes, a number of third-party registration services encountered hardships. Our constituents were not getting served by the people who they wanted to use for these services. We have collaborated on a work-around that should work for everyone. This fix has been done in a way that will not have a fiscal impact on the State.

## SENATOR HARDY:

As I understand it, there are going to be fewer cars parked at the DMV because you folks are going to take care of the paperwork for your customers. If I choose to use your service, I have an option not go to the DMV. I do not have to buy a new car just to have somebody take my license down.

## Mr. Arroyo:

We would hope to be able to help you with your transactions.

## SENATOR SETTEL MEYER:

This issue came up to the Legislative Commission when something was changed in the Interim which caused this issue to occur. Are you just trying to go back to how things were before? Did Clark County have two dedicated windows in the past, or was it only one?

## Mr. Arroyo:

In the north part of the State, there was one window per office and in the south there were two. The policy was changed to one window in the south and none in the north. Third-party registration service companies were only dropping services off, they did not receive dedicated attention. This agreed-upon amendment will put things back to the way they were before.

## SENATOR SETTELMEYER:

Another question that came up during the Legislative Commission discussion was the limitation on the number of transactions a person would be able to do at a dedicated window. Is that no longer applicable, or does this measure resolve that issue? The Legislative Commission discussed possibly limiting this to ten transactions before an agent had to get out of the line and let someone else go. Would this allow someone to come in and do 100 transactions at once?

## Mr. Arroyo:

Rules were established by the DMV for each of the windows in the south. We agree to go back to those same rules. There are some limitations for certain windows, and there are time restrictions. We agreed with the DMV to go back to the original system.

## SENATOR SPEARMAN:

When you purchase a car, they ask if you want to register it or if you want them to register it. This sounds similar. Instead of having to buy a car for somebody else to register it, a customer can just use your service.

## Mr. Arroyo:

Some dealerships offer this service for new vehicle purchases, which is why the dealerships were involved in the discussion about the bill. Other smaller dealers and members of the general public come to services like ours for help with those types of transactions. We can help people who are renewing their registrations.

## ASSEMBLYWOMAN SPIEGEL:

For one reason or another, some Nevadans do not wish to go to a DMV office or are unable to use online services. We have a large unbanked population which cannot use an internet nor pay with a credit card, because they do not have a credit card. Some people with Driver Authorization Cards are not comfortable going into a government building; they can use TPRS to renew their car registrations, be insured and be compliant with our laws.

## SENATOR SPEARMAN:

Use of TPRS is not out of the ordinary; it is mainstream.

## SENATOR WASHINGTON:

I have had firsthand experience with the DMV in Las Vegas. The lines are ridiculous at each branch I have gone to. I totally agree with this business concept for anyone who does not want to be bothered by those lines. I have had to register cars at the DMV since I turned 18; it has never seemed like there are enough employees to help the customer base. Maybe you can address why it is such a long, drawn out process at each DMV location. Even when you make an appointment, you still go through a lot of trials and tribulations.

TONYA LANEY, CPM (Administrator, Field Services Division, Department of Motor Vehicles):

We have transitioned to a new queuing system which has expanded the number of appointments we can handle each day. In our Las Vegas office, we are now as high as 800 appointments available per day, whereas the old system that we used up until December only had a max capacity of 500 appointments.

Most customers do not have to come to the DMV for new vehicle purchases. We need to do better at educating the community about online registration for most new vehicle purchases. Some customers choose to have personalized plates or use certain other services that require an in-person office visit, but we continue to expand our online services so customers do not have to come in.

In most cases, registration renewals can be done online or through a kiosk, DMV partner or TPRS. A lot of issues can be improved by informing the public of what they can do online without coming to the DMV, so that we can more quickly serve the customers who do have to come to the DMV.

## **SENATOR DENIS:**

I appreciate all the automation efforts taken by the DMV. I hope the DMV kiosks do not go away. Are there bad actors in the TPRS industry?

## Mr. Arroyo:

Yes, there have been incidents of TPRS people treating others improperly. Our businesses are regulated by the Nevada Secretary of State. We are supposed to follow the rules and regulations as a document preparer and provide our customers with correct information. We need some help with enforcement of these business practices. The industry is also going to take an active step in trying to educate the public on good business practices that they should experience when using a TPRS. The public should be looking for certain things such as the TPRS document preparation license, a contract that clearly states what the person is signing up and paying for, and the turnaround time in which the TPRS will complete the transaction.

## **SENATOR DENIS:**

Sometimes, things change because of issues that arise. It is usually the bad actors who make everyone else have to do things differently. I appreciate anything you can do to educate the public and figure out ways to get rid of the bad actors.

ANDY MACKAY (Executive Director, Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association):

We support A.B. 288, primarily because this is going to bring back the windows our members utilize to conduct bulk transactions on behalf of customers. Bringing back the previous system is going to help our operations. To Senator Hardy's earlier point, hopefully, this will result in higher automobile sales because it is an additional service that can be made available to our customers.

# SARAH MARKS (Automotive Business Services Inc.):

I am part of the Nevada Registration Services Association. Mr. Arroyo and I have worked hard to professionalize our group of business owners, many of whom are disadvantaged or women. We are a valid and vital resource for members of our community who choose not to follow the current process of going to DMV. These clients seek us out. We have tried to provide an organized system for our Association members and to help get everybody on the same

page. We help our members do the right thing and follow the directives given by the DMV.

In an age where you can have everything from diapers to pizza delivered to your door in 24 hours or less, mobile DMV services and the ability to help a consumer are a reality. We are not going away. We need this bill to create a clear understanding by all parties involved of how we are to operate in order to help the consumer. I hope the Committee will understand how important this bill is. We have lost several businesses since this program was changed in 2018. These businesses could not survive without proper access and the help of the DMV. Putting the regulation back to where it was allows us to continue to exist and to get better.

To Senator Washington's comment about the long lines, the system is getting better, despite many challenges to the computer system. That is where we come in. We try to help when consumers get frustrated. We take calls from frustrated DMV customers at our own cost to help take care of the issues and give consumers a better experience with their car purchases. The thrill of buying new cars is often deflated when customers realize they have to go to the DMV. When dealers offer a registration service, whether it is through a TPRS or their own staff, that happy momentum is continued. We are asking for these regulations to be put into law so they cannot be changed on us again.

MAGGIE O'FLAHERTY (Tow Operators of Northern Nevada):

Section 76 of the bill is deleted in the proposed amendment that was discussed in the presentation. This deletion means the bill no longer affects tow operators, which brings us to the neutral position.

We want to reiterate that residents of an apartment complex have a 60-day grace period before they can be towed because of an expired registration. Even in the case of a tow because of an expired registration, the owner would be given a 48-hour notice before the vehicle is actually removed from the property.

## CHAIR CANCELA:

We will close the hearing on  $\underline{A.B.}$  288. We will open the work session for A.B. 23.

ASSEMBLY BILL 23 (1st Reprint): Authorizes Department of Motor Vehicles to adopt regulations relating to certain electronically controlled vehicles and transportation devices. (BDR 43-365)

MARJORIE PASLOV THOMAS (Committee Policy Analyst):
I will read the summary of the bill from the work session document (Exhibit M).

SENATOR HARDY MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 23.

SENATOR SPEARMAN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Senate Committee on Growth and Infrastructure May 14, 2019 Page 19	e			
CHAIR CANCELA: Seeing no public comment, the meeting is adjourned at 3:35 p.m.				
	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:			
	Steven Jamieson, Committee Secretary			
APPROVED BY:				
	_			
Senator Yvanna D. Cancela, Chair				
DATE:				

EXHIBIT SUMMARY				
Bill	Exhibit / # of pages		Witness / Entity	Description
	Α	1		Agenda
	В	5		Attendance Roster
A.B. 465	С	15	Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno	Proposed Amendment 5822
A.B. 465	D	1	Leonard B. Jackson / Faith Organizing Alliance; Renew NV	Written Testimony
A.B. 465	Е	73	Leonard B. Jackson / RenewNV	Letter of Support
A.B. 465	F	1	Victor Rivera / Chispa Nevada	Written Testimony
A.B. 465	G	1	Casandra Rivas / Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club	Written Testimony
A.B. 465	Н	3	Senator Yvanna Cancela	Letter in opposition from Jeff Cramer of the Coalition for Community Solar Access
A.B. 465	ı	1	Senator Yvanna Cancela	Letter in opposition from Sara Birmingham of the Solar Energy Industries Association
A.B. 465	J	1	Jennifer Taylor / Office of Energy, Office of the Governor	Written Testimony
A.B. 288	K	1	Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel	Proposed Amendment
A.B. 288	L	1	Rafael Arroyo / Registration Services Association of Nevada	Written Testimony
A.B. 23	М	1	Marjorie Paslov Thomas	Work Session Document