

**MINUTES OF THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Eightieth Session  
May 6, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections was called to order by Chair James Ohrenschall at 3:10 p.m. on Monday, May 6, 2019, in Room 2144 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. [Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda. [Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator James Ohrenschall, Chair  
Senator Marcia Washington  
Senator Heidi Seevers Gansert

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Yvanna D. Cancela, Vice Chair (Excused)  
Senator Keith F. Pickard (Excused)

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

Senator Moises Denis, Senatorial District No. 2  
Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel, Assembly District No. 20

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Michael Stewart, Committee Policy Analyst  
Kevin Powers, Committee Counsel  
Diane Rea, Committee Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Meredith Smith, Director of Policy, Nevada Succeeds  
Alex Bybee, Senior Director of Development and Community Relations, Teach  
Plus  
Carlos Fernandez, Policy Analyst, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

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Chris Daly, Deputy Executive Director of Government Relations, Nevada State  
Education Association

Javier Trujillo, City of Henderson

Paul Moradkhan, Vice President, Government Affairs, Las Vegas Metro Chamber  
of Commerce

Matthew Tramp

Chair Ohrenschall opened the hearing on Senate Bill (S.B.) 99

**SENATE BILL 99 (1st Reprint)**: Creates an advisory committee to study certain  
issues relating to the profession of teaching. (BDR S-389)

Senator Moises Denis, Senatorial District No. 2, said he is presenting  
S.B. 99 which creates the Advisory Committee on the Creation of a Career  
Pathway for Teachers. He read his testimony ([Exhibit C](#)).

Meredith Smith, Director of Policy, Nevada Succeeds, read her testimony  
([Exhibit D](#)). Additionally, she read section 3.5, subsection 1, paragraphs  
(a) through (e) and subsection 2, paragraphs (a) through (d). Ms. Smith included  
a proposed technical amendment to S.B. 99 ([Exhibit E](#)).

Alex Bybee, Senior Director of Development and Community Relations, Teach  
Plus, read remarks from five Teaching Policy Fellows ([Exhibit F](#)) and included full  
statements from three teachers ([Exhibit G](#), [Exhibit H](#) and [Exhibit I](#)).

Senator Gansert said thank you for bringing this forward. She had met with one  
of the Fellows. She said the Committee needs to see what else can be done to  
advance Nevada's educational system and create different career paths that will  
be beneficial for teachers.

Senator Denis said the three-year study by the National Conference of State  
Legislators looked at the issues, and in the Interim, the Legislative Committee  
on Education focused on how to improve them. Not all teachers want to be  
administrators but have a lot to offer. Other countries have alternative pathways  
for teachers.

Carlos Fernandez, Policy Analyst, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce,  
testified in support of S.B. 99, saying the Chamber supports developing a study  
committee with subject matter to help address teacher retention and the new

pipelines. The shortage of teachers in the State of Nevada affects workforce development and businesses from choosing Nevada as the place to do business. The Chamber sees S.B. 99 as a good step forward to addressing these issues.

Chris Daly, Deputy Executive Director of Government Relations, Nevada State Education Association, read his testimony in opposition ([Exhibit J](#)).

Chair Ohrenschall closed the hearing on S.B. 99.

Chair Ohrenschall opened the hearing on Assembly Bill (A.B.) 282.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 282 (1st Reprint)**: Revises the Charter of the City of Henderson. (BDR 24-939)

Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel, Assembly District No. 20, read her testimony ([Exhibit K](#)). She made reference to the hearing on A.B. 50 and provided a proposed amendment to the Henderson City Charter ([Exhibit L](#)).

**ASSEMBLY BILL 50 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions governing the dates for certain city elections. (BDR 24-473)

Chair Ohrenschall asked if this passes, how soon voters will only vote for the candidates in their ward rather than the whole city.

Assemblywoman Spiegel said she would double-check, but if the voters approve A.B. 282, it will become affective with the next municipal election ballot. There is a question about when that will happen. Assembly Bill 50, which is the Secretary of State's bill, would move the municipal elections from the spring to the November ballot.

Javier Trujillo, City of Henderson, spoke in support of the bill as amended in the first House. Henderson's Council supports the ballot question going to the voters.

Paul Moradkham, Vice President, Government Affairs, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, stated the Metro Chamber is also in support of A.B. 282. It is important for this to go to the residents of Henderson.

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Matthew Tramp of Las Vegas spoke in support of A.B. 282. He said as a Las Vegas resident, he only votes for his council member, ward and the Clark County School District. He does not get to vote for all six members. Clark County residents only vote for the commissioners in their district, not for all seven members. He said an urban city the size of Henderson should go to ward-only voting.

Chair Ohrenschall closed the hearing on A.B. 282.

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Chair Ohrenschall adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Diane Rea,  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Senator James Ohrenschall, Chair

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

<b>EXHIBIT SUMMARY</b>				
<b>Bill</b>	<b>Exhibit / # of pages</b>		<b>Witness / Entity</b>	<b>Description</b>
	A	1		Agenda
	B	4		Attendance Roster
S.B. 99	C	4	Senator Moises Denis	Written Testimony
S.B. 99	D	3	Meredith Smith / Nevada Succeeds	Written Testimony in Favor
S.B. 99	E	1	Meredith Smith / Nevada Succeeds	Proposed Technical Amendment
S.B. 99	F	3	Alex Bybee / Teach Plus	Teachers Voices in Support
S.B. 99	G	1	Emily Bassier / Equipo Academy	Written Testimony in Favor
S.B. 99	H	1	Daniel Liles / Teaching Policy Fellow	Written Testimony in Favor
S.B. 99	I	3	Richard Knoeppel / Advanced Technologies Academy	Written Testimony in Favor
S.B. 99	J	1	Chris Daly / Nevada State Education Association	Written Testimony in Opposition
A.B. 282	K	3	Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel	Written Testimony
A.B. 282	L	1	Henderson City Council Committee	Proposed Amendment