

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

**Eighty-Second Session
May 16, 2023**

The Committee on Ways and Means was called to order by Chair Daniele Monroe-Moreno at 8:28 a.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, in Room 3137 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4406 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/82nd2023.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Chair
Assemblywoman Natha C. Anderson
Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May
Assemblywoman Jill Dickman
Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow
Assemblyman Gregory T. Hafen II
Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui
Assemblywoman Heidi Kasama
Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller
Assemblyman P.K. O'Neill
Assemblywoman Sarah Peters
Assemblyman Howard Watts
Assemblyman Steve Yeager

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Assemblywoman Shea Backus, Vice Chair

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

None



STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Coffman, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Brody Leiser, Assembly Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Anne Bowen, Committee Secretary
Janet Osalvo, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amy Stephenson, Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor
Chrystn Eads, Chief of Staff, The National Judicial College
Justin Robinson, IT Manager, Aging and Disability Services Division, Department of Health and Human Services
Felicia Denney, Assistant Director, Administration, Department of Transportation
Brandi Salisbury, Bureau Chief, State Fire Marshal Division, Department of Public Safety
Christopher P. DeRicco, Chairman, State Board of Parole Commissioners
Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

[Roll was taken and Committee rules and protocol were explained.]

Assembly Bill 498: Revises provisions relating to the Public Employees' Retirement System. (BDR 23-1200)

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

If you are here for Assembly Bill 498, we will be hearing that bill on another date. We will let you know as soon as we are able to hear that bill if you are joining us and would like to make public comment. Public comment will be at the end of today's meeting. We will open today's agenda with Assembly Bill 475.

Assembly Bill 475: Makes appropriations to the Department of Administration for certain activities and technology requirements of the National Judicial College and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. (BDR S-1148)

Amy Stephenson, Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor:

Assembly Bill 475 appropriates \$100,000 to the Department of Administration for education, technical assistance, research, and policy development. It also appropriates \$400,000 for the purchase of audiovisual equipment, hybrid teaching equipment and video capture, and editing technology by the National Judicial College.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Thank you so much for the presentation. Any questions regarding A.B. 475?

Assemblywoman Peters:

I am looking at section 3, which I do not think you went over, and I see \$87,000 for a two-day meeting. Can you break down that cost for us? It feels like quite a bit for a two-day meeting. How many people are expected to go, and what else is that for?

Amy Stephenson:

I am presenting for the Department of Administration, and they did not give me that breakout, but I will get that answer for you before I leave this room.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any other questions regarding this bill? [There were none.] We will move to testimony in support. If there is anyone here to testify in support of Assembly Bill 475, I invite you to step up to the table.

Chrystn Eads, Chief of Staff, The National Judicial College:

I want to thank you for considering this bill. Our building was built 40 years ago. We have a newer part that was built 20 years ago. It was not created in a time when we thought everyone would bring their laptops to the classrooms. Especially since COVID-19, a lot of new advancements in instructional design and technology have happened that we need to implement so we can continue to bring the judges here to Reno.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Is there anyone else who would like to testify in support of A.B. 475? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in opposition? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in neutral? [There was no one.]

We will close the hearing on A.B. 475 and open the hearing on Assembly Bill 476.

Assembly Bill 476: Makes appropriations to and authorizes the expenditure of money by the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services for the replacement or purchase of computer hardware and associated software and door locks. (BDR S-1182)

Justin Robinson, IT Manager, Aging and Disability Services Division, Department of Health and Human Services:

I am here to present Assembly Bill 476 to fund one-shot appropriations for various computer hardware, software, and door lock systems. As introduced, section 1 provides a total of \$350,265 for the administrative budget to fund the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 2 provides \$238,481 for the administrative budget to install electronic door locks in various Aging and Disability Services Division buildings. Section 3 provides \$49,704 for the Rural Regional Center budget to fund replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 4 provides \$2,117 for the Consumer Health Assistance budget to fund the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 5 provides \$292,146 for Early Intervention Services to fund the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 6 provides \$68,996 for the Autism

Treatment Assistance Program to fund the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 7 provides a total of \$423,787 for Home- and Community-Based Services to fund the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 8 provides \$218,635 for the Desert Regional Center to fund the replacement of a door lock system. Section 9 provides a total of \$443,682 for the Desert Regional Center to fund the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 10 provides \$131,715 for the Sierra Regional Center to fund the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. Section 11 states, any remaining balance of the appropriations made by sections 1 to 10 inclusive of this act must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2025. Section 12 states this act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Is there anyone who would like to testify in support of A.B. 476? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in opposition? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in neutral? [There was no one.]

We will close the hearing on A.B. 476, and we will open the hearing on Assembly Bill 477.

Assembly Bill 477: Makes appropriations to and authorizes the expenditure of money by the Department of Transportation for the replacement of the Nevada Shared Radio System. (BDR S-1168)

Felicia Denney, Assistant Director, Administration, Department of Transportation:

Assembly Bill 477 appropriates \$6,858,109 in State General Funds, \$22,059,063 in State Highway Funds, and authorizes \$823,272 in fee transfers to continue replacing the Nevada Shared Radio System. Any appropriations not spent during the biennium will be reverted to the appropriate fund at the end of the biennium. That concludes my overview of the bill.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions for our presenter? [There were none.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in support of A.B. 477? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in opposition? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in neutral? [There was no one.]

We will close the hearing on A.B. 477 and open the hearing on Assembly Bill 478.

Assembly Bill 478: Makes an appropriation to the State Emergency Response Commission for the replacement of computer hardware and associated software. (BDR S-1166)

Brandi Salisbury, Bureau Chief, State Fire Marshal Division, Department of Public Safety:

I am here to present Assembly Bill 478. It is for the one-shot appropriations to the State Emergency Response Commission for one replacement computer and associated software in the amount of \$2,014.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions on this appropriation request? [There were none.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in support of A.B. 478? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in opposition? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in neutral? [There was no one.]

We will close the hearing on A.B. 478 and open the hearing on Assembly Bill 479.

Assembly Bill 479: Makes appropriations to the State Board of Parole Commissioners for the replacement of computer hardware, software and related equipment and licenses to upgrade a computer operating system. (BDR S-1158)

Christopher P. DeRicco, Chairman, State Board of Parole Commissioners:

Assembly Bill 479 is an act appropriating a total of \$112,464 from the State General Fund to the State Board of Parole Commissioners for the replacement of computer hardware, software, network equipment, and licenses, in accordance with the Division of Enterprise Information Technology Services replacement schedule. There are no amendments to the bill, and we are happy to address any questions you may have.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions for the presenter on this appropriation request? [There were none.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in support of A.B. 479? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in opposition? [There was no one.] Is there anyone who would like to testify in neutral? [There was no one.]

We will close the hearing for A.B. 479 and open the hearing for Assembly Bill 480.

Assembly Bill 480: Makes an appropriation to the Interim Finance Committee to allocate to certain state agencies to implement language access plans. (BDR S-1155)

Amy Stephenson, Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor:

Thank you for the opportunity to present Assembly Bill 480. This bill appropriates \$25 million to agencies of the Executive Branch for the implementation of language access plans required pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* 232.0081. There is one amendment to this bill; the Governor's Office would like to appropriate the funds to special appropriations instead of the Interim Finance Committee for approval at the State Board of Examiners.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Thank you so much for the presentation. I do not have the amendment yet, but could you tell us why you are recommending to change where the funding would be placed?

Amy Stephenson:

The change is to allow flexibility for the agencies, because the State Board of Examiners meets monthly instead of quarterly, so they can implement those language access plans.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

How soon do you think you would have that amendment to us?

Amy Stephenson:

When I get to my office after I leave here.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions on this bill? [There were none.] Thank you for the presentation and we will move to testimony in support of Assembly Bill 480. Is there anyone who would like to testify in support of Assembly Bill 480?

Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities:

I am testifying in support of A.B. 480. Currently, in the world, there are over 7,100 languages. It is critical for life that all members of this community can receive information and services in their native language. For many individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, this includes languages beyond English, and includes American Sign Language, braille, large print, and audio. Currently, nearly one billion people or 15 percent of the world's population has some form of disability, and one in four adults live with a disability that impacts their cognition, hearing, and/or vision. Language access allows for equal access to documents, products, services, and support that meet the needs of all people, especially those with disabilities. Language access reduces barriers to accessing information and protects people from harm and connects people with varying languages and communication styles. By allotting funds for state agencies to address these language access plans, you are directly impacting the state's plan to connect all of its residents.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Is there anyone who would like to testify in opposition to A.B. 480? [There was no one.] Is there anyone wishing to testify in neutral? [There was no one.]

We will close the hearing on Assembly Bill 480.

I believe we have an answer to a question that was asked earlier.

Amy Stephenson, Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor:

Thank you for the opportunity to answer the question on Assembly Bill 475. The \$87,000 was requested for a one-time allocation to host the two-day conference. It is not for individual travel—it is to host the conference.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

I will open the meeting for public comment. [There was none.]

Meeting adjourned [at 8:52 a.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Anne Bowen
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

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