

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
AND THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**Eighty-Second Session
April 13, 2023**

The joint meeting of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Chair Daniele Monroe-Moreno at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023, in Room 4100 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 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.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Chair
Assemblywoman Shea Backus, Vice 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 Steve Yeager

SENATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair
Senator Nicole J. Cannizzaro, Vice Chair
Senator Pete Goicoechea
Senator Dallas Harris
Senator Dina Neal
Senator Rochelle T. Nguyen
Senator Heidi Seevers Gansert
Senator Robin L. Titus



COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Assemblyman Howard Watts (excused)

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Coffman, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Wayne Thorley, Senate Fiscal Analyst
Brody Leiser, Assembly Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Cathy Crocket, Senate Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Colby Nichols, Program Analyst
Anne Bowen, Committee Secretary
Janet Osalvo, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ben Kieckhefer, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
Daniel Marlow, Administrator, Administrative Services Division, Department of
Administration
Lori Hoover, Chief Deputy Treasurer, Office of the State Treasurer
Zach Conine, State Treasurer

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

[Roll was taken and the Committees' rules and protocol were explained.] We have budget closings today from the Office of the Governor and from the Office of the State Treasurer. We will begin with the Office of the Governor, budget account 1000.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (101-1000)

BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-9

Cathy Crocket, Senate Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

There are four Governor's Office budgets to close today. The first budget is the Office of the Governor. This budget begins on page 3 of your closing document [[Exhibit C](#)]. There are two Major Closing Issues in this budget.

The first Major Closing Issue relates to new positions. The Governor recommends General Funds of \$2.7 million over the biennium to add five new nonclassified positions and associated operating and travel costs for the Office of the Governor. The recommended

annual salary of each new position is \$200,000. *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 281.123 provides that the annual salary of state employees must not exceed 95 percent of the salary of the Governor unless authorized by specific statute. Pursuant to NRS 223.050, the Governor's salary is currently \$170,062 in each year of the biennium. Therefore, the annual salaries of state employees should not exceed \$161,559 per year under current law. To allow for the recommended salary levels in the upcoming biennium, a bill has been submitted to repeal the provisions governing the salary cap. During the budget hearing, the Office of the Governor testified that it has historically been understaffed and underfunded, and additional staff would assist the Governor with managing and overseeing state agencies and allow senior staff to focus on strategic planning. The new positions would be cabinet-level Secretaries who would provide administrative oversight for state agencies and provide an intermediary layer between senior staff of the Office and state agency staff, with the goal of improving the operations of state government.

Currently, state agencies contact staff in the Office for guidance and issue resolution, and staff in the Office currently spend the majority of their time addressing urgent issues that arise in state agencies. The new positions, according to the agency, would allow senior staff to dedicate more time to working on the Governor's strategic priorities and to be more responsive in serving the people of the state.

The Office testified that each proposed Secretary position would have oversight responsibility for a programmatic area of state government. Senate Bill 431, among numerous other provisions, repeals NRS 281.123—that is the statutory salary cap—and requires the Governor to appoint five Secretary positions to serve as members of the Governor's cabinet including a Secretary of Public Safety and Military Affairs; a Secretary of Commerce and Administration; a Secretary of Energy, Environment and Public Works; a Secretary of Health and Human Services; and a Secretary of Education and Workforce.

On page 9 of the closing packet [\[Exhibit C\]](#), Fiscal Analysis Division staff has provided an attachment that describes the various entities. As an example, the Secretary of Public Safety and Military Affairs would oversee the Department of Corrections, the Department of Sentencing Policy, the Department of Public Safety, the Office of the Military, Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission, and would serve as liaison between the Judicial Department and the Office of the Attorney General, as well as overseeing various related boards and commissions. Pursuant to NRS 223.085, the Governor is permitted to determine the number and salaries of those individuals employed, within the limits of money available for that purpose. Therefore, although legislation would be required to allow for the recommended \$200,000 annual salary, statutory changes would not be necessary to authorize the addition of the Secretary positions for the Office.

When asked how the recommended \$200,000 annual salary was determined to be appropriate, the Office indicated the positions were envisioned to be at the top of the Executive Branch of state government with commensurate salary. The Committees

requested a comparison between the recommended salary and the salaries of similar positions in other states. In response, the Office indicated that a valid comparison could not reasonably be made due to differences in governmental structure.

Regarding additional costs related to administrative support, no additional support was requested at this time, but the Governor's Office indicated that support may likely be requested in the future after ongoing operational needs are evaluated.

When asked for the rationale of repealing NRS 281.123 to allow for salaries that exceed 95 percent of the Governor's salary, the Office indicated the repeal was thought not only to enable the recommended salary of the Secretary positions, but to address statewide salary issues resulting from the existing salary cap. The Office indicated the cap can create issues with recruitment and retention due to compression of salaries at all levels of government. Fiscal staff would also note that the cost of living adjustments recommended by the Governor would result in the salaries of some state employees, besides these positions, exceeding the cap. Therefore, changes to NRS 281.123 would be necessary if the Committees choose to approve the cost of living adjustments as recommended by the Governor.

Regardless of the approval of the Secretary positions at the recommended salary level, there is a table on page 5 [\[Exhibit C\]](#), that displays the breakdown of costs in this decision unit, including salaries and fringe benefits, in-state travel, operating, equipment, and information services. As an option for the Committees, if you do not wish to approve funding as recommended by the Governor for the five nonclassified Secretary positions at \$200,000 per year, you could also consider approving funding for five positions at a different annual salary, or a different number of positions at a salary of the Committees' choice.

The decision for the Committees is to:

- A. Approve General Funds of \$2.7 million over the upcoming biennium to provide funding for five new nonclassified Secretary positions based on an annual salary of \$200,000 and associated operating and travel costs contingent upon the passage and approval of legislation to repeal NRS 281.123.
- B. Approve General Funds of some other amount for a number of positions at an annual salary of the Committees' choice and associated operating and travel costs.
- C. Do not approve funding for the new nonclassified positions for the Office of the Governor.

Senator Seevers Gansert:

I recognize that the funds that have been recommended are substantial, but having served in the Governor's Office, the staff is all nonclassified. Basically, they get a bucket of money, and then it is up to them to decide how they are going to use it. I know it is very difficult for a Governor to ask for more money—no one ever wants to do that—and this is a

reorganization of that Office. What I can tell you is that the bucket of funds that has been available in the past, and has continued to be available, is extremely short. That is the Office that must operate and oversee the entire Executive Branch. We have an \$11 billion budget, and we have a staff of 11 people who are at the top, overseeing everything—it is very difficult. I know every member here understands that we have a difficult time hiring anyone, so think of that level of employee, and the fact that we just do not pay enough. We do not compete with the private sector. It is difficult to hire people because you do not have enough money. It is difficult because you do not have enough people. I am talking about the very highest levels; we used to pay people who were worth \$100,000 a year, \$50,000 a year, and they did it because they wanted to work for the Governor. But they can only do that for so long, and what you find is a lot of turnover.

I know this is a substantial amount of money, and I am very hopeful these Committees consider the amounts that have been provided, or some portion of that, because there are too few folks in the Governor's Office who are able to help manage, and it is very difficult to hire the high-level personnel who are required to do a great job. Also, folks need to understand that the Governor's Office not only runs the Executive Branch, but every emergency that happens. If there is a wildfire, they have to deal with it. If there is an incident or natural disaster anywhere in the state, it stretches the staff to respond to urgent events that affect the citizens of the state, while also trying to run the Executive Branch. I am very hopeful that this body will consider funding these positions, or a portion thereof, because of those reasons.

Assemblywoman Kasama:

I just wish to second my colleague's comments and note this is for the long term—it is for the future and for the long-term outlook for our state. I would say this is an opportunity for the Governor's Office to be successful in their endeavors and in representing the state.

Assemblywoman Backus:

I understand they are currently well staffed in the Governor's Office, and a lot of us do this work because it is public service. I have always struggled with adding this large sum of money, but right now, I understand that there is a bill pending because we also have some statutory cap issues as well as other issues that must be addressed. In light of those pending bills, I would recommend that we hold off until those bills are fully vetted and heard. With that, I would make the motion to not approve the funding at this time for the new nonclassified positions for the Office of the Governor.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

I have a motion from Assemblywoman Backus and a second from Senator Dondero Loop. Is there any discussion on the motion?

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO NOT APPROVE FUNDING
FOR NEW NONCLASSIFIED POSITIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF THE
GOVERNOR.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Senator Neal:

I have deep respect for some people who serve in the Governor's Cabinet, but it is hard for me to allow someone to make more money than the Governor makes. I feel because he is the one who is elected, and although they serve him, there is a reason, statutorily, that we put that in law. There was a purpose for maintaining this statute in law, and I support continuing the maintenance of that statute. I feel we all serve and take cuts by putting ourselves on the line to do this work for the state. What comes first is service of others, not of self, and you have to figure out how to manage by doing with less because that is what we do in the Legislature. We leave our families and get on a super savings plan to figure out how to maintain ourselves for 120 days in this building. And none of that is done without paying—without sacrifice—it is because we want to serve our constituencies. We work not just for the 120 days, but yearlong; we move into our communities to establish and position ourselves, and we are constantly on the phone. When we are out of this building, we get paid nothing to do that work, and it is because we committed ourselves to serve a group of individuals above and beyond our own needs. We put our egos to the side to serve those constituencies and that is why I support option C.

Senator Seevers Gansert:

I will not be supporting this motion for the reasons that I mentioned earlier. When I worked in the Office of the Governor, it was 24/7 with very few people. You need highly qualified people to work 24/7 for 365 days a year, making it a very difficult Office to work for. I think the other way to do that is to raise the Governor's salary. We can always consider what we pay our constitutional officers, which we all recognize is not what they could earn in the private sector. I am not going to go on about that because we have heard from staff and from others that we need to bump up the pay. I know that we are all going to be looking at that in the future. Again, I am not going to support the motion because I think we should be taking some steps forward. It takes a lot of courage for a Governor to ask for more resources because no one who is elected ever wants to do that. And the last thing I will say is, I want to thank everyone on these Committees and all the legislators because I know you make tremendous sacrifices of your time. It affects your personal finances, and it affects your families, especially for those who travel to Carson City, and I am grateful to have you as colleagues and appreciate all of you.

[The Committees recessed at 8:33 a.m. and reconvened at 8:40 a.m.]

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

We have had a conversation on this budget item. Hearing both sides, and knowing that there is a bill that will discuss the policy and the merits of that policy, Senate Bill 431, which is right now in the Committee on Government Affairs on the Senate side, I support the motion that was made by Assemblywoman Backus for Option C. We will hold off to hear what happens in that bill hearing. The motion was seconded by Senator Dondero Loop. All in favor of the motion, please say aye. All opposed, please raise your hand.

THE MOTION CARRIED ON THE ASSEMBLY SIDE AND FAILED ON THE SENATE SIDE. (ASSEMBLYMEN DICKMAN, HAFEN, KASAMA, AND O'NEILL, AND SENATORS GOICOECHEA, SEEVERS GANSERT, AND TITUS VOTED NO. SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Senator Cannizzaro:

I agree there are some additional discussions to be had with respect to Senate Bill 431 that we have in our Committee on Government Affairs, regarding cabinet Secretaries and what those duties may be. I know we have had that discussion at length, given that we have a lot of department heads and maybe some of those are overlapping, and what else the Governor's Office may need. I think there should be and will be, a more robust discussion about those particular positions within the policy bill. However, for today, I would make a motion for the Senate Committee on Finance to approve option B, General Funds of another specified amount for a number of positions at an annual salary of the Committees' choice and associated operating and travel costs. Within those parameters, I would make a motion to allocate \$600,000 in each year of the biennium for a total of \$1.2 million. As we have discussed and heard this morning, that money could then be allocated for certain positions within the Governor's Office. I think that would give us the ability to not only have the policy discussion about what might be best, but also to have some of that money set aside for those purposes.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO MOVED TO APPROVE GENERAL FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$600,000 IN EACH YEAR OF THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM FOR A TOTAL OF \$1.2 MILLION TO BE ALLOCATED FOR ANNUAL SALARIES AND ASSOCIATED OPERATING AND TRAVEL COSTS FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions or comments on this motion?

Assemblywoman Backus:

One thing I struggle with is the bucket of money and with the more than \$2 million recommended by the Governor for nonclassified positions. There is no stopping the Governor from hiring just two people and paying them each \$300,000, if we lift the statutory cap. I echo Senator Neal's comments—these are public positions. Anyone would jump to have those jobs in the Governor's Office, and I get nervous with these being nonclassified positions with this amount of money and the unlimited expense of it.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Before we go to the vote, this will just be a Senate vote.

Senator Seevers Gansert:

I appreciate that the Senate is recommending putting somebody into the Governor's Office. I think it is needed. Because the staff is so thin, I have no concerns about what they are going to spend per employee and having somebody that has an exorbitant salary, because it just does not work that way. But I can understand that question, and I want to thank the Senators for supporting some money for the Governor's Office at this time. I will be supporting the motion.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS WAS ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Cathy Crocket:

The next Major Closing Issue in this budget is salary adjustments for existing positions. This is on page 6 of the closing packet [\[Exhibit C\]](#). The Governor recommends General Funds of \$315,000 in each year of the biennium to support salary adjustments for staff in the Office of the Governor. During the budget hearing, the Office did not provide further information describing how the recommended funding would be applied and indicated adjustments to the decision unit would likely be needed. Fiscal Analysis Division staff worked with the Governor's Office, and it was determined that funding to achieve the salary adjustments sought by the Governor would total \$315,031, including General Funds of \$286,105, and Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$28,926 in fiscal year (FY) 2024, and \$314,168 including General Funds of \$285,246 and Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$28,922 in FY 2025. The funding would be applied to achieve a net salary increase of \$254,547 per year with the remainder of the funding supporting fringe benefit changes. Salaries would increase for 15 positions, decrease for 8 positions, and remain unchanged for 4 positions, including the Governor, in comparison to the base budget salaries.

Page 15 of the closing packet [\[Exhibit C\]](#) displays the salary adjustments recommended by the Governor. The table is broken down into General Fund positions and Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funded positions. There are five Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funded positions in the budget approved by the Interim Finance Committee that are recommended to continue in the upcoming biennium. The table displays the position title; the base budget salary, which is reflective of salaries in the base budget that is a carryover from the prior

administration and does not necessarily reflect what individuals are being paid at this time; the proposed salary for the upcoming biennium; the salary change; and the percentage change. Fiscal Analysis Division staff would note that some individuals are currently being paid at the proposed salary level amount. If the Committees wish to approve this decision unit, Fiscal staff recommends technical adjustments to align funding with the previously discussed amounts.

Do the Committees wish to approve funding for salary adjustments for nonclassified staff in the Office of the Governor inclusive of technical adjustments, funded with \$315,031, including General Funds of \$286,105 and Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$28,926 in FY 2024 and \$314,168, including General Funds of \$285,246 and Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$28,922 in FY 2025? Fiscal staff requests authority for technical adjustments relating to closing actions for the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds item.

Assemblywoman Jauregui:

I have some questions regarding the adjustments that were recommended. I know that we did not get to see during the previous hearing how some of the adjustments were going to work, and I know this could be fluid, and they might change. I am not sure if someone can help answer my questions about the adjustments recommended by the Governor's Office for the salary positions.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

We have someone from the Governor's Office here in the room.

Assemblywoman Jauregui:

I am going over the salary adjustments that are to be made, and I need you to walk me through how you got here, because as I am looking at them, and there are some positions that are receiving a significant increase, percentage-wise. Some salaries are going up by over 130 percent and some of them are going down by over 30 percent. Why, for example, is the southern Nevada Director receiving a 139 percent increase to their salary, but then we are decreasing the salary of the person in Constituent Services by almost 35 percent?

Ben Kieckhefer, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor:

A lot of this was built out based on salaries that were offered as an entire new staff of the Governor's Office was constructed. As we did that, we evaluated who was coming in, their previous experience and what their salary need was going to be to accept the job. The positions that are identified are not always commensurate one administration to the next, and the job duties of those positions are not always the same. It is really not an apples-to-apples comparison.

Assemblywoman Jauregui:

I know that the adjustments are done by your Office, and I understand what the adjustments are. For example, a Constituent Services position had a base budget salary of \$70,766 and

the new proposed salary is \$54,998. What is that position currently being paid as of today? When you were taking salary requirements into consideration, did you already offer \$54,998 and that is why you are bringing it down, or are they currently making \$70,766 and you are going to slash their salary by 22 percent?

Ben Kieckhefer:

The budgeted positions that were submitted were commensurate with what people are currently being paid. There was adequate budget authority to fund these positions for the current fiscal year, so that is what they were funded at currently. The adjustment that is included in this enhancement keeps everybody flat from this fiscal year to the next fiscal year.

Assemblywoman Jauregui:

There is \$64,000 being recommended for a vacant position, but that does not necessarily mean that you are going to fill that position. You could take that \$64,000 and then distribute it across the already existing positions, correct?

Ben Kieckhefer:

I think that would be true with any position in the Governor's Office that becomes vacant. As you know, they are all nonclassified positions, and within the confines of the existing salary structures of the state, the Governor can staff his Office as he sees fit. There is no fixed number of positions that are required to be filled within the Governor's Office.

Assemblywoman Backus:

I understand that the proposed salaries are the actual salaries that are now being paid for each of these positions. I also know the Governor has made a recommendation for cost of living adjustments (COLAs) of 10 percent, 8 percent, and 4 percent. Is it anticipated that these positions would also fall into that category where they would also receive the COLA during the biennium?

Ben Kieckhefer:

As long as it does not take anybody above the salary cap, unless that salary cap is lifted, in which case it would be yes.

Assemblywoman Backus:

In the Governor's Office, raises on average, would be 22 percent for the next biennium. All other state employees will only be getting 10 percent, 8 percent, and 4 percent increases if we do not do any other pay increases—is that correct?

Ben Kieckhefer:

Any COLA adjustment would be uniform across state government based on actual salaries for what people are currently being paid. We had several positions that were carried over from the prior administration, but most of these positions are new and were brought in at this

level. It is not an adjustment beyond the standard COLA that would be offered across state government.

Assemblywoman Backus:

If additional monies for the Governor's Office were allocated, would any of that money be utilized for these existing positions?

Ben Kieckhefer:

If you are speaking about the previous item that was discussed, no, the enhancement recommendation that was previously discussed is related specifically to the build-out of capacity within the Governor's Office. It would not be my intent as Chief of Staff for the administration to use it to increase salaries for existing positions.

Assemblywoman Backus:

I appreciate that.

Assemblyman Yeager:

I do not have questions, but just want to indicate that I am supportive of this decision. I think we have talked a lot about state employees and about being competitive, and we have tried to do right by that. Obviously, that includes folks who work for the Governor, which all of us know is a tough job. It is a really tough job. I do not envy the position that you are in Mr. Kieckhefer. There is a lot to manage over there, and it is not just you, it is everyone on this list. I think it is important, not just for our current Governor, but for Governors who will be in office long after we leave these chairs to be able to hire good people who are there for the right reasons, but who can also afford to do those jobs. For that reason, Madam Chair, I would certainly be supportive, and would move to approve this item.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any other questions or comments? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN YEAGER MOVED TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR NONCLASSIFIED STAFF IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, INCLUSIVE OF TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS, FUNDED WITH \$315,031, INCLUDING GENERAL FUNDS OF \$286,105 AND CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS OF \$28,926 IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, AND \$314,168, INCLUDING GENERAL FUNDS OF \$285,246 AND CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS OF \$28,922 IN FISCAL YEAR 2025, AND AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS RELATED TO CLOSING ACTIONS FOR CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions or comments on the motion? [There were none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND
ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Cathy Crocket:

The next item relates to Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds on page 7 [[Exhibit C](#)]. As previously discussed, funding for five positions was approved by the Interim Finance Committee and is recommended to continue in the upcoming biennium along with some database maintenance costs. Technical adjustments to slightly reduce operating costs were identified. As the Committees have already considered the salary adjustments in the previous decision unit, the amounts in the following decision are excluding these amounts.

Do the Committees wish to approve Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds of \$594,377 in FY 2024 and \$596,163 in FY 2025 to support the base budget costs of five positions and database maintenance costs as recommended by the Governor including the noted technical adjustment?

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE CORONAVIRUS
STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS OF \$594,377 IN FISCAL
YEAR 2024 AND \$596,163 IN FISCAL YEAR 2025 TO SUPPORT THE
BASE BUDGET COST OF FIVE POSITIONS AND DATABASE
MAINTENANCE COSTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR,
INCLUDING THE NOTED TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions or comments on the motion? [There were none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND
ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Cathy Crocket:

There is one Other Closing Item in this budget. Fiscal Analysis Division staff recommends Other Closing Item 1 be closed as recommended by the Governor and requests authority for Fiscal staff to make other technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI MOVED THAT OTHER CLOSING ITEM 1 BE CLOSED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE OTHER TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DICKMAN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
GOVERNOR'S MANSION MAINTENANCE (101-1001)
BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-14

Cathy Crocket, Senate Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

The next budget is Governor's Mansion maintenance on page 17 [\[Exhibit C\]](#). There is one Major Closing Issue. The Governor recommends General Funds of \$265,839 over the biennium for maintenance projects at the Governor's Mansion to maintain, repair, and replace damaged and worn items. The table on page 17 details the projects and the associated costs that were recommended. During the hearing, the Committees inquired whether the Office of the Governor anticipated completing all recommended projects in the upcoming biennium, noting that the recommended amount was an increase from the previously approved amount. The Governor's Office confirmed that it expected to be able to complete all of the recommended maintenance projects. The Committees also asked when prior work was done on each recommended project, and that information is displayed in the table on page 18. The Office had indicated that the last major renovation of the Governor's mansion occurred during the Guinn administration between 1999 to 2006.

Upon review it was determined that the cost associated with the replacement of a water line totaling approximately \$15,000 was included both in this budget and the Department of Administration Buildings and Grounds budget. Fiscal Analysis Division staff would recommend a technical adjustment to remove funding from this budget and leave the funding within the Buildings and Grounds budget.

Do the Committees wish to approve General Funds of \$250,870 over the 2023-2025 biennium for facility maintenance projects at the Governor's mansion inclusive of a technical adjustment to eliminate duplicated costs?

Assemblywoman Backus:

I appreciate the chart providing all of the last upgrades. As you can see, work has not been done in many years. I had a question regarding the repair to the exterior wood and repaint; I noticed that was last done in 2018, which was only about 5 years ago, and normally exterior paint usually lasts up to 10 years. I do not know if there was any other information to support why we are going in there to repair exterior wood and repaint earlier than a 10-year period.

Cathy Crocket:

My notes indicate that there was some weather damage to that item.

Daniel Marlow, Administrator, Administrative Services Division, Department of Administration:

This repair is for a small piece for weather damage, and it is failing on certain parts of the mansion in the state room.

Senator Dondero Loop:

Thank you, and I see the cost, but I just want to remind everybody that our Governor's mansion is a Nevada treasure, and it is part of our history. I guess I am a little sentimental because my parents, in the late forties, lived behind the mansion. I think this is something that truly we need to take care of, and while the prices are high, and I wish that we could find cheaper wallpaper; I feel like we need to not implode what we have in Nevada and save some of these wonderful old historic buildings.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE GENERAL FUNDS OF \$250,870 OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM FOR FACILITY MAINTENANCE PROJECTS AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION, INCLUDING A TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO ELIMINATE DUPLICATED COSTS.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions or comments on the motion? [There were none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Cathy Crocket:

There is One Other Closing item, and staff recommends it be closed as recommended by the Governor and requests authority for Fiscal staff to make further technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED THAT OTHER CLOSING
ITEM 1 BE CLOSED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND
AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE OTHER
TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions or comments? [There were none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND
ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

GOVERNOR'S WASHINGTON OFFICE (101-1011)

BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-18

Cathy Crocket, Senate Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

The next budget is the Governor's Washington Office on page 21 [[Exhibit C](#)]. Fiscal Analysis Division staff is responsible for developing closing recommendations for this budget. The Committees have not previously reviewed the budget. There are no changes recommended, and Fiscal staff recommends the budget be closed as recommended by the Governor and requests authority for staff to make further technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI MOVED TO CLOSE BUDGET
ACCOUNT 1011 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND
AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE
TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND
ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**ELECTED OFFICIALS
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
ATHLETIC COMMISSION (101-3952)
BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-25**

Colby Nichols, Program Analyst:

The Athletic Commission discussion begins on page 23 of the closing packet [[Exhibit C](#)]. This is a staff-closed budget and the Committees have not previously reviewed it. The Athletic Commission is a self-funded agency responsible for the supervision and regulation of all contests and exhibitions of unarmed combat. There are no Major Closing Issues associated with this account. There are two Other Closing Items included in the table towards the bottom of page 23 [[Exhibit C](#)], and Fiscal Analysis Division staff would recommend this budget be closed as recommended by the Governor and requests authority to make technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI MOVED TO APPROVE BUDGET
ACCOUNT 3952 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND
AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE
TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on this motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND
ASSEMBLYMEN WATTS AND YEAGER WERE ABSENT FOR THE
VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS
TREASURER'S OFFICE
TREASURER - STATE TREASURER (101-1080)
BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-198

Brody Leiser, Assembly Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

I will be presenting the closings for the State Treasurer's Office budgets. There are four budgets that were heard on February 10, 2023, before the Committees and four staff-closed budgets. I would note that the Bond Interest and Redemption account, budget account 1082, will not be closed today and will be closed with the Capital Improvement Program.

The first budget is on page 25 of the closing packet [[Exhibit C](#)] for budget account 1080. There are three Major Closing Issues. The first is for a new classified accountant position and a new unclassified investment analyst position for the Investment Division of the Office of the State Treasurer. The accountant position is recommended and would perform account reconciliations and reporting for the investment portfolios. The investment analyst position would allow the Treasurer's Office to bring more investing duties in-house. The accountant position would allow an existing investment analyst position to shift their duties to perform investment portfolio management, issuer selection, and credit research tasks, which are duties that are currently being performed by outside firms. As I mentioned, the new investment analyst position would allow for the Office to bring more investing duties in-house for the areas that I mentioned previously. I would note that in the Governor's recommended budget, the investment analyst position is an unclassified position. During the budget hearing, the Treasurer's Office had indicated that the unclassified position was related to a companion recommendation to reclassify three existing investment analyst positions from the classified service to the unclassified service. However, that recommendation is not moving forward. In other words, the Treasurer's Office—and I will talk a little bit more in detail about this in a minute—is no longer requesting that the investment analyst be an unclassified position; they are still requesting the position, but in the classified service. There is additional information on page 26 [[Exhibit C](#)].

During the budget hearing, the Treasurer had indicated that since he had been in office, the investment portfolio had grown from \$2.8 billion to \$9.2 billion, however, no additional staffing resources have been added to the Office over that time. Regarding the accountant position, the Treasurer's Office testified they are trying to move the Investment Division away from historic accounting functions to focus on how to grow and improve the state's investments. Right now, the Division has the same staff performing investment functions and reconciliation functions, and this new accountant would allow for some separation of duties. I would note you will see with each of the new positions recommended in this budget, if they are approved, Fiscal staff has minor technical adjustments based on the funding sources for the position. I will not go through those in detail for each position, but note them here, and you will see those as we move throughout this budget. As I mentioned, the Treasurer's Office, with regard to the investment analysts, is no longer pursuing the reclassification of the three existing investment analysts. I did confirm that the new

investment analyst position recommended in decision unit enhancement (E) 128 was still needed, however, I would like to revise that new position recommendation to a classified investment analyst 3 position.

With that change, there was just a slight difference in the costs over the biennium of less than \$1,000. The decision points for the Committees are on page 27. Do the committees wish to approve (1) funding of \$184,941 including General Funds of \$13,362 over the 2023-2025 biennium to support the addition of one new accountant position for the Investment Division as recommended by the Governor in decision unit E-127, including the technical adjustment to correct the funding mix for the position, and (2) funding of \$269,910 including General Funds of \$14,766 over the 2023-2025 biennium to support the addition of one new classified investment analyst 3 position for the Investment Division as requested by the Treasurer's Office instead of the unclassified investment analyst position originally recommended by the Governor in decision unit E-128, including the technical adjustment to correct the funding mix for the position?

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI MOVED TO APPROVE FUNDING OF \$184,941, INCLUDING GENERAL FUNDS OF \$13,362 OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO SUPPORT THE ADDITION OF ONE NEW ACCOUNTANT POSITION FOR THE INVESTMENT DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR IN DECISION UNIT E-127 AND INCLUDING THE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO CORRECT THE FUNDING MIX FOR THE POSITION; AND, FUNDING OF \$269,910, INCLUDING GENERAL FUNDS OF \$14,766, OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO SUPPORT THE ADDITION OF ONE NEW CLASSIFIED INVESTMENT ANALYST POSITION FOR THE INVESTMENT DIVISION, AS REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER INSTEAD OF THE UNCLASSIFIED INVESTMENT ANALYST POSITION ORIGINALLY RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR IN DECISION UNIT E-128, AND INCLUDING THE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO CORRECT THE FUNDING MIX FOR THE POSITION.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions or comments? [There were none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMEN MILLER AND WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

The next Major Closing Issue is for a new accountant technician position. This position would provide support with increasing electronic fund transactions. The position would be for the Cash Management Division, Office of the State Treasurer, and would assist state agencies with claims and reconciling of transactions. Initially, the position's justification also included information that this position would provide oversight of the transition to the state's new financial system, the SMART 21 project [page 28, [Exhibit C](#)].

During the budget hearing on February 10, 2023, the Treasurer's Office testified that electronic banking transactions have increased by 23 percent since 2019, which represents an additional 1.4 million transactions on an annual basis. However, no additional staffing resources have been added over that time. I would note that while the initial justification for the position made reference to and indicated that the position would assist with the SMART 21 project, the Treasurer's Office did clarify through testimony at the budget hearing that regardless of how, or when, that project may move forward, this position is needed due to the increase in workload being experienced by the Office.

The decision point for the Committees is whether to approve \$139,628 including General Funds of \$13,618 over the 2023-2025 biennium to support the addition of a new accountant technician position for the Cash Management Division as recommended by the Governor and including the technical adjustment to correct the funding mix for the position.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI MOVED TO APPROVE \$139,628, INCLUDING GENERAL FUNDS OF \$13,618, OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO SUPPORT THE ADDITION OF A NEW ACCOUNTANT TECHNICIAN POSITION FOR THE CASH MANAGEMENT DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND INCLUDING THE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO CORRECT THE FUNDING MIX FOR THE POSITION.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any further discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

The third Major Closing Issue is a request by the Treasurer's Office for additional travel and training authority. The Treasurer's Office had submitted a budget amendment request to the Governor's Finance Office, however, that budget amendment request was not approved. This

travel and training would allow for continued professional development, professional networking, additional travel between Las Vegas and Carson City for office staff, including travel that will be necessary during the 2025 legislative session. This item was not presented during the budget hearing but as I mentioned, the Treasurer's Office has submitted this request. There is a table on the top of page 29 [\[Exhibit C\]](#) that shows the difference between the travel and training in the Governor's recommended budget, along with the request from the Treasurer's Office and what the total for each of those categories would be.

If approved, this request would add General Fund appropriations of \$29,350 in fiscal year (FY) 2024 and \$44,147 in FY 2025. Page 29 reflects the details of what is included in the travel and training request. This request would fund attendance and travel for items such as the National Association of State Treasurers' training, a National Institute of Public Finance Conference, the Nevada Association of Counties annual conference, and trips to Carson City from Las Vegas to allow for travel that will be needed during the 2025 legislative session.

Do the Committees wish to approve additional General Fund appropriations of \$29,350 in FY 2024 and \$44,147 in FY 2025 to support increased levels of out-of-state and in-state travel and training as requested by the Office of the State Treasurer?

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS OF \$29,350 IN FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND \$44,147 IN FISCAL YEAR 2025 TO SUPPORT INCREASED LEVELS OF OUT-OF-STATE AND IN-STATE TRAVEL AND TRAINING AS REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions or comments? [There were none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

Page 30 of the closing packet [\[Exhibit C\]](#) includes the other closing items. I would note that there is just one technical adjustment to the base budget to align contract expenditures. Fiscal Analysis Division staff recommend Other Closing Items 1 through 3 be closed as recommended by the Governor and Other Closing Item 4 be closed with the noted technical adjustments to align contractual expenditures and request authority for staff to make other technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO CLOSE OTHER CLOSING ITEMS 1 THROUGH 3 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, OTHER CLOSING ITEM 4 WITH THE NOTED TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS TO ALIGN CONTRACTUAL EXPENDITURES, AND AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE OTHER TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions or comments? [There were none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

* * * * *

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TREASURER'S OFFICE

TREASURER - NEVADA COLLEGE SAVINGS TRUST (101-1092)

BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-213

Brody Leiser, Assembly Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

There are four Major Closing Issues in this budget. The first is the recommendation for a new unclassified Deputy Treasurer of Financial Literacy and Security. The new Deputy position would be funded with \$270,813 in funds transferred from the College Savings Endowment account over the 2023-2025 biennium. Senate Bill 188 of the 81st Session approved and expanded the State Treasurer's permissive appointees to include this new Deputy position. The position, if approved, would lead the creation and implementation of an Individual Development Account Program and work on the Nevada Statewide Council on Financial Independence (Council), which were both also approved last legislative session through the passage and approval of S.B. 188 of the 81st Session. While statutorily authorized, neither the Council nor the Individual Development Account program have been implemented at this time, which would be the intent of this new position to get those programs up and running.

The Individual Development Account Program allows certain persons from low-income households to establish an individual development account into which a person deposits money to save and use for certain purposes. The Nevada Statewide Council on Financial Independence would be responsible for developing statewide priorities and strategies for

helping individuals who receive public assistance or social services to increase their financial independence and with overseeing the Individual Development Account Program. The new Deputy position would oversee the day-to-day administration of the Council, the Individual Development Account Program, the Nevada Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Savings Program, and other financial literacy and security initiatives.

During the budget hearing on February 10, 2023, there was discussion about the timeline to get the Council up and running if this position were approved. The Treasurer's Office had indicated the intent would be to hire the position as close to the October 1 start date as possible, and the position would work to identify and implement the necessary pieces for the Individual Development Account Program. The Council, in early calendar year 2024, would need to identify and appoint the five Council members who are appointed by the State Treasurer, pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 422A.478. Initially, the Council would establish its bylaws and work on initial statewide priorities and strategies. The new Deputy position would research best practices with other states that administer individual development account programs to align and design the program with the Council's objectives and priorities. The state would need to issue a request for proposal (RFP) for contract services with a vendor for the management and investment work related to the Individual Development Accounts. The Treasurer testified that possibly all that work could be done within a 6-month period but felt that within 12 months of the position's hire, the Council would be up and running.

There was also discussion around how the Nevada Statewide Council on Financial Independence (Council) would differ from the State Financial Literacy Council. The Treasurer's Office testified that the new Council would focus on financial stability and independence to ensure individuals can protect their assets and be prepared for financial periods of instability. The new Council would need to work in collaboration with other stakeholders that focus on financial literacy and would ensure there was minimal to no overlap with those stakeholders.

As I mentioned, the new Deputy position would be funded through transfers from the College Savings Endowment Account. Pursuant to NRS 353B.350, the money in the College Savings Endowment Account has very specific purposes, mostly relating to college savings and scholarship programs, as identified at the bottom of page 34 [\[Exhibit C\]](#). However, one of the provisions does allow for these funds to be used for the cost of providing programs for financial education to Nevada residents. Under that provision, the use of the funds for financial education are capped at 3 percent of the money received in the account during the first fiscal year of the immediately preceding biennium.

Following the budget hearing, Fiscal staff worked with the Treasurer's Office to confirm that the new Deputy position would fall under that provision to provide financial education and under the existing statutory cap, there would not be sufficient funds to support the new position without a statutory change. The Treasurer's Office has requested a statutory change. For this position to be funded specifically, the request would be to amend

NRS 353B.530(5)(e) to specify that the cost for providing financial education include the administration of financial education programs, the costs for employing the Deputy of Financial Literacy and Security, and the cost of carrying out the Nevada ABLE Savings Program. Additionally, the requested language would raise the cap from 3 percent to 10 percent. Currently there is no bill to address the necessary statutory changes, therefore, a Committee Bill Draft Request (BDR) introduction or an amendment to an existing bill would be required.

Do the Committees wish to approve the addition of a new unclassified Deputy Treasurer of Financial Literacy and Security position funded with \$270,813 in funds transferred from the College Savings Endowment Account over the 2023-2025 biennium as recommended by the Governor and contingent upon passage and approval of enabling legislation? If so, the Committees should request enabling legislation to be drafted to facilitate the request.

Assemblywoman Backus:

Obviously, the statutory 3 percent cap was put in place with a specific purpose. Understanding that and looking at the first year of the last biennium, as well as the revenues in that account, it appears to be about \$3.3 million. Am I understanding that correctly?

Brody Leiser:

I am going to give an approximate number just because I have a 10 percent cap number, so it is easy to back into. The revenue was just under \$6 million, and so the 3 percent cap that is calculated for the upcoming biennium is just under \$180,000. There is a dedicated expenditure category in this budget that ties to the 3 percent cap and right now, that amount is budgeted at just over \$130,000. With the current cap at about \$180,000, and with \$130,000 dedicated for financial education, the cap would not provide sufficient authority for the requested additional expenditures.

Assemblywoman Backus:

There is not a bill or a BDR in place at this point, and looking at the jump from 3 percent to 10 percent, I was trying to see whether we could look at something lower. Obviously, there was some public policy reason for that lower cap.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A NEW UNCLASSIFIED DEPUTY TREASURER OF FINANCIAL LITERACY AND SECURITY POSITION FUNDED WITH \$270,813 IN FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM THE COLLEGE SAVINGS ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND CONTINGENT UPON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL OF ENABLING LEGISLATION TO BE DRAFTED TO FACILITATE THIS REQUEST.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion?

Senator Seevers Gansert:

I am supportive of the position and potential statutory increase of the percentage that can be used, but I think 10 percent is too high. Going from 3 percent to 10 percent is a big jump; especially when you look at the pool of funds and potentially what you can earn on that versus the spend on it. The only comment that I have is that if we recommend a bill draft that we consider what that cap should be.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Mr. Leiser, with the expenditures in this decision unit, how much do we need to increase the cap to cover those expenditures right now?

Brody Leiser:

Looking at the second year of the biennium, with the full salary of the position across the 12 months of the second year, those total costs are about \$151,000. With the dedicated expenditure category that I mentioned earlier at about \$131,000, those combined would be approximately \$282,000. At this point, the calculation for each percent is right around \$60,000. I believe that with those two considerations, 5 percent may be sufficient. However, we probably would need to work with the Treasurer's Office to ensure there are not additional costs within the budget that are being funded under this specific purpose.

There are a couple of decision points later in this closing document [[Exhibit C](#)] that would also use the same funds for the same purpose. To answer the question of what it would be for that dedicated expenditure category and this Deputy position, I believe a 5 percent cap would be right around the mark with the additional decision points that have yet to be made. If there are other costs and other categories—whether it is 5 percent or 7 percent—we certainly would be willing to work with the Treasurer's Office to identify what that cap would need to be to sufficiently cover budgeted expenditures based on decisions that are made by the money committees.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Thank you for that clarification. Knowing there are other items that may come from this funding source, I request permission to add to the motion that was given to authorize Fiscal staff to work with the Legal Division to determine what the correct percentage amount should be.

Senator Seevers Gansert:

I agree with that; in my mind going from 3 percent to 5 percent makes sense. I think we should consider General Funds if we need to, but I really think it is important that we do not bump that cap up too much.

Assemblywoman Backus:

I would be happy to withdraw my initial motion and make a new motion.

Senator Dondero Loop:

I withdraw my second.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A NEW UNCLASSIFIED DEPUTY TREASURER OF FINANCIAL LITERACY AND SECURITY POSITION FUNDED WITH \$270,813 IN FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM THE COLLEGE SAVINGS ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND CONTINGENT UPON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL OF ENABLING LEGISLATION TO BE DRAFTED TO FACILITATE THIS REQUEST AND FURTHER AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO WORK WITH THE OFFICE OF THE TREASURER TO ASCERTAIN THE APPROPRIATE STATUTORY CAP OF BETWEEN 5 PERCENT AND 7 PERCENT.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR HARRIS AND ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

The next Major Closing Issue is the recommendation for a new program officer position to support the Nevada College Savings Program. This position is recommended to be funded with \$146,775 in funds transferred from the College Savings Endowment Account. This position would work to increase enrollment in higher education resource programs such as the College Kickstart Program, 529 savings accounts, the Prepaid Tuition program, and the Governor Guinn Millennium and Memorial Scholarship programs.

The position would lead outreach initiatives through partnerships with higher education institutions, schools and school districts, community groups and organizations, and work to provide additional capacity and support for K-12 students who are preparing for higher education. The position justification indicated that the position would assist the Nevada College Kickstart program as the first cohort of students for that program will graduate from high school in 2025. This position would help to provide outreach and education campaigns and initiatives to ensure that students are receiving benefits from the program. The position

would also provide a direct resource for communication with the community and individuals to ensure all available resources are known to aid individuals with taking advantage of those resources.

Do the Committees wish to approve the addition of a new program officer position funded with \$146,775 in funds transferred from the College Savings Endowment Account over the 2023-2025 biennium to support the Nevada College Savings Program as recommended by the Governor?

Assemblywoman Backus:

I am trying to work through each of these new positions that the Treasurer's Office is requesting, because it seems like some of them may overlap. Pages 36 and 37 of the closing packet describe the Governor's recommendation for a new position to deal with the ABLE Savings program, and I was not sure why there is this need for the two positions. Does this recommendation also affect that 3 percent cap, or is this a different position that would fall outside of the 3 percent cap?

Brody Leiser:

This position would not fall under the 3 percent cap, that is specific for purposes of general financial education for residents. This position's role with the College Savings Endowment Account would fall under other allowable uses under that statute.

The third Major Closing Issue references a new program officer position. This position would be specific for efforts relating to the Nevada Achieving a Better Life Experience Savings Program. The Governor recommends \$124,893 in funds transferred from the College Savings Endowment Account over the upcoming biennium to support this position.

This position would serve as a liaison between agency partners to build relationships and assist school districts, community groups, nonprofit organizations, and other state agencies to increase awareness about the Nevada ABLE Savings Program.

The Nevada ABLE Savings Program allows eligible Nevadans with disabilities to create special savings account for expenses aimed at making their lives easier and without the risk of losing state and federal benefit program assistance. During the budget hearing, the Treasurer's Office testified that since they took over the Nevada ABLE Savings Program, the program had increased from 237 accounts to 3,173 accounts and that the new position would allow for continued expansion and administration of the program. The increase in the number of accounts also necessitates the need to have resources available to help ensure that recipients are utilizing those accounts as a vehicle to their benefit and for which they are intended.

I think the question that was posed in terms of the difference between this program officer position, and the program officer position in the prior closing issues, is that this program officer position in enhancement (E) 127 is intended to specifically focus on the Nevada

ABLE Savings Program, whereas the position under decision unit E-125 would solely focus on the Nevada College Savings Program. Going back to decision unit E-127, the program officer for the Nevada ABLE Savings Program, this position is similar to the deputy position and is recommended to be funded under that provision of NRS 353B.530, for financial education programs for Nevada residents. The same issue applies, so I will not go through it again in detail. In order to fund this position as recommended with the funding source, a statutory change would be required. As I mentioned, the Treasurer's Office has submitted language to amend NRS 353B.530. That would allow for this position to be funded as well with those statutory changes. I tried to explain the difference between the two, but whether either position could perform both duties is a question I would defer to the Treasurer's Office to answer.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

I would ask someone from the Treasurer's Office to address the two positions, and whether the two positions are duplicating work.

Lori Hoover, Chief Deputy Treasurer, Office of the State Treasurer:

For the first program officer under the College Savings Program, the current program officer has been doing more outreach. They have been going out to rural areas, and meeting outside of Las Vegas. That has been received quite well. He and another individual have been asked to come back several times to increase the outreach. That type of work is time consuming because they are out of the office, they are going out and meeting with people, and we are trying to increase that outreach as much as possible. In fact, some of the travel that we had asked for is to increase some of that rural travel to the counties to increase this outreach. In addition, the position under decision unit E-127 is a completely different program, and we are looking at somebody who can specifically address the increasing needs for that program. We are looking for two different people to be able to handle those different responsibilities and requirements.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

We just approved the unclassified Deputy Treasurer's position and part of that position's responsibility is the financial literacy. Do we need the Deputy and both of those positions or is the Deputy going to be doing the same work, or just overseeing those two new positions?

Lori Hoover:

Our intention for the Deputy is they are going to be working with setting up the Council and being involved in the process of the Individual Development Account Program. I am not using this as an excuse, but I have been with the Treasurer's Office since January, and one of the things I have learned is that the Treasurer's Office is trying to educate people and different groups of individuals for financial literacy and education. It becomes difficult when there are so many different paths we could go down, and we are looking to cover as many as we can. I would say, yes, we still need both of those positions because we are looking to reach out to as many constituents as possible with outreach and education.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

I see that we have Treasurer Conine in our southern Nevada office. Would you like to say something?

Zach Conine, State Treasurer:

Just to differentiate between the different positions here, the ABLE program is the thing that allowed us to stand up the Nevada TOTS [Transforming Opportunities for Toddlers and Students] grant program in the middle of the pandemic. That work was completely done on nights and weekends by volunteers; specifically, Chief Policy Deputy Erik Jimenez and me, and a few others who stepped in to try and do the work of a position that had never been funded. That program officer is focused on making sure that individuals and families with disabilities can use a program set up by the federal government that has brought and can bring millions of dollars into the state, and make sure those families do not lose vital assistance when they go out and do things like get a job or start a business.

You might remember our first intern in the Treasurer's Office, Jack. Jack started a popcorn company, which I think many of you have had the pleasure of trying. It is probably a little too early for popcorn. Jack was only able to start that business because of an ABLE account, and he only knew about the ABLE accounts because of our Office and the volunteer work that we have done so far. The program officer would be able to talk to those families as opposed to the Deputy position, which is focused on creating tools so that those families have a better life going forward. That is completely separate from the work we do on the college savings front other than they are all about investments in Nevadans. I appreciate the work that the Committees have done this morning and the approval of the positions. The reason why there are so many positions coming out of the Treasurer's Office this time around is because we are doing more work than we have ever done before for the citizens of Nevada. Frankly, we just need the help. I am happy to answer any questions.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A NEW PROGRAM OFFICER POSITION FUNDED WITH \$146,775 IN FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM THE COLLEGE SAVINGS ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO SUPPORT THE NEVADA COLLEGE SAVINGS PROGRAM AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A NEW PROGRAM OFFICER POSITION FUNDED WITH \$124,893 IN FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM THE COLLEGE SAVINGS ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO SUPPORT THE NEVADA ABLE SAVINGS PROGRAM AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, AND DEPENDENT UPON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL OF ENABLING LEGISLATION.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any more discussion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WAS ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

The fourth Major Closing Issue is additional travel requested by the Treasurer's Office. This is similar to the item in the first budget. The Treasurer's Office submitted a budget amendment requesting additional travel through the Governor's Finance Office, however, that was not approved. This request in this budget would provide travel funded through transfers from the College Savings Endowment Account.

There is a table at the top of page 38 [\[Exhibit C\]](#) showing the Governor's recommended budget, the additional travel request, and increased transfers from the Endowment account of \$9,496 in fiscal year (FY) 2024 and \$9,418 in FY 2025. However, one of the out-of-state travel items requested is for attendance at the National Association of State Treasurers' annual conference. The conference that is scheduled for this fall will be in FY 2024, and will be in Las Vegas. If this request were considered, Fiscal staff would recommend an adjustment to remove the out-of-state travel by \$2,470 in FY 2024 only. The in-state travel costs that are requested here would provide funding for various positions in the Treasurer's Office budget accounts to organize and carry out the annual Women + Money Financial Empowerment summit that is hosted by the Treasurer's Office. That summit provides sessions on leadership, financial planning, investing, entrepreneurship, grant writing, saving for college, and retirement. Additionally, the in-state travel would allow for travel to rural counties for work associated with the College Savings Division.

I would note that there is policy established in the State Administrative Manual that specifies all travel expenses of state employees should be charged to the budget account specifically appropriated or authorized to provide for the employee's salary. As I noted, the in-state travel related to the Women + Money Financial Empowerment Summit would include costs for positions that are funded in the State Treasurer, the Higher Education Tuition Administration, and the Millennium Scholarship administration budgets. If the Committees were to approve this additional in-state travel request, they may wish to direct Fiscal staff to work with the Treasurer's Office to make technical adjustments to budget for that additional travel within the various budgets for which the associated position salaries are budgeted in alignment with the State Administrative Manual policy.

On page 39 are the decision points for consideration by the Committees.

1. Do the Committees wish to approve additional transfers from the College Savings Endowment account of \$9,496 in FY 2024 and \$9,418 in FY 2025 to support increased levels of out-of-state and in-state travel and trainings as requested by the Office of the Treasurer?
2. Do the Committees wish to approve additional transfers from the College Savings Endowment account of \$7,026 in FY 2024 and \$9,418 in FY 2025 to support increased levels of travel as requested by the Treasurer's Office which removes the requested out-of-state travel in FY 2024 since the conference identified will be held in Las Vegas?
3. Do the Committees wish to not approve the Office of the Treasurer's requests for additional transfers from the College Savings Endowment Account to support additional travel expenditures?

If options 1 or 2 are approved, do the Committees wish to direct Fiscal staff to work with the Treasurer's Office to make technical adjustments to budget for the additional travel within the various budgets for which the associated position salaries are budgeted in alignment with the State Administrative Manual policy?

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL TRANSFERS FROM THE COLLEGE SAVINGS ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT OF \$7,026 IN FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND \$9,418 IN FISCAL YEAR 2025 TO SUPPORT INCREASED LEVELS OF TRAVEL AS REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER, WHICH REMOVES THE REQUESTED OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL IN FISCAL YEAR 2024 SINCE THE CONFERENCE IDENTIFIED WILL BE HELD IN LAS VEGAS AND DIRECT FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO WORK WITH THE OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER TO MAKE TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS TO BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL TRAVEL WITHIN THE VARIOUS BUDGETS FOR WHICH THE ASSOCIATED POSITION SALARIES ARE BUDGETED IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE STATE ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL POLICY.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WAS ABSENT
FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

There is one Other Closing Item in this budget and Fiscal staff recommends it be closed as recommended by the Governor and requests authority to make technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE OTHER
CLOSING ITEM AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND
AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE
TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WAS ABSENT
FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

* * * * *

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TREASURER'S OFFICE

TREASURER - HIGHER EDUCATION TUITION ADMIN (603-1081)

BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-222

Brody Leiser, Assembly Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

The next budget is the Higher Education Tuition Administration budget. The Major Closing Issue is a new program officer position. This position is recommended to be funded with \$145,625 over the biennium with funds transferred from the College Savings Endowment Account. This position would provide education and outreach to Nevada communities with a specific focus on increasing enrollment in the Prepaid Tuition Program and to assist families with saving and paying for higher education costs. The Prepaid Tuition Program allows parents, grandparents, and other family members to lock in future in-state college registration rates at today's prices through tax advantaged savings accounts. I will note that the open enrollment period is going on now and through April 15, 2023.

The program currently operates with three staff members. The program officer position would lead outreach initiatives with program partners including higher education institutions, schools and school districts, community groups, and nonprofit organizations, and leverage and align stakeholders with the benefits of the Prepaid Tuition Program. The Treasurer's Office testified during the budget hearing there are approximately 11,000 active Prepaid Tuition accounts.

Do the Committees wish to approve the addition of a new program officer position funded with \$145,625 in funds transferred from the College Savings Endowment Account over the 2023-2025 biennium to support the Prepaid Tuition Program?

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A NEW PROGRAM OFFICER POSITION FUNDED WITH \$145,625 IN FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM THE COLLEGE SAVINGS ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM TO SUPPORT THE PREPAID TUITION PROGRAM.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR NEAL AND ASSEMBLYMEN GORELOW, O'NEILL, AND WATTS WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

There is a technical adjustment in this budget to align contract expenditures. Fiscal staff would recommend Other Closing Item 1 be closed as recommended by the Governor and Other Closing Item 2 be closed with the noted technical adjustment to account for contractual obligations, and requests authority for Fiscal staff to make other technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS MOVED TO CLOSE OTHER CLOSING ITEM 1 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, OTHER CLOSING ITEM 2 BE CLOSED WITH THE NOTED TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENT TO ACCOUNT FOR CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS AND AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE OTHER TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR NEAL AND
ASSEMBLYMEN GORELOW, O'NEILL, AND WATTS WERE ABSENT
FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS
TREASURER'S OFFICE
TREASURER - UNCLAIMED PROPERTY (101-3815)
BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-234

Brody Leiser, Assembly Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

The next budget is unclaimed property, budget account 3815. The Major Closing Issue in this budget is the recommendation for a new administrative assistant position. The Governor's recommended budget includes funding for a new administrative assistant position funded with transfers of \$116,982 from the Abandoned Property Trust account over the 2023-2025 biennium. The new position would support the Unclaimed Property Division in reviewing and processing claims to return money to its rightful owners, and the position is needed due to an increase in claim requests resulting from an increase in the promotion of the Unclaimed Property program.

In fiscal year (FY) 2022 there were just over 37,000 claims that were paid, returning over \$42 million to the rightful owners. Pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* 120A.640, the Unclaimed Property Division has 90 days after a claim is filed to allow or deny the claim and provide written notice of the decision to the claimant.

The Treasurer's Office testified during the budget hearing that they are processing claims within that 90-day statutory requirement. While the Governor's recommended budget includes an administrative assistant position, the Treasurer's Office, during the budget hearing, was requesting a new classification for a claims officer position. The claims processing requires staff to analyze legal and business documents such as probate orders, trusts, wills, business incorporation documents, tax returns, and tax liens, due to the complexity of the work. They are seeking to establish a new claims officer class. Again, during the budget hearing on February 10, 2023, the Treasurer's Office indicated they would be working with the Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management to propose a new class series based on the duties of this new position and based on the duties of two existing administrative assistant 3 positions. In conjunction with the request for the new position under the new classification, the Treasurer's Office, as testified

during the budget hearing, would look to reclassify those two existing administrative assistant 3 positions to the new class series if it is approved by the Division of Human Resource Management.

During the budget hearing, the Treasurer's Office reiterated the justification for the additional position as a result of the increase in claim requests as a direct result of increased messaging on the program to get property returned to its rightful owners. In part, during the testimony, the Treasurer's Office credited that increase to a change that was authorized through the passage and approval of Senate Bill 71 of the 81st Legislative Session which allowed claims to be initiated and payments delivered to property owners without the owner filing a claim in certain circumstances. Specifically, that provision was utilized and allowed the Office to compare a list of individuals who had filed for unemployment with a list of individuals who had unclaimed property, which identified about \$10 million in unclaimed property, and initiated payments for those individuals. The Treasurer's Office anticipates a continuation of the increased workload experienced within the unclaimed property claims team over the upcoming biennium. At the bottom of page 46 [\[Exhibit C\]](#) is identification of two items to consider, which I will go through and are summarized on page 47.

The first option would be to approve the Governor's recommendation to fund a new administrative assistant 3 position, which is a grade 27. The second option would be to approve a new position at a grade 30 which is commensurate with the new claims officer class series that was requested by the Treasurer's Office. To maintain parity with existing staff, if this option is chosen, the Committees may also consider reclassifying the two existing administrative assistant 3 positions to the new claims officer 1 level in the requested new class series. Based on calculations, Fiscal staff would estimate that additional funding of approximately \$49,000 over the biennium would be needed to support the new and existing positions at the grade level 30 commensurate with the new class series that is referenced in the decision unit description.

On page 47 are the two decision points that I just indicated. The decision would be to (1) transfer \$116,982 from the Abandoned Property Trust account over the 2023-2025 biennium for a new administrative assistant 3, grade 27 position as recommended by the Governor; or (2) transfer \$166,331 from the Abandoned Property Trust account over the 2023-2025 biennium for a new claims officer 1, grade 30 position, and reclassify two existing administrative assistant 3 positions, grade 27, to claims officer 1, grade 30 positions, dependent upon approval by the Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management to establish the new claims officer class series.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP MOVED TO TRANSFER \$166,331 FROM THE ABANDONED PROPERTY TRUST ACCOUNT OVER THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM FOR A NEW CLAIMS OFFICER 1, GRADE 30, POSITION AND TO RECLASSIFY TWO EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 3, GRADE 27, POSITIONS TO CLAIMS OFFICER 1, GRADE 30, POSITIONS, DEPENDENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT TO ESTABLISH THE NEW CLAIMS OFFICER CLASS SERIES.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion?

Senator Neal:

How does this recommendation correlate to Assembly Bill 55? In A.B. 55, the Treasurer's Office will be able to get confidential information from state agencies and local agencies for unclaimed property purposes. Will these positions be performing this work?

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

I think we need to go to the State Treasurer for that. Treasurer Conine, can you answer that question?

Zach Conine, State Treasurer:

Over the last couple of years, there have been a few bills and efforts to try to return more unclaimed property to Nevadans. As you mentioned, Senator Neal, A.B. 55 is exactly what allows us to get information from other state agencies that are making payments to Nevadans to try to return more property. These claims positions will be working in that process, but also in the process of everyday folks who come to our Office trying to get their money back. We want to return as much as possible, and we have returned \$195 million over the last five years, which is a record for any seven-year period. We have also had 140 percent more claims this year than last year, which had more than 100 percent claims growth over the year before. We are dealing with more volume, but in addition, claims are becoming a little bit harder. We have more attempts at fraud, more attempts at identity theft, and more issues between different family members fighting over different things. Those claims all take a little bit more time, and this new claims processor position would allow us to make sure that we are getting money out the door both safely and quickly.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Is there any other discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WAS ABSENT
FOR THE VOTE.)

Brody Leiser:

The Other Closing Items are on page 47 [[Exhibit C](#)]. Fiscal Analysis Division staff recommends all other closing items be closed as recommended by the Governor and requests authority to make technical adjustments as necessary.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

Are there any questions? [There were none.] I will entertain a motion.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP MOVED TO APPROVE ALL OTHER
CLOSING ITEMS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND
AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE
TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any further discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLYMEN DICKMAN AND WATTS
WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**ELECTED OFFICIALS
TREASURER'S OFFICE
TREASURER - MUNICIPAL BOND BANK REVENUE (745-1086)
BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-208**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS
TREASURER'S OFFICE
TREASURER - MUNICIPAL BOND BANK DEBT SERVICE (395-1087)
BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-210**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS
TREASURER'S OFFICE
TREASURER - ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT (101-1094)
BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-218**

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TREASURER'S OFFICE

TREASURER - MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION (261-1088)

BUDGET PAGE ELECTED-228

Brody Leiser, Assembly Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst:

The next four budgets are staff closed budgets. We have a summary sheet at the end to facilitate a single motion for the approval of these staff closed budgets.

The first budget is shown on page 49 [\[Exhibit C\]](#) and is the Municipal Bond Bank Revenue, budget account (BA) 1086, and the next budget shown on page 51 is the Municipal Bond Bank Debt Service, BA 1087. The Other Closing Item in both budgets is a request to continue language in the General Authorizations Act. This is not new language—it has been approved for the last couple of biennia. The language allows work program revisions to be requested through and approved by the Governor's Finance Office relating to debt service without having to go through the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) for approval. That is, again, specific to debt service repayment costs for bonds. That is noted in both budgets, on page 49 and on page 51.

The third staff closed budget, Endowment Account, BA 1094, contains no Major Closing Issues and no Other Closing Items.

On page 55 is the Millennium Scholarship Administration, budget account 1088. There is one Other Closing Item, and I would just take a moment here to provide some brief information which starts on page 56, relating to the Millennium Scholarship since the Millennium Scholarship Fund itself is not part of The Executive Budget. We have provided information here that the Committees do not need to take action on but provides an update on the projections for the Millennium Scholarship. There is a table on page 57 that shows the Millennium Scholarship Fund analysis that is based on information provided by the Treasurer's Office and the Nevada System of Higher Education based on projections for the Millennium Scholarship. I would note that if no additional funding is approved for the Millennium Scholarship program, the fund would become insolvent during fiscal year (FY) 2025 based on projections. As you are probably aware, there is a one-time appropriation in the Governors recommended budget of \$75 million to support the Millennium Scholarship Fund. If that were approved as recommended by the Governor, it would provide funding and support the Millennium Scholarship Fund through FY 2027 as reflected on the table on page 57 [\[Exhibit C\]](#). You can see the \$75 million recommended amount in the projected FY 2023 column on that table.

Again, I just want to provide this information for the members of the Committees, that the one-time appropriation will come through as a bill at some point, and there will be a bill hearing to discuss that when it is introduced. The bill has not been introduced yet.

On page 59 is the summary of the closing decision for the Committees, and Fiscal staff would recommend that the following budgets be closed as recommended by the Governor and request authority for Fiscal Analysis Division staff to make technical adjustments as necessary.

- Budget account 745-1086-Treasurer-Municipal Bond Bank Revenue, including approval of inclusion of language in the Authorizations Act as noted under the Other Closing Item.
- Budget account 395-1087-Treasurer-Municipal Bond Bank Debt Service, including approval of inclusion of language in the Authorizations Act as noted under the Other Closing Item.
- Budget account 101-1094-Treasurer-Endowment Account.
- Budget account 261-1088-Treasurer-Millennium Scholarship administration.

Chair Monroe-Moreno:

I will entertain a motion.

SENATOR DONDERO LOOP MOVED TO CLOSE THE FOLLOWING BUDGETS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH NOTED TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AND AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE OTHER TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS AS NECESSARY:

- BUDGET ACCOUNT 745-1086-TREASURER-MUNICIPAL BOND BANK REVENUE, INCLUDING APPROVAL OF INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE IN THE AUTHORIZATIONS ACT AS NOTED UNDER THE OTHER CLOSING ITEM.
- BUDGET ACCOUNT 395-1087-TREASURER-MUNICIPAL BOND BANK DEBT SERVICE, INCLUDING APPROVAL OF INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE IN THE AUTHORIZATIONS ACT AS NOTED UNDER THE OTHER CLOSING ITEM.
- BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-1094-TREASURER-ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT.
- BUDGET ACCOUNT 261-1088-TREASURER-MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI SECONDED THE MOTION.

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Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

THE MOTION CARRIED. (ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS WAS ABSENT
FOR THE VOTE.)

BUDGETS CLOSED.

* * * * *

I will open the meeting for public comment. [Public comment was heard.]

Meeting adjourned [at 10:19 a.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Anne Bowen
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Chair

DATE: _____

Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

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

[Exhibit C](#) is a closing document titled "Closing List #2," dated April 13, 2023, prepared and presented by staff of the Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.