# MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

# Eighty-second Session May 16, 2023

The Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Chair Marilyn Dondero Loop at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, in Room 1214 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412E of the Grant Sawyer Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. <a href="Exhibit A">Exhibit A</a> is the Agenda. <a href="Exhibit B">Exhibit B</a> is the Attendance Roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair Senator Nicole J. Cannizzaro, Vice Chair Senator Dallas Harris Senator Dina Neal Senator Rochelle T. Nguyen

Senator Pete Goicoechea

Senator Heidi Seevers Gansert

Senator Robin L. Titus

# **GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

Senator Skip Daly, Senatorial District No. 13 Senator Roberta Lange, Senatorial District No. 7 Senator Julie Pazina, Senatorial District No. 12 Senator Melanie Scheible, Senatorial District No. 9

# **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Wayne Thorley, Senate Fiscal Analyst Cathy Crocket, Chief Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst Paul Breen, Committee Assistant Joko Cailles, Committee Secretary Dee Chekowitz-Dykes, Committee Secretary

# **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Teresa Benitez-Thompson, Chief of Staff, Office of the Attorney General Alexis Motarex, Associated General Contractors of Nevada Rick McCann, Nevada Association of Public Safety Officers Michael Alonso, Caesars Entertainment Doug Billings, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Virginia Valentine, President, Nevada Resort Association James Dzurenda, Director, Nevada Department of Corrections Victoria Carreon, Director, Division of Industrial Relations, Nevada Department of Business and Industry

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

We will start with Senate Bill (S.B.) 36.

**SENATE BILL 36 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to psychosexual evaluations for sexual offenses and other crimes. (BDR 14-424)

TERESA BENITEZ-THOMPSON (Chief of Staff, Office of the Attorney General): Senate Bill 36 addresses a gap in existing law. Existing law states a person who solicits a child for prostitution is guilty of a felony pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 201.354. The crime is not a listed sexual offense anywhere within NRS. Therefore, existing law does not require or allow for a psychosexual evaluation to be arranged prior to sentencing.

The psychosexual evaluations are important tools to assess and determine an individual's risk and likelihood of recidivism. The fiscal notes are coming from section 2 of <u>S.B. 36</u> to allow the Nevada Department of Public Safety, Division of Parole and Probation to prepare psychosexual evaluations as part of a presentence investigation report at the joint agreement of the prosecution and defense in situations where the defendant has entered a plea to a felony or gross misdemeanor that is not a sexual offense.

The proposed bill is necessary to allow the evaluations to be ordered, even when the defendant does not plead to a sexual offense, because solicitation of a child for prostitution and the underlying facts of the cases involve an individual seeking to purchase sex from a minor. This is a crime where an evaluation should be ordered. We have no objections to the fiscal note. We know these evaluations cost money. We have about 12 cases per year through

our office. The estimates of 24 per year in the draft of the fiscal note are appropriate. We have no concerns with the fiscal note other than we know it is a dedication of precious State resources.

# **SENATOR TITUS:**

Do you anticipate scheduling these assessments will delay defendants' processing?

# Ms. Benitez-Thompson:

The Division of Parole and Probation might be able to answer your question better than I could. With the passage of this bill, the fiscal capacity is there to hire the professionals who will do the evaluations.

# **SENATOR TITUS:**

We can do this offline.

# CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Hearing no comment, I will close the hearing on  $\underline{S.B.~36}$  and open the hearing on S.B. 107.

**SENATE BILL 107 (1st Reprint)**: Establishes provisions relating to contractors performing work on a highway. (BDR 35-537)

SENATOR SKIP DALY (Senatorial District No. 13):

<u>Senate Bill 107</u> establishes a program where the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) can use out-of-service highway patrol cars to increase safety on road construction projects. A program would be established by NDOT for contractors to use inoperable highway patrol cars with working lights as a deterrent when no actual law enforcement agencies are available to them. A fiscal note came in late from the Nevada Department of Public Safety (DPS), and we are working to eliminate it.

# CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

It sounds like this bill still needs work. Is that correct?

# SENATOR DALY:

No, the bill is ready to go. We are trying to get the fiscal note resolved. In speaking with the Associated General Contractors of Nevada, the Office of the Governor, and DPS, it is my understanding that the fiscal note was removed,

but as of this morning it was still online in the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System.

### CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

We are not voting on the bill today.

#### SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

The bill says the vehicle would be rendered inoperable. Should it at least be drivable to move it?

#### SENATOR DALY:

One of the concessions we made to DPS was over their concern that someone would be able to steal the car and go for a joyride. The contractors agreed if they were able to use the vehicles, they would tow them.

There are a variety of ways to disable the vehicle. The fiscal note talks about having to pull the drivetrain out. There are less expensive ways to disable vehicles without the expense contemplated in the fiscal note, such as disconnecting the drivetrain or taking the spark plug wires out.

## CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

I recognize the safety hazards of our people who work on the side of the roads. I have two concerns. First, if someone needed a police officer and stopped at the disabled vehicle, help would be delayed. Second, the lights on older vehicles are often repurposed on new vehicles.

While I understand the need for safety for our workers on the highway, I recognize there are drivers who do not care if an officer has someone stopped on the side of the highway and they continue to speed past. We will keep working on this.

#### SENATOR DALY:

We did make several concessions regarding the lights being repurposed. The contractors have agreed to pay for the cost of the lights or buy new ones for however many vehicles might be available.

To address your concern, the disabled vehicles will be parked inside the lane closure, not on the side of the highway, and will only be there when workers are present on the highway.

#### CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

How does the vehicle get moved when there are no workers onsite? What happens to the car?

# **SENATOR DALY:**

In talking with NDOT and the contractors, it is my understanding it will be spelled out within the use permit the contractor will receive from NDOT. The contractors will tow it to the location and, when workers leave, they will tow it back to store it in a secure area within the contractor's yard.

# CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

We have taught our children and grandchildren to seek out a police officer if they feel unsafe. I would not want someone in trouble to stop at an unmanned, disabled vehicle thinking they are safe. I do recognize the safety of our highway workers is important.

# ALEXIS MOTAREX (Associated General Contractors of Nevada):

Senator Daly introduced <u>S.B. 107</u> at our request. We have had several near misses and fatalities among our highway crews. There are real safety concerns for our crews out there. Having a disabled car with the lights flashing will serve to slow traffic. By the time drivers realize no one is in the car, they will have slowed down and lives will have been saved.

We would love to work through any concerns you have. We have addressed several concerns from DPS and other members already. We would love to see this bill move forward to make our crews safer on the roads.

If someone were to pull over thinking this was a law enforcement vehicle, crews would be present on-site. There would be someone other than law enforcement there available to help. All the crews have methods of communication.

#### CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

With no further comment, I will close the hearing on <u>S.B. 107</u> and I will open <u>S.B. 274</u>.

<u>SENATE BILL 274 (1st Reprint)</u>: Revises provisions relating to industrial insurance. (BDR 53-946)

SENATOR SKIP DALY (Senatorial District No. 13):

Section 3 of <u>S.B. 274</u> establishes the timeline for the processing and determination of a violation if a complaint is filed. Section 1 requires the administrator of the Nevada Department of Business and Industry, Division of Industrial Relations to post certain information on their website of a person found in violation of the workers' compensation laws under NRS 616D.120. Section 2, subsection 3, paragraph (a) increases the benefit penalty to not less than \$17,000 from \$5,000, and not greater than \$120,000, increased from \$50,000.

The Proposed Amendment 3645 to <u>S.B. 274</u> (<u>Exhibit C</u>) changes and updates the timeline for the appeals process to be consistent with timeline changes to section 3. Section 1, subsection 2, paragraph (b); section 2, subsection 4; section 4, subsections 1, 2 and 7 will all conform with the changes in section 3.

Section 4, subsection 7 provides for the benefit penalty to be double if the appeals officer or district court upholds the imposition of the initial benefit penalty. Section 4, subsection 8 makes it clear, if an insurer enters into a settlement agreement regarding a benefit penalty case, the insurer must pay directly to the claimant the amount agreed to not later than 15 days after the date stipulated in the settlement agreement. Section 4, subsection 9 allows the Commissioner of Insurance to potentially suspend any certificate issued by the Commissioner if an insurer fails to timely pay the benefit penalty. Sections 5 and 6 suggest the effective date of the bill.

On April 27, 2023, the Nevada Department of Business and Industry, Division of Industrial Relations submitted a revised fiscal note for a total of \$197,550. It is my understanding the fiscal impact does not directly impact the State budget because workers' compensation is funded through an assessment paid directly by the insurers. The bill is designed to get the workers' compensation claimants paid under the provisions.

The intent of <u>S.B. 274</u> is to reduce the number of benefit penalty cases by increasing penalties and notices to the Commissioner of Insurance, without the Division having to hire more people.

#### SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

You stated the number of issues would go down instead of up with S.B. 274.

#### SENATOR DALY:

The original bill would have provided for a bad faith right to sue. We walked back from that because we knew it was going to be difficult. Instead, we increased the benefit penalty.

Also, if a benefit penalty is assessed and upheld, it will be posted on the website. When an investigation has started after a complaint, the Division of Industrial Relations will be required to notify the Commissioner, which will put people on notice. I believe there will be a greater incentive for insurers to pay claims of injured workers instead of trying to get out of paying them. This should reduce the number of cases, which is the way we designed S.B. 274.

# CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Is this a verbal amendment or a written amendment? None of us have it.

### SENATOR DALY:

I sent it to the Fiscal Analysis Division a couple of weeks ago in an email. It is a written proposed amendment to <u>S.B. 274</u>, <u>Exhibit C</u>. It was written by the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

## CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Have you sent it to any of us?

#### SENATOR DALY:

I sent it to the Fiscal Analysis Division and to the Senate Committee Manager. I can get it to you.

# WAYNE THORLEY (Senate Fiscal Analyst):

Is it the amendment to section 4 changing the days of the failure to respond from 90 days to 120 days? Is that the correct amendment?

# **SENATOR DALY:**

Proposed Amendment 3645 to <u>S.B. 274</u> is submitted, <u>Exhibit C</u>. It is a proposed amendment submitted by LCB and is nine pages. It changes the timeline on the appeals process. We spoke with various stakeholders; they are all aware of the amendment and agree with it.

#### CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

We are going to look at the amendment and may have to revisit this.

#### SENATOR DALY:

The amendment is a technical correction. We went through several meetings and iterations of  $\underline{S.B.\ 274}$ . We did get gaming industry partners, chambers of commerce, and the self-insured groups all to a point where nobody is exactly happy, but all agreed this was a step in the right direction. The bottom line is we are trying to make sure injured workers get their claims paid rather than having to resort to penalizing insurers for doing the wrong thing. The amendment is the result of the Division asking for technical corrections, otherwise it does not change the bill.

# CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

We will close the hearing on <u>S.B. 274</u> and open the hearing on <u>S.B. 143</u>.

**SENATE BILL 143 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to discrimination in housing. (BDR 18-1)

SENATOR DINA NEAL (Senatorial District No. 4):

<u>Senate Bill 143</u> creates substantial compliance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. It also creates fair housing by narrowing the population included in this bill by an adopted amendment. The bill only applies to people who have been acquitted, granted parole, exonerated, or have served their sentence and have been released.

The fiscal note on this bill is from the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR). The Department needs a compliance investigator position, supporting legal assistance and will have a technology expense. According to DETR, the fiscal note cannot be amended. There was a second fiscal note from the Office of the Attorney General. If section 15 on page 7, line 23 is changed from "The Attorney General shall ..." to "The Attorney General may ...," the unsolicited fiscal note can be removed.

#### CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Hearing no comments or questions, we will close the hearing on <u>S.B. 143</u> and we will open the hearing on S.B. 145.

<u>SENATE BILL 145 (1st Reprint)</u>: Revises provisions related to employee misclassification. (BDR 53-159)

SENATOR ROBERTA LANGE (Senatorial District No. 7):

<u>Senate Bill 145</u> addresses misclassification of employees. In the Eightieth Session of the Legislature, a Subcommittee was approved to study misclassification of employees in Nevada. Out of the Subcommittee came recommendations that became <u>S.B. 145</u>. We are in the Senate Finance Committee to change the deposit location of fines collected from the General Fund to the Nevada Department of Business and Industry, Office of the Labor Commissioner.

## CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

Did you say there was an amendment?

# SENATOR LANGE:

There was an amendment, but I am not sure if it has been amended into the bill yet.

#### CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

This is the first reprint we are looking at with no further amendments since.

I will close the hearing on S.B. 145 and we will go to S.B. 166.

**SENATE BILL 166 (1st Reprint)**: Revises provisions relating to collective bargaining by public employees. (BDR 23-556)

SENATOR JULIE PAZINA (Senatorial District No. 12):

In 2019, the Legislature approved S.B. No. 135 of the Eightieth Session which authorized collective bargaining between the State and certain State employees, generally those in the classified system of employment. This bill seeks to allow our first responders, including separate units of Category I, II and III peace officers and firefighters, to take part in supervisory benefits.

We did receive a fiscal note from the Nevada Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management addressing the management of these new supervisory units for first responders. We have had many productive conversations since this fiscal note was shared with us.

RICK McCann (Nevada Association of Public Safety Officers):

We have had a chance to speak with Ms. Mandee Bowsmith, Administrator of the Division of Human Resource Management, Nevada Department of

Administration about the fiscal note to <u>S.B. 166</u>. We may have come to a few solutions on how to reduce this fiscal note which adds four new bargaining units: One each for Category I, II and III law enforcement and one for firefighters. This amounts to a ratio of two new personnel analysts for every new bargaining unit.

Category I, II and III law enforcement are rank-and-file people and are already in bargaining units represented by unions. So are the firefighter rank-and-file members who are in bargaining units. A fewer number of supervisors will be absorbed within the current unions already doing contract negotiations with the State.

The State has seen the benefit of collective bargaining and has become more efficient. We disagree that the ratio of two new personnel analyst III positions are needed for these two groups. We understand when a Department takes on more work, it is likely more employees are needed. We think they do not need as many people as has been represented within the fiscal note.

#### CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

I will close the hearing on S.B. 166 and we will go to S.B. 266.

<u>SENATE BILL 266 (1st Reprint)</u>: Excludes certain portions of entry fees for participation in certain contests or tournaments from the gross revenue of gaming licensees for certain purposes. (BDR 41-943)

SENATOR JULIE PAZINA (Senatorial District No. 12):

Casinos and resorts frequently hold gaming contests and tournaments. Participants pay an entry fee. Those entry fees are considered part of the gross revenue for a casino and are included in the calculation of how much the casino must pay for its monthly license fee. The reason for exempting entry fees under these specific circumstances is none of this money ever actually comes to the casino as income. It is used in one of three buckets: to pay employees, as a donation, or as prize money.

Proposed Amendment 3654 (Exhibit D) was added since the reprint of S.B. 266. While there is no dollar amount tied to local government fiscal notes, this would result in lost gross gaming tax. We are trying to solve an unintended consequence with S.B. 266 of taxing casinos for tournament entry fees if no casinos have generated any income.

MICHAEL ALONSO (Caesars Entertainment):

<u>Senate Bill 266</u> was requested by the Nevada Resort Association. Prior to the Eightieth Legislative Session, entry fees for the right to enter a contest and tournament were not taxable. This bill represents a clarification. We did not oppose the 2019 legislation and did not believe contests and tournaments were taxable. We have worked with the Gaming Control Board to solve this issue.

Concerning the \$3.4 million reduction of tax revenue over the 2023-2025 biennium referenced in the fiscal note, none of these types of taxes were paid prior to the 2019 legislation. This is a tiny amount of the percentage of fees collected on gaming revenue. The reason the Gaming Control Board came to us in 2019 is because they saw the growth in tournaments and contests and thought they should be taxable, and we agreed. The State will benefit from continued tournament growth.

The amendment was part of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) William S. Boyd School of Law bill, <u>S.B. 379</u>. It made it through Committee and ultimately did not get through to the Senate Floor.

**SENATE BILL 379**: Revises provisions relating to gaming. (BDR 41-1016)

Doug Billings (William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas):

I am going to address section 1.5 of the amendment to <u>S.B. 266</u> which is an effort to modernize Nevada's foreign gaming statutes. The foreign gaming provisions were originally one of three parts of the UNLV Boyd School of Law bill which was <u>S.B. 379</u>. The bill passed through the Senate Judiciary Committee, but a portion received stiff opposition from both the Gaming Control Board and certain members of industry. <u>Senate Bill 379</u> never received a floor vote. The proposed revisions to the foreign gaming statutes also died though they had received broad support. Section 1.5 of the proposed amendment would revive the foreign gaming provisions contained in S.B. 379.

The foreign gaming statutes apply to any Nevada gaming licensee who participates in the gaming business outside Nevada, which includes both casino operators and manufacturers. The statute has been in its current form since the early 1990s and requires a licensee to submit a series of annual and quarterly reports. Gaming has exploded since the early 1990s and certain Nevada licensees are now operating in hundreds of jurisdictions and have thousands of

individual locations. This has resulted in a substantial burden in reporting obligations under the current law. Not only do licensees have a substantial burden, but the Gaming Control Board must collect, review and analyze the information even though much of it has limited utility.

The original version of <u>S.B. 379</u> was somewhat limited, but we learned there was a universal appetite among stakeholders to change the bill to make it broader. As a result, we introduced an amendment to <u>S.B. 379</u> which was adopted in Committee before the bill died. The amendment to <u>S.B. 379</u> is substantively the same as the amendment to <u>S.B. 266</u>. It eliminates certain reporting requirements and reduces the frequency of others. This results in regulatory relief to the industry and will continue to provide the Gaming Control Board the information they need to oversee the foreign gaming operations of their licensees.

### SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

What is the purpose of changing reporting requirements to fewer and less frequent reports?

#### Mr. BILLINGS:

This provision goes back 50 years. The rules changed in the early 1990s to add reporting requirements. The expansion of gaming across the globe has licensees everywhere and it has become a burden. The Gaming Control Board has developed a policy to collect different information than what is required in current statute. This has been going on for at least several years and probably up to 20 years.

The information they are collecting now is more than what they need and want. This amendment was the result of working with the Gaming Control Board and industry stakeholders to get the collected information the Gaming Control Board needs and wants. It will also limit the burden on licensees, especially for manufacturers that report every quarter on thousands of individual locations. This was information the Gaming Control Board simply did not need every quarter. This amendment cuts down the frequency and eliminates other information which has not been collected.

#### SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

Your testimony is the Gaming Control Board has not been following what is in statute. You might have to explain a little more. In this amendment, you are

striking out annual language pertaining to annual operational and regulatory reports describing compliance with regulations, procedures for audit, and procedures for surveillance relating to foreign gaming operations. You mentioned discontinuing quarterly reports. I am trying to reconcile the language in the amendment with how you answered my question.

#### Mr. BILLINGS:

I stated the Gaming Control Board is not complying with the statute. That was not my intention. They are collecting the information. Based on my conversations with staff at the Gaming Control Board, the information provided to them is not particularly useful and is stricken out in the amendment. And it includes the guarterly reports, which are not needed at that interval.

#### SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

There are concerns about reducing or removing reporting requirements. There can be scrutiny. Nevada does it better than any other state or any other place in the world and we want to make sure we are doing things in an appropriate fashion.

It might be helpful to hear from the Gaming Control Board about what information exactly is collected and not being used, so we have a better idea of what this bill is trying to accomplish in this amendment. I do not have questions about the bill itself. We can always follow up after this.

# Mr. Alonso:

The issue is from the operator and manufacturer standpoints. The Gaming Control Board has worked through how to address this over a very long period.

In section 1, subsection 2, what has been stricken is the burdensome part of the operational regulatory reports, describing compliance with regulations, procedures for audit, procedures for surveillance relating to the foreign gaming operations. What various states require in terms of actual internal control procedures could be 500 pages long. In Nevada, the audit procedures are very long. Other states would have similar procedures for surveillance. These gigantic procedures are what the licensees must attach to these reports. The Gaming Control Board can request copies of any procedure at any time. Many are publicly traded companies and must report all the time anyway and have Gaming Control Board agents from the corporate securities section monitoring them.

Much has changed since the foreign gaming statute was first put in place. The Gaming Control Board is able to access this information. It is the statute requiring reports on an annual basis. This is more significant now because of the number of companies that must do reporting. I believe the Gaming Control Board would say they are trying to streamline the reporting process.

# **SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:**

When you look at highly regulated industries, there are similar standards from state to state. I can understand why you do not necessarily want a report of audit and surveillance procedures, but you are eliminating the requirement altogether. Potentially, another way to approach it is, if there are any changes in procedures, the licensee must report those changes. Sometimes there are not any changes for years.

#### Mr. Alonso:

We do not have a concern if there are changes. The Gaming Control Board has other mechanisms through their licensing and registration of public companies or intermediary companies to request information anytime they need it. The statute requires it to be filed with the annual report and that is the issue we are trying to deal with. It is a significant amount of information the Gaming Control Board can otherwise request when needed.

#### Mr. BILLINGS:

The amendment does provide for the Gaming Control Board to require such other information as requested by the Commission. The Board already has the ability under the statute.

Based on our research, Nevada is the only state requiring this type of information. No other state requires foreign gaming reports from its gaming licensees. Although modified, this would remain by far the most ambitious regulation of foreign gaming in the Country.

VIRGINIA VALENTINE (President, Nevada Resort Association): The Nevada Resort Association supports S.B. 266.

# CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

I will close the hearing on S.B. 266 and I will open the hearing on S.B. 234.

**SENATE BILL 234 (2nd Reprint)**: Revises provisions governing communications with offenders. (BDR S-810)

SENATOR MELANIE SCHEIBLE (Senatorial District No. 9):

The purpose of <u>S.B. 234</u> is to keep family connections for people who are incarcerated and allow them to speak to their family members, specifically their children, without an additional cost to them. <u>Senate Bill 234</u> would establish a pilot program at the Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center to give every person one free 15-minute phone call to a family member each day.

Keeping those support systems strong will better prepare them to return to their lives outside of incarceration and become productive and happy members of society. There is no fiscal note on this bill.

JAMES DZURENDA (Director, Nevada Department of Corrections):

I have already started the contract talk with Securus Technologies who will oversee the Department's telecommunications. There is no fiscal impact to do the pilot program at the Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center for six months. This program will allow every offender at the facility a free phone call for 15 minutes every single day for a six-month period to keep communication open with their family members, which everyone knows is important.

#### SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

Are you going to take the inmate to the phone or take the phone to the inmate?

#### Mr. Dzurenda:

It will be the same process in place today. There are phones on the walls inside the housing units. They will be given access the first time they use the phone during the day or evening. The first 15 minutes of their first phone call will be free.

# SENATOR GOICOECHEA:

If they talk for 30 minutes, will you be billing them for the other 15 minutes?

# Mr. Dzurenda:

I was told by Securus Technologies the inmate will be billed from 16 minutes to the end of the call.

CHAIR DONDERO LOOP:

I will close the hearing on S.B. 234. We will now hear public comment.

VICTORIA CARREON (Director, Division of Industrial Relations, Nevada Department of Business and Industry):

<u>Senate Bill 274</u> addresses benefit penalties in workers' compensation cases. Our agency will be responsible for doing those benefits penalty complaints and conducting those investigations.

We believe there would be a fiscal impact to this bill due to an increase of about 50 benefit penalty complaints annually. We have two full-time staff members who process benefits, penalty complaints and do these investigations. We have a backlog. There is not capacity to do any additional investigations.

We requested one additional compliance investigator III position as part of the fiscal note. There is also a technology impact when our website needs to be updated showing what benefit penalties have been decided.

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CHAIR DONDERO LOOP: Hearing no further public comment, we are adjourned at 5:55 p.m.				
	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:			
	Spencer Jones, Committee Secretary			
APPROVED BY:				
Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, Chair	_			

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

EXHIBIT SUMMARY				
Bill	Exhibit Letter	Introduced on Minute Report Page No.	Witness / Entity	Description
	Α	1		Agenda
	В	1		Attendance Roster
S.B. 274	С	6	Senator Skip Daly	Proposed Amendment 3645
S.B. 266	D	10	Senator Julie Pazina	Proposed Amendment 3654