

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Eighty-Third Session
February 28, 2025**

The Committee on Health and Human Services was called to order by Chair Tracy Brown-May at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2025, in Room 3138 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 1 of the Nevada Legislature Hearing Rooms, 7120 Amigo Street, 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/83rd2025.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblymember Tracy Brown-May, Chair
Assemblymember Duy Nguyen, Vice Chair
Assemblymember Joe Dalia
Assemblymember Rebecca Edgeworth
Assemblymember Cecelia González
Assemblymember Heather Goulding
Assemblymember Ken Gray
Assemblymember Brian Hibbetts
Assemblymember Linda F. Hunt
Assemblymember Jovan A. Jackson
Assemblymember Gregory S. Koenig
Assemblymember Hanadi Nadeem

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Assemblymember Gregory T. Hafen II (excused)
Assemblymember David Orentlicher (excused)

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Assemblymember Venicia Considine, Assembly District No. 18
Senator Fabian Doñate, Senate District No. 10



STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Davis Florence, Committee Policy Analyst
David Nauss, Committee Counsel
Mackenzie Scruggs, Committee Manager
Jo Lynn Smith, Committee Secretary
Ashley Torres, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Olivia Tanager, Director, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club
Lea Cartwright, representing Nevada Public Health Association
Lindsey Harmon, Executive Director, Planned Parenthood Votes Nevada
Andrea Corral, representing League to Save Lake Tahoe; and Nevada Women's
Lobby
Noé Orosco, Government Affairs Manager, Make the Road Nevada
Tracy Puckett, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Steve Scott, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Daniel Andrews, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Christi Cabrera-Georgeson, Deputy Director, Nevada Conservation League
Toby Tyler, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Jollina Walker, State Policy Director, Make It Work Nevada
Hector Arreola, Policy Fellow, Nevada Environmental Justice Coalition
Tray Abney, representing American Chemistry Council
Paul J. Moradkhan, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, Vegas Chamber
Bryan Wachter, Senior Vice President, Retail Association of Nevada
Peter Saba, Senior Manager, Government Affairs, Nevada Restaurant Association
Jennifer Campbell, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada
Denise Lopez, Director, Nevada Campaign, Reproductive Freedom for All
Caroline Mello Roberson, representing Planned Parenthood Votes Nevada
Jamelle Nance, Early Childhood Policy Director, Children's Advocacy Alliance
Crispina Hernandez, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Denise Bolanos-Heredia, Associate Director, Return Strong NV
Rebecca Jiminez, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Romina Paolucci, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
David Cochran, Fire Chief, Reno Fire Department; and President, Nevada Fire Chiefs
Association
Nic Ciccone, Government Affairs Manager, City Manager's Office, City of Reno
Todd Ingalsbee, President, Professional Fire Fighters of Nevada
Mike Brown, representing Nevada Fire Chiefs Association
Rich Harvey, Fire Chief, Central Lyon Fire
Chris Bosse, Chief Government Relations Officer, Renown Health
Blayne Osborn, President, Nevada Rural Hospital Partners

Chair Brown-May:

[Roll was called. Committee rules and protocols were explained.] We have three bills on the agenda today. I will open the hearing on Assembly Bill 244. Assemblymember Considine, you may begin when you are ready.

Assembly Bill 244: Enacts prohibitions relating to the use of disposable foodware containers containing polystyrene foam by certain food establishments. (BDR 40-685)

Assemblymember Venicia Considine, Assembly District No. 18:

I am here today to present Assembly Bill 244. With me today is Olivia Tanager, Director of the Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter. With A.B. 244, we hope to address one common source of polystyrene foam in our state in an effort to reduce the prevalence of this harmful product. The purpose of the bill is to mitigate the harmful effects of polystyrene, also known as Styrofoam, to our health, our state's natural resources, and our overall environment.

Single-use polystyrene packaging for food and beverage items is not recyclable once used. Polystyrene contains toxic substances that are hazardous to humans, such as styrene and benzyne, which are suspected carcinogens. Hot food and hot liquids can melt and break down polystyrene upon contact, which the body could then absorb. These chemicals can disrupt hormones, fertility, the immune system, and they can cause neurological problems. I read an article yesterday that microplastics are now showing up in our brains, which means it has passed the brain-blood barrier, and throughout our body.

This bill encourages recyclable packaging, reduces waste and landfill challenges, and mitigates the harmful effects of Styrofoam on humans and wildlife. Assembly Bill 244 prohibits the use of Styrofoam in carry-out and to-go containers for restaurants. The scope is narrowed to two groups. The first group is chain restaurants that already have a location in a state or jurisdiction that has already prohibited the use of Styrofoam containers. The second narrow area is restaurants in Nevada that have ten or more locations with substantially similar menus. We have crafted this bill to avoid the true mom and pop, small restaurants that are struggling.

Essentially, what we want to do with this bill is stop carry out Styrofoam—because it is a wave across this country—it is happening in other places—and it is harmful. To do it properly, we want to put a step progression in there so we have time to get the word out and get more information out to everybody; work with companies that have chains in other places that are already doing this, because if they are doing it in other places, they can do it here; and also start with restaurants here that have ten or more locations that can take this on in an easier manner.

I will get to the bill in just a second. The bill only has those two narrow scopes for right now, for 2025 until 2029. In 2029, it would prohibit Styrofoam carry-out containers for all restaurants. The reason why we have this four-year gap is to allow restaurants to get used to this. Also, for places that make the alternative packaging that we are already seeing in most places, to have that manufacturing system maybe grow bigger in Nevada. Maybe some companies that are in other states are looking for a better place to open a business. If they know this will be expanded in 2029, they will move here and then that transition by 2029 will be seamless.

After speaking with multiple stakeholders, we do have a couple of conceptual amendments [[Exhibit C](#)], which Committee members should have, and I will go over those amendments as I go through the bill. I do want to make one thing clear: this does not apply to grocery stores or commercial use Styrofoam.

Assembly Bill 244 is not a long bill at all. Section 3 is one of the places where we have an amendment. "A food establishment that has 10 or more locations doing business in this state" We are amending "food establishment" and replacing it with "restaurant" throughout the bill. That was specifically requested because "food establishment" could include grocery stores. As I said, we are trying to do this very narrowly.

There is a penalty for an entity who willfully and knowingly violates the provision of this bill [section 3, subsection 2]. The civil penalty is not to exceed \$1,000 per violation. Violation seems too stringent, so the second item on our amendment [[Exhibit C](#)] is to change \$1,000 "for each violation" to "per day."

Section 3, subsection 3, "The provisions of this section do not apply to a food establishment that has less than 10 locations doing business in this state unless the food establishment has 1 or more locations doing business in states other than Nevada" or a jurisdiction that has the disposable foodware containers already in use.

This bill has a definition of "disposable foodware container" and "polystyrene foam" in section 3, subsection 4, paragraphs (a) and (b).

Section 4 has some conforming language.

Section 5 has been a little confusing to folks. In 2029, section 5 kicks in. That is the difference between section 3 and section 5. If you look at the red lines in section 5, that is because those narrow requirements will go away in 2009 [sic] because this bill will be for all restaurants.

In section 6, we understand a lot of restaurants have supplies, they order their supplies, and some may order a lot of their supplies. When this bill goes into effect, a restaurant "may use any remaining inventory of the disposable foodware containers until the inventory of such disposable foodware containers is depleted." We have done a good job in making sure we are not wasteful of anyone's funding, at the same time we are protecting our state's health, the health of our children, and future children.

Before we take any questions, I would like to turn the presentation over to Olivia Tanager.

Olivia Tanager, Director, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club:

We are the largest grassroots environmental organization in the state. I thank you for taking the time today to listen to our presentation on A.B. 244 [[Exhibit D](#)]. Today we want to talk to you about a material that will outlast the memory of everyone in this room: Styrofoam—chemically known as polystyrene. It is incredibly harmful, as you heard, to our environment and to our health. Its environmental and health impacts are both severe and lasting, making it an urgent issue we need to address.

One of the biggest issues with Styrofoam is how long it takes to biodegrade [page 3]. Once it has been discarded, it can persist in the environment for hundreds or even thousands of years. You can see on the screen how we compared Styrofoam's decomposition rate to that of other alternative packaging. I will note, the 500-year number is a very conservative estimate that I used in part for the sake of visualization in order to see the other bars on the graph. Many studies show that Styrofoam never fully decomposes. It breaks into tiny particles which end up polluting our waterways and landscapes. These microplastics are ingested by wildlife, causing serious harm to animals in Nevada—from fish to birds.

The process of manufacturing it produces harmful chemicals including styrene, a probable carcinogen. These chemicals contribute to air and water pollution which have long-term effects on ecosystems and human health. Not only will Styrofoam outlast us by at least 20 generations, it is incredibly expensive to recycle. In Nevada, Styrofoam is, by and large, not recycled because of the expense and because it is very difficult to recycle, especially compared to the cost of recycling alternative materials to Styrofoam.

Some folks have asked, Why Styrofoam? Why not all plastics given recent studies showing how pervasive and harmful plastic can be? The answer is on this slide [page 3]. It is by far the longest lasting and the most expensive and, therefore, the least likely material to be recycled and reused.

The health risks associated with Styrofoam have been established through numerous peer-reviewed, scientifically respective studies [page 4]. The material itself contains styrene, a chemical that has been linked to numerous health issues and classified as a potential human carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer. When Styrofoam is used in food containers, as the Assemblymember said, such as cups or take-out boxes, there is also the risk of chemicals leaching into the food or drink. Research has shown that hot foods and beverages can cause styrene to leach more easily, posing potential risks to human health.

Styrofoam, or polystyrene, also poses significant environmental harm [page 5]. The polystyrene manufacturing process is the fifth largest creator of hazardous waste in the United States contributing to serious pollution. As a principal litter, Styrofoam is found everywhere, from streets to waterways, and its lightweight nature causes it to break down into tiny particles that are incredibly difficult to clean up. These microplastics not only pollute our environment but also negatively impact outdoor tourism, a vital part of Nevada's economy. After all, who wants to walk around our beautiful cities or go on a hike and see Styrofoam litter.

I hope you all have been to Lake Tahoe and if you have, I am certain you have been moved by its beauty living in northern Nevada [page 6]. I still find myself tearing up every time I drive down into the Tahoe Basin and catch a glimpse of the lake. Styrofoam poses a serious threat to Lake Tahoe's ecosystem. A Desert Research Institute study found that polystyrene, along with polyethylene and alkaline resins, were among the most common materials found on Nevada beaches along the lake. In a 2023 study, polystyrene made up 16.5 percent of submerged materials from Lake Tahoe, highlighting its prevalence in the beautiful lake. Additionally, a study published in *Nature* revealed Lake Tahoe has the third highest concentration of microplastics out of 38 lakes surveyed globally. These microplastics are a significant concern, as they negatively impact the lake's famous clarity, threatening both the environment and local tourism.

Many states and localities have already taken this leap [page 8]. We are not reinventing the wheel or asking for a radical change. I will note, after talking with many businesses across Nevada, I believe banning Styrofoam at the state level is the best route for several reasons. Addressing this change at the state level is more beneficial than by city bans, as a statewide ban provides consistency across regions, allowing businesses to streamline operations, reduce confusion, and avoid the burden of navigating different regulations in each city in our great state.

Not only is this a needed solution from an environmental and health standpoint, but it is a popular one [page 9]. Polling indicates that 81 percent of Americans support limiting Styrofoam at the state level. McDonald's voluntarily adopted a Styrofoam ban because of customer and shareholder concern over the safety of the product. Even in Nevada, the Washoe County School District (WCSD) stopped using Styrofoam trays in the lunch room, and you all know better than anyone what a shoestring budget our schools in the state operate under. If WCSD can do it, anyone can. Styrofoam's environmental and health impacts are undeniable and it is time we take the step forward as a state to protect Nevadans and Nevada.

Assemblymember Considine:

We are happy to take any questions at this time.

Chair Brown-May:

We do have a couple of questions, but before we begin, I would like to clarify. I think you said 2009, but your intention was 2029. Is that correct?

Assemblymember Considine:

Yes, 2029.

Assemblymember González:

I feel like we are living in a world where I have to Google clean products/no toxins. I very much appreciate the intent of this bill. I was curious if you could talk about the cost. You stated you want to exclude mom and pop shops. Is this because of a cost issue and does it cost more to not use Styrofoam? Could you talk about that?

Assemblymember Considine:

Yes. Currently, Styrofoam containers do cost less than some of the other things. I am sure if any of you have gotten any to-go food, especially in Carson City, the majority of you have seen that they are not often Styrofoam. There are still some chains that have Styrofoam, but you can already see that movement. It is a little bit more expensive right now to use the non-Styrofoam, which is why we focused on chains; nationwide chains or in Nevada having over ten or more restaurants. That allows some time for the industry, for non-Styrofoam containers, to become more vibrant, to lower the cost, and also to encourage others to enter the marketplace here. That decision was for the true mom and pop places where the pennies are the cost difference and really does make that difference. We do not want to harm anyone; we want to make everything healthier.

Assemblymember González:

If this bill were to go into effect and new businesses do come here, would they have the 2029 timeline, or does that depend on whether they are a chain?

Assemblymember Considine:

If a chain decides to open in Carson City, or Las Vegas, or Henderson, and they have a restaurant in a state—Colorado, California, Maine—they are already doing it there. The first hope would be that they do that here because it is the right thing to do. Otherwise, they would be subject under this law. If it is a person opening their own restaurant for the first time, that is one restaurant. That does not make the ten-restaurant threshold, at least before 2029.

Assemblymember Gray:

I have to be honest, I thought I was going to hate this bill. I have a big chunk of Lake Tahoe in my district. I do like the way you have put it together and tried to be sensitive to businesses. Do we have an idea of any number of businesses that it will currently affect and what the cost ramifications may be for them?

Assemblymember Considine:

No, we have not done a survey at that level. We have spoken with the Nevada Restaurant Association, so that may be somebody we can circle back with to get those numbers for you.

Assemblymember Nadeem:

Thank you for bringing such an important issue forward. It is very important, as we know. It is about our health and about the environment. My question is almost the same. We will tell the restaurants not to use this Styrofoam, but what are they going to use instead? Is it a paper bag? Are you going to educate them? Do you have any idea how you are going to educate them in what to use?

Assemblymember Considine:

We have not actually discussed educating them, but I think that is a great idea. I do believe at this point, if you went to five restaurants, I would say at least two, if not three of them, would not be using Styrofoam. It is an issue of where you source it, which is another reason we have this four years. We want to have more creative sources come in to the state. Education through the health district or through the counties is a good idea.

Assemblymember Goulding:

I love the bill. I was a little surprised that it does not go even further. Certainly, there were opportunities to be even more restrictive. Can you tell me why you did not choose to do that?

Assemblymember Considine:

Whenever you start with a bill, you start like a funnel; you start very wide. You have ideas of what you would like to see at the end of it. But as we met with stakeholders, we wanted to really hear their concerns, so our funnel kept getting smaller and smaller. I think it is very important for us to start this process rather than not have any place to start. Although I agree, I wish this would be wider, I am hopeful that the idea of this bill and the implementation of this bill will speed up the process of entities moving away from Styrofoam. Being a little harsher, I think that would not get this bill as far as I am hoping to get it.

Chair Brown-May:

Members, are there any other questions? [There were none.] I will open testimony in support of A.B. 244 in Carson City.

Lea Cartwright, representing Nevada Public Health Association:

I think you all heard from that lovely presentation the health effects and the risks of styrene and Styrofoam products, especially those microplastics that cross the blood-brain barrier. Getting the pollution out of our lakes and streams is incredibly important here in the north for our watersheds. On behalf of Nevada Public Health Association and public health across the state, we support this bill.

Lindsey Harmon, Executive Director, Planned Parenthood Votes Nevada:

We are here today in support of A.B. 244. This bill limits or mitigates endocrine disruptors, including microplastics and nanoplastics. These Styrofoam components have been proven to have harmful effects on reproductive health and fertility. I urge the Committee to support A.B. 244.

Andrea Corral, representing League to Save Lake Tahoe:

The League to Save Lake Tahoe is in support of A.B. 244 because of the serious threat polystyrene poses to the future of a clean, healthy, and clear blue Lake Tahoe. Founded in 1957, the League's mission is to maintain and protect the clarity of the lake. We advocate for policies that support smart waste management as well as limit the availability of disposable, single-use plastics that end up polluting our lakes, streams, trails, and beaches. Polystyrene is not biodegradable, it is costly and difficult to recycle, and also breaks down into smaller particles that pose a threat to Tahoe's wildlife. Single-use polystyrene foam items are among the most common litter items found along the lakeshore.

During 2023 and 2024, Keep Tahoe Blue volunteers conducted 417 cleanups in Nevada. Some of these included Lake Tahoe. The League has hosted events like Keep Tahoe Red, White and Blue on July 5, as well as other Tahoe Blue crew cleanups conducted by trained crews around the area. Over those two years and 400+ cleanups, volunteers have removed nearly 6,000 Styrofoam litter items from the environment. That is more than all metal cans, bottle caps, and pull tabs removed during the same time period. Notably, 89 percent of all Styrofoam litter items reported by the volunteers were miscellaneous items, while 11 percent were discernible items such as foam cups, lids, and take-out containers.

The lake does not know jurisdictional boundaries, so while other municipalities have taken the step to enact a ban on single-use polystyrene products, we need Nevada to join the effort to ensure a truly protected lake.

Noé Orosco, Government Affairs Manager, Make the Road Nevada:

We stand behind A.B. 244 for all the reasons the presenter and the copresenter mentioned. We do want to thank Assemblymember Considine for bringing this forward, so please support it.

Chair Brown-May:

We will move to support testimony in Las Vegas.

Tracy Puckett, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

[Read from [Exhibit E](#).] I want to thank the Chair and Committee members for listening to my testimony for A.B. 244, banning Styrofoam for food containers in certain situations in Nevada. I would especially like to thank Assemblymember Venicia Considine for sponsoring this important bill.

I am a retired registered nurse and have lived in the Las Vegas area for 32 years now. I love my home and its people but worry that sometimes our leaders frequently put profits for a few over the safety of many. Styrofoam, polystyrene foam, among many other plastics, is a terrific convenience and a curse; one that we need to learn to live without just like we have cigarettes, leaded fuel, and asbestos. When a person ingests hot liquids, and possibly hot food, from polystyrene foam cups and plates, the styrene may leach out of the foam and into our bodies.

Styrofoam is made from carcinogenic chemicals: styrene, benzyne, endocrine disrupting chemicals, and neurotoxins. Styrene has been linked to cancer, vision and hearing loss, impaired memory and concentration, and nervous system effects. Benzyne is a known carcinogen. Endocrine disrupting chemicals can disrupt many different hormones, causing alterations in sperm quality and fertility, altered nervous system function, immune function, diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular problems, neurologic problems, and learning disabilities. Beyond the direct toxin, Styrofoam takes hundreds, possibly thousands of years to degrade. It breaks down into microplastics, landing in our water, air, food supply, and our bodies. Microplastics have been found in blood, brain, testicle, placental tissues, as well as arterial plaque. Studies on the adverse effects of microplastics are frightening: cancer, autoimmune disease, stroke, and many other negative effects. You get the picture. This is dangerous stuff.

We can decrease our citizens' risk by requiring the elimination of this type of food container for restaurant use. Many states have already done this. The alternatives for food service are generally plant-based, safe, compostable, and affordable. Thank you for your time and attention, and please support A.B. 244.

Steve Scott, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I want to talk to you about Styrofoam from a consumer standpoint. I just got aware of this issue. The last time this was around a couple of years ago you were talking about Styrofoam. I bought some egg foo young. By the time I got it home, it had been sitting there for a couple of minutes and then we ate it. It tasted okay, I guess. The extremely hot egg foo young had really deformed that Styrofoam, and you could see where it had sort of eaten away and where the leaching actually did occur. Now that I have said this, if you have not experienced something like that already, you are going to now experience that. It is also true of marinara sauce. We ordered extra marinara sauce with a pizza and it came in a Styrofoam thing. It was piping hot. Same thing, the deformation of the Styrofoam. I thought I would take this opportunity to come all the way down here to the state building to say something about that because what I actually experienced was kind of gross. I hope you support A.B. 244.

Daniel Andrews, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am a member of the Sierra Club legislative group. I am also a father and a grandfather, and I worry about my children and my grandchildren, as this insidious plastic is being ingested. Styrene and benzyne are very, very bad. People talk about cost. What is the cost of cancer if your children get cancer? Assemblymembers González and Gray were talking about the cost of businesses. Well, let us talk about the cost of health care for people who are ill from this.

These microplastics, they do not know yet how they affect peoples' brains. They are found now in people's brains and this could cause major problems. We need to be very active with this. There are alternatives—plenty of paper products. Europeans use paper products in their packaging. We just have to look around. It is not too hard to figure out. Dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT) was used dramatically when I was a kid. I am an old man and look at how we finally eradicated that. It took a long time to get rid of that. I support this 100 percent, and you have to for your children's sake.

Chair Brown-May:

Is there anyone else in Carson City or Las Vegas who would like to testify in support? [There was no one.] Is there anyone waiting on the phone to testify in support?

Christi Cabrera-Georgeson, Deputy Director, Nevada Conservation League:

We are here in support of A.B. 244. This is an important step in protecting our environment and safeguarding the health of our communities. Styrofoam is non-biodegradable, pollutes our water, and endangers our wildlife. It also has documented health impacts. As we continue to witness the environmental and health effects of plastic products, it is imperative that we take action to reduce their widespread use. We urge the Committee's support on this bill.

Toby Tyler, Private Citizen, Lake Tahoe, Nevada:

I am a 23-year resident of Tahoe, and I urge you to vote yes on Assembly Bill 244, which would provide a much-needed ban on Styrofoam to-go food containers. We urge you to pass A.B. 244 because there are plenty of alternatives to these single-use, polystyrene containers which pollute our land and water. Styrofoam breaks down easily and releases small pieces into the environment. The past few years have shown that even the so-called pristine waters of Lake Tahoe are full of microplastics from Styrofoam and other plastics. Lake Tahoe's levels of microplastics have been shown to be larger than the ocean gyres. Most of the people on the Nevada side, like me at Lake Tahoe, get their drinking water directly out of the lake with no filtration provided.

Studies have shown that peoples' arteries and brains now have alarming levels of microplastics. California has instituted a Styrofoam ban, but the lake's waters are not confined by state borders. Banning Styrofoam has been proven to be feasible. This should not be a burden to restaurants in Nevada. In fact, some restaurants I have been to recently have already voluntarily switched. Please help save Lake Tahoe and the rest of Nevada from this pollution and vote to pass A.B. 244.

Jollina Walker, State Policy Director, Make It Work Nevada:

Make It Work Nevada is a reproductive justice organization, and I am here in support of A.B. 244. Reproductive justice pillars include the fight to remedy environmental injustices and to create solutions to health issues where marginalized populations face the brunt of the pollution burden. Styrofoam can significantly impact environments in low-income communities disproportionately, exposing residents to harmful chemicals through accumulating litter in their neighborhood and potential contamination of local waterways leading to health concerns and environmental degradation, particularly when waste disposal facilities are situated in our communities. We want to thank Assemblymember Considine for bringing this bill forward, and we urge you to support A.B. 244.

Hector Arreola, Policy Fellow, Nevada Environmental Justice Coalition:

The Nevada Environmental Justice Coalition is a statewide coalition of community organizations fighting for sustainability, environmental justice, and equity in all levels of government decision making. Through grassroots organizing and policy advocacy, we aim to liberate frontline communities from environmental hardship, which is why we are here in support of Assembly Bill 244.

I want to echo everything that was mentioned in regard to public health and environmental impact that Styrofoam has on our community. I also want to mention and emphasize how Styrofoam takes roughly 500 years to decompose, outlasting us and our children and our children's children. Styrofoam continues to cause harm even after we dispose of it by polluting our water sources and poisoning our wildlife. We ask that you support A.B. 244 to protect our community and the planet from the harmful and long-lasting effects of Styrofoam. Thank you for your time and your dedication to the people of our state.

[[Exhibit F](#) was submitted but not discussed and will become part of the record.]

Chair Brown-May:

Seeing no one else in Carson City, Las Vegas, or on the phone for support testimony, we will move to opposition. Is there anyone in Carson City or Las Vegas who wishes to provide opposition testimony?

Tray Abney, representing American Chemistry Council:

My clients' members produce the raw materials used to manufacture a variety of different types of food packaging containers including the expanded polystyrene foam products that would be restricted under A.B. 244. While we appreciate the intent of this bill, we are respectfully opposed. All packaging leaves an environmental footprint regardless of the material type. I do want to thank the sponsor, Assemblymember Considine. We chatted before session and chatted just a day ago. I also want to thank Olivia Tanager from the Sierra Club. She has been an absolute joy and wonderful to work with. We were not able to get there with her, but we will continue working.

I just want to add, it takes energy and raw materials to produce, transport, and recover or dispose of any material. In our view, the practical result of A.B. 244 will be to force restaurants to use alternative to-go containers without clarity as to whether those alternatives are currently being recycled or composted in this state. For those of you who have your recycling at home through either waste management or public services, they will tell you anything that has had food waste in it cannot be recycled. The American Chemistry Council has been constructively involved in packaging recycling legislation in several states, including California, Colorado, Oregon, Hawaii, and Washington, that seek to reduce waste and increase the recycling of all types of packaging materials.

A good first step would be to consider legislation like what is moving in Hawaii, which would require a waste needs assessment to be completed to help guide any future waste recycling policy. What materials are being collected? How are the services arranged and funded? Are there improvements in services needed? How are collected materials currently being processed and marketed? For these reasons we are respectfully opposed to A.B. 244, but we will continue to work with the sponsor.

Paul J. Moradkhan, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, Vegas Chamber:

The Vegas Chamber is opposed to A.B. 244 as drafted. However, working with the bill sponsor in those groups, we believe the proposed amendments [[Exhibit C](#)] will remove the Chamber's opposition to the bill with the adoption of the amendments, specifically to violations. We believe those amendments to the violation component, effective date, and so forth will address those concerns, and we look forward to removing our opposition to the bill.

Bryan Wachter, Senior Vice President, Retail Association of Nevada:

We do have some concerns about how the bill was originally written and what kind of consequences and side effects would have been to opening up something of this magnitude to all grocery stores and operations that are not exactly restaurants. We appreciate the ability to work with the bill sponsor, as well as Olivia Tanager, to be able to craft legislation that we know, as an industry, we can implement so we can help you achieve your policy goals. We do anticipate being able to remove our opposition once your body has adopted the amendment [[Exhibit C](#)].

Chair Brown-May:

Is there anyone else wishing to testify in opposition to A.B. 244, either in Carson City, Las Vegas, or on the phone? [There was no one.] We will move to neutral testimony. Is there anyone wishing to provide neutral testimony in Carson City or Las Vegas?

Peter Saba, Senior Manager, Government Affairs, Nevada Restaurant Association:

The Nevada Restaurant Association is here today in neutral. We want to thank the sponsor of the bill for reaching out to us a couple of months ago, and Olivia Tanager for taking our recommendation on a phased implementation, giving small businesses the chance to adapt to this new policy.

Assemblymember Gray, I will get the exact information on how many restaurants would truly be affected. Currently, I know off the top of my head to be Chick-fil-A, Roberto's, and Sonic. But some of these other locations that might have three in the state and one over there, I will get that to you.

Chair Brown-May:

Is there anyone else wishing to provide neutral testimony in Carson City, Las Vegas, or on the phone? [There was no one.] Does the sponsor have any last remarks?

Assemblymember Considine:

Thank you for allowing us the time to give this presentation. We will continue to work with stakeholders on this. We really want to make sure we can get a good bill passed and begin this process. We will have another amendment coming, to give you a heads up, to change the effective date to October 2025 instead of July 1, which is one issue some folks had.

Chair Brown-May:

I will close the hearing on Assembly Bill 244 and open the hearing on Assembly Bill 266. Assemblymember Gonzales, you are welcome to begin when you are ready.

Assembly Bill 266: Makes revisions to breastfeeding. (BDR 40-595)

Assemblymember Cecelia González, Assembly District No. 16:

I am joined today by my 11 and a half-month old, Itsara. First, Assembly Bill 266 requires the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services to provide online resources to breastfeeding individuals. These resources must include a fact sheet providing information concerning Medicaid coverage for counseling and support for breastfeeding; breastfeeding supplies; prenatal screenings; lactation consultants; and a list of services available in the community for lactation support, including the names, addresses, and phone numbers of organizations that provide support. The Department is also required to develop and implement a public health education program about lactation, which will include the health benefits of breastfeeding and ways to connect individuals to lactation support.

The next part of this bill is strengthening legal protections against discrimination towards a breastfeeding individual. Specifically, it prohibits places of public accommodation from discriminating against individuals because they are breastfeeding.

That brings me to the conceptual amendment [[Exhibit G](#)] to remove the misdemeanor part. I mislooked at that part. I think my work at the Legislature shows I am definitely not trying to throw people in jail, rather I am actually trying to get them out. I will be removing that portion.

I would like to give you all some statistics: 60 percent of moms actually stop breastfeeding sooner than they would like due to lack of support and resources. One in three moms experience massive pain thinking they cannot breastfeed because, again, they do not have the resources to learn; a lot of people do not understand that they are learning as well as their child; and nearly 75 percent do not have lactation support.

I am very excited to bring this bill forward through my own journey here with my little one. I think we saw about seven different lactation specialists just because of the challenges. I am very thankful for the support that I had. I also have friends who did not know they could breastfeed. I have a friend who is a teacher who thought she legitimately could not breastfeed because she had to go back to work. That is some of why I brought this bill forward. I will now take questions.

Chair Brown-May:

Thank you for your presentation, and welcome to Itsara's first bill presentation at 11 and a half months. I think you have set her off on the right foot. Members, are there any questions? [There were none.] I am happy to hear testimony in support of Assembly Bill 266. Anyone in support is welcome to come forward and fill in the chairs at this time.

Jennifer Campbell, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada:

I have had over 15-years' experience in birth work. Currently, I am a certified birth doula. I am also certified as bereavement, adoption and surrogacy doula, childbirth educator, and certified lactation educator. In addition to my doula training, this April 8 will be my 33rd anniversary of being a mom in the trenches on my own journey, parenting since 1992; a mom of 18 children. That is another story. I breastfed seven children, four biological and three whom I adopted through foster care, for 11 years in total, relactating for two of those adopted babies.

On December 1, 2022, I was the first doula in the State of Nevada to become a Medicaid provider. This has significantly altered the trajectory of my business in amazing ways, allowing me to serve Nevada's underserved, or really unserved communities. I have been the president of the Northern Nevada Breastfeeding Coalition, going on year two. We are currently merging to a statewide Nevada coalition. In the last three years, one of my responsibilities has been to maintain and update all breastfeeding resources for northern Nevada, which I have done and distributed. It is also one of the tabs on my website, Doula in Reno.

Many women in pregnancy and postpartum have no support. They feel isolated and alone, often feeling like they are failing, and without support prematurely end the breastfeeding relationship. Even postpartum in the hospitals with lactation consultants on staff, women who want to breastfeed are sometimes encouraged to give newborns formula instead of being assisted to work through breastfeeding issues and given referrals. Listing this as a resource on the Department of Health and Human Services website would make it easier for fee-for-service in all MCOs [managed care organizations] to utilize their care management and nursing staff to let members know this is a benefit. Currently, they have at least a minimum of six consultations with an IBCLC [International Board Certified Lactation Consultant]. Providing public education to pregnant women would go a long way to support breastfeeding and also increase the success rates.

Denise Lopez, Director, Nevada Campaign, Reproductive Freedom for All:

I am here on behalf of our 48,000 members we have in Nevada. I am here in support. Thank you to Assemblywoman González and baby. I am a first-time mother of a six-month old, and he is also in support, but he is not here. I know how important it is to be in a comfortable space to either breastfeed or pump to provide for a later time. I know myself and many other moms have been relegated to the bathroom, which is one of the most unsanitary, filthy places

you can think of where you can comfortably go and feed your baby. There is also a lot of judgment, shame, and guilt that comes with breastfeeding your child. By adding breastfeeding as a protected class, we will no longer be in that case. We need to encourage and make it easier for mothers and breastfeeding persons to breastfeed no matter how hard it is, and make sure that we understand the benefits of breastfeeding.

In addition to the nutritional benefits for the baby, we know there is a reduced risk of chronic diseases for the child as they grow, such as type 2 diabetes and obesity; and for the mother and breastfeeding person, there is a reduced risk of postpartum depression, high blood pressure, breast and ovarian cancers, and cardiovascular diseases among other things. Because of all these benefits and because breastfeeding is one of the most natural things we can do for our babies, I am here in support.

Caroline Mello Roberson, representing Planned Parenthood Votes Nevada:

I am here to speak in support. Thank you to Assemblywoman González and Itsara for bringing this forward. I think there are so many of you who are new and you do not remember when I was doing the breastfeeding thing not that long ago. We have come a long way in this building in talking about this stuff. The fact we just had a hearing and there was not a lot of giggling or any other stuff about these things is progress. I think it is always important to have public conversations about these things. I also believe, as a reproductive freedom advocate, it is important to make sure we support moms—whatever is going on. Meaning sometimes breastfeeding does not work for folks, and that is okay too. We do not want to shame mothers; we want to support them and lift them up. I think these resources are super important. I remember how overwhelming it felt when I was a first-time mom. I think it is really important that we have this conversation publicly.

Assemblymember González has done such a good job in bringing this forward. I hope we build on this because what my colleague just testified about is serious. Having a place to go can be very difficult. I can remember sitting here testifying and being like, Okay, I am going to make it right. No, it is just going, it is just happening and none of you knew. That kind of stuff happens all the time to those of us who do this. I think having an honest conversation about that so we do not feel so embarrassed. Maybe I should have just said, can I just go to the bathroom for a minute. That would have been better. I think sometimes it is hard to do that, especially when you are new and you do not want people to notice something. Thank you so much for this. I am really excited about it. Thanks to the folks who coordinated all of us speaking here today.

Andrea Corral, representing Nevada Women's Lobby:

Assembly Bill 266 is an important step in promoting health and ensuring that families in Nevada have access to accurate information, as well as resources about breastfeeding. While I may not be a mom yet, I know breastfeeding is widely recognized for significant health benefits, not just for infants, but for parents as well. It strengthens a baby's immune system as well as reduces the risk of chronic diseases. For parents, it lowers the chance of postpartum depression and certain cancers.

By equipping the community with the education and training they need, A.B. 266 will make it easier for the families to get the support they need during the most critical stages of the child's development. Assembly Bill 266 is about ensuring healthier outcomes for Nevada's children and families. I urge this Committee to support A.B. 266 and help make breastfeeding education and resources more accessible to those who need them.

Chair Brown-May:

Is there anyone else wishing to testify in support of A.B. 266 in Carson City or Las Vegas? [There was no one.] Is there anyone on the phone wishing to testify in support?

Jamelle Nance, Early Childhood Policy Director, Children's Advocacy Alliance:

On behalf of the Children's Advocacy Alliance, we would like to express our support for A.B. 266 to make revisions related to breastfeeding by providing vital information pertaining to breastfeeding, breastfeeding support, and protection to nursing caregivers.

As you heard today, breastfeeding has many health benefits for infants, children, and parents, and is a key strategy to improve public health. According to our most recent CDC [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] breastfeeding report card in Nevada, 23 percent of breastfed infants received formula before two-days of age, and only 22 percent were exclusively breastfed through six months. These statistics do highlight the need for education and support for new parents to improve infant health outcomes and strengthen families.

Numerous barriers to breastfeeding remain and disparities persist in breastfeeding duration and exclusivity rates by race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. Policy changes that address breastfeeding barriers like those proposed in A.B. 266 provide caregivers with the information and support they need to make the healthiest choices for their baby, which will have a lasting positive impact for both parent and child. We do urge your support for this bill and thank you for your time and commitment to Nevada's children and families.

Crispina Hernandez, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I would like to voice my support for A.B. 266. First, I would like to thank the sponsors and cosponsors of the bill, especially Assemblymember González for championing this bill and sharing her journey with all of us. I am on the board for the Nevada Breastfeeding Coalition. I am also a doula and a prior breastfeeding mom. This bill will provide support for the many parents who give birth in the hospital by providing them with the education on breast/chestfeeding and ensuring that breast/chestfeeding individuals are protected while doing so in public. If they are discriminated, they have the ability to hold the businesses or organizations accountable.

The prevalence of breastfeeding in Nevada is lower than the national average. Specifically, here in Clark County, 73.8 percent of infants under six months receive any breastfeeding [sic]. We also know that the Healthy People 2030 [Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services] has set two key indicators

related to improving breastfeeding rates by 2030. These indicators include targets to raise the percentage of infants exclusively breastfed up to six months from 24.9 to 42.4 percent, and the percentage of infants breastfed at one-year old from 35.9 to 54.1 percent. This bill will provide the much-needed education that can possibly support the 2030 indicators for Nevada.

Lastly, as we continue to see a high number of discriminatory bills and rhetoric on our most marginalized communities, we need state protections for our communities. This bill provides some of that relief. Thank you for your time, and I urge you to vote yes on A.B. 266.

Jollina Walker, State Policy Director, Make It Work Nevada:

Make It Work Nevada is a reproductive justice organization. We are here to support A.B. 266. Assembly Bill 266 is a critical step toward advancing reproductive justice by ensuring equitable access to lactation support and resources for all families, regardless of income or insurance status, by mandating the state Department of Health and Human Services inform new parents of their rights and strengthen protections against breast/chestfeeding discrimination. Assembly Bill 266 removes the barriers that have long prevented marginalized communities and families from accessing essential lifesaving infant nutrition support. This bill provides solutions to systemic disparities in breast/chestfeeding support that disproportionately affects low-income, Black, lactating parents, babies, and their families. It reflects the reproductive justice pillars of the right to live in a well-resourced and healthy community and a right to parent with dignity without discrimination in our public spaces.

We want to thank all of the cosponsors, especially Assemblymember González, for bringing this bill forward. We urge the Committee to support A.B. 266. Closing the lactation gap is a matter of health equity and ensures all parents have access to resources to make the informed feeding choices for their children without financial or social constraints.

Denise Bolanos-Heredia, Associate Director, Return Strong NV:

We strongly support A.B. 266. Why would a prison reform organization be interested in this bill? Because some mothers are lactating when they go to prison or jail; some mothers give birth while incarcerated, and there are breastfeeding mothers inside prisons visiting their incarcerated loved ones. Incarcerated mothers lack access to breastfeeding education and lactation support and, in some cases, educational materials could even be flagged as inappropriate. Making these resources available online ensures more people, including those who are incarcerated, can access vital information should they need it. With NDOC [Department of Corrections] distributing tablets to incarcerated individuals, this could be an important way to provide them with breastfeeding education and support. This is a public health issue. Breastfeeding improves infant health, strengthens maternal bonds, and increases a mother's chance of successful reentry. Supporting this bill simply means supporting healthier families and stronger communities.

Rebecca Jiminez, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am a board member for the Breastfeeding Coalition of Nevada, and I am also a first-time mom and a CBC [certified breastfeeding counselor]. I am in support of A.B. 266. I think it is very important for mothers who are entering their journey of breastfeeding to have the knowledge and support to be able to provide those health benefits for the baby and for themselves. I know a lot of moms are not really aware of it, but they have so many health benefits when they are able to breastfeed. I feel with this bill specifically, they would be able to gain more confidence, not being scared of breastfeeding in public whenever or wherever because, honestly, we do not know the time when our babies get hungry and sometimes breastfeeding on demand can be a little tricky when you are out in public and you are unsure if you are able to feed your baby at that time. I do not think that should be a worry anymore for any moms out there. I think the Medicaid coverage would also help give more accessible help for them so they can be able to provide that type of nutrition for their child. I am in support of A.B. 266.

Romina Paolucci, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am calling in support for A.B. 266. I believe birth and postpartum are sacred events that should be honored. Now that we understand the impact of healthy attachment for both is lifelong, there are events and bonds that should be protected at all costs. Breastfeeding, of course, is one of those impactful journeys that can be supported by the community and should be supported by us. I hope we are able to come together to ensure all mothers have the resources and support they need to not only breastfeed successfully, but also to begin their parenting journey from an informed and empowered [unintelligible].

Chair Brown-May:

Seeing no other testimony in support, we will move to opposition testimony.

Paul J. Moradkhan, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, Vegas Chamber:

First of all, the Vegas Chamber would like to thank the bill sponsor for meeting and having conversations regarding the bill. I appreciate her time, of course. In regard to the history of breastfeeding in the business community, the Chamber was one of the earliest supporters in 2017 to support Assembly Bill 113 of the 79th Session, which required employers to accommodate breastfeeding in the workplace. Do know, we understand and support those efforts.

Our concern is specific to section 5 of the bill and the public accommodation section in existing NRS [*Nevada Revised Statutes*]. The conversations we are having with the bill sponsor pertain to codifying an activity, not a person. We appreciate the amendment [[Exhibit G](#)] put forward by the bill sponsor about the misdemeanor piece, and we will continue our conversations with her again. We really do appreciate the work she is doing here and we look forward to coming to a resolution very quickly.

Bryan Wachter, Senior Vice President, Retail Association of Nevada:

We would like to echo the comments of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Brown-May:

Seeing no one else wishing to testify in opposition, we will move to neutral testimony. Is there anyone wishing to provide neutral testimony in Carson City, Las Vegas, or over the phone? [There was no one.] Assemblymember González, would you like to provide closing comments?

Assemblymember González:

I just want to thank the Committee and thank you for a very nice hearing for my daughter's first time. I appreciate you all and look forward to working with those to get it in a good spot for everyone.

[[Exhibit H](#) and [Exhibit I](#) were submitted but not discussed and will become part of the record.]

Chair Brown-May:

I will close the hearing for Assembly Bill 266. I will open the hearing for Assembly Bill 102. Senator Doñate, you may begin your bill presentation whenever you are ready.

**Assembly Bill 102: Revises provisions relating to emergency medical services.
(BDR 40-345)**

Senator Fabian Doñate, Senate District No. 10:

I am happy to be here today to introduce Assembly Bill 102. To provide a bit of background, during this previous interim I had the privilege of serving as the chair of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The bill came from the Joint Interim Committee after numerous discussions with stakeholders in the emergency medical services community as a way to expedite licensure for EMS [emergency medical services] professionals, as well as to change a few licensing requirements.

The bill authorizes a district board of health in the health district that includes a county whose population is 100,000 or more, but less than 700,000—currently only Washoe County—to elect, by an affirmative vote of a majority of all the members of the board, to regulate emergency medical services in a similar manner to Clark County.

Assembly Bill 102 also lowers the minimum age for licensure as an ambulance attendant, emergency medical technician (EMT), an advanced EMT medical technician, or a paramedic from the age of 18 to 16-years of age.

Lastly, A.B. 102 removes the requirement to be licensed as an ambulance attendant if an individual is solely participating in a training program for certification as an EMT, advanced EMT, or paramedic, and does not provide care to a sick or injured person or drive the ambulance.

I want to mention we do have a proposed amendment [[Exhibit J](#)] that was submitted. We can go over the proposed amendment on behalf of the Nevada Fire Chiefs Association. As written, if the Washoe County District Board of Health votes to regulate EMS, the county would also take the responsibility for the provisions governing the treatment of trauma, which is in NRS [*Nevada Revised Statutes*] Chapter 450B. This amendment proposes to maintain the authority with the State Board of Health.

Assemblymember Gray worked on this going back to the 2023 Legislative Session, so we have had continuous discussions with stakeholders throughout the state. This was a conversation we had during the interim. What you have before you is a deliberation from the members who served on the interim committee. If there are any questions from the Committee members, we are happy to take them at this time.

Chair Brown-May:

Are there any questions from our members? [There were none.] I do have one question. There were a number of conversations going back and forth relative to this bill. You are in a comfortable place that this proposed amendment has now addressed many of the concerns brought up before we started. Is that correct?

Senator Doñate:

That is correct. I believe this amendment has cleared up all the confusion, so hopefully we are in a good spot, and I think all the parties at least have agreed to so far. I do not know if the fire chief wants to say something.

David Cochran, Fire Chief, Reno Fire Department; and President, Nevada Fire Chiefs Association:

I am here in support of the bill. I do not really have much to add beside what Senator Doñate said. This has been an issue that has been percolating for a while. I appreciate the Senator stepping up to help us facilitate a path forward.

Chair Brown-May:

Still seeing no questions from members, I will open the hearing for testimony in support of [Assembly Bill 102](#). We will begin in Carson City.

Nic Ciccone, Government Affairs Manager, City Manager's Office, City of Reno:

I just want to echo the comments of my fire chief and say that not only is the Fire Chiefs Association on board, but also the City of Reno.

Todd Ingalsbee, President, Professional Fire Fighters of Nevada:

We wholeheartedly support this bill. We want to thank you and the Committee for allowing us to present this bill. This not only impacts our current members as far as certification and streamlining processes, but allows us, with those recertification continuing education hours, to really provide the care that is needed in our communities. Also, by changing that age

requirement, we have several explorer programs where we can cultivate new members. We also have several programs down south that are within high schools. Allowing our members to really participate in those, work out in the field, and gain that experience prior to getting on our job is vital for our success now and into the future.

Mike Brown, representing Nevada Fire Chiefs Association:

Assembly Bill 102 has been, with the assistance of Senator Doñate, evaluated, discussed, and finally here before the Committee. The State Fire Chiefs Association is in support of A.B. 102. We feel strongly that allowing counties such as Washoe to attain the ability to provide for the provisions under NRS Chapter 450B, and with the exclusion as provided in the amendment, this bill will support our ongoing emergency medical services, our EMTs, advanced EMTs, and paramedics.

Rich Harvey, Fire Chief, Central Lyon Fire:

I would just like to say that Nevada fire chiefs have long supported improvements in the efficient and effective delivery of emergency medical services. We appreciate the hard work and efforts of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. We support their efforts and we support A.B. 102.

Chair Brown-May:

Is there anyone else wishing to provide support testimony in Carson City, Las Vegas, or on the phone? [There was no one.] Is there anyone in Carson City, Las Vegas, or on the phone wishing to provide opposition testimony to Assembly Bill 102? [There was no one.] Is there anyone in Carson City, Las Vegas, or on the phone wishing to provide neutral testimony?

Chris Bosse, Chief Government Relations Officer, Renown Health:

I have appreciated the opportunity to work with Senator Doñate and the Fire Chiefs Association on this bill. As amended, we certainly stand in neutral.

As Northern Nevada's only Level II trauma center, at Renown Regional our service area is over 100,000 square miles. The closest Level II trauma centers are in Sacramento and in Salt Lake City. In fact, about a third of the patients cared for at Renown Regional come from outside of Washoe County. We think it is super important to keep the statutory and regulatory oversight of northern Nevada's trauma system at the state level to ensure the view we are taking related to this important service includes all the stakeholders. As amended, we are neutral and the bill meets what our needs are.

Blayne Osborn, President, Nevada Rural Hospital Partners:

In addition to everything Ms. Bosse said, we, too, had serious concerns with breaking the trauma system out in this bill previously. The amendment addresses those concerns. I appreciate everybody who came together on the amendment.

[[Exhibit K](#) was submitted but not discussed and will become part of the record.]

Chair Brown-May:

Is there anyone else wishing to provide neutral testimony for Assembly Bill 102. [There was no one.] Are there any closing comments at this time? [There were none.] I will take a moment of personal privilege and just note one of my favorites in my district, Bonanza High School, currently has a first responder program and are really working with our youth in order to help shore up our system. I appreciate your efforts here. I will close the hearing on Assembly Bill 102.

Members, I would like to point you to a handout that is available on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System. It is a memo from the Department of Health and Human Services with follow-up responses to the questions we had at our meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2025.

Members, we have a number of bill draft request (BDR) introductions. I will remind you a vote in favor of introducing a BDR does not imply a commitment to support the measure later. This action allows the BDR to become a bill and enter into the legislative hearing process. It does not imply commitment to support final passage.

I will entertain a motion to introduce BDR 27-458, which is on behalf of the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs.

BDR 27-458—Revises provisions relating to state purchasing. (Later introduced as Assembly Bill 336.)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GONZÁLEZ MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE
BILL DRAFT REQUEST 27-458.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GRAY SECONDED THE MOTION.

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

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAFEN AND
ORENTLICHER WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Brown-May:

I will entertain a motion to introduce bill draft request (BDR) 38-456, which is on behalf of the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs.

BDR 38-456—Creates programs related to dementia. (Later introduced as Assembly Bill 337.)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER NGUYEN MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE
BILL DRAFT REQUEST 38-456.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER HIBBETTS SECONDED THE MOTION.

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

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAFEN AND
ORENTLICHER WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Brown-May:

I will entertain a motion to introduce bill draft request (BDR) 38-457, which is on behalf of the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs.

BDR 38-457—Revises provisions relating to health care for senior citizens. (Later introduced as Assembly Bill 338.)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GRAY MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE BILL
DRAFT REQUEST 38-457.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER HUNT SECONDED THE MOTION.

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

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAFEN AND
ORENTLICHER WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Brown-May:

I will entertain a motion to introduce bill draft request (BDR) 39-358, which is on behalf of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

BDR 39-358—Creates the Office of Children's Mental and Behavioral Health within the Office of the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services. (Later introduced as Assembly Bill 339.)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GRAY MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE BILL
DRAFT REQUEST 39-358.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GONZÁLEZ SECONDED THE MOTION.

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

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAFEN AND
ORENTLICHER WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Brown-May:

I will entertain a motion to introduce bill draft request (BDR) 57-351, which is on behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

BDR 57-351—Revises provisions relating to health care for senior citizens. (Later introduced as Assembly Bill 340.)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER HIBBETTS MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE
BILL DRAFT REQUEST 57-351.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GRAY SECONDED THE MOTION.

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

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAFEN AND
ORENTLICHER WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Brown-May:

I will entertain a motion to introduce bill draft request (BDR) 10-460, which is on behalf of the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs.

BDR 10-460—Revises the Nevada Fair Housing Law. (Later introduced as Assembly Bill 341.)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER HIBBETTS MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE
BILL DRAFT REQUEST 10-460.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GRAY SECONDED THE MOTION.

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

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAFEN AND
ORENTLICHER WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Brown-May:

I will entertain a motion to introduce bill draft request (BDR) 19-459, which is on behalf of the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs.

BDR 19-459—Revises provisions relating to health care for senior citizens. (Later introduced as Assembly Bill 342.)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER HIBBETTS MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE
BILL DRAFT REQUEST 19-459.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER GRAY SECONDED THE MOTION.

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

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAFEN AND
ORENTLICHER WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

Chair Brown-May:

We have concluded our bill draft request introductions. The last order of business is public comment. [Instructions were given regarding public comment.] Is there anyone in Carson City, Las Vegas, or over the phone wishing to provide public comment? [There was no one.]

This meeting is adjourned [at 2:55 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Jo Lynn Smith
Recording Secretary

Lori McCleary
Transcribing Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblymember Tracy Brown-May, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
A.B. 244	C	Assemblymember Venicia Considine, Assembly District No. 18	Proposed Conceptual Amendment
A.B. 244	D	Olivia Tanager, Director, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club	PowerPoint presentation titled "AB 244 Styrofoam Limitation"
A.B. 244	E	Tracy Puckett, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada	Written support testimony
A.B. 244	F	Mimi Butler, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada	Written support testimony
A.B. 266	G	Assemblymember Cecelia González, Assembly District No. 16	Conceptual Amendment
A.B. 266	H	Assemblymember Cecelia González, Assembly District No. 16	Document titled "AB 266: Lactation support for all infants and families"
A.B. 266	I	Various Individuals	Collection of letters in support
A.B. 102	J	Nevada Fire Chiefs Association	Proposed Amendment
A.B. 102	K	Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services	Program Fact Sheet