

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

**Eighty-third Session
May 16, 2025**

The Senate Committee on Judiciary was called to order by Chair Melanie Scheible at 10:04 a.m. on Friday, May 16, 2025, in Room 1214 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 6 of the Nevada Legislature Hearing Rooms, 7120 Amigo Street, Las Vegas, Nevada. [Exhibit A](#) is the agenda. [Exhibit B](#) is the attendance roster. All exhibits are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Melanie Scheible, Chair
Senator Edgar Flores, Vice Chair
Senator James Ohrenschall
Senator Roberta Lange
Senator Rochelle T. Nguyen
Senator Ira Hansen
Senator Lisa Krasner
Senator John Ellison

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jered McDonald, Committee Policy Analyst
Brad Wilkinson, Committee Counsel
Michael Scully, Committee Counsel
Jan Brase, Committee Secretary

CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session with Assembly Bill (A.B.) 65.

ASSEMBLY BILL 65 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to guardianship.
(BDR 13-470)

JERED McDONALD (Committee Policy Analyst):

I will read the summary of Assembly Bill 65 from the work session document ([Exhibit C](#)). The bill revises provisions related to guardianship. This was sponsored on behalf of the Nevada Supreme Court and heard on May 12. The

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bill revises provisions governing guardianship proceedings for adults and minors. Among other provisions, it renames the State Guardianship Compliance Office as the State Guardianship Office and the state guardianship compliance officer as the state guardianship officer. It authorizes the officer to hire accountants and investigators as needed and within legislative appropriations. Finally, it revises the procedures for serving citations and petitions, and authorizes courts to approve alternative service methods. There are no amendments for this bill.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 65.

SENATOR FLORES SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (SENATOR NGUYEN WAS EXCUSED FOR THE VOTE.)

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 167.

ASSEMBLY BILL 167 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to the use of corrective room restriction. (BDR 5-769)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 167 from the work session document ([Exhibit D](#)). The bill revises provisions related to the use of corrective room restrictions. Sponsored by Assemblymember Alexis M. Hansen and heard on May 6, it requires a facility staff member to review the corrective room restriction status of a child detained in a state, local or regional facility at least once every 24 hours. Any such review must include an assessment of whether a referral for a mental health screening evaluation or treatment is appropriate.

We did have one amendment submitted by Clark County. This was discussed during the hearing, and it would substitute the words "an assessment" with "a review."

SENATOR LANGE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED A.B. 167.

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SENATOR NGUYEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 193.

ASSEMBLY BILL 193 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to certain victims of crime. (BDR 16-984)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 193 from the work session document (Exhibit E). The bill relates to provisions related to certain victims of crime. This was sponsored by Assemblymember Gregory S. Koenig and others and was heard on May 9. It requires law enforcement agencies to furnish free, complete and unaltered copies of all reports concerning a domestic violence incident upon written request of the victim. Law enforcement agencies must furnish these reports within one month of the request, regardless of whether the report is closed, and may redact personal identifying information as appropriate. There were no amendments to the bill.

SENATOR LANGE MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 193.

SENATOR NGUYEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL:

I will vote to move the bill out of committee but will reserve my right to change my vote on the Senate Floor.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 227.

ASSEMBLY BILL 227 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions governing adoption.
(BDR 11-928)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 227 from the work session document (Exhibit F). The bill revises provisions governing an adoption. This was sponsored by Assemblymember Brittney M. Miller and heard on May 13. It repeals, revises and reenacts provisions governing the adoption of children, including agency adoptions, identified adoptions, close-family adoptions, confirmatory adoptions and readoptions.

We do have one amendment for this bill that was discussed during the hearing, and this was proposed by Kimberly Surratt. Among the many items discussed in the hearing, most were described as cleanup. A couple were described as substantive. Those include replacing "video appearance" with "remote appearance" and reducing the number of days from 14 to 7 in which a child welfare service agency must submit to the court a report regarding the condition of the child and suitability of the home of the prospective adoptive parent or parents.

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 227.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 309.

ASSEMBLY BILL 309 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to certain orders for protection against domestic violence. (BDR 3-885)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 309 from the work session document (Exhibit G). The bill revises provisions related to certain orders for protection against domestic violence. The bill was sponsored by Assemblymembers

Melissa R. Hardy and Brian Hibbetts and others and was heard on May 14. It requires that certain temporary orders for protection against domestic violence served to an incarcerated adverse party include advice that the party may contest the application for an extended order by submitting a written response if the party is still in custody on the hearing date. We have no amendments proposed for this bill.

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 309.

SENATOR LANGE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 351.

ASSEMBLY BILL 351 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court over certain offenses. (BDR 5-494)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 351 from the work session document ([Exhibit H](#)). The bill revises provisions related to the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice court over certain offenses. This was sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Judiciary on behalf of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Judiciary. It was heard May 13. The bill grants juvenile courts limited jurisdiction to hear cases involving individuals 21 years of age or older whom law enforcement did not identify for prosecution before they turned 21 years of age if certain requirements are met and they are charged with (1) a Category A or B felony committed when they were at least 16 but less than 18 years of age; (2) Category A or B felony involving the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon committed when they were at least 14 years of age but less than 16 years of age or; (3) a murder or attempted murder committed when they were at least 13 years of age.

We have one amendment proposed for this bill. This was discussed by Brigid Duffy during the hearing, and she proposed to amend section 1, subsection 4 to require the juvenile court to consider the delay between the

alleged crime and arrest, as well as the impact of time on the reliability of witnesses and evidence when determining whether, based upon the interest of justice and public protection, to dismiss the charges or transfer the case to district court for criminal proceedings.

SENATOR ELLISON:
... [unintelligible statement] ...

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 351.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:
I will open the work session on A.B. 384.

ASSEMBLY BILL 384 (1st Reprint): Requires the Chair of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission to solicit input regarding certain subjects relating to juvenile justice. (BDR 5-1053)

MR. McDONALD:
I will read the summary of A.B. 384 from the work session document ([Exhibit I](#)). The bill requires the chair of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission to solicit input regarding certain subjects related to juvenile justice. The bill was sponsored by Assemblymember Lisa K. Cole and heard on May 9. It requires the chair of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission to solicit input from persons and organizations with knowledge and experience in wraparound services for children involved in the juvenile justice system, including those on probation or released from detention or treatment facilities. It also requires the chair of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission to submit a report before March 1 of each year to the Commission and the Legislature. There are no amendments proposed for this bill.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 384.

SENATOR NGUYEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 520.

ASSEMBLY BILL 520 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to adoption.
(BDR 11-356)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 520 from the work session document ([Exhibit J](#)). The bill revises provisions related to adoption. The bill was sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services on behalf of the Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and heard on May 12. It codifies regulations that require the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to investigate the background and personal history of every initial application for a license to operate a child-placing agency, as well as every employee, volunteer and independent contractor of an agency which may provide services to children to determine whether a person has a history of maltreating a child. We have one amendment proposed for this bill which was submitted after the hearing from Marla McDade Williams with DCFS. The amendment deletes certain sections, subsections 4 and 5 of section 3 and sections 4, 5 and 11, pertaining to a process for obtaining background checks through the Central Repository [for Nevada Records of Criminal History].

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 520.

SENATOR LANGE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 3.

ASSEMBLY BILL 3 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to alternative dispute resolution. (BDR 3-472)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 3 from the work session document ([Exhibit K](#)). The bill revises provisions related to alternative dispute resolution. The bill was sponsored by the Nevada Supreme Court and heard on May 12. This bill revises various provisions governing arbitration in civil actions including, (1) increasing from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per plaintiff the monetary threshold for mandatory nonbinding arbitration, (2) revising provisions to accurately depict an arbitrator's fees as reflected in current arbitration rules established by court rule, and (3) authorizing short trial judges to award the prevailing party attorney's fees up to \$15,000.

We do have three amendments proposed for this bill. As discussed in the hearing, the Nevada Justice Association proposed to amend the bill to revise the payment of fees and cost to an arbitrator. Subsequent to the hearing, the Nevada Justice Association, the Nevada Resort Association and Vegas Chamber submitted a second amendment proposing to delete section 4 regarding the written findings of an arbitrator or panel of arbitrators. Finally, Chair Scheible proposed to remove the provision sending arbitration awards over \$50,000 to district court and under \$50,000 to short trial.

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 3.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL SECONDED THE MOTION.

SENATOR HANSEN:

I am going to support A.B. 3 although I do want to get on the record that in the future, I would prefer that if we are going to have a bill from the Nevada Supreme Court that it is actually exclusively from the Nevada Supreme Court. Maybe in the past that has happened, but I think that is the first time I have ever seen a Supreme Court bill that had amendments from an outside private party. Normally, with a Supreme Court bill it is kind of a slam dunk around here. I just want to make sure the reputation for the Court is maintained going in the

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future and that their bills are not used for other people to get through a process where they take advantage of the Court's high reputation. I think it could damage the Court's reputation if that practice occurs. However, I will support the bill as amended.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 88.

ASSEMBLY BILL 88 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to juvenile justice.
(BDR 5-495)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 88 from the work session document ([Exhibit L](#)). The bill revises provisions related to juvenile justice. The bill was sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Judiciary on behalf of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Judiciary and heard on May 8. This bill revises the requirements that a district attorney must give written approval, and that a child alleged delinquent in need of supervision must make certain admissions before a juvenile court may dismiss a petition without prejudice and refer the child to a probation officer for informal supervision.

We have one amendment proposed for this bill which was discussed in the hearing by Angela Knott with the Washoe County Public Defender's Office. The amendment will revise section 2 to specify when a juvenile court may dismiss a petition without prejudice.

CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

We also have an amendment to exclude Category A and violent felonies.

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 88.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL SECONDED THE MOTION.

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SENATOR KRASNER:

I will vote yes to get it out of committee, but I want to reserve my right to change prior to floor.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATOR ELLISON VOTED NO.)

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 192.

ASSEMBLY BILL 192 (1st Reprint): Makes various changes relating to real property. (BDR 10-971)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 192 from the work session document ([Exhibit M](#)). The bill makes various changes related to real property. The bill was sponsored by Assemblymember Shea M. Backus and heard on May 15. It enacts the Uniform Easement Relocation Act and the Uniform Mortgage Modification Act, establishing procedures and standards for easement, relocations and mortgage modifications. There are no amendments proposed for this bill.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL MOVED TO DO PASS A.B. 192.

SENATOR LANGE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS ELLISON, KRASNER AND NGUYEN VOTED NO.)

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 488.

ASSEMBLY BILL 488 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to criminal convictions of certain victims. (BDR 14-873)

MR. MCDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 488 from the work session document ([Exhibit N](#)). The bill revises provisions related to criminal convictions of certain crimes. This was sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Judiciary and heard on May 13. This bill expands a list of offenses under which victims of human trafficking may petition the court to vacate a judgment of conviction and seal all related records to include any crime under state law or local ordinances. The bill additionally revises the applicable criminal procedure, including requiring a statement from the petitioner certifying that they are a victim of human trafficking and prescribing the courses of action if a petitioner submits any official documentation in the support of the petition. We have an amendment outlined in the work session document, but that has been replaced. The conceptual amendment ([Exhibit O](#)) has been provided to the members and the public.

CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

To clarify, the replacement proposed conceptual amendment would allow the courts to retain some discretion to determine whether or not to seal records in these cases. Is that correct?

MR. WILKINSON:

Yes. In my review of the revised proposed conceptual amendment, I believe it does that.

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 488.

SENATOR OHRENSCHALL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (SENATORS ELLISON AND KRASNER VOTED
NO.)

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

I will open the work session on A.B. 489.

ASSEMBLY BILL 489 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to civil actions.
(BDR 3-1141)

MR. McDONALD:

I will read the summary of A.B. 489 from the work session document ([Exhibit P](#)). The bill revises provisions related to civil actions. The bill was sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Judiciary and heard on May 8. It revises provisions for civil actions involving wrongful death caused by homicide to allow heirs and personal representatives of a decedent to file a claim at any time upon a showing by preponderance of evidence that the death was caused by homicide. The amendatory provisions of the bill apply retroactively to any wrongful act or neglect causing a death by homicide regardless of when it occurred or any statute of limitations in effect at the time, including without limitation, any civil action that would have been barred by the statute of limitations that was in effect before the effective date of the bill.

We have one amendment proposed for this bill from the Nevada Resort Association which proposes to amend the bill to authorize an action against a natural person or estate. This amendment also specifies that the civil action shall not apply to actions premised on any form of vicarious liability.

SENATOR NGUYEN MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS AS AMENDED
A.B. 489.

SENATOR LANGE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (SENATOR FLORES VOTED NO.)

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CHAIR SCHEIBLE:

There being no public comment and having nothing further to come before the Senate Committee on Judiciary, we are adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Jan Brase,
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Senator Melanie Scheible, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBIT SUMMARY				
Bill	Exhibit Letter	Introduced on Minute Report Page No.	Witness / Entity	Description
	A	1		Agenda
	B	1		Attendance Roster
A.B. 65	C	1	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 167	D	2	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 193	E	3	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 227	F	4	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 309	G	4	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 351	H	5	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 384	I	6	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 520	J	7	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 3	K	8	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 88	L	9	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 192	M	10	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 488	N	11	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document
A.B. 488	O	11	Jered McDonald	Proposed Conceptual Amendment
A.B. 489	P	12	Jered McDonald	Work Session Document