

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

**Seventy-Ninth Session
June 1, 2017**

The Committee on Ways and Means was called to order by Chair Maggie Carlton at 8:10 a.m. on Thursday, June 1, 2017, in Room 3137 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda ([Exhibit A](#)), the Attendance Roster ([Exhibit B](#)), and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/79th2017.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair
Assemblyman Jason Frierson, Vice Chair
Assemblyman Paul Anderson
Assemblyman Nelson Araujo
Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams
Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz
Assemblyman Chris Edwards
Assemblyman John Hambrick
Assemblyman James Oscarson
Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel
Assemblyman Michael C. Sprinkle
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank
Assemblywoman Robin L. Titus

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Senator Aaron D. Ford, Senate District No. 11
Senator Ben Kieckhefer, Senate District No. 16

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Sarah Coffman, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Carmen Neveau, Committee Secretary
Lisa McAlister, Committee Assistant



Chair Carlton asked the committee assistant to call roll. Following roll call, Chair Carlton stated that, in order to accommodate legislators' schedules, she would open the hearing with Senate Bill 126 (2nd Reprint).

Senate Bill 126 (2nd Reprint): Establishes a program to provide loans to small business enterprises, minority-owned business enterprises, women-owned business enterprises and disadvantaged business enterprises. (BDR 18-21)

Chair Carlton asked Senator Aaron D. Ford, Senate District No. 11, to present Senate Bill (S.B.) 126 (2nd Reprint). He explained that S.B. 126 (R2) provided for a new small business loan program. Senator Ford reviewed the acronyms for this project, including SBE (small business enterprise), DBE (disadvantaged business enterprise), MBE (minority business enterprise), and WBE (women business enterprise.)

Senator Ford stated that in its first year, the program appropriated \$2 million for a small business loan program for the Office of Economic Development, Office of the Governor (GOED) to administer for certified SBE, DBE, MBE, and WBE businesses. The Senate amended the program to decrease the appropriation to \$1 million administered by GOED, and there were no fiscal notes, he added.

Chair Carlton asked whether the \$1 million appropriation was intended for the first year of the 2017-2019 biennium, then rolled into the second year, and any unspent funds would revert to the State General Fund. Senator Ford was unsure whether the intent was to get the program up and running in the first year and then have the funds to spend in the second year or the other way around. The Chair stated that she would double check to make sure the funds agreed with what was passed from the Senate.

Chair Carlton asked whether this bill would complement the small business data collected from Assemblywoman Dina Neal's bill for the NV Grow Program. Senator Ford was familiar with her bill, and he thought the bills would complement each other, but he had not talked to her about it. He felt that the data could be shared, and that there would be added communication to the businesses. He added that the bill also authorized the program to receive donations and funds to help bolster the program further. He had been in contact with federal partners who were interested in identifying federal funds to aid in the effort.

Assemblywoman Swank asked whether nonprofit startup businesses were eligible under this bill. Senator Ford said that under section 3, subsection 6, paragraph (a), the applicant must operate a for-profit business.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked whether the \$1 million was a one-time appropriation. Senator Ford said that it was for this biennium. Next session, however, the program would be reviewed to see whether it was successful, and if so, another appropriation could be considered.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked whether there was a cap on the grant awarded to any business. Senator Ford replied that the limit would be up to the GOED administrative process. The intent was to help as many businesses as possible. These were not intended to be micro loans of \$10,000 each, but instead the average loan size might be \$100,000.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked where the criteria for GOED determinations were in the bill. Senator Ford said that section 3, subsection 3 delineated the criteria. It was not an exhaustive list, he noted.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked whether there was another program associated with this bill. Senator Ford explained that this bill was associated with the Battle Born Venture, a comparable program that allowed GOED to absorb this program.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked whether this was a loan program for small businesses to repay. Senator Ford replied that it was: GOED could do the work itself or work with organizations that operated a similar program such as a bank.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams asked whether it was like the Valley Center Opportunity Zone program where the grants did not need to be repaid. Senator Ford replied that the funds were a loan and would need to be repaid.

Assemblywoman Spiegel, referring to section 3, subsection 6, paragraph (d), asked whether a loan was specific to capital equipment or whether the loan could be used for marketing and advertising expenses. Senator Ford explained the loan was predominantly intended for equipment and personnel.

Assemblywoman Spiegel asked about section 3, subsection 6, paragraph (c) regarding certification fees and whether there would be a requirement to limit the fees. She wondered whether it was possible to stipulate "reasonable fee for certification." Senator Ford was uncertain that limiting certification fees was possible. This bill, he concluded, was not intended to address the certification fees.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were discussions about capping the loan amount so that one or two businesses did not wipe out the account. She did not see any parameters. Senator Ford replied that there had been discussions. He believed that caps would limit the types of entities and enterprises that could apply for a loan. He was open to this idea, but he preferred not to constrain GOED in determining the parameters of the loans. Chair Carlton stated that she would hate to see one or two large loans leaving insufficient funding for other small businesses. Senator Ford agreed with the Chair.

The Chair asked whether there were any other questions from Committee members. Hearing no response, she asked whether there was anyone in support of S.B. 126 (R2).

Paul J. Moradkhan, Vice President, Government Affairs, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, also speaking on behalf of the Latin Chamber of Commerce, stated that both chambers supported the policy and the funding for S.B. 126 (R2).

Tray Abney, Director, Government Relations, Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce, stated that he was in support of S.B. 126 (R2) and he agreed with Mr. Moradkhan's comments, and he added that the biggest struggle for small businesses was access to capital.

Brandi M. Planet, Senior Associate, Ferrari Public Affairs, representing the Nevada Contractors Association, was in support of S.B. 126 (R2), and she agreed with Mr. Moradkhan and Mr. Abney.

Ken Evans, President, Urban Chamber of Commerce, stated that he was in support of S.B. 126 (R2), and he stated that the provisions of this bill, as well as access to capital, would dovetail with Assembly Bill (A.B.) 94 for the NV Grow Program. Many businesses could benefit from both bills, he said, because of access to capital and being able to leverage data from the NV Grow Program.

Mendy Elliott, Capitol Partners, explained that she had worked with GOED for the State Small Business Credit Initiative as part of the Battle Born Venture. Speaking to Assemblywoman Spiegel's question, she said that there was a responsibility to the federal government when certifying businesses, and there was no cost associated with certifications. She supported S.B. 126 (R2).

Connor Cain, Esq., Vice President, The McMullen Strategic Group, representing the Nevada Bankers Association, stated that he supported S.B. 126 (R2).

Hearing no one else in support of S.B. 126 (R2), the Chair asked whether there was anyone in opposition to or neutral on S.B. 126 (R2). Hearing no responses, the Chair closed the hearing on S.B. 126 (R2). She noted that this bill would be placed in the "parking lot" and would move later.

Senate Bill 373 (1st Reprint): Requires the appointment of a Minority Affairs Management Analyst in the Office of the Director of the Department of Business and Industry. (BDR 18-1108)

Chair Carlton recognized Senator Aaron D. Ford, Senate District No. 11, who presented Senate Bill (S.B.) 373 (1st Reprint). He said that S.B. 373 (R1) provided for a management analyst position to be assigned to the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs, Department of Business and Industry. The ombudsman at the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs, Miriam Lira-Hickerson, did a great job, he acknowledged, but she needed assistance.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members.

Assemblyman Edwards asked whether there were any indications of discrimination, and if so, he wondered about the level of the offenses. Senator Ford stated that there were incidences of discrimination. It was difficult for the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs to track, however, without an additional position. Part of the job duties for the new position would be to track reports, analyze data, and follow up on information received.

Senator Ford added that in dealing with the Department of Transportation (NDOT) there was a disparity study conducted that provided target figures for minority participation under highway contracts.

Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams recognized that much of the tracking to date had been labor intensive. She asked whether the proposed position would report to a director at the Department of Business and Industry. Senator Ford replied that she was correct.

Assemblywoman Diaz asked whether the new position would work with the current ombudsman position. Senator Ford said the current ombudsman, Miriam Lira-Hickerson, had more work than these tasks. Her job was split between many different tasks. The new position would supplement her, not supplant her, he added. It was unfortunate that the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs Chair, Jane Lee, was not there to testify on the need for the proposed position, he stated.

Assemblywoman Diaz recognized the work the ombudsman, Ms. Lira-Hickerson, was performing for all communities. Ms. Lira-Hickerson tracked and accumulated all the data and complaints for deceptive trade practices and matters of fraud. The ombudsman's job included a component that required her to be out in the community educating people so they would not become victims, and Assemblywoman Diaz wanted to ensure that the new position would cooperate with the existing ombudsman.

Chair Carlton asked whether there was anyone in support of S.B. 373 (R1).

Ken Evans, President, Urban Chamber of Commerce, stated that he was in support of S.B. 373 (R1) and said that in the absence of Chair Jane Lee, he wanted to say that the Urban Chamber of Commerce had attended the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs meetings. He was personally aware that the Committee could use some horsepower to move not only in a reactive manner, but also to move in a proactive manner that would create a positive procurement environment for minority-owned businesses and to move Nevada forward.

Mr. Evans confirmed that the position was needed for efforts such as the NDOT disparity study. Focus needed to be placed on raising the minority participation rates, but without adequate workforce resources, that was a difficult task. Mr. Evans concluded by stating that he supported S.B. 373 (R1).

Hearing no one else in support of S.B. 373 (R1), Chair Carlton asked whether there was anyone in opposition to or neutral on S.B. 373 (R1). Hearing no responses, the Chair closed the hearing on S.B. 373 (R1). She noted that this bill would also be placed in the parking lot and would move later.

Senate Bill 88: Revises provisions relating to the Contingency Account in the State General Fund. (BDR 23-105)

Senator Ben Kieckhefer, Senate District No. 16, presented Senate Bill (S.B.) 88. He noted S.B. 88 was an offshoot from legislation last session, which started the process for police officers wearing mobile body cameras when interacting with the public. Following the last session, he stated that Mary C. Walker, President, Walker and Associates, representing a smaller coalition of smaller governments, asked Senator Kieckhefer about opportunities for potential financial assistance. He continued by stating that Senator Ford brought forward Senate Bill (S.B.) 176, a bill that required body cameras to be worn by all sworn officers, regardless of the jurisdiction. He explained that S.B. 176 was signed by the Governor on May 25, 2017, and provided a funding mechanism by increasing the 9-1-1 fees. Small government populations, he said, would not recognize enough from the fee increase to cover the cost to put the bill into practice. He explained that S.B. 88 would allow local governments in counties with less than 100,000 residents (every county except Clark County and Washoe County) to apply to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) for an allocation from the IFC Contingency Account. Eligible costs included the one-time start-up of body camera coverage.

Chair Carlton stated that it was a unique circumstance when a county could come to the Legislature for money from the IFC Contingency Account. She wondered about the precedent being set.

Senator Kieckhefer shared her concern, as he had voted against IFC contingency request allocations in the past. The IFC would have discretion on the approval of requests under this bill. He was asked to find a solution, and a county request to the IFC Contingency Account was the outcome.

Chair Carlton asked for any questions from Committee members.

Assemblyman Sprinkle asked for an estimate of the cost for equipment. Mary C. Walker, President, Walker and Associates, representing Carson City, Douglas County, Lyon County, and Storey County, stated that the bill was not a request for a dollar amount, but instead was a request for a process. She noted that S.B. 176 included a mandate for local governments, along with a funding mechanism. Smaller counties could not afford to fund the mandate from the increased 9-1-1 fees. This was a onetime request, and she hoped that with the fee increase and this bill, the counties could put the mobile body cameras into practice. She did not believe that the larger counties would need this bill because the 9-1-1 fees for the larger counties would cover the cost of the cameras. She viewed this bill as a safety net so no counties were left behind.

Chair Carlton needed to hear from counties that the counties had exhausted all other funding options, especially because the other counties had paid for the equipment.

Senator Kieckhefer agreed, and stated that was why the discretion was left to the IFC for approval of the funding requests. If a county approached the IFC without exhausting all other options, he could not imagine the request would be approved.

Chair Carlton asked whether Committee members had any questions. Hearing no response, she asked whether there was anyone in support of S.B. 88.

Dagny Stapleton, Deputy Director, Nevada Association of Counties (NACO), stated that she was in support of S.B. 88, an additional mechanism for smaller counties to seek the funding to put body cameras in place. She stated that there would be a lag time before counties could see the result of the increased 9-1-1 fees. As an example, she identified Pershing County as a county with a small budget that was already at the property tax cap. The estimate for cameras for Pershing County was \$75,000. The existing 9-1-1 surcharge (\$0.25) generated less than \$10,000 per year, and the increased surcharge (\$1) would not generate enough to purchase the cameras in the first year.

Wes Henderson, Executive Director, Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities, stated he supported S.B. 88 because it provided an avenue for cities to obtain the necessary resources for the mandated body cameras when a county commission for some reason failed to institute the 9-1-1 increase or the increase did not generate the needed funds.

Robert Roshak, Executive Director, Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association, stated that he supported S.B. 88. This bill, he said, afforded the smaller agencies an option for funding when all other funding sources failed.

Chair Carlton asked for anyone else in support of or opposition to S.B. 88, and hearing no responses, she asked for anyone neutral on S.B. 88.

Janet Murphy, Deputy Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor, stated that the State Board of Examiners approved a contract for the Nevada Highway Patrol, Department of Public Safety, in January 2017. The cost for body cameras under that contract was \$1,415 per camera and \$1,980 per docking station. She noted that more than one body camera could be tied to a single docking station. Additionally, there was a cost of \$15,000 for a one-time training session and a charge of \$79 per month, per camera, for storage. The total of the contract for the Nevada Highway Patrol was \$1.2 million over four years.

Seeing no one else neutral on S.B. 88, the Chair closed the hearing on S.B. 88.

Senate Bill 522 (1st Reprint): Makes a supplemental appropriation to the State Distributive School Account for an unanticipated shortfall in local school support tax revenues and an increase in K-12 enrollment for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years. (BDR S-1175)

Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Education, presented Senate Bill (S.B.) 522 (1st Reprint). The bill provided a supplemental appropriation to the State Distributive School Account for unanticipated shortfalls in local school support tax (LSST) as well an increase in K-12 enrollment for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years.

Chair Carlton asked about the \$62,194,642 shortfall for the LSST. Mr. Canavero stated that there was also unanticipated additional enrollment in the two school years.

Chair Carlton asked for any questions from Committee members.

Assemblywoman Diaz asked Mr. Canavero to educate the Committee about the shortfall. Mr. Canavero stated that the budget was based on the best expectations and forecasts available at the time. Budget estimates were based on consensus from numerous agencies and from economists across the state, although occasionally there needed to be a supplemental appropriation. Similarly, he said, estimates for enrollment growth were based on the best information available. He compared the last year to a double storm, with lower than anticipated revenues and greater than anticipated costs based on enrollments.

Roger M. Rahming, M.B.A., Deputy Superintendent, Business and Support Services, Department of Education, explained that he was forecasting the LSST and he was building the 2018-19 school budget now. When the overrun was broken down, it was \$30 million for the 2016-17 school year and \$30 million for the 2017-18 school year. This was consistent, he said, for forecasting taxes and enrollment two years into the future.

Chair Carlton summarized for Assemblywoman Diaz's clarification that the Department of Education's miscalculation was from two years ago, and the Department of Education was requesting the correction now. Mr. Rahming concurred with the Chair's statement.

Assemblywoman Diaz asked whether there was an underperformance indicator in the LSST. Mr. Rahming explained that the general sales tax was lower than forecasted. Chair Carlton noted that sales tax was a volatile tax.

Chair Carlton asked the Committee members for any questions on S.B. 522 (R1). Hearing no questions, she asked whether there was anyone in support of, in opposition to, or neutral on S.B. 522 (R1). Hearing no responses, she closed the hearing on S.B. 522 (R1). She noted that this bill would also be placed in the parking lot until later. She acknowledged that it was the Legislature's responsibility and obligation to back up LSST shortfalls.

Senate Bill 527: Makes a supplemental appropriation to the Nevada Supreme Court for a projected shortfall related to judicial selection processes. (BDR S-1170)

Robin Sweet, Director and State Court Administrator, Administrative Office of the Courts, Office of Court Administrator, presented Senate Bill (S.B.) 527. She explained that judicial selection was a constitutional function. The Commission on Judicial Selection nominated three names to the Governor for each vacancy created when a Justice, Court of Appeals Judge, or District Court Judge left office before the end of his or her term. Budgeting for judicial selection, she stated, was based on an average of recent years. Two selections had been budgeted for fiscal year (FY) 2017. At the end of FY 2015, the office started to transition to a digital selection process, and this year, there had been almost four selections completed for five judge vacancies. The additional funds, she said, would be used to complete the fourth selection.

Ms. Sweet stated that projecting costs was difficult because it could not be determined when or how many judges would retire or pass away. Any funds not used would revert.

Assemblywoman Carlton asked for any questions from the Committee members.

Assemblywoman Diaz asked whether this was a true-up for future mobility among the justices or whether this was compensating for something that already happened. Ms. Sweet explained that a Washoe judge retired in April 2017, with interviews scheduled for June 2017. Ms. Sweet noted that travel to the interviews was the major expense.

Hearing no other questions, Chair Carlton asked whether there was anyone in support of, in opposition to, or neutral on S.B. 527. Hearing no responses, the Chair closed the hearing on S.B. 527. She noted that this bill would also be placed in the parking lot until later.

Chair Carlton opened the work session on Assembly Bill 97, Assembly Bill 407, Assembly Bill 422, Assembly Bill 423, Assembly Bill 504, and Assembly Bill 499.

Assembly Bill 504: Makes an appropriation to the Office of Finance to replace the existing financial and human resource management information technology system. (BDR S-1194)

Cathy Crocket, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 504 was heard by the Committee on May 18, 2017, and was presented by Patrick Cates, Director, Department of Administration, and James R. Wells, CPA, Director, Office of Finance, Office of the Governor. The bill appropriated \$15 million in State General Funds for the first phase of a project to replace the existing financial and human resource management procurement and budgeting systems. The project was estimated to cost approximately \$15 million in total with continuing subscription costs of \$2 million to \$5 million per year. She noted that amendments had been identified for the Committee's consideration, as follows:

- Fiscal Analysis Division staff suggested that it would be appropriate to allocate the project costs between State General Fund (81 percent, or \$12.15 million) and State Highway Fund (19 percent, or \$2.85 million) based on position counts in the state, excluding the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE).
- Fiscal staff suggested creating a new information technology project budget account to be administered by the Office Finance, Office of the Governor.
- Fiscal staff suggested that initially \$600,000 should be appropriated directly to that account to align with initial project startup costs for RFP development and refining project strategy. About \$486,000 (81 percent) of the \$600,000 would be supported by the State General Fund, and \$114,000 (19 percent) would be supported by the State Highway Fund. This funding would be available for both years of the 2017-2019 biennium.
- Fiscal staff suggested that the remaining \$14.4 million be appropriated to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) for allocation to the Office of Finance, Office of the Governor, based on a presentation of a detailed project plan and cost breakdown. Of the \$14.4 million, she noted, \$11.664 million (81 percent) would be State General Fund, and the remaining \$2.736 million (19 percent) would be State Highway Fund.
- Fiscal staff suggested language be added to specify that the Administrator, Administrative Services Division, Department of Administration, beginning in FY 2020, include the State General Fund portion of project costs in the Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP) to recover the State General Funds from various other funding sources, such as fees and federal grants.
- Fiscal staff suggested that the bill's effective date be changed to "upon passage and approval" rather than July 1, 2017.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members on the proposed amendment ([Exhibit C](#)) to [A.B. 504](#). Hearing no response, she stated that Committee members believed it would be more appropriate to split the cost between the State General Fund and the State Highway Fund and to appropriate the initial dollars and then have staff return to IFC for the remainder because the schedule was difficult to determine. The Chair stated that the project would help with communication because the new system would affect everyone, and the change to SWCAP would ensure that the agencies that used the new system would pay their proportionate share.

Chair Carlton requested a motion from Committee members.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
[ASSEMBLY BILL 504](#).

ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, and Frierson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton stated that she would present the bill on the floor.

Assembly Bill 499: Makes appropriations to restore the balances in the Stale Claims Account, Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account and Contingency Account. (BDR S-1184)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 499 had been previously heard by the Committee. This bill included the normal restoration of the balances in certain accounts that provided funding for continuing operations for unanticipated costs during the interim. She said that Section 1, subsection 1 of the bill appropriated \$500,000 to the Stale Claims Account to pay late bills after the fiscal year closed. Section 1, subsection 2 of the bill appropriated \$2 million to the Statutory Contingency Account administered by the State Board of Examiners. Section 1, subsection 3 of the bill appropriated \$5 million to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) Contingency Account.

Staff from the Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, suggested an amendment to increase the \$5 million IFC Contingency Account appropriation to \$7 million, given the Legislature's actions to allow bodies to come before IFC to request funding. Fiscal staff recommended changing the effective date from July 1, 2017, to "effective upon passage and approval."

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members. There were no questions.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS ASSEMBLY BILL 499, INCLUDING AN INCREASE TO \$7 MILLION FOR THE INTERIM FINANCE COMMITTEE CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT, AND THE CHANGE IN THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE BILL.

ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, and Frierson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton stated that she would present the bill on the floor.

Assembly Bill 407 (1st Reprint): Makes various changes relating to cooperative extension programs. (BDR 49-1162)

Assemblywoman Diaz presented Committee members with amendment No. 5192 ([Exhibit D](#)) to Assembly Bill (A.B.) 407 (1st Reprint). She explained that there was concern over the proposed bill at the last Ways and Means Committee hearing. Knowing she did not want to affect persons who had jobs, and not knowing how smooth and seamless the transition would be, she opted to keep the part of the bill that designated the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and the Desert Research Institute (DRI) as land grant institutions. The bill also required the Legislative Auditor to conduct a performance and compliance audit to see where the monies were expended. The remainder of the bill, along with her intent to regionalize the Cooperative Extension, had been removed.

Chair Carlton agreed that it was a wise move to get the data to analyze first. She asked whether there were any questions from Committee members.

Assemblyman Oscarson acknowledged the sponsor. He stated that the proposed bill was not ideal and not what he imagined it would be, but it was a prudent first step in moving forward. His rural constituents had provided a great deal of input. The sponsor was a champion of the program, but he said, she wanted to do things right, and he appreciated that effort.

Assemblywoman Titus agreed with Assemblyman Oscarson's acknowledgement of the work done by Assemblywoman Diaz on A.B. 407 (R1).

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that the fiscal notes no longer applied because the fiscal notes pertained to staffing at two regional offices. The onus, she noted, was now on the Legislative Auditor.

Hearing no other questions from Committee members, the Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL 407 (1ST REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, and Frierson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton stated that Assemblywoman Diaz would present the bill on the floor.

**Assembly Bill 422 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to the use of marijuana.
(BDR 40-983)**

Chair Carlton noted that this bill was a major piece of the marijuana puzzle, so it was important to get the bill moving.

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 422 (1st Reprint) was previously heard by the Committee. Assemblyman Araujo had submitted a new amendment No. 4953 (Exhibit E) to the bill on May 30, 2017.

Chair Carlton acknowledged that the bill had been a moving target, especially with all the components and the required moving parts.

Assemblyman Araujo stated that he had not seen so many amendments to one bill before. The amendment, he noted, was specific to fingerprint administration with the Department of Taxation and proper fingerprint procedures with the federal government. He admitted that at one point, he may have offered the wrong version of an amendment, but staff caught the error, and he was able to correct it so that this fourth attempt, No. 4953, was the most recent, corrected version.

Ms. Jones noted that the bill also facilitated how the budgets were closed because the regulation of the facilities for medical marijuana would move to the Department of Taxation to be administered in conjunction with the recreational marijuana establishments. Medical marijuana cards would remain with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

Chair Carlton asked whether this bill came from a policy committee, and Ms. Jones replied that the bill had come from a policy committee.

Chair Carlton asked whether the bill had been amended once before. Assemblyman Araujo and Ms. Jones replied that the Chair was correct.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members. Hearing no questions, she asked for a motion to amend and do pass as amended.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL 422 (1ST REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, and Frierson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton stated that Assemblyman Araujo would present the bill on the floor.

Assembly Bill 423 (1st Reprint): Requires the Nevada Commission for Women to collect and report information related to gender equality in the workplace. (BDR 18-1047)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill (A.B.) 423 (1st Reprint) was presented by Assemblywoman Brittney Miller on May 22, 2017. The bill required the Nevada Commission for Women with the assistance of the Director, Department of Administration, to design and conduct a survey of Nevada employers with greater than 100 employees. The survey would focus on data and information related to matters of gender equality in the workplace. The Nevada Commission for Women would create, maintain, and make available a public database that provided information about employers' best practices and policies on gender equality matters. The Nevada Commission for Women, she noted, may include other employers not included in the survey if the Nevada Commission for Women could obtain sufficient data on the employer. There was a fiscal note from the Department of Administration for \$107,772 in fiscal year (FY) 2018 and \$81,672 in FY 2019 to support a statistician position in the Department of Administration to perform the collection, summary, analysis, and publishing work tasks indicated in the bill. Staff from the Fiscal Analysis Division noted that the account only had \$793, after beginning the year with \$1,149, and there were no other resources for the Nevada Commission for Women costs.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members, and hearing no questions, she requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS
ASSEMBLY BILL 423 (1ST REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SPIEGEL SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Edwards, Hambrick, and Titus voted no. Assemblymen Anderson, Benitez-Thompson, and Frierson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton stated that Assemblywoman Spiegel would present the bill on the floor.

Chair Carlton decided to postpone the work session for Assembly Bill (A.B.) 97 (1st Reprint) until Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson was present and closed the work session. It was also the Chair's intention, she noted, to get Assembly Bill 518 off the desk later in the day.

Chair Carlton recessed the meeting at 9:24 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:04 p.m. behind the bar of the Assembly: Assemblymen Anderson and Frierson were not present.

BDR S-1238—Makes an appropriation to the Secretary of State to provide grants of money to the counties in this State for the purchase of voting machines. (Later introduced as [Assembly Bill 519](#).)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, presented Bill Draft Request (BDR) S-1238 (later introduced as [Assembly Bill 519](#)), an appropriation of \$8 million to be granted to counties for the purchase of voting machines. The machines would allow counties to vote from the same machines, with interchangeable parts.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members on the BDR, and hearing no questions, she requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN OSCARSON MOVED TO INTRODUCE BILL DRAFT REQUEST S-1238, AN \$8 MILLION APPROPRIATION TO BE GRANTED TO COUNTIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF VOTING MACHINES.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson and Frierson were not present for the vote.)

Chair Carlton recessed the meeting at 12:09 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:15 p.m. behind the bar of the Assembly: all members were present.

BDR S-1243— Makes an appropriation from the State General Fund to the Nevada State Museum LV to renovate and expand the playground at Springs Preserve. (Later introduced as [Assembly Bill 520](#).)

Chair Carlton introduced Bill Draft Request (BDR) S-1243 (later introduced as [Assembly Bill 520](#)), an appropriation of \$500,000 to the Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas, for the construction of a new playground at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve. The Chair requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN FRIERSON MADE A MOTION TO INTRODUCE BDR S-1243, A \$500,000 APPROPRIATION TO THE NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, LAS VEGAS, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PLAYGROUND AT THE LAS VEGAS SPRINGS PRESERVE.

ASSEMBLYMAN ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Carlton recessed the meeting at 6:18 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Senate Bill 544 (1st Reprint): Ensures sufficient funding for K-12 public education for the 2017-2019 biennium. (BDR 34-1189)

Chair Carlton explained that the Committee would not be addressing Senate Bill (S.B.) 544 (1st Reprint) because the bill had been amended in the Senate, and the reprint was not available yet. She noted that S.B. 544 (R1) would be the first bill on the agenda for the next day.

Senate Bill 545: Authorizes expenditures by agencies of the State Government for the 2017-2019 biennium. (BDR S-1186)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Senate Bill (S.B.) 545 authorized expenditures by agencies of state government for the 2017-2019 biennium. The Authorizations Act, together with the Appropriations Act, the School Funding Bill, the Pay Bill, and the Capital Improvement Program Act constituted the major bills for the continuing operations of state government for the next two fiscal years. These documents, she stated, reflected the culmination of a considerable amount of work by both Committees. The bill, S.B. 545, represented the authority for agencies to collect and expend monies including federal funds, gifts, grants, interagency transfers, service fees, and other funds, which totaled \$16.2 billion over the 2017-2019 biennium.

Additionally, Ms. Jones explained, because of specific statutory language for these agencies, S.B. 545 included authority for the Nevada Gaming Control Board and the Nevada Gaming Commission to expend \$60.9 million from the State General Fund over the 2017-2019 biennium. Similarly, Ms. Jones explained, the bill included authority for the Department of Transportation to expend \$650.1 million from the State Highway Fund over the 2017-2019 biennium.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from Committee members. Hearing no response, she asked whether there was anyone in support of, in opposition to, or neutral on S.B. 545. Hearing no responses, she closed the hearing on S.B. 545.

Chair Carlton noted that there were no proposed amendments to S.B. 545. She asked Committee members whether there were any questions, and hearing no response, she requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN FRIERSON MOVED TO DO PASS SENATE BILL 545.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN BENITEZ-THOMPSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED. (Assemblymen Anderson, Edwards, Hambrick, Oscarson, and Titus voted no.)

Chair Carlton stated that she would present the bill on the floor.

Assembly Bill 97 (1st Reprint): Revises provisions relating to evidence collected from and the reimbursement of payment for forensic medical examinations of victims of sexual assault. (BDR 15-538)

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that Assembly Bill 97 (1st Reprint) was heard on May 22, 2017, and required law enforcement agencies to submit a sexual assault forensic evidence kit to the applicable forensic laboratory responsible for conducting a genetic marker analysis within thirty days after receiving the kit. This requirement, she stated, did not apply to certain noninvestigatory sexual assault forensic evidence kits. This bill included a \$3 million appropriation from the State General Fund to the Office of the Attorney General for making payments to forensic laboratories through interlocal agreements. In addition, this bill allowed up to \$10,000 per year (from the Fund for the Compensation of Victims of Crime), per county, for reimbursement to counties for the costs associated with conducting forensic medical examinations of victims of sexual assault. The reserve in the Fund for the Compensation of Victims of Crime was currently \$9.6 million, or \$8.2 million when the upcoming budget was approved. She said that the Fund for the Compensation of Victims of Crime paid out \$4.3 million per year so the fund was sufficient to handle the payments to the counties. There were no amendments to this bill.

Chair Carlton asked whether there were any questions from the Committee members. Hearing no response, she requested a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN FRIERSON MOVED TO DO PASS AS AMENDED
ASSEMBLY BILL 97 (1ST REPRINT).

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Carlton stated that Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson would present the bill on the floor.

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Chair Carlton recessed the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Because of time constraints, the meeting was not reconvened and was adjourned at 9:06 a.m. on June 2, 2017.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Carmen Neveau
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

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

[Exhibit C](#) is a proposed Amendment dated May 5, 2017, to Assembly Bill 504 referenced by Cathy Crocket, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit D](#) is proposed Amendment No. 5192, dated May 31, 2017, to Assembly Bill 407 (1st Reprint) presented by Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz.

[Exhibit E](#) is proposed Amendment No. 4953, dated May 30, 2017, to Assembly Bill 422 (1st Reprint), presented by Assemblyman Nelson Araujo.