

THE SIXTH DAY

CARSON CITY (Monday) July 13, 2020

Senate called to order at 2:43 p.m.

President Marshall presiding.

Roll called.

All present.

Prayer by the Senator Cancela.

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light, and where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

By previous order of the Senate, the reading of the Journal is dispensed with, and the President and Secretary are authorized to make the necessary corrections and additions.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND NOTICES

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the following person be accepted as an accredited press representative, and that he be allowed the use of appropriate media facilities: THE NEVADA INDEPENDENT: Trevor Bexon.

Motion carried.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the Senate resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering Senate Bills Nos. 1 and 2 and other matters relating to the State's budget shortfall, with Senator Cannizzaro as Chair and Senator Ratti as Vice Chair.

Motion carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

At 3:16 p.m.

Senator Cannizzaro presiding.

Senate Bill Nos. 1 and 2 and any other matters relating to the State's budget shortfall considered.

The Committee of the Whole was addressed by Senator Cannizzaro; Sarah Coffman, Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau; Senator Denis; Senator D. Harris; Senator Kieckhefer; Brody Leiser, Senior Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau; Senator Settlemeyer; Yvette Williams, Chair, Clark County Black Caucus.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

We will open the hearing on Senate Bill No. 1.

BRODY LEISER (Senior Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau):

The Committee first heard Senate Bill No. 1 on Thursday, July 9. As written, the bill implements the Governor's proposed General Fund reductions relating to capital improvement projects of approximately \$72.6 million. The Public Works Division of the Department of Administration initially presented the bill, and there was no testimony in support of or in opposition to the bill.

Project-specific actions in the Governor's proposal will be implemented by the language in Senate Bill No. 1. The total proposed General Fund reductions in the Governor's proposal total \$72,599,117. Those General Fund savings come from 58 projects in the Governor's proposal including cancellations, scope changes and the offset of General Obligation Bonds to swap-out with General Fund appropriations. Of the \$72.6 million in General Fund savings, \$39 million result from proposed offsets of General Fund appropriations with General Obligation Bond funds; \$23.2 million result from cancellations of projects partially funded with General Fund appropriations, and \$10.5 million result from projects being reduced in scope that are partially funded with General Funds. The majority of the General Fund savings comes through the offset of General Fund appropriations with General Obligation Bonds.

Section 1 of Senate Bill No. 1 amends the 2017 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) legislation by revising General Obligation Project allocations. When a project is revised, and the project's bond authority is reduced or revised downward, this project is known as a "donor project." That reduction, or savings, is used to offset General Funds in other projects. There are 13 projects from the 2017 CIP bill in which bond funds are repurposed to offset General Funds. Of these 13 projects, one is proposed to be cancelled: Project 17-M66, for plumbing fixtures and water control renovations at housing units 1 through 4 at the Southern Desert Correctional Center. Project M-70, exterior renovation for the Nevada State Capitol and Annex Building is proposed to have its scope reduced. The remaining 11 projects in which the bond authority is reduced are the result of savings from Public Works having completed the original scope of the project. The total amount of savings, \$7,143,487, represents bond authority being proposed to offset General Fund appropriations in other projects.

Section 2 of Senate Bill No. 1 revises the 2019 CIP bill, specifically the section authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds and individual project allocation of those bonds. This is similar to section 1 and is a counterpart for the 2019 CIP projects. Projects that are revised or decreased are those in which General Obligation Bonds are coming from or being repurposed to offset General Fund appropriations. There are ten projects proposed for this purpose. Of the ten, there are three project cancellations including, 19-C16, renovation of Collections Storage Building 19 at the Stewart Campus; 19-M36, Visitors Center renovations, Valley of Fire State Park, and 19-M50, replacement of comfort stations at Valley of Fire State Park. There are four projects proposed to have a reduced scope. These projects include 19-M14, construction of water well and water systems at various fish hatchery sites; 19-M20, replacement of flooring, Caliente Youth Center Multi-purpose building; 19-M30, central plant renovation, Attorney General's Office Building, and 19-S01, the statewide roofing program. Of the 2019 CIP projects, there are \$31.8 million deductions to project bond authority. That sum is part of the overall proposal to offset General Fund appropriations in projects as part of the required reversions under section 3 of the bill.

Section 3 of the bill requires the reversion of \$72.6 million in General Fund appropriations. The General Fund savings required to be reverted comes from three buckets: projects recommended to General Funds offset with General Obligation Bonds, for \$39 million; projects recommended to be cancelled, for \$23.2 million General Fund savings, and reduction of scope for six projects. The total savings is \$10.5 million for those partially funded by General Funds.

Cancelled projects include: 19-C30, construction of a University of Nevada, Las Vegas, College of Engineering Academic and Research building; 19-M25, installation of a panic-alarm system at Dini-Townsend Hospital; 19-M24, replacement of the surveillance system at Casa Grande Transitional Housing; 19-M48, installation of recreational yard fencing, Southern Desert Correctional Center and High Desert State Prison, and 19-M27, pavilion renovation Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

Reduced projects include: 19-P01, advance planning for the Grant Sawyer Office Building renovation; 19-P08, advance planning for heavy equipment shop and renovation, Elko; 19-P70, planning for Great Basin College Welding Lab expansion; 19-P71, planning for Western Nevada College, Marlette Hall refurbishment; 19-S05, statewide paving program, and 19-M53, State Park facilities maintenance and Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades, Fort Churchill State Park.

SENATOR KIECKHEFER:

I continue to have concerns about individual projects not being identified in section 3 of the bill. Your testimony identifies the projects specifically, which gives me the comfort level I need to support the bill.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

The exhibits for Senate Bill No. 1 are available online under the Committee of the Whole, not the Senate. They have been available during these hearings.

Senator Ratti moved to do pass Senate Bill No. 1.

Senator Pickard seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

We will open the hearing on Senate Bill No. 2.

SARAH COFFMAN (Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau):

Senate Bill No. 2 was heard on July 10, 2020. Section 1, subsection 1, of the bill provides the Board of Regents, in response to a State of Emergency or Declaration of Disaster proclaimed by the Governor or the Legislature, to temporarily waive the eligibility requirements for the Millennium Scholarship as deemed appropriate. The waiver could relate to student grade point average, or the minimum number of credits required.

Subsection 2 of section 1 provides the Board of Regents may adopt procedures necessary to implement the temporary waiver.

Subsection 3 of section 1 provides discretion to the Board of Regents as to how long the temporary waiver may stay in effect.

Subsection 4 of section 1 provides the Board of Regents shall submit a report on or before February 1 regarding any temporary waivers or modifications made and the impact of the waiver. The report will be submitted to the Legislature or the Committee on Education if the Legislature is not in Session.

Sections 2 through 4 provide conforming language for section 1.

Section 5 provides that section 1 retroactively authorizes the Board of Regents to temporarily waive or modify the eligibility requirements for the Millennium Scholarship for the spring semester or the summer academic term of 2020.

SENATOR DENIS:

The importance of this bill is not to penalize students for something that was out of their control. The amendment gives us the ability to implement this change. The first change proposed is to establish a sunset. This is in section 6 and sets the sunset at July 1, 2021. Some of the other concerns expressed by my colleagues no longer need to be amended because with this sunset in place, now, there is an expiration date. We can deal with the other items during the 2021 Legislative Session.

Section 1, subsection 4(a) is another section addressed in the proposed amendment. The proposed language states: "Within 45 days after a temporary waiver or modification made pursuant to subsection 1 becomes effective ..." we originally had 30 days here but changed it to 45 days to allow the University system time to report. Even if the bill passed today, they would be out of compliance. This will give them sufficient time to do the reporting, now and in the future, if waivers need to be granted again.

The last part of the amendment is section 1, subsection 4(b) which states: "Select a person to appear on behalf of the Board of Regents before the appropriate committees of the Legislature or,

if the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative Committee on Education at the next practicable opportunity after a temporary waiver or mediation made pursuant to subsection 1 becomes effective." This requires the University System to give an in-person report to the Committees on Education when we are in Session, or if we are not in Session, to the Interim Committee on Education.

We worked with the University System, our Legal staff and our colleagues to draft this amendment. I also discussed it with Assembly members to ensure we were addressing the issues in an appropriate way to help students continue their educational pursuits and not be disadvantaged by the pandemic.

Senator Denis moved to amend, and do pass as amended Senate Bill No. 2.

Senator Gansert seconded the motion.

Remarks by Senators Harris and Denis.

SENATOR HARRIS:

This scholarship is funded with a large, one-time appropriation. We may not be able to continue this in the future. If we are to keep this funding viable, it is important to review how this scholarship is funded. Moving forward, we can work on this with the Nevada System of Higher Education and the Treasurer's Office.

SENATOR DENIS:

It is important to do this now, and we realize there are additional issues to deal with in the future. We have committed to working with the Treasurer to bring something forward in the upcoming Session on these additional issues.

Motion carried unanimously.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

We will now open the hearing for public comment.

YVETTE WILLIAMS (Chair, Clark County Black Caucus):

My comments are about the last few days of both Houses. There has been much discussion about slashing important programs but little about finding more revenue. Before we look at more cuts, has the Body had any conversations about economic development related to COVID-19 dollars received? We have not heard it on the Floor. Millions of dollars have come into our State, and money is spent on COVID-19. We do not know where those dollars are spent, and I am not sure you know. Businesses here in Nevada can serve us. Instead of putting money into other economies, why are we not looking at putting money into businesses here? They may be smaller, but we can help grow them. That will bring more tax dollars and revenue into our community. It is not an immediate fix, but it is one we need to think about longer term. As an example, the Grant Sawyer Building is the only building providing access to our State government in Las Vegas. If the building is not healthy enough for workers, mitigating this might be an opportunity for us to create more jobs for residents of Nevada. This relates to Senate Bill No. 1 and any legislation related to cutting funds. We may need to put on the brakes and ask some questions related to spending, especially as it relates to the COVID-19 dollars we have received. Even in education, funds have been received to assist with things like internet connectivity, but we are still struggling with access for all students.

On the motion of Senator Woodhouse, seconded by Senator Parks, the Committee did rise and report back to the Senate.

SENATE IN SESSION

At 5:56 p.m.

President Marshall presiding.

Quorum present.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Madam President:

Your Committee of the Whole, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 1, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Do pass.

Also, your Committee of the Whole, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 2, has had the same under consideration, and begs leave to report the same back with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

NICOLE J. CANNIZZARO, *Chair*

GENERAL FILE AND THIRD READING

Senate Bill No. 1.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Parks.

Senate Bill No. 1 revises the funding of projects of capital improvement approved by the 2017 and 2019 Legislatures, and it requires the reversion of \$72.6 million in General Fund appropriations.

Senate Bill No. 1 revises the amount of general obligation bonds that are allocated to certain projects of capital improvement by reducing authority for 14 projects that have, or are projected to result in, savings following completion of the projects; for 5 projects as a result of scope reductions and 4 projects as a result of project cancellations. These actions allow for the repurposing of \$39 million in General Obligation Bonds resulting in a General Fund savings of an equal amount, or \$39 million, by offsetting General Fund appropriations with the repurposed bond funds.

Additionally, Senate Bill No. 1, through the required action to reserve General Fund appropriations for reversion cancels 5 projects resulting in \$23.18 million of General Fund savings and reduces and scope of 6 projects resulting in a General Fund savings of \$10.46 million.

Senate Bill No. 1 would result in the cancellation of the following approved CIP projects: 17-M66, plumbing fixture water control renovations, housing units 1 through 4 at Southern Desert Correctional Center; 19-C16, renovation of collections storage building 19, Stewart Campus; 19-C30, construction of a University of Nevada, Las Vegas, College of Engineering, Academic and Research Building; 19-M24, replace surveillance system, Casa Grande Transitional Housing; 19-M25, install panic-alarm system, Dini-Townsend Hospital; 19-M27, Pavilion Renovation, Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery; 19-M36, Visitors Center Renovations, Valley of Fire State Park; 19-M48, install recreation yard fencing, Southern Desert Correctional Center and High Desert State Prison, and 19-M50, replace comfort stations, Valley of Fire State Park.

Finally, Senate Bill No. 1 requires that the Department of Administration make adjustments to the capital improvement projects identified as being revised in the bill to ensure that all necessary action is taken and the revisions are applied retroactively to the date in which the General Obligation Bonds being repurposed were issued, or December 10, 2019.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 1:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 1 having received a constitutional majority, Madam President declared it passed.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

Senate Bill No. 2.

Bill read third time.

The following amendment was proposed by the Committee of the Whole:

Amendment No. 2.

SUMMARY—~~[Authorizes]~~ Temporarily authorizes certain changes to eligibility requirements for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship. (BDR 34-13)

AN ACT relating to education; temporarily authorizing the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to waive or modify certain requirements for eligibility to receive a Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship in response to a state of emergency or declaration of disaster; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides that a student may receive a Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship if the student meets certain eligibility requirements, including, without limitation, enrolling in a certain number of credit hours in eligible institutions. (NRS 396.930) Existing law also provides that a student who receives a Millennium Scholarship must maintain a certain grade point average for each semester that the student receives the Millennium Scholarship. (NRS 396.934)

Section 1 of this bill authorizes the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to temporarily waive or modify certain eligibility requirements to receive a Millennium Scholarship in response to a state of emergency or declaration of disaster proclaimed by the Governor or the Legislature. Section 1 also: (1) authorizes the Board of Regents to adopt any procedures necessary to implement a waiver or modification to the eligibility requirements; (2) authorizes a waiver or modification to remain in place for as long as the Board of Regents deems necessary to mitigate the impact of an emergency or disaster on students; and (3) requires the Board of Regents to submit a report on such a waiver or modification to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature or the Legislative Committee on Education, as appropriate, ~~[on February 1 of the year immediately following the year in which a state of emergency or declaration of disaster is proclaimed.]~~ within 45 days after such a waiver or modification becomes effective and to designate a person to appear before the appropriate legislative committees as soon as practicable. Sections 2-4 of this bill make conforming changes. Section 5 of this bill applies the provisions of this bill retroactively to a waiver or modification to the eligibility requirements to receive a Millennium Scholarship for the spring semester of 2020 made in response to the Declaration of Emergency issued by Governor Sisolak on March 12, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Section 5.5 of this bill repeals the provisions of section 1 on July 1, 2021, which has the effect of limiting the authority of the Board of Regents to temporarily waive or modify certain eligibility requirements to receive a Millennium Scholarship to waivers or modifications granted on or before that date.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. *The Board of Regents may, in response to a state of emergency or declaration of disaster proclaimed by the Governor or the Legislature pursuant to NRS 414.070, temporarily waive or modify the requirements to be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship set forth in paragraph (f) of subsection 1 of NRS 396.930 and NRS 396.934. Such a waiver or modification may waive or modify, without limitation, the minimum grade point average for one or more semesters of enrollment, the minimum number of credits in which a student must be enrolled or any other requirement deemed appropriate by the Board of Regents.*

2. *The Board of Regents may adopt any procedures necessary to implement a temporary waiver or modification made pursuant to subsection 1 to the requirements to be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship.*

3. *A temporary waiver or modification made pursuant to subsection 1 may remain in effect for as long as the Board of Regents, in its discretion, determines is necessary to address the impact of the state of emergency or declaration of disaster on students who receive or are otherwise eligible to receive a Millennium Scholarship.*

4. ~~*The Board of Regents shall +, on or before February 1 of the year immediately following the year in which a state of emergency or declaration of disaster is proclaimed, +:*~~

~~*(a) Within 45 days after a temporary waiver or modification made pursuant to subsection 1 becomes effective, submit a report on ~~(any)~~ such a temporary waiver or modification ~~made pursuant to subsection 1~~ and the impact of ~~such a~~ the waiver or modification on students to the Governor and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature or, if the Legislature is not in session, to the Legislative Committee on Education ~~+~~; and*~~

~~*(b) Select a person to appear on behalf of the Board of Regents before the appropriate committees of the Legislature or, if the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative Committee on Education, at the next practicable opportunity after a temporary waiver or modification made pursuant to subsection 1 becomes effective.*~~

Sec. 2. NRS 396.914 is hereby amended to read as follows:

396.914 As used in NRS 396.911 to 396.945, inclusive, and section 1 of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 396.916 to 396.922, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 3. NRS 396.930 is hereby amended to read as follows:

396.930 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 4, a student may apply to the Board of Regents for a Millennium Scholarship if the student:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (e) of subsection 2, has been a resident of this State for at least 2 years before the student applies for the Millennium Scholarship;

(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), graduated from a public or private high school in this State:

(1) After May 1, 2000, but not later than May 1, 2003; or

(2) After May 1, 2003, and, except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (c), (d) and (f) of subsection 2, not more than 6 years before the student applies for the Millennium Scholarship;

(c) Does not satisfy the requirements of paragraph (b) and:

(1) Was enrolled as a pupil in a public or private high school in this State with a class of pupils who were regularly scheduled to graduate after May 1, 2000;

(2) Received his or her high school diploma within 4 years after he or she was regularly scheduled to graduate; and

(3) Applies for the Millennium Scholarship not more than 6 years after he or she was regularly scheduled to graduate from high school;

(d) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (e), maintained in high school in the courses designated by the Board of Regents pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2, at least:

(1) A 3.00 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2003 or 2004;

(2) A 3.10 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2005 or 2006; or

(3) A 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2007 or a later graduating class;

(e) Does not satisfy the requirements of paragraph (d) and received at least the minimum score established by the Board of Regents on a college entrance examination approved by the Board of Regents that was administered to the student while the student was enrolled as a pupil in a public or private high school in this State; and

(f) ~~Has~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 1 of this act*, is enrolled in at least:

(1) Nine semester credit hours in a community college within the System;

(2) Twelve semester credit hours in another eligible institution; or

(3) A total of 12 or more semester credit hours in eligible institutions if the student is enrolled in more than one eligible institution.

2. The Board of Regents:

(a) Shall define the core curriculum that a student must complete in high school to be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship.

(b) Shall designate the courses in which a student must earn the minimum grade point averages set forth in paragraph (d) of subsection 1.

(c) May establish criteria with respect to students who have been on active duty serving in the Armed Forces of the United States to exempt such students

from the 6-year limitation on applications that is set forth in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

(d) Shall establish criteria with respect to students who have a documented physical or mental disability or who were previously subject to an individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., or a plan under Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §§ 791 et seq. The criteria must provide an exemption for those students from:

(1) The 6-year limitation on applications that is set forth in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1 and subparagraph (3) of paragraph (c) of subsection 1 and any limitation applicable to students who are eligible pursuant to subparagraph (1) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

(2) The minimum number of credits prescribed in paragraph (f) of subsection 1.

(e) Shall establish criteria with respect to students who have a parent or legal guardian on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States to exempt such students from the residency requirement set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 or subsection 4.

(f) Shall establish criteria with respect to students who have been actively serving or participating in a charitable, religious or public service assignment or mission to exempt such students from the 6-year limitation on applications that is set forth in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1. Such criteria must provide for the award of Millennium Scholarships to those students who qualify for the exemption and who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria to the extent that money is available to award Millennium Scholarships to the students after all other obligations for the award of Millennium Scholarships for the current school year have been satisfied.

3. If the Board of Regents requires a student to successfully complete courses in mathematics or science to be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship, a student who has successfully completed one or more courses in computer science described in NRS 389.0186 must be allowed to apply not more than one unit of credit received for the completion of such courses toward that requirement.

4. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of subsection 1, for students who did not graduate from a public or private high school in this State and who, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (e) of subsection 2, have been residents of this State for at least 2 years, the Board of Regents shall establish:

(a) The minimum score on a standardized test that such students must receive; or

(b) Other criteria that students must meet,
→ to be eligible for Millennium Scholarships.

5. In awarding Millennium Scholarships, the Board of Regents shall enhance its outreach to students who:

(a) Are pursuing a career in education or health care;

(b) Come from families who lack sufficient financial resources to pay for the costs of sending their children to an eligible institution; or

(c) Substantially participated in an antismoking, antidrug or antialcohol program during high school.

6. The Board of Regents shall establish a procedure by which an applicant for a Millennium Scholarship is required to execute an affidavit declaring the applicant's eligibility for a Millennium Scholarship pursuant to the requirements of this section. The affidavit must include a declaration that the applicant is a citizen of the United States or has lawful immigration status, or that the applicant has filed an application to legalize the applicant's immigration status or will file an application to legalize his or her immigration status as soon as he or she is eligible to do so.

Sec. 4. NRS 396.934 is hereby amended to read as follows:

396.934 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, within the limits of money available in the Trust Fund, a student who is eligible for a Millennium Scholarship is entitled to receive:

(a) If he or she is enrolled in a community college within the System, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, \$40 per credit for each lower division course and \$60 per credit for each upper division course in which the student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is necessary for the student to pay the costs of attending the community college that are not otherwise satisfied by other grants or scholarships, whichever is less. The Board of Regents shall provide for the designation of upper and lower division courses for the purposes of this paragraph.

(b) If he or she is enrolled in a state college within the System, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, \$60 per credit for which the student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is necessary for the student to pay the costs of attending the state college that are not otherwise satisfied by other grants or scholarships, whichever is less.

(c) If he or she is enrolled in another eligible institution, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, \$80 per credit for which the student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is necessary for the student to pay the costs of attending the university that are not otherwise satisfied by other grants or scholarships, whichever is less.

(d) If he or she is enrolled in more than one eligible institution, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, the amount authorized pursuant to paragraph (a), (b) or (c), or a combination thereof, in accordance with procedures and guidelines established by the Board of Regents.

↪ In no event may a student who is eligible for a Millennium Scholarship receive more than the cost of 15 semester credits per semester pursuant to this subsection.

2. No student may be awarded a Millennium Scholarship:

(a) To pay for remedial courses.

(b) For a total amount in excess of \$10,000.

3. ~~{A}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 1 of this act, a student who receives a Millennium Scholarship shall:*

(a) Make satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or certificate, as determined by the Board of Regents pursuant to subsection 8; and

(b) Maintain at least a 2.75 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale for each semester of enrollment in the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program.

4. A student who receives a Millennium Scholarship is encouraged to volunteer at least 20 hours of community service for this State, a political subdivision of this State or a charitable organization that provides service to a community or the residents of a community in this State during each year in which the student receives a Millennium Scholarship.

5. If a student does not satisfy the requirements of subsection 3 during one semester of enrollment, excluding a summer academic term, he or she is not eligible for the Millennium Scholarship for the succeeding semester of enrollment. If such a student:

(a) Subsequently satisfies the requirements of subsection 3 in a semester in which he or she is not eligible for the Millennium Scholarship, the student is eligible for the Millennium Scholarship for the student's next semester of enrollment.

(b) Fails a second time to satisfy the requirements of subsection 3 during any subsequent semester, excluding a summer academic term, the student is no longer eligible for a Millennium Scholarship.

6. A Millennium Scholarship must be used only:

(a) For the payment of registration fees and laboratory fees and expenses;

(b) To purchase required textbooks and course materials; and

(c) For other costs related to the attendance of the student at the eligible institution.

7. The Board of Regents shall certify a list of eligible students to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall disburse a Millennium Scholarship for each semester on behalf of an eligible student directly to the eligible institution in which the student is enrolled, upon certification from the eligible institution of the number of credits for which the student is enrolled, which must meet or exceed the minimum number of credits required for eligibility and certification that the student is in good standing and making satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or certificate, as determined by the Board of Regents pursuant to subsection 8. The Millennium Scholarship must be administered by the eligible institution as other similar scholarships are administered and may be used only for the expenditures authorized pursuant to subsection 6. If a student is enrolled in more than one eligible institution, the Millennium Scholarship must be administered by the eligible institution at which the student is enrolled in a program of study leading to a recognized degree or certificate.

8. The Board of Regents shall establish:

(a) Criteria for determining whether a student is making satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or certificate for purposes of subsection 7.

(b) Procedures to ensure that all money from a Millennium Scholarship awarded to a student that is refunded in whole or in part for any reason is refunded to the Trust Fund and not the student.

(c) Procedures and guidelines for the administration of a Millennium Scholarship for students who are enrolled in more than one eligible institution.

Sec. 5. The provisions of section 1 of this act apply retroactively to authorize the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to make any temporary waiver or modification to the requirements to be eligible for a Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship during the spring semester or summer academic term of 2020 that the Board of Regents determines to be necessary to mitigate the impact on students of the Declaration of Emergency issued by the Honorable Steve Sisolak, Governor of the State of Nevada, on March 12, 2020.

Sec. 5.5. Section 1 of this act is hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. 1. This section and sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. The amendatory provisions of sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act expire by limitation on July 1, 2021.

3. Section 5.5 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

Senator Denis moved the adoption of the amendment.

Remarks by Senator Denis.

These are the amendments we just discussed in Committee of the Whole. These amendments are necessary to Senate Bill No. 2.

Amendment adopted.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that all necessary rules be suspended, that the reprinting of Senate Bill No. 2 be dispensed with, that the Secretary be authorized to insert Amendment No. 2 adopted by the Senate, and that the bill be placed on the General File and considered next.

Motion carried.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senators Denis, Cannizzaro and Gansert.

SENATOR DENIS:

Senate Bill No. 2 provides that in response to a State of Emergency, or Declaration of Disaster, proclaimed by either the Governor or Legislature, a temporary waiver or modification of the eligibility requirements for the Millennium Scholarship may be made as deemed appropriate by the Board of Regents. The waiver or modification could be related to the student's grade point average or the minimum number of credits required.

Senate Bill No. 2 provides the Board of Regents the ability to adopt procedures necessary to implement the temporary waiver or modification and determine how long the waiver or modification will stay in effect.

Senate Bill No. 2 requires the Board of Regents to report within 45 days after the temporary waiver or modification becomes effective on the impact of the waiver or modification to the Legislature or the Legislative Committee on Education if the Legislature is not in Session. The

Board of Regents would select a person to appear on behalf of the Board of Regents to present the report to the appropriate Committee of the Legislature or to the Legislative Committee on Education.

Finally, Senate Bill No. 2 repeals the ability for the Board of Regents to establish a temporary waiver or modification of the eligibility requirements for the Millennium Scholarship after July 1, 2021.

Sections 1 through 5 of Senate Bill No. 2 become effective upon passage and approval. Sections 3, 4 and 5 of this act expire by limitation on June 30, 2021. Section 5.5 becomes effective on July 1, 2021.

SENATOR CANNIZZARO:

It is important we were able to consider this bill, as it will impact students who are on these scholarships. I have a special place in my heart for Millennium Scholarships having been a recipient of one and having it be the primary reason I was able to attend a four-year university. It is important for students who are on these scholarships, and I am grateful to this Body we are able to keep these scholarships with these students. It is an important piece of the difficult decisions we have to make and something we can do to ensure these students continue to pursue their educational goals. I remain hopeful we can continue to look at the solvency of this scholarship so we can continue to keep students attending our wonderful institutions of higher learning in Nevada. It made a difference for me, as a proud graduate of two of those institutions and a proud Millennium Scholarship recipient. In the future, I am hopeful we can continue the discussions about keeping these scholarships.

SENATOR SEEVERS GANSERT:

Governor Kenny Guinn had the vision over 20 years ago to start this scholarship. This scholarship allows our best students to stay in Nevada. It has impacted their lives and the lives of their families. This waiver is appropriate because we want to ensure they can continue in higher education. I appreciate the support of my colleagues.

Roll call on Senate Bill No. 2:

YEAS—21.

NAYS—None.

Senate Bill No. 2 having received a constitutional majority, Madam President declared it passed, as amended.

Bill ordered transmitted to the Assembly.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR

Senator Hansen requested that his remarks be entered in the Journal.

The business community expressed concern to me over the way Nevada's Executive Branch is handling COVID-19. I have not mentioned this publically. Although I support the Governor, what happened today in California sends up a red flag that Nevada's business community is vulnerable to arbitrary action. I want to ensure this Body addresses this.

The other day at dinner, locally, with an Assemblywoman, as we walked in, an individual glared at us. He came over after we were seated and asked us if we were part of the Legislature. I said we were, expressed our support of businesses and indicated that businesses should be allowed to make more of their own decisions. He stated he was glad I said that because he was going to ask us to leave his restaurant because we are members of this Body. He was so upset by the constant effort of a one-size-fits all policy for the State of Nevada.

Every community in this State has been dealing with COVID-19 for months. These communities have local officials and local bodies of people who know how to deal with these things. People running businesses are in daily contact with elected officials who live among them, yet they have no authority to make decisions for their own local communities.

I am aware the Governor, or representatives from his staff, have been calling city mayors and county commissioners threatening to withhold funds if they do not comply with his orders. That

is dictatorial and wrong. We are in a Special Session and are the lawmaking Body of this State. During this Special Session, I hope we address this specific problem.

The parking lots of the Nugget and the Grand Sierra Resort are full. People are anxious to get out and participate in today's economy. There is a 100-percent relationship between the health of our business community and the tax revenues for our State. I hope this Body recognizes that. We need to remove the handcuffs, quit having a one-size-fits-all policy dictated by the Governor to this State. We need to stand up as the Legislative Body and come up with good, reasonable regulations to allow local communities more say regarding where and when they will shut down their businesses. To target bars is beyond reason. Churches, bars and all forms of business should have a say in determining mask policies and others in their communities.

I have an advantage because my oldest son graduated from the Mayo Clinic. He is an anesthesiologist, and one of three doctors from Nevada sent to help with the COVID-19 crisis in New Jersey and New York, for which Nevada got much praise. He has been on several task forces related to this issue. I communicate extensively with him about what our policies should be. He is adamant we need to start opening things up and give local people and businesses the opportunity to determine policies. This is not just "Ira the plumber" shooting from the hip. This is someone who has been closely following this with highly backed people to support it.

There is a growing effort in our State to come up with a quasi-military response to this. The Governor set up an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) hotline for individuals to spy on their neighbors and businesses and turn them in. That has created another backlash because having neighbors spying on them and possibly causing foreclosures or fines from OSHA is highly offensive to people. I have been a supporter of the Governor and have been quiet about this because it is serious and not an issue we should take lightly. We are talking about grown-up people in this State, elected officials in other parts of the State; we need to eliminate this one-size-fits-all, dictatorial attitude going on in Nevada.

Senator Cannizzaro moved that the Senate adjourn until Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at 2:30 p.m.

Motion carried.

Senate adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Approved:

KATE MARSHALL
President of the Senate

Attest: CLAIRE J. CLIFT
Secretary of the Senate