

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Eighty-Second Session
April 4, 2023**

The Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections was called to order by Chair Michelle Gorelow at 4:05 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, in Room 3142 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/82nd2023.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow, Chair
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Vice Chair
Assemblyman Rich DeLong
Assemblywoman Jill Dickman
Assemblyman Reuben D'Silva
Assemblywoman Cecelia González
Assemblyman Brian Hibbetts
Assemblyman Richard McArthur
Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller
Assemblywoman Sabra Newby
Assemblyman Steve Yeager

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno (excused)

GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Powers, General Counsel
Bryan Fernley, Committee Counsel
Haley Proehl, Committee Policy Analyst

Minutes ID: 723



Shuruk Ismail, Committee Manager
Kristi Howard, Committee Secretary
Garrett Kingen, Committee Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Adrian Hunt, Police Detective, Office of Intergovernmental Services, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Emily Persaud-Zamora, Executive Director, Silver State Voices
Doug Goodman, Founder and Executive Director, Nevadans for Election Reform; and Private Citizen, Sparks, Nevada
Greg Herrera, representing Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association; and Washoe County Sheriff's Office
Gabriel Di Chiara, Chief Deputy, Office of the Secretary of State
Taurus Branner, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada
Jagada Chambers, Rights Restoration Coordinator, Silver State Voices
Jovan Jackson, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada
Susie Martinez, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Nevada State AFL-CIO
Leslie Turner, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Nick Shepack, State Deputy Director, Fines and Fees Justice Center
Erica Roth, Government Affairs Liaison, Deputy Public Defender, Washoe County Public Defender's Office
Tonja Brown, Private Citizen, Carson City, Nevada
Ayanna S. Oglesby, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada
Jodi Hocking, Founder/Executive Director, Return Strong, Carson City, Nevada
Athar Haseebullah, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada
John J. Piro, Chief Deputy Public Defender, Legislative Liaison, Clark County Public Defender's Office
Eric Jeng, Acting Executive Director, One APIA Nevada; and Director of Outreach, Asian Community Development Council
Leonard Jackson, Director, Faith Organizing Alliance, Las Vegas, Nevada
Robin Stumps, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Brian Harris, Voter Education Organizer, Battle Born Progress
Jonathan Bush, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Martin Walker, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Derek Rimson, Chair for Political Action and Social Justice, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Aria Flores, representing Chispa Nevada; and Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Yesenia Moya, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada
Taylor Patterson, Executive Director, Native Voters Alliance Nevada
Quentin Savwoir, President, Las Vegas Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Jessica Munger, Program Manager, Silver State Equality
Yazmyn Pelaez, Digital Media Manager, Nevada Conservation League
Christine Saunders, Policy Director, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada

Dakota Hoskins, Political Director, Service Employees International Union
Local 1107

Deanna Leivas, Secretary-Treasurer, United Food and Commercial Workers Union
Local 711

Sharon King Savage, Health and Wellness Chairperson, Las Vegas Branch, National
Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Linda Stout, Member, Legislative Committee, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club

Jeri Burton, Co-Executive Director, Nevada Chapter, National Organization for
Women

Kerry Durmick, Nevada State Director, All Voting is Local

Lynn Chapman, representing Nevada Families for Freedom; and Treasurer,
Independent American Party of Nevada

Susan Proffitt, Vice President, Nevada Republican Club

Katrin Ivanoff, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Oscar Williams, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada

Cyrus Hojjaty, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Jamie Lynn Rodriguez, Registrar of Voters, Washoe County

Ashley Garza Kennedy, Principal Management Analyst, Government Affairs,
Department of Administrative Services, Clark County

Paul Catha, Political Director, Culinary Workers Union Local 226

D. Taylor, President, Unite Here

Annette Magnus, Executive Director, Battle Born Progress

Carter Bundy, Political Action Representative, American Federation of State, County
and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

Maria Landeros, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Ivan Lopez, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Selicia Rodin, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Deanna Virgil, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Maria Bedolla, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Bethany Khan, Spokeswoman and Director of Communications and Digital Strategy,
Culinary Workers Union Local 226

Melanie Arizmendi, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada

Angela Zoya, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Liz Sorenson, President, Nevada State AFL-CIO

Alexander Marks, Communications Specialist, Nevada State Education Association

Robert Sumlin, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada

Nick Vassiliadis, representing Nevada Resort Association

Virginia Valentine, President, Nevada Resort Association

Erin McMullen Midby, Vice President of Government Affairs, Boyd Gaming
Corporation

Andrew Diss, Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Meruelo Gaming

Kami Dempsey-Goudie, representing Golden Entertainment

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

Barry Lieberman, Attorney, South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa, Las Vegas, Nevada

Peter Guzman, President, Latin Chamber of Commerce, Las Vegas, Nevada

Chair Gorelow:

[Roll was called. Committee rules and protocol were reviewed.] We will begin by hearing Assembly Bill 286, and then we will hear Assembly Joint Resolution 5. Welcome, Assemblywoman Brittney Miller. Please begin when you are ready.

Assembly Bill 286: Makes various changes relating to elections. (BDR 24-530)

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Assembly District No. 5:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to present Assembly Bill 286 to you today. This measure expands access to the voting process for individuals in the custody of a county or city jail. Our democracy is strongest when every voter can participate in the electoral process. However, for a long time now it has been difficult for certain groups of voters, specifically those in custody of a county or city jail. Before I go any further, let me first explain the particularly important distinction between jail and prison. I say this because I know that we use these terms synonymously, but they are in fact quite different. Prison is where those convicted of a felony will serve out their sentence. That sentence can be anywhere from one year to life without parole, meaning they will never leave prison. On the other hand, jail is a temporary place where people in custody are awaiting trial. According to Prison Policy Initiative, approximately two out of every three people in jail in the United States are awaiting trial and have not been convicted. Thus, they still have the right to vote. Additionally, some may never be convicted of a crime as the case may be dismissed, or they may stand trial and are acquitted. Others are serving time for misdemeanor offenses with a sentence of less than one year. In Nevada and 43 other states, this does not impact their voter eligibility status. Nevada only prohibits persons convicted of a felony from voting unless their right has been restored pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes 213.157*.

Even though jail is temporary and may never result in conviction, these individuals are in custody. This means they cannot leave the facility to vote at a polling place. They often do not have the necessary information for registering to vote or access to their mail ballot that would have otherwise been delivered to their home. To be clear, this bill does not authorize any person who by law is ineligible to vote or register to vote to do so. It does not authorize a person convicted of a felony to vote in prison. Additionally, the bill does not revise any of the provisions governing the qualifications for voting or registering to vote in the state. Assembly Bill 286 simply expands access to the voting process to Nevadans who are legally entitled to vote or to register to vote but who are detained in a county or city jail. These individuals still have a constitutional right to participate in the electoral process and we need to make sure they have sufficient access to exercise that right.

Assembly Bill 286 ensures that individuals will have access to early voting during all primary, special, and general elections, as well as on Election Day. Depending on the capabilities of each individual county or city jail, individuals may register and/or vote through the Office of the Secretary of State's approved electronic transmission system for elections. If the facility does not have the capacity, then absentee ballots will be provided to and utilized by the elector.

As I go through my presentation today, I will be working through the conceptual amendment [[Exhibit C](#)]. I will not be able to reference specific section numbers and such because the conceptual amendment will dramatically change those section numbers. The amendments, once adopted, actually codify many of the activities that are currently occurring here in our Nevada county and city jails. What this bill really seeks to do is to provide consistency of a concern of a secured voting infrastructure.

In Assembly Bill 286, the first change you will see is that section 2, section 3, and section 4 are deleted [page 1, [Exhibit C](#)]. That is a major change because the intention of this bill was never to make the county or city jail a polling place in the traditional sense where everyone from the community would be welcome to come. Also, by deleting section 2, section 3, and section 4, polling places are eliminated at any juvenile detention or treatment centers. Deleting section 5, subsection 3 [page 2] from A.B. 286 also removes the bill language that says that voting booths will be installed within the jails. Another change is replacing mail ballots with absentee ballots. We have worked extensively with the Department of Corrections and law enforcement and appreciate that in a jail, there are still specific security measures that must be maintained in order to keep everyone safe, including those who are in custody and, of course, those who work there. Because of the additional burden for the scrutiny of mail ballots that may be delivered at home, we are not going to have those brought into the jail. However, we will have the ability through coordination in working with our registrars' offices that if someone requests an absentee ballot, that could be delivered to the jail for them.

In Assembly Bill 286, section 5, subsection 2, paragraph (a), and section 5, subsection 2, paragraph (b) have been deleted, but what remains of section 5 provides individuals in the custody of a county or city jail who are eligible to register to vote with same-day registration [page 1]. In addition to voting on Election Day, existing section 6 of A.B. 286 authorizes eligible individuals in custody to vote, to register in custody to vote, or register to vote through the Office of the Secretary of State's system of approved electronic transmission known as the effective absentee system for elections (EASE). This system is currently provided to our military and overseas voters to register to vote and request a ballot, then electronically transmit their ballot back to their local election office for processing. In 2021 the use of EASE was expanded to voters with disabilities so that they may cast their vote privately and independently. Assembly Bill 286 would further expand the use of EASE to those in county and city jails.

In the instance that someone would like to register to vote, they may either request their identification, if it is being held within the facility, or for a family member to bring it in for the purpose of registry. Assembly Bill 286 also expands access to absentee ballot voting for individuals in county and city jails. The jail must allow the elector to complete the ballot with a reasonable amount of privacy, and staff may not open the absentee ballot once it is voted and sealed by the elector. If the county clerk has established a drop-off box for ballots at the jail, as authorized by the bill, the elector may return his or her ballot in that box.

The city or county jail will coordinate with the registrars on when and how ballots will be picked up or delivered. Either way, a chain-of-custody form will be completed to document the security of the ballots. This reassures the elector and protects the staff from any accusations. These forms are currently being utilized.

Finally, Assembly Bill 286 imposes certain reporting requirements on the jails so that the Office of the Secretary of State has information on the processes used to comply with the requirements of the bill and a summary of any complaints received from individuals relating to voting or registering to vote at the facilities. Ultimately, Assembly Bill 286 will require each county or city jail to develop a consistent infrastructure to allow those who are eligible to register to vote or vote the ability to do so by the EASE system through absentee ballot or with a paper registration form. Part of the process includes coordination with county registrars and ensuring that this process and necessary voting information, which is election information on candidates and statewide measures to be voted upon, is provided. As well, the county or city jail must include updated information on this process and procedures of the voting or registration process in the inmate handbook.

Assembly Bill 286 requires a relative amount of privacy as the elector casts their vote and protects them from any threat, retribution, or intimidation for requesting or exercising their right to vote. There will be no electioneering or campaigning in the county or city jail. Again, this legislation brought forward is to ensure that those awaiting trial can exercise their constitutional right to vote, and that we as Nevadans preserve the sentiment of innocent until proven guilty. Recognizing that some may never be convicted, we are simply ensuring that eligible electors have the ability to vote in the same early, special, primary, or general elections that they would have, had they not been temporarily incarcerated and incapable of going to the ballot box, to the polling place, or mailing in their ballots themselves. Chair Gorelow and members of the Committee, this concludes my presentation. I thank you for the opportunity to present this measure and hope that you join me in supporting this bill. With that, I am available for questions.

Chair Gorelow:

Committee members, are there any questions?

Assemblyman Hibbetts:

You may or may not be aware that certain prisoners of various institutions are sometimes shipped out of state for their own protection and various other reasons, but they are citizens of Nevada. They are technically our residents. How would we go about providing them the same opportunity as everybody else to exercise that right?

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller:

I appreciate that question because I actually do not have the exact data on that. Again, there are many states that allow people to vote in jail and many that do not. It becomes a different

question when we are going through different states if a Nevada resident is in another state's jail. I would need to research that and can get back to you. I think that is a grand consideration, if we know how we can handle it. We do have it in the bill for within different counties, but I appreciate that question.

Assemblyman Yeager:

I have gotten a fair number of communications on this bill, and I would like to try to get some clarification on the record about what the bill does and what it does not do. I just wanted to make sure there is nothing in the bill or the amendment you presented that would allow someone who is otherwise ineligible to vote under the laws of the state of Nevada to vote.

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller:

Nothing in this bill or the amendment changes anything about the eligibility of who is able to register to vote or to vote. Our state laws and United States laws stay intact as to those not able to vote. This bill only addresses eligible electors who otherwise would be able to go to a polling place or send back their mail-in ballot.

Assemblyman Yeager:

I used to practice criminal defense at the public defender's office, so I would often visit clients at the Clark County Detention Center or the local city jails. To clear up some misconceptions, sometimes there is a belief that if you are there you have been sentenced for something, you are going to be there for a long time. It was not unusual at all to go see a client, and three days later they would be released when they first had a bail hearing, or they would get credit for time served. Sometimes the case would be dismissed or would be declined for prosecution. Thinking about that, it always struck me that in some ways, it is kind of random that you may end up there on the particular day that the polls are open. I appreciate your willingness to try to find a way to protect the right to vote, which is in the *Constitution*. I want to remind folks of that. This was not a question but an observation: Not all these people will be convicted, even of misdemeanors. A lot of them get out. I appreciate the effort and thoughtfulness for what you have done to make sure all of our voters in the state can actually cast their ballots.

Assemblywoman Newby:

I think this brings together bedrock values. One is the right to vote, and the other is that you are innocent until you are proven guilty. My question is more on the implementation and what it looks like on the ground. We are talking about, in A.B. 286, on the day of the primary, general election, or the presidential preference primary, there will be inmates who are there whom we can plan for and ask if they want to vote. Inevitably, though, there are going to be some who come in the night before. Have you had any discussions with the local clerks on how they are going to handle that? Is there going to be a cutoff date at which they just cannot get that ballot in for them? How is that going to go?

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller:

What we have sought to do with this legislation is to leave it open and flexible so that those types of technical processes can be determined by each individual county or city jail and their county registrars because, again, every jail operates somewhat differently. Obviously, a jail in Clark County operates differently than a jail in Elko County. As long as the facility is within the current state law parameters, it is about giving them the ability to work together to develop the process that works well for their situation. The nice thing about it being localized between individual jails and registrars is that they know their communities the best. Those considerations that may need to be given to Elko County as opposed to Clark County are available.

One thing many people do not realize is this is actually already occurring. Clark County, Washoe County, and some of our smaller counties have already been assisting individuals with voting while in jail. This bill is important so that this is codified and is more streamlined. Right now, voting is offered because of the leadership that is in certain areas. We know leadership changes and there is the possibility that someone else may come in and choose not to assist people. At this point, it is really about them working together to come up with their procedures.

Assemblywoman Dickman:

How much of an unfunded mandate will this be? I know with the amendment [[Exhibit C](#)] it is not going to be anywhere near what it was going to be, but do you have any idea at this point? I have noticed there are no fiscal notes.

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller:

Although I love exercising the ability to say this is a policy committee and not a funding committee, I know there were concerns with the way the bill originally was written. A major reason in writing the amendment [[Exhibit C](#)] was the idea not to require more staffing or funding and not to put those kinds of issues onto our jails or counties, but to streamline what is already occurring. With that in mind I will be going back to discuss with everyone based on what is now in the amendment the removal of any fiscal notes.

Chair Gorelow:

Do we have any other questions from the Committee? Seeing none, I will call for testimony in support of Assembly Bill 286 in Carson City.

Adrian Hunt, Police Detective, Office of Intergovernmental Services, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department:

We are in support of the proposed conceptual amendment for A.B. 286 [[Exhibit C](#)]. We want to show our gratitude for the hard work from Assemblywoman Brittney Miller's working with all stakeholders bringing this bill to fruition. Assembly Bill 286 will help ensure all citizens of Nevada who are eligible are allowed to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

Emily Persaud-Zamora, Executive Director, Silver State Voices:

We are in very strong support of A.B. 286. We want to thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for all the work she has done to get this bill to this place. This is incredibly important, and the impact it will have on community members cannot be emphasized enough. Nevada voters retain their constitutional right to the ballot box no matter where they might be during an election. Out-of-state voters can request a mail ballot to be sent to a new address. Military and overseas voters can use EASE for voting. Eligible voters detained in jail who are awaiting trial and have not yet been convicted should not be any different. We believe that every voter in jail should not only have access to their constitutional right to vote, but should also be made aware of it. Assembly Bill 286 addresses this gap. Should a jail choose to use Nevada's EASE program, it is a safe and secure method of voting. Nevada's military, overseas voters, and the disabled community have been using it for years. For us, A.B. 286 is about ensuring that as many eligible voters exercise their constitutional right to our democratic process no matter where they are during early voting or on Election Day. We urge the Committee to support A.B. 286.

Doug Goodman, Founder and Executive Director, Nevadans for Election Reform:

I am going to keep this very short because Assemblywoman Brittney Miller covered everything I was planning to say. I think we all agree that every eligible voter should have their right to cast their ballot. Assembly Bill 286 does that. I urge your support.

Greg Herrera, representing Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association; and Washoe County Sheriff's Office:

We are in support of Assembly Bill 286 as amended. We would like to thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for working with us on this bill and for considering processes already in place, safety and security concerns, and varying levels of technical, logistical, and staffing challenges throughout the state.

Gabriel Di Chiara, Chief Deputy, Office of the Secretary of State:

I am here testifying in support on behalf of Francisco Aguilar, Secretary of State. The Secretary is very, very fond of reminding everyone in earshot that the right to vote is a constitutional right. It is a fundamental right, and it should be extended to every eligible voter wherever possible. That includes individuals who are incarcerated but may not have been convicted of any crime. Secretary Aguilar is proud that his staff was able to work with Assemblywoman Brittney Miller and find a way to securely, affordably, and easily ensure that there are no barriers to that fundamental right. County staff are comfortable and familiar with the EASE system after a decade of utilizing it effectively. Based on these facts, Secretary Aguilar is in support of this legislation.

Taurus Branner, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada:

Thank you very much, Committee. I am in complete support of Assembly Bill 286. I appreciate Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for bringing this bill of hope to life.

Jagada Chambers, Rights Restoration Coordinator, Silver State Voices:

I am here in complete support of this piece of legislation. I have been invested with Assemblywoman Brittney Miller and totally blown away at how driven she has been in getting this to fruition. I know even getting a bill number is a big deal in our state within this short period of time. I commend the folks for intently listening and paying attention to the presentation and I would urge your support for the legislation.

Jovan Jackson, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am formerly incarcerated, and I reside in Assembly District 4. I am in support of A.B. 286. Voting is one of the most important parts of a democracy and American democracy should be present in our jails. Please support A.B. 286.

Susie Martinez, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Nevada State AFL-CIO:

I am the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Nevada State AFL-CIO. On behalf of over 150,000 members and 120 unions, we are in full support of the bill.

Leslie Turner, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am obviously in support of the bill, and I just want to thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for bringing this bill and getting all of the people to sign on to it and support it. Also, for highlighting the fact that this is already happening. We have already done it. We have worked directly with the Clark County Detention Center (CCDC) when it was under the jurisdiction of now-Governor Lombardo. We were in the jail educating folks how this works and coordinating ballots out of CCDC and also the Henderson jail. Again, this is already happening. We did that back in 2018. This is just about codifying it, streamlining it, and making sure access is given to everybody in the state. It is flexible so that jurisdictions can create their own policies and make it make sense for that particular jurisdiction.

Nick Shepack, State Deputy Director, Fines and Fees Justice Center:

We are an organization that works at addressing issues with fines and fees in the criminal legal system. Part of the population we work with are individuals who end up spending time in jail for failure to pay, usually because they do not have an ability to pay their fines and fees. We also work with individuals who are stuck in jail because they do not have the financial resources to pay their bail. We do not believe poverty should be a barrier to democracy and so we are in full support of this bill, and we hope you do the same.

Erica Roth, Government Affairs Liaison, Deputy Public Defender, Washoe County Public Defender's Office:

I want to thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for bringing this bill forward. It brings to light two of my favorite constitutional rights, the right to vote and the presumption of innocence. A person does not shed those rights upon entry to a county jail. It is important we ensure that any person who enters a county jail is still able to vote. I just want to touch briefly on Speaker Yeager's comment about the randomness of finding yourself in jail on Election Day. If you spend any time watching pretrial detention hearings across the state, you will see a number of people who have entered a jail because they have failed to pay some fine. They forgot to register their vehicle or something of that sort. Every day we have

people processing through the system who you would not think would be there. It is also important that even if they have committed a misdemeanor crime, they still have that right to vote. I want to thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller again and I urge your passage of this bill.

Tonja Brown, Private Citizen, Carson City, Nevada:

As advocates for the inmates and the innocent, we support A.B. 286, and we would just like to echo the previous comments made here today. Unless a person has been convicted, they are presumed innocent. If you are in jail and you have not been convicted, you are innocent. They should be allowed their constitutional right to vote.

Ayanna S. Oglesby, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada:

I want to ditto all those who spoke before me. Like Speaker Yeager said, it is relevant because when you are in jail, jail is like the lowest part. When you have an ability to still be relevant and your voice still matters, I think this will help those who for whatever reason they are incarcerated, still feel that their voice can be heard. They are still Nevadans, bond or free. This bill will give them something to look forward to, to still have a voice, and to be able to voice their voice. We all as Nevadans have a moral obligation to ensure that all Nevadans are treated equally. I would just like to say that we are Nevada strong, we are battle born and we owe all Nevadans equal opportunity.

Jodi Hocking, Founder/Executive Director, Return Strong, Carson City, Nevada:

Usually I am here talking to you about prisoners' rights and change that needs to happen in that arena. Today we are here in support of A.B. 286. One of the things we do is actually work with people during reentry and through various parts of the criminal legal system. We work with a reentry program through the University of Florida. They have an evidence-based program that was written by impacted people, practitioners, and researchers. One of the five key indicators of success after incarceration is civic engagement. Having a voice and feeling like your voice matters is a critical piece that impacts the trajectory of a person's life for the better. No matter whether you vote from a voting center, by absentee ballot, from your home, military deployment, college, or jail, that experience in becoming an active part of our democracy is critical. It is time to also make sure that people who have the legal right to vote have access to vote. We support A.B. 286 and thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller and the organizations that were such a big part of bringing this to the forefront for doing all the work they have done. It is a much-needed step towards ensuring that we exist in a representative democracy.

Athar Haseebullah, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada:

We are in full support of this bill. We are grateful to the bill sponsor and all those on the Committee who have worked to bring this bill into fruition. We appreciate the discourse. We have also seen some negative feedback around this concept of jail voting in recent months, much rooted in misperceptions related to the difference between Assemblywoman Brittney Miller's point about jail voting and prison voting. The presumption of innocence

remains strong. The American Civil Liberties Union is at the forefront of fighting for these constitutional rights and civil liberties. In light of recent news, we would hope that the presumption of innocence remains a bipartisan issue and anyone tempted to oppose this bill would consider the ramifications of denying anyone the right to vote preconviction.

John J. Piro, Chief Deputy Public Defender, Legislative Liaison, Clark County Public Defender's Office:

We are also in support of this bill and thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for bringing it forward. It does protect the presumption of innocence and allows somebody their constitutional right to vote and participate in our democracy.

Eric Jeng, Acting Executive Director, One APIA Nevada; and Director of Outreach, Asian Community Development Council:

These groups have registered more than 36,000 people in the state to vote and have been spreading the message on voting rights and civil engagement for our communities. We are in full support of this bill. We thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for bringing it up for all Nevadans who are eligible. This is voting rights, not a privilege, and we are glad that this bill has been brought up.

Chair Gorelow:

Is there anyone else in Carson City who would like to provide testimony and support? Seeing no one else, we will go to Las Vegas. You can begin when you are ready.

Leonard Jackson, Director, Faith Organizing Alliance, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am here in full support of Assembly Bill 286. Our mission is to increase civic participation through faith-based and civic organizations within the Las Vegas Valley in order to advance a community and government that is more caring, just, and equitable. We believe every eligible voter should have the opportunity to exercise their constitutional right to vote, including our brothers and sisters who are incarcerated in our county and city jails prior to their conviction. For the past few years, we have conducted voter registration programs registering eligible Nevada applicants or encouraging them to update their information. One space we send our canvasses is to out stand individuals who are coming out of the system. We place our chairs out. We have conversations with our individuals coming off of probation, off of parole, to help build a better Clark County. We speak to Nevadans coming in and out of the Division of Parole and Probation office. Most had no idea that they have the opportunity to register to vote once they are set free. In addition to creating a system that allows eligible voters to cast their ballots in jail, passing A.B. 286 will create further awareness of voters' constitutional rights. We ask you with an open heart and open mind to please set our people free.

Robin Stumps, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am in support of this bill.

Brian Harris, Voter Education Organizer, Battle Born Progress:

Battle Born Progress is in support of A.B. 286. Battle Born Progress is a member of the Let Nevadans Vote coalition, and we believe that voting is a way for individuals to have a say in their future. Voting is a right that should never be infringed upon. People who have not been convicted of a crime still have that constitutional right and still are members of the community even if they are detained. They still have a stake in policies and decisions that affect them. Making sure that they can access their right to vote gives them a voice in shaping their future. We urge your support of this amazing piece of legislation. Please support A.B. 286.

Jonathan Bush, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am here on behalf of myself to testify in support of A.B. 286. My family and I are lifelong voters, having participated in every election, even volunteering for candidates and issues we believe in. Even though I was raised in a family that prioritizes civic engagement and I keep up to date with news, I did not realize that voters in jail still retained the right to vote until recently. In my opinion, if a voter is still eligible to vote, they should have access to their constitutional right to vote. If voters can vote out of state or even overseas, we can make sure that voters right here in Nevada can do the same. Please support A.B. 286.

Martin Walker, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am currently serving in the U.S. Air Force, and I am also a member of 100 Black Men of Las Vegas. I am here to support A.B. 286 because I would like to see those who are in jail receive the same types of benefits and ability to vote as I would if I were deployed as a military member. There are those in opposition to this bill who honestly claim that this bill would allow convicted felons who have completed their sentence to vote. However, I submit that they should rest assured this is not true and only serves to ensure that those who are legally registered to vote can exercise their unencumbered right to do so. They should also remember that a person who has been accused of a felony does not lose their right to vote until adjudication of the case has resulted in a conviction. States like Illinois, Wisconsin, California, Colorado, Philadelphia, Rhode Island, Texas, and so on have these measures in place. As also stated, there are places we have this already in place here in Nevada. We just want it codified with this bill. Voting is an important right in this country that so many take for granted here and so many do not have in other countries. It is one of the great attributes of our American democracy that needs to be utilized wherever, whether someone is in jail or out of custody. As a member of the military, I wear a uniform that represents protection of freedom, democracy, and the values of American community. We must remember that people in jail are part of our community, and continuing to treat them as such can help their reintegration in society once they have completed their sentence. If we are going to have a significant role in returning individuals into our communities at large as stronger citizens, one of the best ways to do so is to establish a polling place or at least allow them the opportunity to exercise their right while in custody.

Derek Rimson, Chair for Political Action and Social Justice, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

Of course we celebrate and salute Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for presenting this bill, A.B. 286. For the sake of not sounding redundant, we support this tremendous bill.

Aria Flores, representing Chispa Nevada:

Chispa Nevada is also a member of the Let Nevadans Vote coalition. We are in support of A.B. 286. Assembly Bill 286 will allow the use of the systems in place, such as the Nevada effective absentee system for elections, EASE for short, to be accessible to incarcerated folks to preregister to vote, register to vote, and cast their ballots. With this in mind, it is also important to highlight that these members who have been incarcerated have a constitutional right to be able to vote until they have been convicted. Furthermore, this is also an issue of social and economic inequities. Many of these people in county and city jails are in these positions due to their inability to afford their bail. Regardless of one's financial means, anyone should have the right to vote and be a part of our democracy. Assembly Bill 286 is carving a pathway to a more equitable and just democratic process. I urge you to support A.B. 286.

Yesenia Moya, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am here in support of A.B. 286. I would like to thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for bringing this to the Committee, and also to the folks who put in countless hours to help put this forth. The foundation of any democracy is the vote. It is peoples' rights to have a say in what happens in their community. We know that even though there is access to voting, that does not necessarily mean there is accessibility or that the process currently is accessible. This bill is asking to create that accessibility, which will then enable our folks to continue to have a voice in the community for many years to come. I hope that you help to pass A.B. 286.

Chair Gorelow:

Is there anyone else in Las Vegas who would like to provide testimony in support of A.B. 286? Seeing no one else, we will open testimony in support of A.B. 286 to callers.

Taylor Patterson, Executive Director, Native Voters Alliance Nevada:

We are the largest Native-American community organization in the state. I will keep it short because all of my partners said it better than I ever could. I will just remind the Committee that our people, Native Americans, are grossly overrepresented in jails across the country. While we work on fixing this broken system, it is essential that our people, the first Americans, retain their constitutional rights.

Quentin Savvoir, President, Las Vegas Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

I am speaking to you as a representative of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, but also just a lover of democracy. Ditto plus one, to everything that all of my partners, colleagues, and comrades in the community have said. I wanted to be on the record to just say how proud I am of Nevada for being on the forefront of not only

protecting democracy, but expanding democracy. In my day job I work to recruit election administrators all across the country, and you would not believe the barrage of stories I hear and read of misinformation festering and dismantling our democracy. We are protecting democracy. This is how you show communities that democracy works, and it has tangible impact on their lives. Thank you so much for protecting our democracy, for fortifying it.

Jessica Munger, Program Manager, Silver State Equality:

I am representing Nevada's statewide LGBTQ+ civil rights organization. We are in support of A.B. 286. Simply put, voting is a right that does not go away upon incarceration, and eligible voters should have an opportunity to vote. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Yazmyn Pelaez, Digital Media Manager, Nevada Conservation League:

I am calling in support of A.B. 286. Nevada Conservation League envisions a future where all Nevadans can thrive because they have access to a healthy climate, clean air, clean water, and outdoor spaces, as well as safe, healthy, and sustainable communities. This vision is impossible without a fair and inclusive democracy in which all voters can participate. This includes voters who are awaiting trial, whom partners have highlighted today. We urge the Committee to support this bill and thank you for your time.

Christine Saunders, Policy Director, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada:

I am here in support of Assembly Bill 286. At Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada, we believe our democracy is most vibrant the more people are able to participate in it. In elections prior, we have worked closely with the Mass Liberation Project to mail hundreds of absentee ballot request forms to eligible voters who are in jail and awaiting trial so that their voices can be heard and their constitutional right to vote can be recognized. Nevada has made great strides in the past five years to increase access to the ballot box and encourage people to vote with voting rights restoration, tribal polling locations, and vote by mail. Passing Assembly Bill 286 would continue to put Nevada forward as a leader in democracy. We urge your support.

Dakota Hoskins, Political Director, Service Employees International Union Local 1107:

Service Employees International Union is proud to support A.B. 286. Assembly Bill 286 will allow those who have not been convicted of a crime to cast a ballot and let those voices be heard as they are awaiting trial or court date for a conviction. Service Employees International Union believes everyone who is legally able to vote should have the opportunity to do so. We believe this is another great bill to improve Nevada's election system and Nevada's access to the ballot. We urge your support.

Deanna Leivas, Secretary-Treasurer, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 711:

The United Food and Commercial Workers Union represents about 7,000 members and their families, and I strongly urge the Committee to support A.B. 286.

Sharon King Savage, Health and Wellness Chairperson, Las Vegas Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

I support [A. B. 286](#) to ensure access to voting inside city and county jails.

Linda Stout, Member, Legislative Committee, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club:

I am a volunteer member of the Sierra Club's legislative committee, and on behalf of the Sierra Club, the world's largest environmental volunteer organization and our more than 30,000 members and supporters statewide, I am speaking in support of [A.B. 286](#) [[Exhibit D](#)]. Access to voting is a prerequisite for a functional democracy. Codifying [A.B. 286](#) is an important next step in creating a smooth process for voting in our jails, detention centers, and rehabilitation centers. We urge you to support this bill.

Jeri Burton, Co-Executive Director, Nevada Chapter, National Organization for Women:

We thank Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for this bill. We are in support of [A.B. 286](#) to make sure people in jail have the ability to access their constitutional right to vote, and we hope you will pass [A.B. 286](#).

Kerry Durmick, Nevada State Director, All Voting is Local:

Even though Nevada provides multiple options to vote and same-day voter registration, voters who are currently in detention centers and jails do not currently have fair and equal access to voting. [Assembly Bill 286](#) would only provide more access to voting and voter registration to any individual who is detained during an election. We strongly encourage you to support [A.B. 286](#).

Chair Gorelow:

There are no more callers in support of [Assembly Bill 286](#), so we will move to Carson City for testimony in opposition to [A.B. 286](#). Please begin when you are ready.

Lynn Chapman, representing Nevada Families for Freedom:

I did not get to see the amendment [[Exhibit C](#)] until I walked in. I read through it a little bit and it does make the bill better. I was glad to see some of the things that would make it better. I would like to point out that I know that not everyone is convicted, but there are many people that become convicted. I think we should remember any victims of the people that were convicted. I do know that this is about detention centers and about jail and not prison, but I do have a couple of articles that I thought were interesting. It does talk about felons and it does talk about prison, but the idea behind what they are saying could fit into a jail or detention center. One is an editorial page from the *Free Lance-Star*, February 2021, mentioning that felons should not be able to cancel out their victims' votes before they have completed their sentences, shown some remorse for the victims, and made whatever court ordered restitution is required. That is only fair. Another one is the *Boston Herald*, April 2019. It says, and I understand this was a terrible thing apart from the shocking imagery of the wretched marathon bomber casting a vote, we must ask ourselves if citizens

who have no respect for the laws of the land should have a hand in their authorship. I think that is the important part, if people are then convicted, but they got to vote. That is kind of concerning. Also, John Lott, Ph.D., wrote a paper, and he was visiting professor at the State University of New York, and he did say that there is a moral side of issues.

Chair Gorelow:

Seeing no others offering testimony in opposition in Carson City, we will move to opposition testimony in Las Vegas.

Susan Proffitt, Vice President, Nevada Republican Club:

I oppose A.B. 286. We do not have enough polls in Clark County already. We had 215 and the additional cost to man these polls will drive up the election and hamper our ability to observe the election process. Further, felons are not allowed to vote. How do you secure these types of elections? Why cannot they return their mail ballots? Now, the biggest problem we did find here in Clark County, just so you know, is chain of custody. When you were explaining the bill, I was listening very, very carefully. Other than that, the fact that it is against the law for felons to vote in this country, I mean, I am not addressing that. The problem is the chain of custody, and if you cannot have a chain of custody that you can trust in Clark County, how can you trust one in a prison? Okay, because how are we going to get in there and observe those elections because we do have a right to do that. Unfortunately, we did not have secure chain of custody in Clark County. And I would like you to address that in the future too.

Chair Gorelow:

Seeing no one else in Las Vegas to testify in opposition, are there callers in opposition to Assembly Bill 286?

Katrin Ivanoff, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am opposing this bill. I was only able to skim a little bit on it, but page 3, line 4, says, "Local facility for the detention of children," and line 6, "Regional facility for treatment and rehabilitation of children." Line 8 states, "State facility for the detention of children." What does all this facility for children have to do with voting?

Chair Gorelow:

I am sorry to interrupt you. You are looking at the bill before it was amended. That part has been taken out. I just wanted to let you know that. Please take a look at the amendment that has been submitted [[Exhibit C](#)].

Katrin Ivanoff:

There is no need for voting booths in those facilities. They can fill out their mail-in ballots like the rest of us. We all get those ballots if we want it or not, thanks to you. There is no clear instruction as to chain of custody of the voting ballots. Furthermore, chain of custody of our ballots should be strengthened, not only for prisoners but for regular people as well. Ballots should have watermarks and we should be able to know at any time the location of every ballot. If we can track the mail package and get messages on our phone that tell the

location of that package, we should be able to do that with our ballots. They are way more important than our mail. For the record, can you please stop calling our country a democracy? We are a constitutional republic if we can keep it. I strongly oppose this bill. This bill probably is good, but it needs a lot of corrections and amendments.

Oscar Williams, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada:

I am opposed to A.B. 286. I think that bringing electronic voting into the jails is not a good thing for various reasons. The big ones are cost, manpower, and security. That is a big burden to put on municipalities and state prisons as well. There is an innate lack of transparency with electronic voting. They have options already available to them that are working, and there is really no reason to try to make it more complicated than it already is burdensome on the jail system. There is a real issue with ballot secrecy from what I understand. All mail that goes in and out of jails has to be opened, screened, recorded, and documented. There is no secrecy there. How is that treated within this law to conflict with other laws? There is also an issue of bribery, coercion, and so on. Maybe if you vote a certain way, you will get privileges, or if you do not vote a certain way, you would be restricted or punished. How would we know? There is no transparency to that outside. It creates a culture within the prison system. That is the very essence of why we do not allow them to vote. As other speakers have said, there are federal laws in particular. The last speaker said something really great. It treads on counties' constitutional rights to designate the places of elections. This is the state power grab that has got to stop. The counties have rights to say where and when we get to vote, period.

Cyrus Hojjaty, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am opposed to this bill. Ditto to all the previous comments.

[[Exhibit E](#) was submitted but not discussed and is included as an exhibit for the meeting.]

Chair Gorelow:

Since there are no more callers to testify in opposition to Assembly Bill 286, we will open the testimony in neutral in Carson City.

Jamie Lynn Rodriguez, Registrar of Voters, Washoe County:

I appreciate Assemblywoman Brittney Miller working with us. As was noted in the presentation, we do offer providing ballots to our inmates in the Washoe County Detention Facility. It is a program that has worked really, really well. To your point, Speaker Yeager, we actually found after the general election that we had two ballots not returned. When we followed up, we found out that those individuals had actually been released before submitting their ballot. Those things do happen. We look forward to continuing to work with Assemblywoman Brittney Miller to ensure that we can implement the bill as intended as we transition this from a county practice to a state mandate.

**Ashley Garza Kennedy, Principal Management Analyst, Government Affairs,
Department of Administrative Services, Clark County:**

I am here testifying in neutral with the bill as amended. Similar to Washoe County, we do also have a practice in Clark County to ensure those who are, for example, in the Clark County Detention Center who are eligible to vote, are able to do so. We have liaisons in the jail and also liaisons with our elections department who coordinate to make that happen. We appreciate Assemblywoman Brittney Miller for working with us on this. In addition to the Nevada EASE system that has been talked about, we think that is actually a good tool that is easy to implement, so we will continue working with the sponsor to make sure we can continue allowing eligible voters in jail to vote as they have been.

[[Exhibit F](#) was submitted but not discussed and is included as an exhibit for the meeting.]

Chair Gorelow:

Is there anyone else in Carson City who would like to testify in neutral? Seeing no one, is there anybody in Las Vegas who would like to come to the table in neutral? Seeing no one, are there callers who would like to testify in neutral on [Assembly Bill 286](#)? [There was no one.]

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, would you like to come to the table for final comments? [Assemblywoman Brittney Miller waived her time for making final comments.] With that, I will close the hearing on [A.B. 286](#).

I will now open the hearing on [Assembly Joint Resolution 5](#). This measure proposes to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to revise provisions relating to lotteries and the sale of lottery tickets.

[Assembly Joint Resolution 5](#): Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to revise provisions relating to lotteries and the sale of lottery tickets. (BDR C-986)

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller, Assembly District No. 7:

This measure proposes to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to revise provisions relating to lotteries and the sale of lottery tickets. My cosponsor, Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno, as we all know is not here today. I would like to say thank you to her for joining me in this challenging and monumental effort.

Let us talk about some history of the lottery and our *Nevada Constitution*. In 1864 Nevada only had 40,000 residents. It ratified its *Nevada Constitution* modeled after California's which prohibited the operation of a lottery and sales of lottery tickets in any form. We became the Battle Born State, No. 36. At that time, the lottery was on a sharp downturn around the country. Lotteries were unregulated by the government and fraught with corruption, mismanagement, and fraud. Simply put, operators were not paying out the rewards, which resulted in protests across 33 states that made up the Union with only three states, Delaware, Missouri, and Kentucky, still operating their lotteries. However, by 1895 the Anti-Lottery Act passed Congress, prohibiting lotteries across all 44 U.S. states. At that

time, our *Nevada Constitution* reflected the collective views and opinions of the Union we were joining: a Union that had just one year previously declared that all persons held as slaves hence forward shall be made free. I only give you that as a brief history as to the true and real reason why the *Nevada Constitution* prohibited the lottery since our inception as a state.

Now let us fast-forward to the modern era of the lottery, which came back to life in 1934 in Puerto Rico with the first modern-day, government-run lottery in the U.S. However, it did not begin to catch on with other states until 1964 when New Hampshire became the first official state to bring the lottery back. This new, modern lottery was operated and regulated by the government. Today 45 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands all have modernized their constitutions to support the operations of the modern lotteries. But not Nevada. So often our story is that we are behind the trend of what is happening rather than being the trailblazers we truly are—like when we were the first state to legalize widespread gambling in 1931 and most recently when we became the first female-majority Legislature.

What is my point in sharing all this history? First of all, whenever we consider changing something as significant, historical, and stabilizing as the *Nevada Constitution*, we should understand the history behind what is currently there and why. As today's elected body of the people of Nevada, good stewardship requires that we take the time to modernize our statutes and our *Nevada Constitution*. If we are honest, we must realize this prohibition may be outdated and not reflective of the views, beliefs, and cultural norms of the three million Nevadans who now call Nevada home and what they would like to have in their *Nevada Constitution*. What is most exciting about all of this is that we, this elected body, have the opportunity to give Nevadans a chance to weigh in on whether they want to continue sending their money to other states whose proceeds go to support many different things within those states. For example, not that we send our money to Puerto Rico, but when they established their lottery, it was for health care after two hurricanes and the Great Depression exacerbated a tuberculosis outbreak. For many other states, it provides infrastructure funding for things like public transportation, which I believe in Washington, D.C., just became free, or college scholarships. In many other states, public education benefits, like in California where their lottery has given \$41 billion to education since their lottery began in 1985.

Many Nevadans drive to surrounding states to purchase lottery tickets and contribute to what other states are doing for their residents with Nevadans' money. Let us consider how the four states that surround Nevada spend their earnings. Idaho earned \$73 million in 2022, and 62 percent, or about \$45 million, went to public education. Arizona earned \$269 million in 2022. Of the many programs funded through Arizona's lottery profit, they fund health care, public education, and tribal college dual-enrollment programs, to name a few. Oregon earned \$909 million in 2022. Their profit goes into the Oregon Fund, which funds a multitude of programs like outdoor schools and veterans' services. And then there is California, the big fish. California gave \$2 billion to education in 2022; 79 percent went to public schools. The thing to note about California is that seven of the ten highest-selling lottery retailers surround the Nevada border, and the two with the highest sales are right on

the border with Nevada. Primm is the location I frequent the most in the south—unless the line is too long; then I drive a little farther to Baker, California. When I am here, I go to Gold Ranch, which is a 45-minute drive from this very building. My point here is, Nevadans are already playing the lottery in a very significant way, putting lots of money into the good and worthy programs that support youth in other states while we continue to suffer at home with not being able to cut the pie up enough to service all the needs of our youth, our future. At some point, we have to take care of home first.

We are one of only five states that do not have a lottery, and one of only two states that have neither a lottery nor state income tax, with our partner there being Alaska. Interestingly enough, Oregon touts its lottery earnings as the second-largest funding source after state income taxes. We have neither, and report after report proved that Nevadans are struggling in a multitude of areas because of it. But one stands out as the most severe—that is mental health care. It is no secret that if Nevadans decide to have a lottery in our state, I want that money to go towards mental health, particularly mental health for our youth. You have all seen or heard the reports and lists that ranked Nevada at the bottom of mental health resources, having the lowest investment in mental health resources and at the top of the highest suicide rate suicide rates of our youth. That is our future that is taking themselves out. This is a somewhat sensitive topic for me because I battled suicidal thoughts in my teens and near attempts in my early adult years. Had I not had the help of a mental health professional when I was 13 and again when I was 15, I might not be here today. Had I not had my faith in my adulthood, I might not be here today sitting before you as an elected member of this body, elected to represent the voice of 70,000 people in Assembly District 7, and as a member of this body tasked with the responsibility of shaping policy that I genuinely believe will help the well-being of our youth, our future. At the call of my cosponsor and the Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, over the last two weeks in Ways and Means we heard from every single school district in our state, and they all made mention of the severe state of mental health issues amongst their staff and students. This is a problem we did not get into overnight and is certainly one we are not going to fix overnight. We must be forward-thinking about how we can address this with a long-term resource investment strategy.

This is why I once again wanted to bring forward the possibility of the lottery and take it to the people of Nevada to decide whether they want a lottery in their state or prefer to continue driving to borders or sending their money back home to the states they came from rather than putting money into programs within our state. At the end of the day, it is time. We are in a different era. We are in a different time than when we had the prohibition on the lottery. It is time for us to look at that, seriously reconsider it, and give Nevadans the opportunity to decide if they want a lottery in this state.

I will now go over the bill contents. Assembly Joint Resolution 5 is fairly to the point. First, it proposes to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to allow the Legislature to provide by law for the operation and regulation of lotteries, including authorizing the sale of lottery tickets for such lotteries. Second, the resolution prohibits the Legislature from granting a special charter to any person or entity to operate a lottery or sell lottery tickets. This ensures the

public continues to be protected against such lotteries that are vulnerable to fraud and that have caused harm in the past. Third, the resolution prohibits any political subdivisions within the state from operating a lottery or selling lottery tickets. The state lottery shall be state-regulated only. Finally, Assembly Joint Resolution 5 does not remove the authorization of charitable nonprofit activities to operate a lottery in the form of a raffle or drawing. The joint resolution simply clarifies that the operation of such lotteries must comply with existing provisions governing charitable lotteries that were added to the *Nevada Constitution* by amendment in 1990.

In closing, with all that being said, I know there are some historical opponents of establishing a lottery in Nevada. I have had multiple conversations and meetings with the goal of inviting our gaming industry and partners to the table to build something that works for all Nevadans. I imagine they will remain in opposition today, which I completely understand. However, I will remain true to my invitation, and I hope they will take me up on the offer to build something from the ground up that works for all Nevadans. I know we can once again set the gold standard in yet another facet of gaming. But first we have to give Nevadans the opportunity to decide whether they want it in our state. With all that being said, I will stand for questions.

Chair Gorelow:

Do we have any questions from the Committee?

Assemblywoman Dickman:

You talked a lot about mental health issues, and we certainly do have shortcomings here, but where in this joint resolution does it say that it is going to mental health? If we put this out to the people and they pass it, who decides where this money is going? I am from Michigan, and I was there when they implemented the lottery. It was supposed to transform education and lots of the money never made it there. How are we going to do that differently here?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

The goal of this bill is to enable the state to enact a lottery if the people of Nevada so chose. It would then be incumbent upon the Legislature, with input from our residents, on how exactly we do that, then direct those monies directly to youth mental health. As it relates to what has happened in other states, I think history gives us an opportunity to do something different, and to do it better knowing that things have not gone exactly well in some states. In some states that is not the sentiment.

Assemblywoman Dickman:

Is there a reason that what you would like to see the money go to is not in here? Is there a legal reason?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

Under strong advisement, we know how difficult it is to change things in the *Nevada Constitution*. In the event that someone decided to leave a few hundred million dollars or a billion dollars towards youth mental health, that money would still be stuck by the

Nevada Constitution going to youth mental health when we could have essentially funded the issue another way and could then redirect those monies at a different time. It ties the hands of the Legislature to be able to redirect the money if it is necessary.

Assemblyman Yeager:

Like many of us in southern Nevada, we hear about this issue from our constituents, particularly when we have billion-dollar multistate jackpots, and we see the lines down there. I appreciate your bringing this. I just have a couple of procedural questions and I want to make sure this is accurate. The way I understand the resolution, this would have to go to the voters in the 2024 election, and is it just once? I am glad I am asking the question. In the language of the joint resolution that would amend Article 4, Section 24, Subsection 2 of the *Nevada Constitution*, which is really the heart of the bill, it says "The Legislature may provide by law. . . ." I just want to get that on the record this does not require the Legislature to actually establish a lottery. It would allow for the Legislature to establish it. If they wanted to, they "may" establish it. Is that your understanding of what it is doing?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

Yes, it does enable the Legislature if it so chose to have a lottery. Despite the emails I have gotten saying we should put in the *Nevada Constitution* that a certain Legislature has to enact the lottery, this says "may." The Legislature at that time or future legislation, once it has been approved by the vote of the people, would have the decision if they wanted to add a lottery to this state. At the risk of correcting the Speaker's understanding of the process here, I do want to correct a couple of things that you said. What would happen now as the process of getting this to the people is it would have to pass in this identical form in this 2023 Session and in the 2025 Session, and then it would go to the ballot for the people. I think that it puts us in 2026 before Nevadans would have an opportunity to vote on this.

Assemblyman Yeager:

Thank you for that clarification. Here is the second question. We never know who is going to be returning to this building. Some of us will run for reelection and return, some of us will run and lose, and some of us will decide we do not want to do this again. I am going to assume that you probably do want to come back. Enacting a lottery would require legislation from the Legislature to talk about how it is going to be set up. While I am not asking about the specifics, have you thought about a process for how that kind of work would be done? As you mentioned, every state is different, every state has a different type of lottery. Some have scratch-off tickets; some have video lottery terminals; some are part of the Multi-State Lottery Association; and some have their own Pick 3 or Pick 4 that they do. Assemblywoman Dickman pointed out that Michigan has all those things, including an online lottery. I just wanted to know some of your thoughts on how the Legislature would figure out what does make sense for the state of Nevada.

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

Yes, I have thought about how we start to build out a lottery if the Legislature needed to bring forth legislation for a lottery. I think it incorporates putting a working group together that incorporates all the stakeholders and interested parties to participate in dialogue and

building out best practices, evaluating the experience of other states, and putting together something that could be innovative, new, and world class. We are the only state in the Union with a history, experience, and robustness of gaming, and we formed the gold standard of gaming. I think we can leverage that to build something that is really great, but it takes a process of everybody coming to the table and working together on what that looks like. That is what I would like to see moving forward: a working group where we come together, put it all together, build it from the ground up, and then give the future Legislature something really sound that will work for Nevada.

Assemblyman Yeager:

I just wanted to confirm that enabling legislation. Is that something that is happening this session, or would that be in the future session?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

That would be in a future session. As far as I know, there are no other members in the Assembly or the Senate who have bills that would be setting up the structure of a lottery, and I have not had any conversations with anyone about setting up the structure of a lottery.

Assemblyman DeLong:

I appreciate your pointing out the uniqueness of Nevada with our well-established and very sophisticated gaming industry, which does make Nevada unique from the other 49 states plus territories. I know this is a policy committee, but what we are talking about here is raising money. Putting in a lottery is all about the concept of generating revenue for the state. Has there been an economic analysis done with the concept of a lottery and how it would affect the uniqueness of Nevada as a well-established gaming industry? There would likely be some negative effect to that income-generating side of our balance sheet.

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

I believe there have been economic studies in the past on what that would look like. I think that where we are now, if we move this resolution forward, that is something we consider in the development of an actual lottery. That information may be very valuable in how we actually structure a successful lottery in our state that does not create a negative on the other side of the balance sheet.

Assemblywoman Newby:

In the discussion about setting up the state laws around running a lottery, in many cases these are multistate lottery associations. I imagine those come with some already prepackaged regulations around them that you have to ascribe to if you are going to be part of that. If this passes in ten years or however long, is it your understanding that if we were to join one of these, part of Nevada's legislation would have to ascribe to regulations that are really controlled outside of our state?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

Yes, I imagine that if we decided to get involved with a multistate lottery association, we would probably have to look at legislation that is in line with the operations of that

association. That is again where that working group will come into play. The group will have to say that if the people in Nevada are going to get this opportunity to vote, we are going to work together to figure out what is going to be the best practice for Nevada.

Assemblyman Hibbetts:

In the joint resolution, the amendment to Article 4, Section 24, Subsection 2, paragraph (a) states:

The Legislature shall not pass any laws which grant a special charter or similar organizational or governing document to any person or other entity to operate a lottery or sell lottery tickets or which otherwise authorize the exercise of such powers under a special charter or similar organizational or governing document.

What does that mean?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

What that pretty much means is that no one outside of the State of Nevada can operate a lottery in Nevada outside of the charitable, nonprofit lotteries which we already allow. That means no individual jurisdiction, no individual company, no one else outside of the Legislature of Nevada, the State of Nevada, can establish and regulate or operate a lottery.

Assemblyman DeLong:

Assemblyman Hibbetts' query made me wonder if the way that is written, does that mean we are going to have government-run establishments that sell tickets? Is that what that constitutional language means? Or would it be contracted out to private organizations to sell the government tickets?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

It does not necessarily mean that the Legislature would have to decide how they wanted a lottery to roll out. This does not lay out what the lottery would be. This enables the state to operate a lottery. In the future, after we have this working group and we put together what the lottery should look like, if that working group comes out and suggests legislation that says the state needs to have its own bricks-and-mortar locations, then that is what goes forward. Does it pass? Who knows? That is not what I foresee. What I foresee is the state being able to partner with already established businesses to be retailers of the lottery, to be partners of lottery tickets.

Assemblyman Yeager:

I just had a question based on what Assemblyman DeLong asked. This resolution does not need to go to the Governor. It goes to the Secretary of State and then goes to the ballot if it is passed twice. Tell me about the enabling legislation. Is that a normal bill that has to go through the normal process with the Governor's signature or potential veto?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

This bill would be the enabling legislation, but the legislation that would establish a lottery would have to go through the regular legislative process, meaning that it would have to pass both houses and then go before the Governor where it could then be vetoed if the Governor was not in line with what was in that legislation.

Chair Gorelow:

I want to clarify something in Article 4, Section 24, Subsection 2, subparagraph (c). I want to ask about the operation of charitable organizations, because charities often do lotteries through houses and cars and other items like that. The current process is that they have to go through the Nevada Gaming Control Board and fill out an application to explain the process. The way I am reading it, the way it is now is still in place. I just wanted to get confirmation.

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

Yes, that is my understanding. It would remain the same process for charitable and nonprofit organizations.

Chair Gorelow:

I believe there is a sporting team that also does 50-50 raffles and things like that. Would that include them?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

I believe that whatever is permissible now remains permissible. It does not change anything as it relates to what is currently permissible within the state as it relates to lotteries.

Assemblywoman Dickman:

With what you just said about the state being forced to run the lottery, does that force the state to go into competition with the gaming institutions, the very institutions who afford this state not to have an income tax?

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

This is my thought on that: I am inviting and hoping that the future members of whoever comes together to develop a lottery structure in our state invites and keeps gaming at the table to be partners in what we develop so that it is not a competition or a challenge to their operations. I will note that in every other state our gaming partners operate in, they operate alongside lotteries. In Mississippi, which is closest to our state in population, our gaming partners operated casino gaming for 27 years before the lottery was enacted there in 2019. These gaming partners that operate in our state operate in their state as retailers of gaming operations. Gaming operators from Nevada have still seen profits in the states where they operate with lotteries. That could be true for Nevada. In Mississippi in 2022, \$122 million went to programs within the state, and those gaming partners there still were able to be successful in their gaming operations.

Chair Gorelow:

With that we, will move ahead to testimony in support of Assembly Joint Resolution 5 here in Carson City.

Paul Catha, Political Director, Culinary Workers Union Local 226:

Nevada is currently only one of five states without a lottery. Enacting a state lottery is a dependable source of revenue for nearly every state in the country. In a state where gaming is the cornerstone of the economy, there is no public policy rationale for continuing the ban on the state lottery in the *Nevada Constitution*. It is difficult to estimate how much money Nevada is losing when Nevada residents purchase lottery tickets in neighboring states, but the figure is almost certainly more than \$10 million a year based on traffic at the store Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller frequents in Primm. Nevada is the regulatory gold standard of gaming, and it knows how to properly administer gaming in a way that does not negatively impact our citizens.

Sustainable investment in youth mental health is good public policy that is long overdue, and implementing a state lottery would allow Nevada to address an ongoing and urgent public health crisis. It is clear that long-term capacity building for mental health and education is needed, and a specific source of consistent funding is critical for this. Nevada needs sustainable long-term funding to establish, educate, and continue to train mental health professionals, staff our programs, and retain these mental health professionals in the state, filling our considerable gaps in our mental health infrastructure and behavioral health services system. Nevada has an opportunity to create a long-term funding source directed towards mental health capacity building without increasing taxes on Nevada residents or businesses through a state lottery. I urge the Nevada Legislature to support and pass A.J.R. 5 and invest in Nevada's youth, mental health, and education.

D. Taylor, President, Unite Here:

First, I actually want to congratulate the gaming industry. They had \$14.8 billion in revenue, which was a record. Clark County has had ten straight months of \$1 billion a month and 2023 will be off the charts. Washoe County in 2022 was up 47 percent in revenue compared to 2019. What has the gaming industry done with those monies? MGM has invested \$4.7 billion in share buybacks. Caesars has spent \$1.2 billion on debt. The Atlantis just announced a \$400 million investment in Colorado, and we are going to hear from the gaming industry that this is going to hurt jobs. I want to give you a fact: In February 2023, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said there were 148,000 jobs in the gaming industry in Nevada. In January 1994, there were 148,000 jobs. No jobs have exponentially increased with the profits they have made. I do not understand why the Nevada Resort Association would be satisfied with having Nevada being last in the country on mental health funding in the education system when we are always thankful for Mississippi for being last.

There are 48 states with a lottery, and every single state with a lottery has commercial gaming. Examples of where the Nevada Resort Association has gone and spent enormous amounts of money in places where there is already a state lottery include Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Michigan, Indiana, Mississippi, Louisiana, Ohio, Maryland, Iowa, Illinois,

Colorado, Massachusetts, et cetera. They go where there is already a lottery because they know they can make a lot of money. There is not a mutually exclusive profit issue. I will just ask you to please pass A.J.R. 5. It is for our state, it is for our citizens, it is for our kids.

Doug Goodman, Private Citizen, Sparks, Nevada:

What I would like to address is what I believe to be the myth that gaming will lose money if Nevada has a lottery. How much does gaming revenue fall when Nevada residents drive to Primm or over to Gold Ranch and wait in lines? I moved to Nevada in 2004 from the Bay Area. In the Bay Area, every Wednesday and Saturday I would stop at a gas station and buy a lottery ticket. Since I have lived in Nevada, I have never once gone into a casino with the specific goal to gamble. Have I put some money in the slot machine while I am waiting for my dinner reservations if I even go to a casino for dinner? Yes, I have. The point is I cannot be the only local in Nevada who does not go to casinos but who does buy a lottery ticket. Who would buy a lottery ticket? I do not go to the Gold Ranch. I am not going to wait in line. Would I stop at a gas station? Would I stop at a convenience store? Would I even go into a casino and buy a lottery ticket? I would. It is time Nevada has a lottery.

Susie Martinez, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Nevada State AFL-CIO:

On behalf of over 150,000 members and 120 unions, Nevada State AFL-CIO supports Assembly Joint Resolution 5. Every Nevadan deserves access to affordable, high-quality health care services and this includes mental health services. Unfortunately, our state is experiencing a widespread mental health crisis which was only exasperated by the pandemic. We consistently rank at the bottom for youth mental health, and for the sake of our state's future, we must ensure that we have a way to fund and improve our mental health services. This legislation will guarantee that we have a consistent revenue stream for such services so that Nevada's future generations can be happy and healthy. I would like to thank Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller for bringing this resolution forward, and I strongly urge the Committee to support Assembly Joint Resolution 5. I would also like you guys to help me not waste any gas and we need to bring the lottery here to our state.

Annette Magnus, Executive Director, Battle Born Progress:

We thank Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller and the Culinary Union for championing this bill. As someone who was born and raised in this state, I have always wondered why we would not do something so easy and commonsense. With a limited number of options to raise funds for our state, Nevada can no longer afford to lose out on this revenue. We must diversify our economy and explore all options. The last few years have shown us how critical mental health care is and that our current infrastructure in Nevada is woefully inadequate. Nevada's mental health system is desperately in need of additional funding to foster improvement because we are in a crisis. By establishing a lottery and directing those funds towards youth mental health programs, Nevada will take a large step forward in becoming a more welcoming state for those who struggle with mental health challenges. I would just like to note how many people have said to me as I prepared for this bill, how

they drive to Arizona and California to buy these tickets, but they also gamble in our casinos—including my very own parents. Both things can be true and can be successful. This just makes sense and it always has. Please support A.J.R. 5 and let Nevada voters decide whether we want this for our future.

Jovan Jackson, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am a qualified mental health associate and have been providing mental health services since 2011. Each year we see cuts in services, even throughout the pandemic. We always hear that there is a need for more mental health funding and mental health providers. We have been seeing the opposite. We have seen services being cut, have seen programs getting cut, and if the lotto could bring money to the mental health system and Nevada welfare, I am all in support of this legislation.

Carter Bundy, Political Action Representative, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO:

We are seeing hopefully a bipartisan, bicameral move to start to fund state employees a little bit better than they have been over the last 20 years. We are still incredibly far behind, and the reality is that we are far behind in education funding. There are so many needs in this state, and the idea that we could diversify our revenue stream, keep Nevadans' money in Nevada, and improve all facets of life for Nevadans is really appealing. This is something that I think the voters should get a chance to take a look at. We hope you will support this resolution.

Chair Gorelow:

Is there anybody else who would like to come to the table in support of A.J.R. 5? Seeing no one, we will go to Las Vegas for testimony in support.

Maria Landeros, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

[Translated by Melanie Arizmendi, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada.] I am a retired guest room attendant on the Las Vegas Strip and a former Culinary Union member. Three of my adult children suffered from mental health illness when they were growing up. My oldest son started hanging out with the wrong crowd and started to rebel. My second son followed in his footsteps. I knew my oldest son was mischievous, but I did not think he was trouble until he started getting into fights in high school. He eventually was expelled from different schools in Las Vegas. I would call counselors to get help for my sons, but they would not answer the phone or did not have any openings for a long time or had appointment times that did not work for our schedule as working parents. My daughter, who was 10 at the time, started to suffer from depression. She was traumatized from all the family conflict that was happening. We had to take her to a psychologist and psychiatrist because she needed medication at that young age. I am a grandmother now and I would like to help younger parents because the youth mental health crisis is very serious. I support A.J.R. 5 and ask Nevada legislators to support this bill.

Ivan Lopez, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am a proud Culinary Union child of a Culinary Union member. I am here today to support A.J.R. 5. The COVID-19 pandemic put extra stress on families like mine. During my senior year of high school, I had very low self-esteem. I had very poor communication skills and I had an extremely hard time concentrating in class. I was sleeping excessively, up to 20 hours a day some days. My parents were getting divorced. I was feeling extremely stressed out, and my grades started to suffer. I wanted help and my mom managed to find one therapist in my area who was one hour away. The first appointment available was a month away. This whole thing stressed me out more since it was a three-hour round trip, and I felt like I was inconveniencing my mom. We need more therapists to educate parents and children. Therapy helped me a lot. It is embarrassing to say, but it was there that I learned that these feelings were called anxiety and stress. I had no idea what these feelings were until I was 17. We need more resources in schools for youth. Mental health is just as important as physical health. It might be invisible, and it is harder to see, but if left untreated, it will have severe consequences. Youth is experiencing a mental health crisis in Nevada. Something has to change. That is why I support the amendment to the *Nevada Constitution* to establish a state lottery. I think this is currently the best way to address this crisis, save lives, and make Nevada a better place for everyone. I support A.J.R. 5 and I ask the Nevada Legislature to invest in us and invest in the future. Thank you.

Selicia Rodin, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I have been a guest room attendant and Culinary Union member for 14 years. I am testifying today in support of A.J.R. 5. For the past nine years I have been dealing with Nevada's mental health services and I have seen firsthand how it is failing our youth. My 25-year-old son has struggled with depression. During the pandemic, things got worse because he was isolated, was not socializing, and was in his bathroom all day. He stopped taking proper care of himself and that worried me. There is nothing worse for a mother than to see her child not want to socialize, and have suicidal thoughts. I tried to get help, but Nevada does not have enough mental health resources. I would try to make appointments for him, but openings were always a month out. He has to wait for a long time to get seen by a professional, which is hard because my son needs help urgently. My son is a bright student but when he lost interest in things, he lost it all. The Nevada Legislature needs to fund more youth mental health resources. We need more mental health professionals in Nevada, early detection programs in school, infrastructure to help children and adults, and education on how mental health impacts families and our society. I am here today asking that you do something to help so that more mothers do not have to know this feeling. I urge the Nevada Legislature to support and pass A.J.R. 5.

Deanna Virgil, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I work in uniforms control on the Las Vegas Strip and have been a Culinary Union member since 1985. My 17-year-old granddaughter suffers from depression and anxiety. She has had suicidal thoughts. She has been in the hospital because of her anxiety and depression. My son has tried to get her help by taking her to see a therapist, but it is not easy because a lot of the therapist offices have long waiting lists. There were a couple of therapists that she did see, but she could not identify with them because they were older than her and she felt that

they could not relate to what she was going through as a teenager. There needs to be more youth mental health resources and education, and more psychologists and counselors in schools who can handle the issues that are going on in teenagers' lives. There needs to be more mental health professionals and infrastructure in Nevada. I do not want to see my granddaughter get thrown away. I support A.J.R. 5 and ask the Nevada Legislature to support this bill as well.

Maria Bedolla, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I have been a Las Vegas Strip guest room attendant and Culinary Union member since 2007. I am here to support A.J.R. 5. I have two children, a son and daughter. My son started suffering from depression in 2020 after the pandemic started. During the pandemic, he was 16 years old at the time. He told me he needed help because he felt depressed. I took him to see a psychologist. Before his appointment, he had written down how he was feeling and that he wanted to kill himself. As a mother, I could not even imagine my son was going through that and it broke my heart. With the great health insurance I had from my union job, my son was able to get therapy once a month, but because there are not enough psychologists in Nevada, he was not able to get seen for one or two months. His mental health illness started to impact his life. He was behind in the last two years of high school, and he did not graduate. He is doing better now. Last year he got his GED [General Education Diploma], and he is now taking college classes. My 14-year-old daughter also started to suffer from panic attacks during the pandemic. She does not like to be around a lot of people. Things got so bad that I had to take her to the emergency room three different times in the same week because she kept having panic attacks. Our kids need more mental health resources. Please help us. I support A.J.R. 5 and ask that Nevada leaders support this bill.

**Bethany Khan, Spokeswoman and Director of Communications and Digital Strategy,
Culinary Workers Union Local 226:**

I am here in support of A.J.R. 5. As one of the largest organizations of parents in Nevada, the Culinary Union believes it is imperative that Nevada lawmakers address our mental health care system. Our union has a long history of fighting and winning for working families in Carson City. We have taken on Big Pharma to win diabetes and asthma drug transparency and worked for over 25 years to end surprise medical bills for all Nevadans. This year is no different. We continue to fiercely advocate for workers and Nevadans to have quality health care and neighborhood stability. One job should be enough to have a roof over our heads and to ensure Nevada's youth have quality mental health care access and education. Just like we have done throughout our 88-year history in Nevada, the Culinary Union will stand together and win a future where we all thrive. The Culinary Union applauds Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller's efforts to bring forward an amendment to the *Nevada Constitution* that would pave the way for Nevada to establish a state lottery in order to provide critical funding. We urge the Nevada Legislature to invest in Nevadans and our youth by passing this amendment to the *Nevada Constitution*.

Melanie Arizmendi, Private Citizen, North Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am in support of A.J.R. 5. In 2021 the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and the Children's Hospital Association

together declared a national state of emergency in children's mental health. The U.S. Surgeon General issued an advisory calling on the country to address the youth mental health crisis urgently. The pandemic only exacerbated the situation. Youth mental health is now parents' biggest concern, and 40 percent said in a recent national poll that they are extremely or very worried that their kids struggle with anxiety or depression. Young people are in crisis as teen girls reported high rates of sadness and suicidal violence. We must do something.

In Nevada the numbers are stark. Nevada public schools are the most poorly funded in the U.S., according to a 2022 study by the Education Law Center. Nevada funds its students \$4,370 less per pupil than the national average of \$15,446, giving Nevada a ranking of forty-seventh in the funding level. In 2021 and 2022, Mental Health America ranked Nevada worst in the nation for overall mental health based on the prevalence of mental illness and access to care. Nevada received a D-plus on the children's mental health report card and an F for access to mental behavioral care, adolescent substance abuse, substance use disorders, emotional disturbances, and juvenile justice. This has to change. Please support and pass A.J.R. 5.

Angela Zoya, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I support A.J.R. 5. In the first year of COVID-19, the global prevalence of anxiety and depression increased by a massive 25 percent, according to the World Health Organization. Nevada's mental health system has been underfunded for decades and has been the worst in the nation for years. It is particularly bad for Nevada's children. While there were already concerns about youth mental health prior to the pandemic, the past two years have exposed children and adolescents to unprecedented events and a general sense of unpredictability in their lives. As a mother, I urge the Nevada Legislature to support and pass A.J.R. 5.

Aria Flores, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am here in a personal capacity. Being born and raised in Las Vegas, I remember as a child my parents would often hear from loved ones in California that the Mega was up to an astronomical amount, and my parents would make a fun little day trip to Primm, Nevada, with a mere hope of possibly winning the lottery. As I became an adult, it also became my hope. Eventually, one gets tired of being stuck in traffic on the way to Primm, especially as Tropicana Boulevard is closed. Our fellow Nevadans have had enough, and they have said it time and time again. Let A.J.R. 5 be put to a vote for our fellow Nevadans. Assembly Joint Resolution 5 would also increase government revenue, create jobs, and encourage responsible gambling, responsible gambling in which one does not have to spend hours and hours upon one of those comfy chairs. This brings hope to Nevada, and personally, this gives me hope to not stay in one more car ride with my parents questioning every life decision. Give me a chance of hope and give Nevada the chance to vote on this. Lastly, just as cannabis has helped our education, let the lottery help our mental health. I encourage you to support A.J.R. 5.

Chair Gorelow:

Thank you. Is there any more testimony in Las Vegas in support of A.J.R. 5? Seeing no one else, we will now hear from callers in support of A.J.R. 5.

Christine Saunders, Policy Director, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada:

I am here in support of Assembly Joint Resolution 5. First, as someone who has dealt with mental health issues myself, I really want to thank Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller for sharing his personal experience in this presentation and helping to reduce the stigma associated with it. Assembly Joint Resolution 5 would allow Nevada voters to authorize the state lottery to fund important state services like youth mental health care. In a 2022 report from Mental Health America, Nevada ranked fifty-first in youth mental health, having the highest prevalence of mental illness in relationship to access to care in the state. This is just unacceptable. While we were able to make some recent investments with federal COVID-relief dollars, those funding sources are not sustainable or long term.

Nevada has long been the epicenter of gambling in casinos in the nation. Yet in my five years in the state, I have only spent \$20 at the casino at the behest of my out-of-state friends excited to be visiting. I lost that money and really have no desire to ever do so again. However, I have and would be willing to purchase a lottery ticket despite the slim chances of winning, because I know that rather than benefiting a corporation's profit margin, my loss could have gone to a good cause. I urge your support of A.J.R. 5 and let Nevada voters decide the future of Nevada's lottery.

Deanna Leivas, Secretary-Treasurer, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 711:

I represent about 7,000 members and their families. I strongly urge the Committee to support A.J.R. 5. We have to deal with the mental health crisis in Nevada and we need revenue to accomplish this. Establishing a state lottery seems to be the best way to get this done. Please support Nevada and A.J.R. 5.

Dakota Hoskins, Political Director, Service Employees International Union Local 1107:

I represent over 11,000 nurses and health care professionals. Service Employees International Union is here in support of A.J.R. 5 today. Assembly Joint Resolution 5 will lead to a well-needed investment in our mental health care and education systems. Nevada continues to rank at or near the bottom of education and mental health care funding. Assembly Joint Resolution 5 will create an additional revenue stream that we could now use to ensure Nevada students and children get the education and mental health care they deserve. We urge your support.

Liz Sorenson, President, Nevada State AFL-CIO:

I am here today in support of A.J.R. 5. I strongly urge this Committee to also support Assembly Joint Resolution 5 as well.

Alexander Marks, Communications Specialist, Nevada State Education Association:

We are in support of A.J.R. 5, especially when funds would go to youth mental health and education. In response to the Governor's budget, Nevada State Education Association has been asking, "Now what?" quite a bit. In future fiscal years, Nevada is unlikely to have the record revenues that we have seen in recent years, so it is still necessary to pursue various streams of revenue for education and other critical services. Just today, we heard measures for this, the state lottery, a study for a wealth tax, and a measure for a digital sales tax. Those are the sorts of bold actions we have been talking about all session and the types of actions that the Commission on School Funding has said Nevada needs to take. Nevada should be doing all it can in terms of bringing in new revenue. We urge your support on Assembly Joint Resolution 5.

Robert Sumlin, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local Lodge No. SC711 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Due to the widespread mental crisis in our state, it is vital that the Committee supports this resolution to establish a state lottery and create a permanent revenue stream to strengthen Nevada's mental health services. I strongly urge the Committee to support Assembly Joint Resolution 5.

[[Exhibit G](#) was submitted by not discussed and is included as an exhibit for the hearing.]

Chair Gorelow:

There are no more callers in support of A.J.R. 5, so we will move to testimony in opposition here in Carson City.

Lynn Chapman, Treasurer, Independent American Party of Nevada:

Did you know that there is a teen Gamblers Anonymous? Our children are gambling at increasing numbers, and they are becoming addicted to gambling. In the McGill University study, adult problem gamblers reported that as children, their parents purchased lottery tickets or took them to play bingo. Some of them were gambling between the ages of 10 to 19 years old. Problematic gambling among adolescents has been linked with increased delinquency and criminal behavior as well as the disruption of family and peer relationships. It can also negatively affect school performance and work performance. Money is not the only reason why children gamble excessively. Adolescents with serious gambling problems reported that nothing else mattered and that they were able to forget about their problems. The higher per capita spending on the lottery is among those who have not completed high school, with high school dropouts spending almost four times as much gambling annually as college graduates. What is the dropout rate here in Nevada? The cost to families is very high. One study shows between one quarter and one half of the spouses and at least one in ten children of compulsive gamblers have been victims of abuse. Divorce rates are much higher as well. At what cost to our families, especially the children, will the lotteries bring?

Nick Vassiliadis, representing Nevada Resort Association:

I am speaking in opposition to A.J.R. 5. Before our president, Virginia Valentine, speaks more directly to our opposition, I would like to take a moment to set the table in terms of

where the industry is actually coming from. I think it is safe to say there is no place in the world like Nevada. I think it is equally safe to say the tourism and hospitality industry is primarily driven and fueled by the gaming industry, and that did not happen on accident. When statewide regulators first were formalized, it was a deliberate idea that to operate gaming in this state was a privilege, and that privilege came with the responsibility—you could even call it an obligation—to create an industry that has an economic impact greater than simple revenues alone. The lottery does not meet that standard. The importance of our bricks-and-mortar establishments can never be overvalued. Those are construction jobs, those are servants and maintenance jobs, those are operation jobs. There are support industries that pop up all around the cities to directly support gaming, tourism, hospitality, and also the support industries that popped up just to meet the demand of cities that rapidly grew around an industry that is first in the world.

With so many unknowns—and I think you heard a lot today that was speculation, and that was okay, I am not criticizing anybody—but before we do something that could potentially have an impact on the state's largest industry, the state's largest revenue driver, maybe we should take a step back and have a real honest conversation about what the impacts are, because despite everything you have heard today, nothing in this piece of legislation actually directs any money to mental health. I think it would be a misrepresentation to say that the industry stands in the way of supporting mental health. There are hundreds of millions of dollars in the state budget right now that you guys could actually utilize to fund mental health today. We would not have to wait six years. I think the fundamental difference between Nevada and the gaming industry in Nevada, and gaming industries and lotteries in every other state, is this one undeniable fact: when gaming loses, Nevada loses, and that is not true anywhere else.

Virginia Valentine, President, Nevada Resort Association:

Authorizing the state lottery is a pretty simple idea. A majority of other states have one. Why not Nevada? The answer is that Nevada is not like any other state with an economy that is so dependent on its gaming and tourism industry. Gaming was legalized more than 90 years ago today. And today, we are a global tourism destination with gaming and tourism that generates an annual economic impact of over \$90 billion and contributes more than 35 percent of the State General Fund revenue. The state's largest industry, tourism, is responsible for more than 386,000 jobs statewide, or 27 percent of the state's total employment. The Legislature's historically strategic and disciplined approach to policymaking for gaming, tourism, and economic development has established Nevada as the world's entertainment capital, drawing millions of visitors not only for gaming, but for additional experiences that have resulted from decades of investment.

In contrast, lotteries are fundamentally distinct and different from the state's traditional approach to gaming. Lotteries are not a part of an economic development strategy. They do not create jobs, they do not grow Nevada's workforce, they do not increase overall economic input or result in capital investment. Based on other states' experiences, lotteries do not typically generate the revenue anticipated once the administrative costs are factored into the bottom line. As a small state, Nevada will be at a significant disadvantage in multistate

lotteries where revenues are divided amongst more populous states. Unlike other states, with the creation of a lottery, the state would be in direct competition for gaming dollars with its largest single employer and largest single source of private investment. The last time this idea came up was more than a decade ago. It was rejected by policymakers multiple times. Before the state starts to process the authority to create a lottery and generate a speculative amount of revenue under a structure yet to be decided by future legislatures, the idea deserves a thorough vetting to understand how it will impact the state's largest source of economic activity, jobs, and tax revenues. We know it will have an impact. We just do not know how much.

Erin McMullen Midby, Vice President of Government Affairs, Boyd Gaming Corporation:

Boyd Gaming is opposed to A.J.R. 5, but I would like to thank the sponsor for his willingness to meet with us. I really greatly appreciate that. As Ms. Valentine indicated, Nevada is unique and unlike any other state with a lottery in that we are the only state in the nation that is dependent on the gaming industry. We provide 35 percent of the State General Fund and 27 percent of the state's jobs. As we saw during the COVID-19 pandemic when gaming establishments were closed for 78 days, Nevada's economy suffered, and this body had to make some severe budget cuts in response. Boyd Gaming operates in ten other states, and all of those other states have a lottery. The difference is, in many of the states the lottery was the precursor to gaming as states realized that commercialized gaming provides a lot more capital investment, infrastructure, and jobs to communities than the lottery does. The other distinction is those economies are more diverse and gaming in those states is limited to a certain number of licensees who have a guaranteed market share, unlike in Nevada where we have thousands of gaming licensees.

Having a lottery in Nevada would essentially be undiversifying our economy. As we have heard in testimony, the goal of the proponents is for Nevada to join the multistate lottery. The challenge with that is that revenues generated for multistate lotteries are divided among the participating states based on various factors such as ticket sales. As a very small state, Nevada would be competing with other larger, more populous states like New York, California, and others, and Nevada's share of the revenue would be very small. While it may seem as though we are currently giving money away to California and Arizona when Nevadans drive to the border to purchase Powerball tickets, that is not the case. We would simply be exporting dollars to other states, dollars that would normally remain in Nevada as gaming revenue or as purchasing power for other local sales and services. Passage of A.J.R. 5 would remove the provisions from the *Nevada Constitution* that prohibit a lottery in the state of Nevada. Removing this protection creates a slippery slope with many unanswered questions. While the structure and governance has not yet been determined and it may be limited to start, it will only take a simple majority vote to expand the lottery in future sessions. In other states where we operate, the lottery has expanded to online lottery, sports betting, video lottery terminals, and keeps snowballing from there. Assembly Joint Resolution 5 is a great risk to take when the impacts to the gaming industry, the state's largest taxpayer and revenue generator, are not fully known.

Andrew Diss, Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Meruelo Gaming:

We are here in opposition to A.J.R. 5. We started this hearing today talking about the reasons why we have a prohibition against a lottery in our *Nevada Constitution* and the language directly from the Legislative Counsel's Digest says such constitutional provisions prohibiting lotteries were intended to protect the public from harm caused by lotteries which were prevalent in our nation's early history and were plagued by fraud, corruption, mismanagement, and abuse. I would argue we are still in the same position today. When you go online and you search for stories about lottery operators, all across this country you see example after example of fraud and mismanagement that is occurring in other states. A recent example is of the security officer for the Multi-State Lottery Association, which is basically the regulatory body behind Powerball, who inserted code into different lottery games where it allowed him to know what numbers were going to be drawn three times throughout every year. This scheme was going on for five to six years and he was sharing those numbers with friends and friends of friends in order to get a piece of the winnings. It was discovered, it was investigated, and he pled guilty just a couple of years ago. He is now serving 25 years in prison. In example after example, you will see where state lottery directors are contributing to this public fraud that is going on.

The other issue I wanted to bring up, and Assemblyman DeLong touched on it earlier, is in the amendment to Article 4, Section 24, Subsection 2, paragraph (a). It says, "The Legislature shall not pass any laws which grant a special charter. . . to any person or other entity to operate a lottery or sell lottery tickets." Now, I appreciate the invitation from the sponsor to take part in how we are going to set this up, but that language specifically prohibits our industry from being a partner when we set this up. Unless this language is changed, asking us to come to the table to set up an activity that the state is going to operate in direct competition with our companies? We just have a hard time with that.

Kami Dempsey-Goudie, representing Golden Entertainment:

Thank you again for the time and allowing us this opportunity. I do not want to be redundant to some of the things that have been brought up, but I do think there are interesting points that have been highlighted. I mean, we have heard a lot of gold standard, every other state that is doing things. There used to be a time when Nevada was so unique that we did not compare ourselves to other states because we were different, because we established gaming and we had that bricks and mortar and were creating jobs and were developing revenues for our state to not have an income tax because of the structure that exists. Now we are attempting to be just like every other state. We know that mental health is a serious issue. I do not want to downplay that at all. I think we heard from a lot of people who understand and know that it is probably only getting worse, but we probably need those dollars now. But in the millions of dollars that we are talking about that go towards gaming right now in bricks and mortar, providing jobs, and providing the benefits that we all receive, I think this is something to really consider and be important as you evaluate this legislation. One of the points earlier is the state would be competing with private sector. The devil is in the details, and I think this is one of those issues where we do not want to rush this too much because how the structure is and how the state is going to facilitate this and go into competition with private sector really will direct what is going to happen in the future.

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

First, I would like to thank the bill sponsor for meeting with the Vegas Chamber about this issue. In regard to A.J.R. 5, the Chamber is in opposition to repeal the prohibition of lotteries in the *Nevada Constitution* for several reasons. From a procedural process, the Chamber's government affairs committee is always leery about amending the *Nevada Constitution*. We believe that any amendment to the *Nevada Constitution* is a serious matter and should be based on expansive and thoughtful conversations before moving any proposal forward. In regard to the policy at hand, we see this repeal of the lottery prohibition as an economic deterrent. We believe this amendment to the *Nevada Constitution* could negatively impact small businesses in our community. As many of you know, the Chamber has 70 industry sectors, and 84 percent of our membership is defined as a small business. Many of those sectors do direct and indirect business with our gaming industry. Gaming and business in our community in Nevada are intertwined together. That is why the Chamber is concerned that to repeal the lottery prohibition would have a negative impact on our small businesses. If a state lottery diverts revenue from the gaming industry, we believe it would mean less demand for vendors, suppliers, and contracts from Nevada's private sector, which means less jobs and will impact on our neighbors, our families, and your constituents.

We also do not believe that a state lottery will create jobs to support economic development efforts within the gaming industry. Our gaming industry has been a good community partner for decades. They invest back in our community through taxes at the local and state level, and through community and social engagement programs through their foundations' donations and contributions to numerous nonprofits and charities throughout our state. They do the right thing. We do appreciate the intent to help potentially determine a new revenue line to support social service issues in our state, for example, through future legislation. However, the Chamber's leadership does not believe A.J.R. 5 is the solution. We urge the Committee not to move this forward.

Chair Gorelow:

Is there anybody else in Carson City who would like to testify in opposition? Seeing no one, we will move to Las Vegas for testimony in opposition to A.J.R. 5. Seeing no one, we will move to callers in opposition.

Barry Lieberman, Attorney, South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I am here to speak in opposition to A.J.R. 5. I want to say that I appreciate the sponsor reaching out to the industry. He has been very good about talking with us, but clearly we have a fundamental disagreement on the effect of a lottery. I would be remiss if I did not say to the Committee that just last night at the Atlantis Casino, Megabucks was hit for a life-changing \$14 million jackpot. The person who played spent ten dollars on it. While people may get frustrated that there is no lottery, there are opportunities here for life-changing events within the current system. The establishment of a lottery will essentially create a competitor to the gaming industry. Licensed, nonrestricted casinos in the state pay hundreds of millions of dollars in gaming taxes and are the largest employer in the state. Lotteries provide almost no employment and will divert gaming revenue from existing bricks-and-mortar casino operations. A lottery would compete for the same gaming dollar as the state's

existing gaming operators. With respect to the mental health issue, it is absolutely a concern and no one from the gaming industry minimizes that. But there are resources that the state has now, and it is up to the Governor and the Legislature to allocate where funds should go. I might also add that Mr. Gaughan, who owns the South Point, provides very affordable insurance to his employees, and that includes mental health services for the employees and their dependents. In summary, this is a bad resolution. We are a state that was established on bricks-and-mortar casinos and the investments necessary for that, and to create a lottery or create a potential for a lottery would not be good for the state.

Peter Guzman, President, Latin Chamber of Commerce, Las Vegas, Nevada:

Lotteries are well documented for being extremely regressive and prey on those in our communities who can least afford to lose their hard-earned money. The University of Maryland recently released an in-depth and exhaustive investigative study from its Howard Center for Investigative Journalism on the adverse impacts of state lotteries. The study, called "Mega Billions: The great lottery wealth transfer," published in July 2022, conducted a first-of-its-kind analysis of mobile phone location data to prove that the majority of customers come from neighborhoods that are disproportionately home to Hispanic, Black, and lower-income people. The study found that stores in the vast majority of the states that sell lottery tickets are disproportionately concentrated in communities with lower levels of education, income, higher poverty rates, and larger populations of people of color. The Latin Chamber of Commerce has serious concerns with the impact of lotteries on our communities and encourages this legislation to not move forward because in our opinion, this is nothing more than a tax on low-income and poverty-stricken folks. It is just another low-income tax.

Chair Gorelow:

Seeing that there are no more callers in opposition, I would like to open testimony in neutral for Assembly Joint Resolution 5 here in Carson City.

Tonja Brown, Private Citizen, Carson City, Nevada:

I am coming in as a concerned citizen who supports the bill. Okay, I will come in in opposition. My concerns are these: There has been talk throughout about smaller counties getting the short end of the stick. I would like to see the language defined as to where the money will be used. That should go to a vote of the people too. What percentage of that money is going to be set aside for mental illness, education, and possibly Gamblers Anonymous, because that, too, is an addiction. Normally, Clark County and Washoe County get a lot of the money. If the winner of a lottery happens to be in a rural county, then 20 percent or 10 percent of that money is to go back into that county in which the winning ticket was sold. Then the rest could be disbursed throughout the state. Also, I bring this up because I have actually had to go and look at the intent of the legislation on what the bill was, and I want this in there as part of the intent and the record. Like I said, I had to go back to 1973 on a different bill to see what the original intent of the legislators was in a bill 30 years later. I support it, but I do not gamble. I have not gambled in years, but I certainly would buy a lottery ticket. I can give you a dozen people who do not gamble, but they definitely would go into casinos to buy a lottery ticket.

Chair Gorelow:

I am going to reclassify your testimony as in opposition. Even if you love the concept, if you want changes, you have to come in in opposition. We will go back to neutral testimony in Carson City. Seeing no one, we will move to neutral testimony in Las Vegas. Seeing no one there, we will move to callers who would like to testify in neutral.

Cyrus Hojjaty, Private Citizen, Las Vegas, Nevada:

I support the idea of a lottery. I would only support it if other taxes, especially sales taxes, would be lowered. Keep in mind it was the major Las Vegas resorts that were opposed to Indian gaming several decades ago. We saw how that turned out. We have heard many promises before. We need to raise sales taxes. We need marijuana money, the commerce tax, mining taxes to raise money for education. Is it going to work? It is promising, it is going to happen, it is going to improve test scores. But year after year, look where we are now, and a lot of money has been wasted. Not to mention many people are really talking about mental health as a result of this pandemic. Many of these organizations have not told us that these lockdowns and mandated vaccines actually worked because we like to know the whole enchilada of the problem, the roots of everything that has caused. I urge you all to think twice about this bill and make some changes.

Chair Gorelow:

We will be reclassifying that testimony as opposition. Do we have anybody else who would like to testify in neutral? Neutral means you have no position on the bill. You are not for it or against it.

There are no more callers, so I will invite Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller to offer closing comments.

Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller:

In response to some of the testimony that we heard, I welcome our gaming partners to do something to fund mental health today. That problem could be solved by them today. Right now, they could create a fund, they could create something that would help us in the immediate future to start addressing the issue. It would still leave us with bringing the lottery to a vote of the people of Nevada. This is not a fast-moving process. This is not going to be done without consideration and careful slow walking because there are a number of years before we are able to put a lottery into effect in this state. We can do it with all the caution and care and consideration that our partners would need to make sure that their businesses are not negatively impacted. With that being said, as long as we are still where we are, we are still needing to get this passed by this particular Legislature and another Legislature to go to the people to vote on whether or not they want a state lottery in Nevada. With that, I believe Chair Gorelow has had someone come to answer some questions for the Committee. I will pass that on.

Kevin Powers, General Counsel, Legal Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau:

The reason I am here before you today is because I have done extensive research on this lottery issue, and there were some legal issues that came up during the testimony with regard

to the provisions dealing with special charters that I believe the Legislative Counsel Bureau Legal Division can provide further clarification on for the Committee. Just as a reminder to the public, the Legal Division does not support or oppose any particular piece of legislation, viewpoint, or policy. We do, however, provide the Legislature and its members with objective legal analysis and advice on issues of law. In this case, this is an issue of law.

A special charter is a term of art. A special charter was used generally from the colonial period to the mid-1800s to grant exclusive rights to particular companies to operate a lottery for the benefit of that company, usually for a public improvement. For example, the Legislature would pass a special law granting a charter to a company to build a road and that special charter would include the right to conduct the lottery to generate revenue to build that road. It was a contract through the legislation with that individual company. It was not a general law administered by the state, but it was a special privilege to that company; the special charter to operate the lottery exclusively essentially as a monopoly for that particular reason.

The provision in the *Nevada Constitution* is to ensure that the Legislature does not pass those types of laws granting individual companies special charters to operate a lottery. However, it does not prohibit the Legislature from passing a general law that authorizes a state agency to administer a lottery, either through a state agency operating the lottery or through a state agency putting out a bid for a contract for someone else to operate the lottery. The Legislature could also pass a general law authorizing private entities to sell lottery tickets. It just could not grant those private entities that special charter. For example, the Legislature could pass a special law authorizing all casinos that meet certain requirements to sell lottery tickets. The Legislature just could not grant a special charter to a single casino to sell lottery tickets to exclusive right against all other casinos. The point of this is to protect against those charter lotteries that caused the problems in the colonial period and through the mid-1800s. This prohibits those charter lotteries. However, the Legislature through general law would have the power to enact laws that regulate lotteries through general legislation. Thank you, Madam Chair, and I am certainly open to any questions.

Assemblyman Yeager:

I never miss an opportunity to ask Mr. Powers a question when he is here. Part of the testimony that Assemblyman Cameron (C.H.) Miller gave today was addressing this process of coming up with potentially enabling legislation that would come to a next session. His intent was to work with stakeholders and organizations on that legislation, just like your legal opinion. Is there anything in the bill that would preclude that kind of work from happening leading up to the drafting and passage of legislation?

Kevin Powers:

The answer would be there is nothing in this proposed joint resolution which would become a constitutional provision that would prevent the Legislature, if it had the power, to work with stakeholders to come up with general legislation that regulates the lottery, as long as it is general legislation that sets standards for a state agency to either operate the lottery or to contract out the operation of a lottery to other entities or to authorize the sale of lottery

tickets through multistate lotteries. All of that is general legislation. The Legislature could not grant that special privilege or that special charter, which legislatures used to do in the colonial period through the mid-1800s.

Chair Gorelow:

Does anybody else have any questions? [There were none.] With that, we will close the hearing on A.J.R. 5. I will open public comment. [There was no public comment.]

It has been a long evening. I appreciate everyone for staying, and with that, we will see you on Thursday at 4 p.m. We are adjourned [at 7:01 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Kristi Howard
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow, Chair

DATE: _____

EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

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

[Exhibit C](#) is a proposed conceptual amendment to Assembly Bill 286, submitted by Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Assembly District No. 5.

[Exhibit D](#) is written testimony dated April 3, 2023, submitted by Linda Stout, Member, Legislative Committee, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club, in support of Assembly Bill 286.

[Exhibit E](#) is written testimony submitted by Reva Crump, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada, in opposition to Assembly Bill 286.

[Exhibit F](#) is a memorandum dated April 4, 2023, submitted by LuAnn Holmes, City Clerk, City of Las Vegas, in neutral on Assembly Bill 286.

[Exhibit G](#) is written testimony dated April 4, 2023, submitted by Joe Petrillo, Private Citizen, Reno, Nevada, in support of Assembly Joint Resolution 5.