



2017 END OF SESSION REPORT

ACTION. ACCOMPLISHMENT. ACCOUNTABILITY.



BILL NOONAN Chairman

As I was installed as Chairman of the Board of Trustees last year, I made a pledge to each of you, my fellow Chamber members, that this organization would work every day on your behalf and to ensure that “no harm” would come to you during the legislative session. I shared with you that it is my guiding belief that Nevada’s business climate needs to be simple, predictable, and stable so that employers are able to grow and expand their businesses. As employers, we are the backbone of the state’s economy and as a unified business community, it is our responsibility to move this State forward for the benefit of our community, our employees, and for our families. A stronger business community, simply put, is a stronger Nevada.

That is why as your Chairman, I worked every day with our Chamber’s President and CEO Kristin McMillan and our dedicated government affairs team during the legislative session to ensure that legislators understood that the Metro Chamber would support bills that fostered growth within the state’s business community and that we would oppose bills that hindered economic development, added unnecessary and burdensome regulations, and increased administrative fines and penalties on employers. We met with the Governor, legislative leadership, and legislators consistently during the session to ensure that your voice was heard. I would like to thank Governor Sandoval for his leadership and to those legislators who stood with the Metro Chamber.

I am pleased to report that I upheld my pledge to you and our fellow members that the employers of our State would not be harmed. This was not by accident; we accomplished this together as unified business community and by the hard work of the Metro Chamber. This session, we worked more closely than we have ever before with other chambers of commerce, trade associations and business groups in Carson City with the common goal to protect our members across a variety of industries from harmful legislation. This legislative session demonstrated to legislators and others that a strong, unified business community cannot – and will not – be divided. We are stronger than we have ever been before and as a member of Metro Chamber, you can take great pride that this organization led that charge in Carson City. We showed Why Business Matters, why you matter, and that your voice was heard.

While I am proud of the work we have done, it is important to note that our work is not done. We will continue to represent you and make sure your voice is heard and that you are protected every day at City Hall, the state legislature, and in our nation’s Capital. It has been part of the Chamber’s policy agenda for generations to support the spirit of entrepreneurship, foster job creation, and nurture economic development. This has served us well and something that I believe that we must preserve not just today, but for years to come. It is our history and our future.

As Chairman, I want to thank you for your continued support, engagement, and membership. It is my privilege to be your 2017 Chairman and to be part of such an influential organization that is moving this state to becoming a better place for all of us. This is our state, our community, and our home – and home means Nevada to all of us.



KRISTIN MCMILLAN President and CEO

Your voice mattered. That's the takeaway from the 2017 Nevada Legislature. The Las Vegas Metro Chamber's Government Affairs team was in Carson City every day to make sure your voice was considered by lawmakers. Thanks to the Chamber, the Voice of Business was heard loud and clear.

This session, many harmful bills were introduced that, if passed, would have added significant costs and burdens on the backs of business – impacting small businesses to a large degree. With our economy just getting back on track, businesses need a break from additional regulations, mandates, and costs. It was the Chamber's job to make sure legislators understood the consequences of these potentially harmful actions. We were there at every turn to explain what could happen to jobs and the economy if these bills passed.

The Metro Chamber fought hard this session and, due to significant efforts of the government affairs team, the clear majority of these bad bills failed or were vetoed by Governor Sandoval. Several of the Governor's veto messages specifically mentioned the Metro Chamber's opposition to these harmful bills as a reason for his veto. Nevada's employers and employees were protected this session because of the Chamber's efforts, engagement, and work in Carson City.

The Metro Chamber also played a leading role as champion of good legislation that will foster job growth, economic development, and prosperity within the state's business community. Several bills passed that will help Southern Nevada grow and prosper. Southern Nevada Forum priorities were realized through new legislation – bills such as planning money for the College of Southern Nevada and Nevada State College Health Sciences Building and \$38 million in funding for the UNLV Medical School to help cover construction and operational costs. These initiatives will help train more doctors and expand our healthcare sector. The Metro Chamber extends its gratitude to Governor Brian Sandoval and those legislators who stood with Nevada's employers to advance a pro-business economy.

The Metro Chamber tracked 561 bills and testified on 109 throughout the session on your behalf. Besides continuously and persistently working with legislators, our government affairs team led the charge with community leaders and other business and trade organizations to ensure, as much as possible, there was a clear and unified voice on matters important to Southern Nevada. And, you, our members, were instrumental in the remarkable progress that was made in defeating harmful legislation and advocating for legislation that supports Nevada's employers. You responded to our surveys, answered the Metro Chamber's calls to action, contacted your legislators, stayed up-to-date on the issues, and provided us with useful feedback and information along the way.

We cannot have a strong daily presence before government without your support through membership and contributions to BizPAC, the Chamber's political action fund that allows us to amplify your voice and help elect pro-prosperity candidates at the state and local levels. Please consider contributing to BizPAC, or increasing your level of contribution, to help us continue to do good and successful work.

While the 2017 Legislature is over, the Chamber's job of looking out for you will not let up. We continue to be your champion – vigilant at the local, state, and federal government levels to protect you from proposals that could harm our economy and your business. We value you and deeply appreciate your membership. Please know that your voice matters and the Metro Chamber could not be the Voice of Business without you.



HUGH ANDERSON Vice Chairman - Government Affairs

Every other year, Nevada's legislators gather in Carson City to discuss, propose and debate legislation to move our State forward. They each bring their different perspectives, experiences, and ideas to the legislative process. These lawmakers discuss a variety of policy issues important to the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce and its thousands of members, such as education initiatives, workforce development programs, job creation, labor laws, employment regulations, and business climate. For those policy debates, the Metro Chamber is at the forefront in Carson City representing you, our members, every day during the legislative session.

I want to thank our Government Affairs Committee for their dynamic leadership during the 2017 legislative session. As representatives of our broad-based and diverse membership, their insight and engagement has been invaluable to developing and promoting the Metro Chamber's policy positions.

We also appreciate you, our members, for participating and lending your voice when asked to support the Metro Chamber's advocacy efforts to stop adverse legislation, such as changes to employment laws, increases to the state's minimum wage, and the introduction of mandatory paid sick leave. Your voice and your engagement was a critical tool. We demonstrated that a unified business community will support legislation that fosters economic growth and job creation and will oppose legislation that is draconian in nature and hinders economic development, harms employers and hampers job creation.

I am pleased to report that the Metro Chamber's involvement had a direct and significant impact on protecting Nevada's employers during the legislative session to ensure that the state's business climate will continue to be one that strengthens the economy and spurs economic development efforts. This was a result of the commitment by the Metro Chamber to protect you every day in Carson City.

However, our work is not done protecting and fighting for you in the State Legislature. We know that we must continue our advocacy efforts on your behalf. As a fellow Chamber member, I ask you to continue to support the Metro Chamber's efforts to keep the business community's priorities front and center by contributing to BizPAC, the Metro Chamber's bipartisan political action committee. Your financial support today will send a strong message and help ensure the continuity of our efforts, especially as vital priorities are determined and recommendations are made in the interim period before the next legislative session. You can make your contribution today by going to LVChamber.com.

This legislative report is intended to serve as a reference about the positions taken by the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce on these perennial issues during the 2017 legislative session and their impact on employers, who are the job creators of our State.

We hope employers, employees, lawmakers, and all interested parties find this legislative report useful as a summary of the state policy priorities and positions of the business community — a community committed to working in consensus and in partnership to achieve a higher quality of life for all Nevadans.





WORKING FOR YOU

The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce is Nevada's largest and most broad-based business association. It has a long and robust tradition, based on sound public policy, data, and objective analysis, as a firm advocate on behalf of Nevada's employers in the state capital. Prior to the start of the 2017 legislative session, the Metro Chamber renewed its commitment to protect laws and policies that support business and job growth and do not detract from our overall economic climate. The Metro Chamber played an important role on behalf of its members as the leading business association in Nevada.

The following summary is a synopsis of key legislation and other business-related laws in which the Metro Chamber was actively involved in Carson City, and identifies their associated impact on the business community. These legislative priorities were based on the principles of reducing regulatory burden, creating more efficiency in government, building our future workforce, and keeping dollars within the State.

By the Numbers:

Number of Bills Introduced: **1,077**

Number of Resolutions Introduced: **67**

Number of Bills Monitored by the Metro Chamber: **561**

Number of Bills Testified on by the Metro Chamber: **109**

Number of Bills Signed by the Governor: **608**

Number of Bills Vetoed by the Governor: **41**



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K-12 EDUCATION

Reforming the quality of K-12 education is a long-standing legislative priority for the Metro Chamber. The Metro Chamber has a long history of supporting education reforms and initiatives at the state and local levels. Improving the quality of K-12 education is paramount to the economic development and diversification of our state. The Metro Chamber believes that improving the performance of the state's K-12 educational system is necessary to provide a strong foundation for Nevada's competitive business climate. It is also important that state funds are allocated to targeted programs with accountability standards that support increasing student achievement.

The Metro Chamber successfully advocated for increased investment in K-12 programs and to maintain and build on reform initiatives from the 2015 legislative session. Some of these initiatives include the English Language Learner program, reading by third grade, Victory Schools, additional funding for Gifted and Talented Education (GATE), and career and technical education, as well as College and Career Readiness programs. Each of these programs include accountability measures and targeted spending to enhance student achievement.

ICON KEY

Chamber Top Priority	Chamber Supported	Chamber Opposed	Chamber Neutral	Southern Nevada Priority	Chamber Monitored	Small Business Bill
						



ASSEMBLY BILL 7

Revises Provisions Related to Education



Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Education (On Behalf of the Department of Education)

Assembly Bill 7 allows for the implementation at the state level of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that was passed by Congress in 2015 to replace No Child Left Behind. The Metro Chamber has been actively engaged with the Nevada Department of Education through working groups to support ESSA implementation and draft a state plan contained in AB 7.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 41, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

ASSEMBLY BILL 77

Revises Provisions Related to Teachers and Other Educational Personnel

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Education (On Behalf of the Department of Education)

Assembly Bill 77 will make changes to record keeping for schools and school districts, as well as make changes regarding reciprocity for teacher licensure. AB 77 will also make changes to the composition of the Commission on Professional Standards in Education. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as allowing for reciprocity for teachers that have been licensed in other states to teach in Nevada will help reduce the teacher shortage throughout the state. Additionally, adding a member of the business community to the Commission on Professional Standards in Education will bring a unique employer voice to the discussion regarding professional standards in education.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 37, Nays: 5, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 18, Nays: 2, Excused: 1

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 110

Revises Provisions Governing Education

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Education

Assembly Bill 110 will revise the requirements for students to receive credit for a course of study without attending the classes for the course, if the student demonstrates excelled proficiency to meet the objectives of a course. The bill will also create the Competency-Based Education Task Force to study certain issues relating to personalized learning and competency-based education. The Metro Chamber supported this because competency-based education will provide students the opportunity to advance to higher levels of learning when they have proven their comprehension of concepts and skills regardless of time, place, or pace.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 117

Requires Certain Educational Personnel to Take Certain Actions to Ensure Pupils in Grade 11 in Public High Schools Are College and Career Ready

Sponsor: Assemblyman Edgar Flores (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 117 will ensure that a counselor, administrator, or other licensed educational personnel offers to meet individually, at least once, with each student who is enrolled in grade 11 at a public high school to review with the student their academic plan. The counselor, administrator, or other licensed educational personnel will be required to use the student's results on a college and career readiness assessment, if

available, and the student's academic records to review with the student his or her academic strengths and weaknesses and determine areas the student may need to work on to be prepared for college and career success without the need for remediation. The Metro Chamber supported this bill as it would create a pathway to college and career readiness for all students enrolled in a public high school.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 33, Nays: 5, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 15, Nays: 6, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 144

Creates the Nevada Advisory Commission on Mentoring

Sponsor: Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson (D - North Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 144 will create the Nevada Advisory Commission on Mentoring for the purpose of supporting and facilitating existing mentorship programs in this State. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as at least one member of the Commission to be appointed will a representative of business and industry. The Metro Chamber and many of its members support mentoring opportunities throughout Southern Nevada.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 40, Nays: 0, Excused: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 409

Revises Provisions Relating to the Subject Area of Reading

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Education

Assembly Bill 409 would have removed the current requirement for students to be retained in Grade 3 for a deficiency in reading. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as ending social promotion is proven to increase graduation rates. The Metro Chamber supported the implementation of requiring students to be proficient in reading to advance from the third grade during the 2015 legislative session.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Education. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 447

Revises Provisions Relating to Victory Schools

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Education

Assembly Bill 447 reauthorizes the Victory Schools Act, which was first passed by the 2015 Legislature. The Victory Schools Act provides for the distribution of money to certain underperforming public schools in the poorest zip codes in the state and provides wrap-around and family engagement services. The Metro Chamber supported the initial Victory School Act in 2015 and continues to support the program.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 34, Nays: 8, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8

Directs the Legislative Commission to Create an Interim Study Concerning Reports Relating to Public Education

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections (On Behalf of the Legislative Committee on Education)

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 8 would have directed the Legislative Commission to create an interim study committee concerning reports relating to public education, including an analysis of the reporting requirements relating to accountability and an analysis of the possible strategies to modernize and streamline reporting requirements to increase efficiency of data collection, as well as an analysis of the manner in which the information in the reports is used by the Department of Education. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as accountability and reporting in education are longstanding Metro Chamber priorities.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 19

Revises Provisions Relating to Dual Credit Courses

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Education (On Behalf of the Office of the Governor)



Senate Bill 19 will specify the requirements for students, the State Board of Education, and local school boards, as well as community colleges and universities, for enrollment in dual credit courses. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as this will allow for a streamlined process for both students and institutions of higher and K-12 education to enroll in and receive credit for dual enrollment coursework.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 41, Nays: 0, Excused 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 20

Revises Provisions to Required Teacher Examinations

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Education (On Behalf of the Clark County School District)



Senate Bill 20 will allow for the removal of the state requirement that teachers seeking to obtain their initial teaching license in Nevada must pass exams that demonstrate their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and Nevada Constitution. This change in the provisions does not impact the exams that teachers must pass to demonstrate subject matter expertise. The Metro Chamber testified in support of this bill because it will help school districts, such as Clark County School District (CCSD), recruit more qualified teachers outside of the state. This change to state law will provide CCSD another tool to attract teachers to teach in Nevada and remove certain administrative barriers that may be hindering national recruiting efforts.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 35, Nays: 6, Excused 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 66

Revises Provisions Relating to Work-Based Learning Programs

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Education (On Behalf of the Department of Education)

Senate Bill 66 removes the limitation on the amount of credit a student may obtain for completing an internship and would authorize the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school to apply for a grant from the Department of Education to develop and implement work-based learning programs in the fields, trades, or occupations prescribed by the State Board of Education. The Metro Chamber testified in support of this bill, as it will allow students to gain workforce experience in potential career fields.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 34, Nays: 4, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor

PASSED



SENATE BILL 155:

Makes an Appropriation for Educational Leadership Training Programs

Sponsor: Senator Patricia Farley (NP - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 155 makes an appropriation for the implementation and operation of educational leadership training programs for educators in Clark County. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as educational leadership training is critical for continued success.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 37, Nays: 5, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 241:

Provides for the Establishment of the State Seal of STEM and the State Seal of STEAM Program

Sponsor: Senator Joyce Woodhouse (D - Henderson)

Senate Bill 241 establishes a State Seal of STEM/STEAM Program, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, to recognize high school students who have attained a high level of proficiency in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics and have the seal affixed to his or her diploma. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as STEM/STEAM education has been a longstanding priority for the Chamber.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 41, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 249:

Requires Instruction in Financial Literacy and Economics in Public Schools

Sponsor: Senator Joyce Woodhouse (D - Henderson)

Senate Bill 249 will require instruction in financial literacy for students enrolled in grades 3-12 and be age-appropriate, include certain topics, and be provided within a course of study for which the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools has established as the relevant standards of content and performance. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as financial literacy is important for students before and after entering the workforce.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 1, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 390:

Extending and Revising the Zoom Schools Program for the 2017-2019 Biennium

Sponsor: Senator Mo Denis (D - Las Vegas)



Senate Bill 390 expands the Zoom school program that was first implemented in 2013. Zoom schools provide a comprehensive package of programs and services for children who are limited English proficient. The Metro Chamber supported this bill from implementation in 2013 and continues to support the expansion of this successful program that has been tied to accountability measures.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 37, Nays: 5, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 544:

Ensures Sufficient Funding for K-12 Public Education for the 2017-2019 Biennium



Sponsor: Senate Committee on Finance

Senate Bill 544, the state's Distributed School Account (DSA) is at \$2.3 billion over the next two years, and continues many of the programs implemented by Gov. Brian Sandoval during the 2015 session, with a few additional modifications. The budget sets per-pupil funding at \$5,900 during the 2018 fiscal year and \$5,967 during the 2019 fiscal year. Some of the programs include:

- \$299.5 million for class size reduction programs
- \$386.5 million for special education students
- \$25 million for grants in Career and Technical Education
- \$41 million for the Read by 3 program
- \$5 million for "Turnaround schools"
- \$50 million for Victory Schools
- \$9.8 million for the Great Teaching and Leadership Fund
- \$5 million for a fund reimbursing teachers for school supplies they personally purchase
- \$36.6 million for Adult High School Education programs
- \$14.7 million to the Gifted and Talented education programs

The bill also includes \$45,000 per year funding for anti-bullying grants, and extends a "Charter School Harbor Master," a state-funded organization designed to recruit high-quality charter schools into Nevada, through 2019. The Metro Chamber supported the K-12 education funding bill because of its support for a variety of the education reform initiatives that are funded by the State.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 0, Excused: 0, Absent: 9

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



SENATE BILL 550:

Makes an Appropriation to a Disbursement Account for Costs Relating to a Human Resource Management Information System for the Clark County School District



Sponsor: Senate Committee on Finance

Senate Bill 550 gives the Clark County School District the ability to purchase a new human resource management system in the amount of \$17 million. The current system is approximately 25 years old and is not able to interface with other systems and not equipped to handle reporting components that will be necessary with the reorganization of the Clark County School District. The bill also requires reports to the Interim Legislative Finance at six-month intervals as part of the accountability measures found within the bill. The Metro Chamber supported this bill because of the need to modernize the school district's human resources management information system to ensure that the necessary tools are available for the reorganization.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 37, Nays: 5, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.





HEALTHCARE

The Metro Chamber believes healthcare in Southern Nevada should be accessible, high quality, and promote the well-being of our community. In order to achieve this goal, during the legislative session the Metro Chamber focused on growing the number of healthcare providers in Nevada; making sure healthcare providers are adequately compensated by mandating that Nevada periodically review Medicaid reimbursement rates; and ensuring our community has the ability to create focused solutions in behavioral health by regionalizing mental health districts.

ICON KEY

Chamber
Top Priority



Chamber
Supported



Chamber
Opposed



Chamber
Neutral



Southern
Nevada
Priority



Chamber
Monitored



Small
Business
Bill





ASSEMBLY BILL 18

Ratifies the Nurse Licensure Compact

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor (On Behalf of the State Board of Nursing)

Assembly Bill 18 would have ratified the enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact adopted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The Compact provides for a multi-state licensure privilege for a nurse residing in one Compact state to be able to practice in all other member states of the Compact (26 states in total). The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it would have allowed for seamless licensure of nurses who take a job in another state included in the Compact, including Nevada, which is experiencing a shortage of nurses.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



ASSEMBLY BILL 108

Provides for the Periodic Review of Medicaid Reimbursement Rates



Sponsor: Assemblyman James Oscarson (R - Pahrump)

Assembly Bill 108 will require the State to review Medicaid reimbursements rates every four years. The Metro Chamber supported the bill because these types of rate reimbursements need to be reviewed on a periodic basis in order to maintain accuracy for changing healthcare needs. Assembly Bill 108 was a Southern Nevada Forum priority bill.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 38, Nays: 0, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



ASSEMBLY BILL 183

Revises Provisions Governing the Collection of a Hospital Bill

Sponsor: Assemblyman James Ohrenschall (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 183 will limit the amount that the hospital may collect or attempt to collect from the patient or other responsible party for services. The bill requires a hospital that is providing services to a patient to wait to hear from the patient's insurer or public program before applying a statutory lien for the amount due for the care given to the patient before asserting, perfecting, foreclosing, or otherwise enforcing its statutory lien. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of potential impacts it could have on hospitals, which may result in an increased cost for coverage and reduce access to care.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 17, Nays: 4, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



ASSEMBLY BILL 366

Creates Four Behavioral Health Regions in This State and a Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board for Each Region

Sponsor: Assemblyman Nelson Araujo (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 366 creates four regional behavioral health policy boards in Nevada, including regions for Northern, Southern, Rural, and Washoe. Each board would consist of 12 members, including 11 members appointed by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services and one member representing the criminal justice system who will be appointed by the Governor. The boards will advise the Public and Behavioral Health Departments and promote improvements to the delivery of behavioral health. The

Metro Chamber supported AB 366, as behavioral health reform was a priority of the Southern Nevada Forum.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 41, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 28:

Requires an Annual Review of Certain Rates Paid by Medicaid in Nevada

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Health and Human Services (On Behalf of the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum)

Senate Bill 28 would have required the state to review Medicaid reimbursements rates annually. The Metro Chamber supported the bill because these types of rate reimbursements need to be reviewed on an annual basis instead of occurring at a multi-year review.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Finance. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 95:

Requires an Analysis of the Adequacy of Medicaid Reimbursement Rates for Personal Care Services

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Health and Human Services (On Behalf of the Subcommittee to Conduct a Study of Postacute Care)

Senate Bill 95 would have required the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services to study the adequacy of Medicaid reimbursement rates for personal care services. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as a review of Medicaid reimbursement rates was a topic brought forth to the Legislature by the Southern Nevada Forum.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Finance. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 96:

Requires a Comparative Analysis of the Rates of Reimbursement Paid by Medicaid for Certain Services

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Health and Human Services (On Behalf of the Subcommittee to Conduct a Study of Postacute Care)

Senate Bill 96 would have required the Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy of the department of Health and Human Services to conduct a comparative analysis of Medicaid reimbursement rates. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as a review of Medicaid reimbursement rates was a topic brought forth to the Legislature by the Southern Nevada Forum.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Finance. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

SENATE BILL 366:

Makes Various Changes to Medicaid

Sponsor: Senator Yvanna Cancela (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 366 will require Nevada's Director of Health and Human Services to prepare a report that has 50 or more employees who are enrolled in Medicaid and whether or not the employees have access to an employer-based healthcare plan, which would require for the report to be posted on the Internet. The bill also calls for the creation of Advisory Committee on Medicaid Innovation within the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department. The Metro Chamber originally opposed the bill because of posting requirement of the report. However, in the final version of the bill, the posting requirement was removed and as result of that change, the Metro Chamber removed its opposition to the bill.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 28, Nays: 13, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED





HIGHER EDUCATION

Transforming the role of higher education in Nevada is an important component to strengthening Nevada's workforce and enhancing economic development initiatives throughout the state. As a legislative priority for the Metro Chamber, the state's largest business association supported several initiatives, such as the continued funding for a four-year public allopathic medical school at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), as well as additional funding for Graduate Medical Education (GME) throughout Nevada.

Additionally, the Metro Chamber supported funding the planning of a shared Health Sciences building for Nevada State College and the College of Southern Nevada.

ICON KEY

Chamber
Top Priority



Chamber
Supported



Chamber
Opposed



Chamber
Neutral



Southern
Nevada
Priority



Chamber
Monitored



Small
Business
Bill





ASSEMBLY BILL 188:

Revises Provisions Governing the Eligibility Requirements for Grants Awarded Under the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 188 would have reduced the number of credit hours that are required to be taken per semester for eligibility for the grant from 15 credit hours to 12 credit hours. The Metro Chamber supported the creation of the Silver State Opportunity Grant program during the 2015 legislative session when the grant fund was first created and continues to support the concept by providing students with greater flexibility in regards to the number of credit hours that are needed to be taken each semester to help accommodate the many students who work while attending school.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 14, Nays: 7, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED

ASSEMBLY BILL 407:

Designates the State Land Grant Institutions in this State and Requires a Legislative Audit of Cooperative Extension Programs

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 407 would have clarified at the state level that the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of Nevada, Reno; and Desert Research Institute are state land grant institutions. The bill would have also required a legislative audit of the Nevada System of Higher Education Cooperative Extension Program. The audit would have been for years 2017-2018, with a Legislative Auditor being able to audit previous years if deemed necessary. The Metro Chamber supported this because of the importance to provide clarity regarding state land grant designation and accountability standards associated with auditing of program funded by taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 30, Nays: 12, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 15, Nays: 6, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 5:

Proposes to Amend the Nevada Constitution to Remove the Provisions Relating to the Election and Duties of the Board of Regents

Sponsor: Assemblyman Elliot Anderson (D - Las Vegas)

Currently, under the Nevada Constitution, the Board of Regents is delegated authority to overview the state universities by the Legislature. The proposed resolution would remove the Board of Regents from the Nevada Constitution. The Metro Chamber supported AJR 5, as oversight of the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education needs to be clearly delineated between the branches of government.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 38, Nays: 4, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 18, Nays: 2, Excused: 1

Final Action: Delivered to the Secretary of State. This resolution must be passed a second time by the Legislature in 2019 before it can go to the vote of the people in November 2020 since it is a proposed change to the State's Constitution.

✓ **SENATE BILL 310:** **Revises Provisions Governing the Credit-Hour Requirement for Eligibility Under the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program**

Sponsor: Senator Ben Kieckhefer (R - Reno)

Senate Bill 310 would have made technical changes to the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program that was instituted during the 2015 Legislative Session. SB 310 would have allowed an exception to the 15-credit minimum enrollment requirement a semester, if the student is in the final semester of their program of study. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it allows for flexibility for those students in their final semester of study and may require less than 15 credit hours to graduate.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

✓ **SENATE BILL 391:** **Provides for Awards of Scholarships by Community Colleges in the Nevada System of Higher Education**

Sponsor: Senator Mo Denis (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 391 creates the Nevada Promise Scholarship Account for students attending community college in Nevada. This scholarship program will be made eligible for all of Nevada's community colleges that wish to participate in the program. The bill provides eligibility and reporting standards for the program, as well. The Metro Chamber supported this bill because it provides students another path to attend community college and support student achievement, which benefits economic and workforce development efforts.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

✓ **SENATE BILL 546:** **Authorizes and Provides Funding for Certain Projects of Capital Improvement**

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Finance

Senate Bill 546 implements a \$346 million capital improvement program, which includes about \$48 million in general fund. Some of the projects include:

- \$1.5 million to plan an additional housing unit at Southern Desert Correctional Center
- \$3.5 million to plan an education building at Nevada State College
- \$33 million to build a Northern Nevada Veterans Home
- \$6 million to bring the Northern Nevada Correctional Center in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act
- \$6.2 million to renovate a housing unit at Southern Desert Correctional Center
- \$1.4 million for furnishings and equipment for the UNLV Hotel College
- \$4.3 million for Stewart Indian School welcome centers
- \$41.5 million in general obligation bonds for a UNR engineering building
- \$1 million for advanced planning of a health sciences building at the College of Southern Nevada
- \$34.2 million for a National Guard Readiness Center

The Metro Chamber supported the capital improvement bill because of several important items relating to workforce development such as facilities and building needs for Nevada State College, College of Southern Nevada, and UNLV.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 34, Nays: 8, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Senate Vote Reconsidered: Yeas: 15, Nays: 6, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 553:

Authorizes and Provides Funding for the Advance Planning of the College of Engineering, Academic and Research Building and to Complete Planning and Begin Construction of a New Building for the Medical School at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Finance

Senate Bill 553 provides funding for planning dollars in the amount of \$1.75 million for a new engineering building at UNLV and provides a match fund of \$25 million to the UNLV School of Medicine building project. The Metro Chamber supported this bill for its economic development efforts in engineering and healthcare in Southern Nevada.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 33, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED





IMPROVING & PROTECTING THE BUSINESS CLIMATE

The Metro Chamber stands for ensuring that Nevada's business climate is one that supports job creation and economic growth. As our economy recovers and businesses begin to grow, any regulation must make common sense and be effective, efficient, and enforceable. The Metro Chamber opposed unnecessary or burdensome regulations that would be a barrier to growth, profitability, and jobs or have a disproportionate impact on business. Where regulation is appropriate, the Metro Chamber advocates for fair and balanced guidelines so the business community in general or specific industries are not unfairly or disproportionately targeted and can fairly compete.

ICON KEY

Chamber Top Priority	Chamber Supported	Chamber Opposed	Chamber Neutral	Southern Nevada Priority	Chamber Monitored	Small Business Bill
						

✗ ASSEMBLY BILL 3:

Makes Various Changes Relating to the Administration of Workers' Compensation Claims

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor (On Behalf of the Department of Business and Industry)

Assembly Bill 3 would have changed provisions relating to the notifications that must be sent to claimants about the insurer's intent to close a workers' compensation claim. The bill would have also changed the ability of nurses to be involved with a medical examination as part of the workers' compensation claim. The Metro Chamber opposed the bill because of the costs that would be associated with the proposed changes to the notification process and the disconnect and barrier that it would create between the patient and a healthcare provider.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 12:

Creates Provisions to License Independent Insurance Adjusters

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor (On Behalf of the Division of Insurance of the Department of Business and Industry)

AB 12 creates provisions to license independent insurance adjusters. This bill would update state law and standardize Nevada with the trend in other states for adjusting insurance claims and allow for the more efficient processing of those claims. It adds authorization to Nevada law and does not undo any of the licensing for current Third Party Administrators. The Metro Chamber testified in support of this bill, as it allows for more efficient processing of these claims and brings Nevada in line with other states.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 113:

Requires an Employer to Make Certain Accommodations for a Nursing Mother

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel (D - Henderson)

Assembly Bill 113 will require certain employers to provide a reasonable time and place for an employee who is a nursing mother to express breast milk. The bill would also exempt certain small employers with 50 or fewer employees from this requirement, based on an undue hardship. The Metro Chamber supported this bill after working with the bill sponsor to bring the language in line to mirror the federal provision.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 33, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

 **ASSEMBLY BILL 148:**
Increases the Penalty for Notaries Public and Document Preparation Services that Fraudulently Provide Legal Services or Advice
Sponsor: Assemblyman Edgar Flores (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 148 increases the criminal penalty to a category D felony for any notary public who, for a second time, represents himself or herself as a notary public if the person has not been appointed by the Secretary of State; submits an application for appointment as a notary public that contains a material misrepresentation or omission of fact; or if the person is a notary public, and uses the term "notario," "notario publico," or "licenciado" on any advertisement if the person is not also an attorney licensed in Nevada. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it will attempt to mitigate notaries' public fraudulently advertising themselves as attorneys.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 40, Nays: 0, Excused: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

 PASSED

 **ASSEMBLY BILL 149:**
Revises Provisions Relating to Non-Compete Provisions in Employment Contracts
Sponsor: Assemblyman Richard Carrillo (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 149 would have made revisions to how non-compete provisions are regulated in Nevada. As proposed, the bill would have codified that a non-competition covenant is void and unenforceable if the non-competition covenant prohibits an employee from competing with or becoming employed by a competitor of his or her employer for a period of more than three months after his or her termination. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of the potential impact that it would have on employers in regards to limitations that would place on the use of non-compete provisions.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill passed the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor but failed to be considered by the Assembly for a floor vote. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

 FAILED

 **ASSEMBLY BILL 175:**
Prescribes Certain Requirements for Health Benefits for the Purpose of Determining the Minimum Wage Paid to Employees in Private Employment in this State
Sponsor: Assemblyman William McCurdy II (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 175 would have established the minimum level of health benefits that an employer must make available to an employee and his or her dependents in order to determine if the employer is authorized to pay the lower minimum wage, currently \$7.25, as provided for in the Nevada Constitution. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of concerns about the list of requirements and how it compares to those product plans that are currently available to employers and employees, as well as the uncertainty occurring at the federal level and what healthcare networks may be available and what they may include.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 14, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

 FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 178:

Revises Provisions Concerning Employment Discrimination

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 178 would have increased the window to which an employee may have submitted to the Nevada Equal Rights Commission a complaint and bring an action in district court to two years. AB 178 would have authorized the Commission or a district court to award to a person aggrieved by an unlawful employment practice: (1) increased damages; (2) costs and attorney's fees; and (3) punitive damages. Additionally, AB 178 would have required employers to maintain records of wages for a five-year period, as opposed to the two-year period that is currently mandated. The bill would have also required an employer to maintain a record of the other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment of each employee for five years. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as this would have brought unnecessary regulatory burden on to employers, in addition to allowing punitive damages to be awarded.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



ASSEMBLY BILL 211:

Revises Provisions Governing Compensation and Wages

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 211 would have increased the maximum amount of administrative penalty that the Labor Commissioner may impose from \$5,000 to \$10,000 on employers who have violated state law relating to employee wages and compensation. The bill would require the State Labor Commissioner to post the names of businesses on the Internet that willfully violated these state laws relating to wage and compensation. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of the increase of the administrative penalty by the State Labor Commissioner and the posting of names of the businesses on the Internet.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



ASSEMBLY BILL 300:

Revises Provisions Governing Vocational Rehabilitation

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Lesley Cohen (D - Henderson)



Assembly Bill 300 would have doubled the time limits to apply for a plan for a program of vocational rehabilitation for an injured employee who does not have existing marketable skills. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as it would have greatly increased costs to employers throughout the Nevada.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



ASSEMBLY BILL 318:

Revises Provisions Relating to State Purchasing

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Jill Tolles (R - Reno)



Assembly Bill 318 would have required additional consideration from the State of Nevada when purchasing any materials, supplies, or equipment over \$50,000, including the connection between the bidder and

the State of Nevada. Elements that are authorized to be considered to measure the connection between a bidder and Nevada include: (1) the amount of state or local taxes paid to the State of Nevada or its political subdivisions by the bidder; (2) the number of offices maintained in this State by the bidder; (3) the number of persons employed by or contracted with the bidder in this State; and (4) the number of goods and commodities by the bidder that are produced, manufactured, or supplied in this State. AB 318 would have also required that, when determining whether a proposal is in the best interests of the State, this factor relating to connection to Nevada is required to be given a relative weight that is greater than the relative weight given to at least one other factor that is currently considered. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as keeping procurement opportunities within the state is longstanding priority for the organization.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

ASSEMBLY BILL 344:

Establishes Provisions Relating to the Use of Certain Plastic Bags

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 344 would have required a retailer to collect a fee of 10 cents per plastic bag from a customer who uses such a bag between July 1, 2017, and December 31, 2021, and required that the money received pursuant to this fee of 10 cents be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Plastic Bag Environmental Cleanup Fund. AB 344 would have imposed a ban, beginning on January 1, 2022, on the distribution by a retailer of plastic bags to a customer, as well as imposed a fine for any violation of the ban and required the money received as a result to be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the State General Fund. Additionally, AB 344 would have required the health authority to, at least once every year, inspect retail establishments for the purposes of enforcing the plastic bag ban. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of the impact on the cost it would have on retailers in Nevada.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

ASSEMBLY BILL 394:

Revises Provisions Governing the Use of Sick Leave by Employees in Certain Private Employment

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 394 would have required a private employer that provides sick leave benefits to allow an employee to use his or her accrued sick leave for an absence due to an illness, injury, medical appointment, or other authorized medical need of a member of the employee's immediate family. A violation would have resulted in a misdemeanor and authorizes the Labor Commissioner to impose, in addition to any other remedy or penalty, a penalty of up to \$5,000 for each violation. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as it would have reduced flexibility for employers and employees, increased record-keeping and costs on employers, and created penalties for employers.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 436:

Revises Provisions Governing Small Business Loans

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Danielle Monroe-Moreno (D - North Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 436 will require eligible local emerging small businesses to be provided information regarding public and private programs to provide financing to small businesses, as well as the criteria for obtaining said financing. Additionally, AB 436 would require the Secretary of State to include on the form for an application for the issuance or renewal of a state business registration an opportunity for the applicant to indicate whether the applicant's business is a minority-owned business or a woman-owned business. If the applicant indicates that the business is a minority-owned business or a woman-owned business, the Secretary of State would be required to provide information concerning how the person may become certified as a disadvantaged business enterprise for certain purposes related to contracting for transportation projects and qualifying for loans to disadvantaged business enterprises. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it would allow more opportunities for small businesses to obtain loans, as well as opportunities to contract with government entities.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 40, Nays: 0, Excused: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 458:

Revises Provisions Governing Industrial Insurance

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor

Assembly Bill 458 revises provisions to worker's compensation with regard to the use of physician or chiropractor services during the claim process for an employee. The bill also clarifies an employee's ability to use an independent medical examination as part of their claim. The insurer would be required to pay for the independent medical exam, which would be limited to one per year. Additionally, AB 458 increases the amount of medical benefits required to be paid for the claim from \$300 to \$800 and specifies the maximum amount of a lump sum that a person injured on or after July 1, 1995, and before January 1, 2016, on or after January 1, 2016, and before July 1, 2017, and on or after July 1, 2017, may elect to receive as his or her compensation. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill due to the potential increased costs to employers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 33, Nays: 6, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 462:

Revises Provisions Relating to Constructional Defects

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 462 would have repealed provisions that were passed during the 2015 legislative session. AB 462 would have removed a provision of existing law which requires a claimant to exhaust certain claims under the homeowner's warranty before commencing a cause of action for constructional defects and authorizes a claimant to recover reasonable attorney's fees as part of the claimant's damages in a cause of action for constructional defects. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as the reform made to construction defect laws in 2015 was a longstanding priority for the Metro Chamber.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Judiciary. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

✓ ASSEMBLY BILL 471: Creates the Nevada Office of Cyber Defense Coordination

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Judiciary (On Behalf of the Office of the Governor)

Assembly Bill 471 creates the Nevada Office of Cyber Defense Coordination, which would periodically review the information systems of state agencies, identify risks to the security of those systems, and develop strategies, standards, and guidelines for preparing for and mitigating risks to those systems. The Office must also coordinate performance audits and assessments of state agencies and coordinate statewide programs for awareness and training regarding risks to the security of information systems of state agencies. The Office would also establish partnerships with local governments, agencies of the Federal Government, the Nevada System of Higher Education, and private entities that have expertise in cybersecurity or information systems. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as cyber security is vital to maintaining critical infrastructure and safety.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 40, Nays: 0, Excused: 2
Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0
Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

✓ ASSEMBLY BILL 492: Revises Provisions Relating to Transferable Tax Credits to Attract Film and Other Productions to Nevada

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Assembly Bill 492 changes existing law that requires the Legislature, during each legislative session, to determine the amount of film tax credits allowed for each fiscal year of the upcoming biennium. AB 492 removes the provision requiring the Legislature to set the maximum dollar amount of transferable tax credits on a biennial basis and instead provides that beginning on July 1, 2017, the total amount of transferable tax credits the Office of Economic Development is allowed to approve for the production of films and certain other productions is \$10,000,000 per fiscal year. Finally, this bill specifically provides that any portion of the \$10,000,000 per fiscal year for which transferable tax credits have not previously been approved may be carried forward and made available for approval during the next or any future fiscal year. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it will create permanent jobs and continue to grow a new industry in Southern Nevada.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 33, Nays: 8, Excused: 1
Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0
Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

✓ ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 10: Expresses Opposition to the Development of a Repository for Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain in the State of Nevada

Sponsor: Assemblyman Chris Brooks (D - Las Vegas)



The Metro Chamber supported the resolution, which states the Nevada Legislature's opposition to the development of the Nuclear Waste Repository at Yucca Mountain. The storing of 77,000 tons of nuclear waste less than 90 miles from Las Vegas is a concern to the business community and residents, as it could pose a security threat and hurt the tourism-based economy of Southern Nevada. Any incident with the transportation or storage of nuclear waste could have a severe and lasting negative economic impact on Southern Nevada's economy and the safety of more than 2 million residents within 100 miles of the Yucca Mountain Site and 40 million annual visitors.

The Metro Chamber is opposed to the transportation and storage of any nuclear waste in Nevada because of the potential negative effect it could have on the safety and health of the residents of Southern Nevada. The risk of potential terrorist threats, environmental impacts, transportation challenges, and the safety of

storing nuclear waste material are too great of risk on our region's economy.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 32, Nays: 6, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 19, Nays: 2, Excused: 0

Final Action: Delivered to the Secretary of State.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 55:

Allows Regulatory Bodies to Invalidate an Occupational or Professional License, Certificate, Registration, or Permit that is Issued in Error

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy (On Behalf of the Attorney General)

Existing state law provides for the regulation of certain occupations, professions, and businesses by a state board, commission, or other entity, typically through the issuance of a license, certificate, registration, or permit to engage in the occupation, profession, or business. Senate Bill 55 would have authorized any such regulatory body that has issued an occupational or professional license, certificate, registration, or permit to invalidate the license, certificate, registration, or permit if the regulatory body discovers an error in the issuance of the license, certificate, registration, or permit which is related to the qualification or fitness of the person who holds the license, certificate, registration, or permit. The Metro Chamber supported SB 55, as it will create protections for occupations and professions that are regulated by state boards, as well as members of the public.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 81:

Converts State-Chartered Savings and Loan Associations to Savings Banks

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Commerce Labor and Energy (On Behalf of the Division of Financial Institutions of the Department of Business and Industry)

Senate Bill 81 provides for the conversion of state-chartered savings and loan associations to savings banks. The legislation modernizes and clarifies Nevada banking laws by providing for the creation, operation, and oversight of state-chartered savings banks. The Metro Chamber supported this bill because it will make financial institutions in Nevada competitive with out-of-state financial institutions, attract capital, create jobs, and expand access to credit and banking services for Nevada businesses.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 40, Nays: 0, Excused: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 106:

Requires Certain Increases in the Minimum Wage Paid to Employees in Private Employment in this State

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy



Senate Bill 106 would have increased the state's minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$11 an hour (if an employer offers health care) and \$8.25 to \$12 an hour (if an employer does not offer health care). The rates would increase by \$0.75 each year until it reaches the above thresholds. The Metro Chamber opposed the legislation as proposed because of a variety of concerns including the increased costs to employers, and the potential negative impact on job creation, as well as job losses.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED

 **SENATE BILL 118:**
Creates the Interim Nevada Task Force on Financial Security
Sponsor: Senator Aaron Ford (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 118 creates the Nevada Task Force on Financial Security. The Task Force will consist of seven voting members and conduct a comprehensive examination during the 2017-2018 legislative interim of the financial security of individuals and families in Nevada, including their opportunities to build assets and reduce debt. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as financial security for Southern Nevadans creates a stronger, thriving economy.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 39, Nays: 2, Excused: 1
Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0
Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

 **SENATE BILL 196:**
Requires an Employer in Private Employment to Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees Under Certain Circumstances
Sponsor: Senator Aaron Ford (D - Las Vegas)



Senate Bill 196 would have required private employers to provide employees paid sick leave that must be earned at a rate of not less than one hour per 30 hours worked. The accrued sick leave may be used by an employee beginning on the 90th calendar day of employment. Under the proposed bill language, the employer might have: (1) limited the use of the paid sick leave to 24 hours per year; (2) limited the accrual of paid sick leave to a maximum of 48 hours per year; and (3) set a minimum increment that an employee may use the accrued sick leave at any one time, not to exceed two hours. The bill would have provided an exception for employers who provide at least an equivalent amount of sick leave or paid time off that may be used for the same purposes and under the same conditions as required by the language in the bill. Lastly, SB 196 would have also provided the State Labor Commissioner the authority to enforce this policy and makes any violation a misdemeanor with a penalty of up to \$5,000 for each violation. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as it would greatly increase costs for employers, the burden and resources needed to comply with the reporting requirement, record keeping for possible inspection, the state mandating the implementation of these requirements, the level of the potential penalty, and the process for assessing the penalty by the State Labor Commission or the fact that a violation would be a misdemeanor.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 25, Nays: 15, Excused: 0
Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0
Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED

 **SENATE BILL 203:**
Revises Provisions Relating to Domestic Corporations
Sponsor: Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senate Bill 203 clarifies corporate law with respect to the duties and liability of directors and officers and clearly indicates that Nevada law should be applied to Nevada corporations. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it would provide additional clarity with regard to domestic corporations.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0
Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0
Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

 **SENATE BILL 253:**
Establishes the Nevada Pregnant Workers' Fairness Act to Provide Protections to Female Employees and Applicants for Employment who

are Affected by a Condition of the Employee or Applicant Relating to Pregnancy, Childbirth or a Related Medical Condition

Sponsor: Senator Nicole Cannizzaro (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 253 creates the Nevada Pregnant Workers' Fairness Act, which would provide protections to employees in Nevada like the protections of the federal Pregnancy Discrimination Act. The Act applies to employers with 15 or more employees, as well as state and local governments. The bill makes it an unlawful employment practice for employers to refuse to provide reasonable accommodations to employees and applicants for employment for any condition of the employee or applicant relating to pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, unless the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the business of the employer. The Metro Chamber removed its original opposition from the bill because amendments were accepted that reduce the impact and burden for employers that were identified in the original bill.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 34, Nays: 7, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

SENATE BILL 264:

Revises Various Provisions Relating to Business Entities

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senate Bill 264 would have revised provisions relating to certain records required to be kept by a private corporation, nonprofit corporation, and limited-liability company, respectively, and provided that if such records were not made available for inspection within this State after a demand by certain persons, such a person may serve a demand upon the registered agent of the private corporation, nonprofit corporation, or limited-liability company, as applicable, that the records be sent to the person or the agent or attorney thereof. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of the additional burdens that it would have created on businesses.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Judiciary. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

SENATE BILL 361:

Revises Provisions Related to Domestic Violence

Sponsor: Senator Nicole Cannizzaro (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 361 requires both public and private employers to provide employees with leave time because of domestic violence. The bill will provide employees up to 160 hours of leave of leave, the employer would have the discretion if these hours are paid or unpaid per twelve-month period. The bill provides clarity when the employee may use this leave and provided the employer notification of taking such leave. The bill will allow employees to utilize this type of leave within 90 days of employment. This legislation would work in conjunction with the federal government's Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. The bill will require employers to keep records for two years for inspection and review by the state's Labor Commissioner. The Metro Chamber in no way condones domestic violence and acknowledges that acts of domestic violence impact more than just the victim and the perpetrator, but can result in reverberations across the household, family, and community. The Metro Chamber did have concerns with the original revision of the bill but removed its opposition because of several amendments that were accepted which reduced the impact and burden on employers as it relates to this bill.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 38, Nays: 0, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

SENATE BILL 374: Prohibits Certain Entities from Taking Action Against Persons Who Engage in Certain Lawful Activities Relating to Marijuana



Sponsor: Senator Tick Segerblom (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 374 would have prohibited a professional licensing board from taking disciplinary action against a person licensed by the board on the basis that the person holds a validly issued registry identification card or engages in lawful activity, pursuant to the person's licensed profession, relating to the medical or recreational use of marijuana or to a registered medical or recreational marijuana establishment. Additionally, AB 374 would have prohibited an employer from taking adverse action against an employee or prospective employee who expresses an opinion relating to marijuana. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as this should be an issue addressed at the employer-employee level.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 26, Nays: 14, Excused: 1, Not Voting: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED

SENATE BILL 378: Revises Provisions Relating to Controlled Substances



Sponsor: Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senate Bill 378 would have provided that the amount of marijuana or marijuana metabolite in a person's system may only be measured through his or her blood, not urine. The Metro Chamber opposed the bill because of the restriction it would have placed on employers to testing related to employment situations, along with increased costs.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Judiciary. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

SENATE BILL 397: Revises Provisions Relating to Employment



Sponsor: Senator Pat Spearman (D - North Las Vegas)



Senate Bill 397 would have changed the law relating to provisions governing the filing of complaints by an employee that alleges a practice of unlawful discrimination in compensation by an employer. The bill would have provided greater authority to the Nevada Equal Rights Commission (NERC) to award back pay for a period beginning two years before the date of the filing of a complaint regarding an unlawful employment practice and ending on the date the Commission issues an order regarding the complaint; award costs and reasonable attorney's fees in cases involving an unlawful employment practice; order payment of compensatory damages or, if the employer acted with malice or reckless indifference, punitive damages in cases involving an unlawful employment practice relating to discrimination on the basis of sex. The Metro Chamber opposed the bill because of the concern with the increased authority given to the NERC, as well as the increased cost of possible litigation and burden placed on employers with the changes to the current complaint process.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 26, Nays: 14, Excused: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED

SENATE BILL 427: Revises Provisions Governing the Crew of Certain Freight Trains

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Transportation

Senate Bill 427 would have required that any Class I freight railroad, Class I railroad, or Class II railroad for transporting freight which operates a train or locomotive in Nevada contain a crew of not less than two persons. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of the state mandating staffing levels on private employers and the potential issues it may have with the Interstate Commerce Clause.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 11, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.



✗ SENATE BILL 431: **Revises Provisions Relating to Civil Actions**

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senate Bill 431 would have altered the ability of a defense lawyer to use the defense of comparative negligence. This change would have allowed the plaintiff's attorney the ability to seek "joint and several" liability in more cases. This change would have increased the cost of litigation, increased the cost of insurance, and promoted more litigation as trial attorneys seek out "deep pockets" rather than promote settlement of claims based on an individual's or company's apportioned liability. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of increased potential costs to employers.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Judiciary. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



✗ SENATE BILL 450: **Revises Provisions Relating to Constructional Defects**

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Judiciary



Senate Bill 450 would have repealed provisions that were passed during the 2015 legislative session removing a provision of existing law which requires a claimant to exhaust certain claims under the homeowner's warranty before commencing a cause of action for constructional defects. The bill would have also authorized a claimant to recover reasonable attorney's fees as part of the claimant's damages in a cause of action for constructional defects. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because it would have been a repeal of reform efforts from 2015 and increase costs for developers.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Judiciary. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



✓ SENATE BILL 463: **Revises Provisions Relating to Business License Fees**

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs



Senate Bill 463 would have provided that a local government may not impose or increase a fee for a business license that is calculated based on the size of the property on which the business is located, unless the local government made a finding at a public hearing that calculating the fee on this basis is necessary to provide local governmental services to the property and existing revenues are insufficient to provide such services. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as several local government entities are considering assessing business licensing fees based of square footage.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill passed the Senate Committee on Government Affairs but failed to be considered



by the Senate for a floor vote. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

SENATE BILL 495: Provides for Certain Causes of Action Against Employers

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs

Senate Bill 495 would have authorized employees who are affected by certain violations of existing law relating to wages and other benefits to bring lawsuits against employers to recover certain damages. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of the potential increase of costs for employers, as well as increased number of lawsuits against employers.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

 FAILED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 5: Urges Congress to Enact the Marketplace Fairness Act

Sponsor: Senator Joyce Woodhouse (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Joint Resolution 5 urges Congress to pass the Marketplace Fairness Act, as the increase in Internet commerce is eroding the state's tax base. This will help create a more even playing field between traditional brick and mortar businesses and Internet businesses. The Metro Chamber supported SJR 5 and is working with Nevada's Congressional delegation in support of this legislation at the federal level, as well.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 33, Nays: 7, Excused: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 1, Excused: 0

Final Action: Delivered to the Secretary of State.

 PASSED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6: Proposes to Amend the Nevada Constitution to Provide for Certain Increases in the Minimum Wage

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy



Senate Joint Resolution 6 proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to increase the minimum wage to \$9.40 per hour. Beginning on January 1, 2022, the minimum wage must be increased by \$1.15 each year until the minimum wage is \$14. This joint resolution also proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to remove provisions authorizing an employer and an employee to waive the minimum wage requirement in a collective bargaining agreement. Thus, under this joint resolution, a collective bargaining agreement entered into, extended, or renewed on or after the effective date of this amendment could not waive the requirement to pay the minimum wage set forth in this joint resolution. Finally, this joint resolution: (1) authorizes an action against an employer for violating the minimum wage requirement to be brought as a class action; (2) provides that an employee who prevails in an action for a violation of the minimum wage requirement is entitled to damages in an amount equal to three times the amount which the employee would have been paid if the employer had complied with the minimum wage requirement. The Metro Chamber opposed this resolution, as minimum wage should be driven by the market. The resolution will also allow for class action suits and treble damages against employers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Delivered to the Secretary of State. Delivered to the Secretary of State. This resolution must be passed a second time by the Legislature in 2019 before it can go to the vote of the people in November 2020, since it is a proposed change to the State's Constitution.



LAS VEGAS METRO CHAMBER LEGISLATIVE DAY AND RECEPTION IN CARSON CITY

APRIL 13, 2017



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Diversifying Nevada's economy by bringing new industries to our state and advocating for a business climate that is conducive to allowing business to grow has been a long-standing priority for the Metro Chamber. The Metro Chamber worked with stakeholders and partners to ensure legislation that would have been detrimental to attracting new businesses to the State and the expansion of existing businesses in Nevada, would not move forward. The Metro Chamber continues to work with a variety of state agencies, local government entities, and private sector partners, as well as our member businesses, to encourage economic development and create jobs.

ICON KEY

Chamber
Top Priority



Chamber
Supported



Chamber
Opposed



Chamber
Neutral



Southern
Nevada
Priority



Chamber
Monitored



Small
Business
Bill





ASSEMBLY BILL 79:

Revises Provisions Relating to Economic Development

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Government Affairs (On Behalf of the City of North Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 79 would return to the City of North Las Vegas the authority to be the purveyor of water for the Garnet Valley (Apex). The Metro Chamber supported this bill as it would keep all building, permitting, and billing processes within one entity, allowing these processes to be streamlined through the City of North Las Vegas.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 40, Nays: 1, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

ASSEMBLY BILL 94:

Repeals the Prospective Expiration of the NV Grow Program

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Dina Neal (D - North Las Vegas)



During the 2015 legislative session, the Governor's Office of Economic Development was directed to create a two-year pilot program designed to help grow companies currently conducting business in Nevada by emphasizing information technology as a strategy for economic development and growth. Assembly Bill 94 would extend and continue the program for the benefit of Nevada's small businesses. The Metro Chamber supported AB 94, as economic growth and the diversification of Nevada's economy are longstanding priorities for the Metro Chamber.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 39, Nays: 0, Excused: 3

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 106:

Revises Provisions Governing State Governmental Procurement

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel (D - Henderson)

Assembly Bill 106 requires Nevada's Administrator of the Purchasing Division of the Department of Administration to establish by regulation a pilot program (of three years) to certify vendors that do business with the State that pay their employees equal pay for equal work without regard to gender. The bill also gives a limited five percent bidder's preference to bidders who are certified vendors under the program. The Metro Chamber supported the bill, as it is a voluntarily self-certifying process for employers that wish to participate in the program, with no additional costs, fees, or burdens on employers, while providing incentives for participation in the program.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 30, Nays: 11, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 16, Nays: 5, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 143:

Creates a Legislative Committee on Tax Expenditures and Incentives for Economic Development

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 143 would have created the Legislative Committee on Tax Expenditures and Incentives for Economic Development. The purposes of the task force would have been to identify, review, and evaluate the economic development incentives offered by the State. The task force would have been allowed to provide comments and recommendations for changes to any of the economic development incentives offered by the State. The Metro Chamber supported AB 143 because it would have provided another layer

of transparency and understanding of how the State's incentives are performing and their effectiveness.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Taxation. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

✓ ASSEMBLY BILL 155: Creates the Task Force on the Economics of the Middle Class in Nevada

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel (D - Henderson)

Assembly Bill 155 would have created a statewide task force that would focus on the economics of the middle class in Nevada. The task force would have established objectives and quantifiable indicators on if a person can be classified in the middle class. It would have looked at a variety of issues such as workforce and job development, education, housing, and transportation. The Metro Chamber supported this bill because of the role that employers and employees have on the economics relating to the work of the task force.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

✗ ASSEMBLY BILL 206: Revises Provisions Relating to Renewable Energy and the Renewable Portfolio Standard

Sponsor: Assemblyman Chris Brooks (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 206 would have raised Nevada's minimum Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to 40 percent by 2030; currently the state's goal is 25 percent by 2025. Additionally, it would have required 704B customers, those who have paid an exit fee to leave the grid and purchase power on the open market, to comply with the standards if they left the grid after 2012. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as changing the RPS would have potential negative effects on businesses and ratepayers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 30, Nays: 12, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

✓ ASSEMBLY BILL 231: Revises Provisions Relating to Economic Development

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 231 will update the tools, mechanisms, and reporting processes for the Governor's Office of Economic Development. The Metro Chamber supported this bill as economic development and diversification is key to growing Nevada's economy.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

✓ ASSEMBLY BILL 280: Revises Provisions Relating to Preferences in Bidding for Certain Contracts for Businesses Based in this State

Sponsor: Assemblyman Frierson (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 280 creates a preference of five percent for a bid or proposal for a state purchasing contract that is submitted by a Nevada-based business. The business must certify that its principal place of business is in this State or a majority of the goods provided for in a state purchasing contract are produced in Nevada. Additionally, AB 280 prohibits the preference for the award of any contract which uses federal money, unless such a preference is authorized by federal law. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as keeping procurement opportunities within the state is longstanding priority for the organization.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 41, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



SENATE BILL 126: Establishes a Program to Provide Loans to Certain Small Businesses Owned by Minorities and Women

Sponsor: Senator Aaron Ford (D - Las Vegas)



Senate Bill 126 creates a two-year pilot program to provide loans to Nevada's small, minority, and woman-owned businesses in the state through the Governor's Office of Economic Development. The loan program will be allocated a total of \$1 million from the State. The Metro Chamber supported this bill because of the positive impact it would likely have on economic development, and job and business growth by small, minority, and woman-owned businesses in Nevada.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 36, Nays: 3, Excused: 3

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 1, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



SENATE BILL 441: Revises Provisions Relating to Workforce Development

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development

Senate Bill 441 would have authorized a regional development authority (RDA) to apply to the Office of Economic Development for a grant to support programs to develop the workforce in the region served. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as workforce development programs are vital to economic growth.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



SENATE BILL 516: Revises Provisions Governing Workforce Innovation and Apprenticeships

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy (On Behalf of the Office of Finance in the Office of the Governor)

Senate Bill 516 will transfer the administration of the apprenticeship program of the State of Nevada from the Labor Commissioner to the Office of Workforce Innovation, in addition to placing the State Apprenticeship Council within the Office of Workforce Innovation. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it would allow for additional workforce development functions, including apprenticeships, to be housed within the Office of Workforce Innovation.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 40, Nays: 1, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.





STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE REFORM & TRANSPARENCY

Greater transparency and government reform brings oversight and accountability, as well as easier comprehension, to processes at every level of government. As a strong advocate of efficient and accountable government, the Metro Chamber supports efforts to increase fiscal responsibility at every level of government, which is important to our economic health.

The Metro Chamber spent countless hours fighting to hold the line on reforms made during the 2015 legislative session and ensure that those reforms were maintained on behalf of its members. These include changes to collective bargaining agreements and prevailing wage, while also advocating for changes to the way Nevada secures federal grant dollars.

ICON KEY

Chamber
Top Priority



Chamber
Supported



Chamber
Opposed



Chamber
Neutral



Southern
Nevada
Priority



Chamber
Monitored



Small
Business
Bill





ASSEMBLY BILL 81:

Revises Provisions Governing the Acceptance of Gifts and Grants by State Agencies



Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Government Affairs (On Behalf of the Department of Administration)



Assembly Bill 81 would have streamlined the process for review and approval or denial of acceptance of a gift or grant by a state agency and allows a state agency to request "provisional approval" from the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) once a grant application has been submitted. Additionally, the bill would have allowed a state agency to carry forward the work program and unexpended balance of a grant previously authorized by the IFC and increases the limit for a state agency to accept a gift or grant that is approved by the Governor and not being used in hiring employee(s). The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it will potentially streamline the grant approval process. Assembly Bill 81 was also a Southern Nevada Forum priority bill.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



ASSEMBLY BILL 98:

Revises Provisions Governing the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management of the Department of Administration



Sponsor: Assemblyman Paul Anderson (R - Las Vegas) and Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 98 modifies the enabling language for the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination, and Management (Nevada Grants Office), to provide flexibility for the Office to employ the number of positions deemed necessary, and within the limits of money appropriated or authorized through the budget process, and removes the requirement for the Office to prioritize grants for any certain department. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as Nevada currently ranks last in terms of returning dollars to the State from Washington D.C., excluding Medicaid dollars. AB 98 will help facilitate the process for enabling more dollars to return to Nevada. AB 98 was also a priority for the Southern Nevada Forum.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 38, Nays: 0, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



ASSEMBLY BILL 121:

Makes Various Changes Relating to Collective Bargaining Between Local Government Employers and Employee Organizations



Sponsor: Assemblyman Steve Yeager (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 121 would have required a local government employer to continue to pay compensation and monetary benefits as provided in the last collectively bargained agreement to an employee organization, including any agreed-upon promotional, step, or merit increases in compensation or monetary benefits, until a successor agreement becomes effective or the employee organization ceases to be the recognized bargaining agent for the employees involved. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of the impact it would have on taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.





ASSEMBLY BILL 154:

Revises Provisions Relating to Prevailing Wages

Sponsor: Assemblyman Chris Brooks (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 154 would have decreased the minimum threshold for prevailing wage projects from \$250,000 to \$100,000. School districts and the Nevada System of Higher Education are required under existing law to pay on their public works (and certain other construction projects) 90 percent of the prevailing wage rates that are otherwise required to be paid by other public bodies. AB 154 would have eliminated this exception and therefore would require school districts and the Nevada System of Higher Education to pay the same prevailing wage rates on their public works and other construction projects as other public bodies are required to pay. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as the threshold change from \$100,000 to \$250,000 was supported by the Metro Chamber during the 2015 legislative session. Additionally, the Metro Chamber supported a bond rollover during the 2015 session for the Clark County School District that would allow more schools to be built in Southern Nevada at the 90 percent prevailing wage rate.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 25, Nays: 15, Excused: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 267:

Revises Provisions Governing Industrial Insurance

Sponsor: Assemblyman Nelson Araujo (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 267 will provide that if an employer, insurer, or third-party administrator denies a claim for compensation for the occupational diseases of lung disease and heart disease for certain firefighters, arson investigators, and police officers and the claimant ultimately prevails, the employer, insurer, or third-party administrator must pay all the claimant's attorney's fees and associated costs. The Metro Chamber opposed the bill because of proposed changes to current law and the associated costs those changes would have on taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 16, Nays: 5, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 271:

Revises Provisions Governing Collective Bargaining by Local Government

Employees

Sponsor: Assemblyman Richard Carrillo (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 271 would have impacted employee leave as currently bargained under collective bargaining agreements for public employee unions. Additionally, AB 271 would have prospectively brought collective bargaining agreements directly to binding fact finding. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill as it would have increased costs to taxpayer.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 26, Nays: 12, Excused: 4

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 277:

Revises Provisions Governing Land Use Planning

Sponsor: Assemblyman Steve Yeager (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 277 would have generally restricted the authority of any local government in this State to

enact certain changes relating to planning, subdividing, and zoning of certain lands located within any national conservation area or national recreation area within five miles. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as it would have hindered economic development in many areas in Southern Nevada.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 30, Nays: 12, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 14, Nays: 7, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 298:

Revises Provisions Relating to Water

Sponsor: *Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining*

Assembly Bill 298 would have clarified Nevada water law regarding 3M (Monitoring, Management and Mitigation) plans and their scope throughout the state. This issue was brought forward during the Southern Nevada Forum as a priority for the 2017 Legislative Session. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as clarification would be beneficial to Southern Nevada, Northern Nevada, and rural Nevada in regards to water law.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 26, Nays: 16, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 350:

Revises Provisions Governing Relations Between Local Government Employers and Employees

Sponsor: *Assemblyman Ozzie Fumo (D - Las Vegas)*

Assembly Bill 350 would have required a state agency to provide an in-person orientation to a state government employee at the employee's work location and during the employee's regular work hours within 30 days after the employee's date of hire and require a state government employer to allow an employee organization which has at least 100 members to give a presentation of at least 30 minutes during the orientation. Additionally, AB 350 would have required a state agency to allow an employee organization which has at least 100 members to meet with a local government employee outside of regular work hours or during breaks in designated areas on the premises of the state agency employer. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as there would be an increased cost to taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 373:

Revises Provisions Relating to Certain Boards and Commissions of the Executive Department of the State Government

Sponsor: *Assemblywoman Heidi Swank (D - Las Vegas)*

Assembly Bill 373 would have reapportioned the makeup of the Commission on Tourism, State Public Works Board, Nevada Tax Commission, State Board of Education, Board of Directors of the Department of Transportation, and the Board of Wildlife to better represent the population of the state. The Metro Chamber supported this bill as it was a Southern Nevada Forum priority.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



ASSEMBLY BILL 403:

Revises Various Provisions Relating to Governmental Administration

Sponsor: Assemblyman Skip Daly (D - Sparks)



Assembly Bill 403 will expand legislative oversight over executive branch functions by allowing an interim legislative committee to nullify regulations after their adoption without notice and provides a four month time frame to give any rationale. The Metro Chamber opposed the bill, as it could significantly disrupt heavily regulated industries such as insurance, banking, and construction by adding instability into the regulatory process.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 33, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor

PASSED



ASSEMBLY BILL 406:

Revises Provisions Relating to Certain Construction

Sponsor: Assemblyman Skip Daly (D - Sparks)



Assembly Bill 406 would have rolled back various changes made to prevailing wage law from the 2015 legislative session, namely, lowering the prevailing wage threshold on public projects from \$250,000 to \$25,000 and requiring K-12 education agencies and the Nevada System of Higher Education to require full payment of prevailing wage rates, as opposed to the current requirement of 90 percent. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as taxpayer dollars are saved under the current threshold and requirements.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 24:

Authorizes Cities to Enact Ordinances Requiring the Registration of Vacant Properties

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs

Senate Bill 24 would have authorized the governing body of a city to enact an ordinance requiring the owner of a vacant property located within the city to register the property with the governing body or its designee. SB 24 would have authorized the governing body of a city, in any such ordinance, to: (1) provide for the imposition of a fee for the registration of a vacant property; (2) required annual renewal of the registration; (3) required the owner of a vacant property to provide contact information of a local contact person designated by the owner; (4) provided for the imposition of civil penalties for failure to comply with the provisions of the ordinance; (5) provided for the reduction or waiver of any fee or civil penalty imposed pursuant to the ordinance; (6) required, with limited exception, that any fee or civil penalty imposed pursuant to the ordinance be paid before the issuance of any building permit, business license, or any other permit or license required for activity on or in the vacant property. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill as property owners already pay property tax fees to local Assessor's Offices.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 67:

Revises Provisions Relating to Fire Safety Requirements for Multi-Story Buildings Occupied by People

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs (On Behalf of the City of Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 67 would have made changes to fire code for mid-rise buildings to allow the code of the county to be at least as stringent as the most recently published edition of the International Fire Code and the International Building Code published by the International Code Council. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it would have allowed for new mid-rise economic development opportunities in Southern Nevada.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



SENATE BILL 72:

Revises Provisions Governing the Merit Award Program

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections (On Behalf of the Department of Administration)

Senate Bill 72 revises the criteria for eligibility regarding the state's Merit Award Program, which is designed to incentivize state employees to propose suggestions or ideas that would reduce or eliminate state expenditures or improve the operation of the state. The Metro Chamber supported the bill, since the program would help improve efficiencies within the state, which benefits Nevada's taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor



SENATE BILL 78:

Revises Provisions Relating to Local Government Financial Administration

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs (On Behalf of the City of North Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 78 authorizes a local government to make transfers from an enterprise fund on and after July 1, 2021, if: (1) on or before July 1, 2018, the Committee on Local Government Finance has approved a plan adopted by the governing body of the local government to eliminate such transfers, which includes, without limitation, a plan to reduce the amount of such transfers by at least 3.3 percent each fiscal year during the term of the plan; and (2) the local government reduces the amount of the transfers in accordance with the plan. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as this will give the City of North Las Vegas another pathway to comply with the mandated elimination of enterprise fund transfers and protect regional municipal bond ratings.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



SENATE BILL 119:

Provides Immunity from Civil Liability to Certain Volunteers Who Serve on an Organizational Team Established by the Principal of a Public School as Part of the Reorganization of the School District

Sponsor: Senator Aaron Ford (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 119 would have provided immunity from civil liability to a volunteer member of a school

organizational team established by the principal of a public school as part of the reorganization of a school district for any damages caused by certain acts or omissions of the volunteer member of the school organizational team, another volunteer member, or the school organizational team itself. The Metro Chamber supported this bill because many of volunteers come from the Southern Nevada business community and offer their services, expertise, and resources to help move K-12 education forward.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Education. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 160: **Revises Provisions Relating to Administrative Regulations**

Sponsor: Senator Heidi Gansert (R - Reno)

Senate Bill 160 requires an agency to provide at least three working days' notice of its intended action before holding a second or subsequent hearing on a regulation. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as it would require state agencies to notice the public of intended actions and allow for more transparency and uniformity.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 246: **Revises Provisions Relating to Public Works**

Sponsor: Senator Mark Manendo (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 246 continues to allow public bodies to construct public works under certain circumstances through a method by which a construction manager at risk (CMAR) and provide preconstruction services on the public work and, in some cases, construction services on the public work within a guaranteed maximum price, a fixed price, or a fixed price plus reimbursement for certain costs, through June 30, 2021. Additionally, SB 246 makes various technical changes to the CMAR process, including declaring that this method of construction is not intended to be used by the State or a political subdivision to limit competition, discourage competitive bidding, or engage in or allow bid-shopping. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as the CMAR process provides an additional construction option for public works.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 16, Nays: 26, Excused: 0

Assembly Vote Reconsidered: Yeas: 35, Nays: 5, Excused: 0, Absent: 2

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 356: **Revises Provisions Relating to Collective Bargaining**

Sponsor: Senator Kelvin Atkinson (D - Las Vegas)



Senate Bill 356 would have made various changes to public sector collective bargaining, including authorizing collective bargaining agreements entered into between local government employers and employee organizations to remain in effect beyond the term of office of any member or officer of the local government employer. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as it would remove and repeal provisions to reforms made to public collective bargaining during the 2015 Legislative Session.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 25, Nays: 14, Excused: 3

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED

✗ SENATE BILL 357:

Revises Provisions Governing Apprentices

Sponsor: Senator Kelvin Atkinson (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 357 would have prohibited a public body from awarding a contract for a public work for which the estimated cost exceeds \$1 million to a contractor unless the contractor complied with certain requirements relating to the use of apprentices on public works performed by the contractor, or paid a monetary penalty imposed by the Labor Commissioner. Additionally, SB 357 would have prohibited a contractor awarded a contract for a public work for which the estimated cost exceeds \$1 million from awarding a subcontract for more than five percent of the value of that public work to a subcontractor unless the subcontractor satisfied the same requirement for the use of apprentices on public works or paid a monetary penalty imposed by the Labor Commissioner. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as mandating apprenticeships on public works projects increases costs to taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 14, Excused: 1
Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0
Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor

FAILED

✗ SENATE BILL 395:

Makes Various Changes Relating to the Cyber Security of Critical Infrastructure

Sponsor: Senator Patricia Spearman (D - North Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 395 would have given the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security the ability to designate as critical infrastructure an entity, asset, or system that is so vital that the incapacity or destruction thereof would have a debilitating impact on the economy or security of this State or the public health and safety of the citizens of this State. Additionally, SB 395 would have required each owner or operator of critical infrastructure to ensure that a cyber security plan for the critical infrastructure had been developed and implemented and set forth certain annual reporting requirements for an owner or operator of critical infrastructure. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as the requirement for public disclosure and review, as well as lack of multi-agency and stakeholder coordination, drew concerns from those entities classified as critical infrastructure.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.
Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.
Final Action: The bill passed the Senate Committee on Government Affairs but failed to be considered by the Senate for a floor vote. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

✓ SENATE BILL 448:

Revises Provisions Relating to Public Works

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Transportation



Senate Bill 448 expands the scope of public private partnerships (P3) in Nevada. The P3 is a contractual arrangement between a public agency (federal, state, or local) and a private sector entity. Through this agreement, the skills and assets of each sector (public and private) are shared in delivering a service or facility for the use of the general public. In addition to the sharing of resources, each party shares in the potential risks and rewards in the delivery of the service and/or facility. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as broad discussions surrounding P3s arose during the Southern Nevada Forum as a priority.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 34, Nays: 7, Excused: 1
Assembly Vote Reconsidered: Yeas: 35, Nays: 4, Excused: 3
Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0
Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED



SENATE BILL 464:

Authorizes the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority to Require Bidders, Contractors, or Subcontractors to Enter into Agreements with Labor Organizations Concerning Employees Who Perform Work on the Renovation or Expansion of the Las Vegas Convention Center

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs

Senate Bill 464 would have originally granted an exemption for a public work requiring or prohibiting a bidder or contractor from entering or adhering to any agreement with one or more labor organizations regarding a public work that is a part of critical infrastructure for a convention hall. The Metro Chamber was opposed to the bill in its original format but removed its opposition because the bill was heavily amended to only pertain to the expansion project of the Las Vegas Convention Center that was approved in the 2016 Special Legislative Session. The amended bill does not change or alter state law relating to Project Law Agreements (PLAs), which has been a long-standing concern of the Metro Chamber.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 11, Nays: 10, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 465:

Authorizes the Submission of Certain Grievances of State Employees to an Arbitrator

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs

Senate Bill 465 would have required the Personnel Commission of the Division of Human Resource Management of the Department of Administration to adopt regulations providing procedures for state employees who remain dissatisfied with the resolution of a dispute and would allow state employee submit the dispute for a final decision to an arbitrator selected by the employee. Furthermore, if the employee submitted the grievance to an arbitrator, the employee and the agency would have been required to each pay one-half of the costs of the arbitration and a decision of the arbitrator is binding. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as there is currently a process in place for state employees to file grievances.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Finance. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



SENATE BILL 469:

Revises Provisions Relating to Collective Bargaining Between a Local Government Employer and a Recognized Employee Organization

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs



Senate Bill 469 would have changed the budgeted ending fund balance for all local government entities, other than school districts, from not less than 25 percent to not less than 16.67 percent, for the purposes of collective bargaining. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as a 25 percent ending fund balance allows for fiscal stability for local governments and taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 26, Nays: 13, Excused: 3

Senate Vote: Yeas: 12, Nays: 9, Excused: 0

Final Action: Vetoed by the Governor.

FAILED

✗ SENATE BILL 486:

Provides for Collective Bargaining by State Employees

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Government Affairs

Senate Bill 486 would have authorized collective bargaining for state employees, along with all bargaining rights associated with collectively bargained contracts. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as it would adversely affect and increased costs to Nevada's taxpayers.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

✗ SENATE BILL 493:

Revises Provisions Concerning the Participation of Certain School Administrators in Collective Bargaining

Sponsor: Senator David Parks (D - Las Vegas)

Currently, existing law excludes from membership in a bargaining unit any school administrator whose annual salary is greater than \$120,000. Senate Bill 493 eliminates the use of salary to determine which administrators are to be excluded from membership in a bargaining unit. This bill instead excludes from such membership any school district administrator above the rank of principal, regardless of salary. This bill would allow any administrator employed at the school level, regardless of salary, to participate in collective bargaining as a member of a bargaining unit. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as it would repeal provisions from the 2015 legislative session.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 39, Nays: 0, Excused: 3

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor

PASSED

✗ SENATE BILL 547:

Requires Certain Large School Districts to Establish, Through Negotiations with an Employee Organization, a Salary Incentive Program for Professional Growth

Sponsor: Senator Aaron Ford (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 547 would have required the Clark County School to include salary incentive programs for teachers as part of the mandated collective bargaining provisions for their contracts. This requirement would have only applied to the Clark County School and no other school district in the state. The Metro Chamber opposed the bill for several reasons, including reducing Clark County School District's ability to negotiate contracts and because it could cause additional financial constraints on its budgets. Also, the Professional Growth Programs were only implemented in 2016-2017 and it is too soon to determine the effectiveness and ROI.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 1, Excused: 0

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED



INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT

The Metro Chamber has a legacy of supporting the construction of multi-modal and inter-modal transportation systems that promotes regional connectivity, increases productivity, and reduces congestion. A strong and reliable federal transportation system means economic stability, job creation, and business growth for Southern Nevada.

With this in mind, the Metro Chamber advocated for the funding of critical infrastructure investments in Southern Nevada, including the creation of a state infrastructure bank, and the ability for the public and private sectors to come together and engage in public/private partnerships, as well as legislation that will make new modes of transportation available in Southern Nevada.

ICON KEY

Chamber Top Priority	Chamber Supported	Chamber Opposed	Chamber Neutral	Southern Nevada Priority	Chamber Monitored	Small Business Bill
						



ASSEMBLY BILL 69:

Authorizes the Use of an Autonomous Vehicle to Transport Persons or Property in Certain Circumstances

Sponsor: Assembly Committee on Transportation (On Behalf of the Office of Economic Development in the Office of the Governor)

Assembly Bill 69 will update Nevada's law pertaining to autonomous vehicles, while also providing greater clarity for the industry from the testing stage to operation. The bill does not change insurance requirements, which is a minimum requirement of \$5 million. The bill also does not change liability law, except for providing protection liability for unauthorized third party modifications. The Metro Chamber supported this bill because the adoption of this transportation policy would provide for greater passenger safety, potentially reducing road congestion, and increasing productivity.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 36, Nays: 6, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



ASSEMBLY BILL 399:

Establishes the Nevada State Infrastructure Bank

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams (D - Las Vegas)



Assembly Bill 399 creates the Nevada Transportation Infrastructure Bank in the Nevada Department of Transportation, with the purpose of providing loans and other financial assistance to various government agencies and public-private partnerships for the development, construction, improvement, operation, and ownership of transportation facilities. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as transportation and infrastructure is key to economic development in our region. The idea of a transportation infrastructure bank arose from the Southern Nevada Forum.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 35, Nays: 4, Excused: 3

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 0, Excused: 1

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 4:

Conducts an Independent Scientific and Economic Analysis of the Current Management Practices of the Colorado River

Sponsor: Assemblywoman Heidi Swank (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Joint Resolution 4 would have requested the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences conduct an independent scientific and economic analysis of the current management practices of the Colorado River; the impact of these practices on water security, flood protection, and biodiversity recovery; and alternative management options, including draining Lake Powell and decommissioning and destroying the Glen Canyon Dam. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as the removal of Glen Canyon Dam would negatively impact the "Law of the River," which are a series of compacts, federal laws, court decisions, and decrees, contracts, and regulatory guidelines regarding Colorado River allocation.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 30, Nays: 12, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.





SENATE BILL 149:

Revises Provisions Governing Regional Transportation Commissions

Sponsor: Senator Mark Manendo (D - Las Vegas) and Senator Scott Hammond (R - Las Vegas)



Senate Bill 149 enables the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) to broaden the scope of transportation projects that could be undertaken by the RTC, such as the ability to construct and operate high capacity transit systems; fund, research and develop projects relating to autonomous vehicles; and add additional tools to implement innovative technologies. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as transportation infrastructure innovation and investment are a longstanding priority. AB 149 was also a Southern Nevada Forum priority bill.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 37, Nays: 4, Excused: 1

Senate Vote: Yeas: 20, Nays: 1, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.



SENATE BILL 207:

Creates the Legislative Committee on Transportation

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Transportation

Senate Bill 207 would have established a Legislative Transportation Interim Committee that would study transportation issues when the Legislature is not in session. The committee would have reviewed, evaluated, and commented upon matters related to transportation policy in Nevada, such as the condition of transportation infrastructure and the need for sustainable revenue sources to maintain and improve transportation infrastructure in the state. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as transportation infrastructure issues affect businesses throughout the State.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Transportation. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.



SENATE BILL 517:

Establishes the Nevada Transportation Infrastructure Bank

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Transportation



Senate Bill 517 would have created the Nevada Transportation Infrastructure Bank in the Nevada Department of Transportation with the purpose of providing loans and other financial assistance to various government agencies and public-private partnerships for the development, construction, improvement, operation, and ownership of transportation facilities. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as transportation and infrastructure is key to economic development in our region. The idea of a transportation infrastructure bank came out of the Southern Nevada Forum.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Transportation. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.





NEVADA

STATE ASSEMBLY

NEVADA STATE ASSEMBLY
1905

Internal Revenue

\$ 1016

Internal Revenue

\$ 880

Internal Revenue

\$ 706

Internal Revenue

\$ 540

Internal Revenue

\$ 463

Internal Revenue

\$ 413

Internal Revenue

\$ 380

TAXES

The Metro Chamber's tax policy decisions are based on fair and equitable tax policy that is based on the principles of neutrality, stability, transparency, and simplicity. These are necessary components of any good tax proposal. To facilitate attracting new businesses to the state in an increasingly competitive environment, as well as retain and grow existing businesses and industries, the tax structure must be stable and fair.

In addition, the Metro Chamber also successfully opposed tax proposals that would be harmful to employers and employees and derail job creation efforts and economic recovery.

ICON KEY

Chamber
Top Priority



Chamber
Supported



Chamber
Opposed



Chamber
Neutral



Southern
Nevada
Priority



Chamber
Monitored



Small
Business
Bill



ASSEMBLY BILL 120:

Revises Provisions Relating to School Construction

Sponsor: Assemblyman Skip Daly (D - Sparks)



Assembly Bill 120 would have imposed a residential construction tax of \$1,600 per unit for certain new construction or development, of which the proceeds would be required to be used to construct, remodel, and make additions to school buildings. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as an industry-specific tax is not the solution to school construction and renovation, especially when local communities have supported other broad-based initiatives to help fund school construction in Southern and Nevada Northern in recent years.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 24, Nays: 18, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.





ASSEMBLY BILL 439:

Revises Provisions Governing Taxation of the Sale, Storage, Use or Other Consumption of Certain Property by a Licensed Veterinarian

Sponsor: Assemblyman Nelson Araujo (D - Las Vegas)

Assembly Bill 439 requires the Department of Taxation, in administering the provisions of the Sales and Use Tax Act and the Local School Support Tax Law, to consider a licensed veterinarian to be a consumer and not a retailer of the tangible personal property used, furnished, or dispensed by him or her in providing medical care or treatment to animals as part of the performance of his or her professional services in the practice of veterinary medicine. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as would clarify how the Nevada Department of Taxation views licensed veterinaries and how they are taxed by the goods as part of the services that they provide to their customers.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 42, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.





SENATE BILL 316:

Authorizing an Additional Tax on the Gross Receipts from the Rental of Transient Lodging in Certain Counties

Sponsor: Senator Tick Segerblom (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 316 would have authorized the board of county commissioners of a county whose population is 700,000 or more (currently Clark County) to impose an additional tax on the gross receipts from the rental of transient lodging throughout the county in the amount of two percent for deposit into the county school district's fund for capital projects. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill because of policy concerns of the utilization of such a tax to fund school construction.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.





SENATE BILL 414:

Revises Provisions Governing the Taxation of Certain Property Owned by Nonresidents

Sponsor: Senator Scott Hammond (R - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 414 clarifies current language to ensure that personal property would be exempt from taxation for the purposes of display, exhibition, or convention purposes. The Metro Chamber supported this bill, as conventions are a major driver of the state's economy and must continue to grow in Southern Nevada in an increasingly competitive industry at the national level.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 39, Nays: 0, Excused: 3

Senate Vote: Yeas: 21, Nays: 0, Excused: 0

Final Action: Signed into law by the Governor.

PASSED

SENATE BILL 421: **Revising Provisions Governing Certain Taxes on the Gross Receipts from the Rental of Transient Lodging in Clark County**

Sponsor: Senator Tick Segerblom (D - Las Vegas)

Senate Bill 421 would have provided that if certain conditions for a National Football League stadium project are not satisfied and the President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas does not elect to pursue a college football stadium project, the tax imposed for the National Football League stadium project is amended so that the proceeds of the tax are deposited in the fund for capital projects of the Clark County School District. The Metro Chamber opposed this bill, as the project is moving forward with the relocation of the Raiders to Las Vegas.

Assembly Vote: No vote taken by the Assembly.

Senate Vote: No vote taken by the Senate.

Final Action: The bill failed because there was no vote taken by the Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development. As a result, the bill received no further consideration during the legislative session.

FAILED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 14: **Proposes to Amend the Nevada Constitution to Revise Certain Provisions Relating to Property Taxes**

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development

Senate Joint Resolution 14 would reset the depreciation computation when the sale of a property in the State of Nevada occurs. Specifically, the proposed changes would provide that for the first fiscal year after real property is sold or transferred, the real property would be ineligible for any adjustment to the value of improvements on the real property, which is based on the age of the improvement and certain partial abatements.

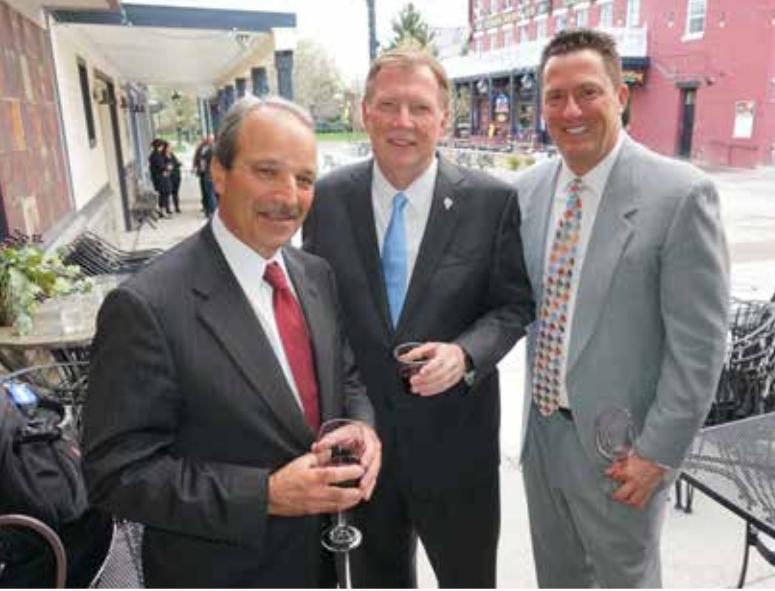
It would also amend the Nevada Constitution to require the Legislature to enact by law a Senior and Disabled Taxpayers Protection Act to provide property tax assistance to senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

Assembly Vote: Yeas: 27, Nays: 15, Excused 0

Senate Vote: Yeas: 13, Nays: 8, Excused: 0

Final Action: Delivered to the Secretary of State. This resolution must be passed a second time by the Legislature in 2019 before it can go to a vote of the people in November 2020, since it is a proposed change to the State's Constitution.







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