



KLGA Capitol Corner

© 2015 Kolesar & Leatham GA.

Mayweather/Pacquiao a harbinger of things to come in Carson?

May 1, 2015

It's called the Fight of the Century in Las Vegas this weekend, Floyd 'Money' Mayweather Jr. versus Manny Pacquiao for their world welterweight unification bout. It's been hugely hyped. But as we go to press the outcome isn't yet known. Will it be a knock-down, drag-out slug fest, or a yawner, or something in between? As we turn the corner on the final month of the 78th Nevada State Legislature in Carson City, the same can be said of the Republicans and Democrats as they grapple with the state's budget for the next biennium. How will that battle turn out? What kind of spectacle are we in for as the calendar marches to June 1? Time, temperament and tenacity will tell.

Fun Facts

- To drive from Los Angeles, California to Reno, Nevada the direction traveled is to the west.
- Nevada has more mountain ranges than any other state, with its highest point at the 13,145 foot top of Boundary Peak near the west-central border
- Austin's oldest church, St. Augustine, requires the establishment's bells in the tower to be rung by pulling a rope located in the men's restroom.
- The only Nevada lake with an outlet to the sea is man made Lake Mead.

April 21st recently marked the latest deadline – non-exempt bills out of the house of origin. And while compared to the April 10th deadline, where many bills succumbed to Joint Standing Rules (no further actions allowed), the death toll for bills failing to pass out of the house of origin were few. Only 11 Assembly bills and four Senate bills died pursuant to Rule 14.3.2. That is not to say that deadline day and the days leading up to it were not without fanfare and drama in the Legislative hallways, offices and committee rooms.

After spending the better part of the preceding week juggled on the General File in the Senate, **SB 252**, the Governor's tax bill, was ceremoniously passed on April 20th by a vote of 17-4. After weeks of negotiations between the two Senate leaders –Majority Leader Michael Roberson (R- Henderson) and Minority Leader Aaron Ford (D- Las Vegas) - both caucuses delivered. As expected, three rural Republicans voted "nay." Goicoechea, Settlemeyer, Gustavson along with Las Vegas Senator Scott Hammond—up for reelection in 2016. It is rumored in exchange for producing the votes for SB 252, the Democrats will see limited relief on tort reform, collective bargaining and no campus carry gun bill. But in reality, no one but the players knows the true deal that was cut. Regardless, as one insider said, "Roberson wins because he really didn't have to give anything he cared about and Ford wins because he brought his entire caucus along." The confetti fell within the hour for the Sandoval/Roberson/Ford victory lap.

KOLESAR & LEATHAM
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, LLC

However, another political wag likened the celebration of SB 252's passage as "more of wake" as it now heads to the Assembly, for what many consider its demise. And while conventional wisdom says the bill is DOA in the Assembly, it is more likely some form of hybrid deal will emerge from the Assembly black hole, with key components rolled into a revised Assembly tax bill, [AB 464](#). As of today, SB 252 hasn't been scheduled for a hearing on the Assembly side and AB 464 is currently sitting in Ways and Means awaiting its resurrection. Whether and what consensus will be found on the final tax plan will remain to be seen over the next month, but the chance of inexperienced and likely one-term legislators wanting to hold onto power for a couple more weeks could drive the Legislature into a special session.



CLICK PICTURE TO VIEW VIDEO



Retweets

[@RindelsAP](#) "I feel like I should scream at the top of my lungs just over the process." - Assm. Marilyn Kirkpatrick on Uber bill

[@seanw801](#) Assemblywoman Robin Titus, a doctor, says she could probably commit most members of the Assembly right now. In jest re AB91. [#lvrij](#) [#nvleg](#)

[@RalstonReports](#) Gov signs executive order abolishing Assembly. Bill becomes law.

[@hdubtre](#) Yeah, privacy for kids! Except for abortions! [#AssGOPLogic](#) [#nvleg](#)

[@RalstonReports](#) Level of ineptitude by clown car (a k a Friends of Fiore) trying to recall Speaker [@hambrick4assemb](#): They turned in 270 sigs. Needed 4,100.

[@HistoryNevada](#) 1st episode of TV crime drama "Vega\$" w/ Robert Ulrich was broadcast on Apr 25, 1978. <http://imdb.to/1ErRZJp> h/t [@WorldHistory101](#)

Majority Leader Roberson's smooth handling of the last deadline in the Senate only further accentuated the differences between the two Houses. During Assembly floor debate, Minority Leader Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D- North Las Vegas) went Mt. Vesuvius on Assemblyman John Moore (R-Las Vegas) over a non-negotiated mental health bill floor amendment Moore proposed. Sensitive ears report hearing the F-bomb may have been dropped before she stormed off the floor and called for a caucus meeting.

But the lowlight of the night belonged to firebrand Assemblywoman Michelle Fiore (R- Las Vegas). And, yes, while she may have been goaded that night by Assemblyman Chris Edwards (R- Las Vegas) during floor discussion on her "Bundy Bill," [AB 408](#) (which lost 8-34 in the Floor vote), her outburst (click on the video in the box) was one rarely, if ever, seen—or heard—during a legislative Floor Session.

Despite the frustrations and interruptions, the Assembly finished early, long before midnight, and met the deadline. However, it does appear that these fights and slights, real or perceived, are now left to play out in Assembly Committee hearings during the next fortnight as we approach the May 15th Committee passage deadline. Mayweather, Pacquiao--or the Nevada Legislature. Who ya got?

Quick Links

- [Bill Info](#)
- [Calendar of Meetings](#)
- [Committee Information](#)
- [Executive Budget](#)
- [Senate Information](#)
- [Assembly Information](#)
- [NV Electronic Legislative Information System \(NELIS\)](#)