

**LEGISLATIVE ALERT XII**  
**79<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017**

The 13<sup>th</sup> week of the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session began today with a bit of good news from the economic front. The Economic Forum met in Carson City this morning, where it was revealed that state tax revenues will be higher than projected by nearly \$96 million. That means revenue projections are expected to be a little under \$8 billion for the next two years, as compared to the current two year budget of \$7.3 billion.

What this means for lawmakers looking to pass budgets in the next five weeks will have a bit more money to play with for their pet projects as well as any natural disasters the state could face during the coming two years.

RPEN continues tracking several bills including Senate Bill 384, our privacy bill designed to spell out legally what is and is not private and therefore confidential information as it relates to retired public employees. SB 384 is scheduled to be heard at 8:30 a.m. (revised time since Saturday, April 29) on Wednesday, May 3, before the Assembly Government Affairs Committee in Room 4100 in Carson City and video-conferenced to Room 4401 at the Grant Sawyer Building in Las Vegas.

Another bill we're continuing to watch is Senate Bill 502, formerly known as Senate Bill 80. This bill was heard last week during a work session before a joint committee in Carson City. There was a lot of discussion about solving the non-state Medicare retiree issue that has plagued the Public Employees' Benefits Program for years and we are hopeful the legislature will solve the issue created by the legislature that led to healthcare premiums that are out of control for a dwindling group of local government retirees with nowhere else to go. PEBP Executive Officer Damon Haycock earlier this year offered the legislature seven options to deal with this issue, and during last week's work session on SB 502 they focused on option four to turn the issue back to local governments seeking financial relief from them. However, RPEN remains hopeful there will be a better alternative to come. No decision has been made however on any option. Budget closings for PEBP and the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) will come later this month.

RPEN is also watching another Senate Bill, SB 356. It looks to roll back some changes made during the 2015 Legislative Session dealing with collective bargaining. It passed in the Senate along party lines and has been referred to the Assembly Government Affairs Committee though no hearing has been set as of today.

RPEN's public employee coalition still meets weekly, where our issues of common interest and concern are discussed.

The next big deadline for legislators is May 19 for committee passage in the second house.

As previously mentioned, if you haven't yet "shared" your opinion log into the Nevada Legislative website at <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/79th2017/A/> or contact your state representatives through a phone call at (775)-684-6827 in Northern Nevada or (702)-486-2626 in Southern Nevada; email; in-person visit when possible or a personal letter. They already know that numbers count, but it never hurts to remind them! And if you don't know who your representative is, there is a place at the Nevada Legislative web-site for that too! Go to the homepage, <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/> and then click on "Who's My Legislator, What's My District" along the right side of the homepage. In that same vicinity there is another spot to click on that takes you to all Contact Information for **ALL** Senators and Assembly Representatives.

Those RPEN members living in Northern Nevada, within close proximity to Carson City are encouraged to drive to Carson City to help us celebrate RPEN at the Nevada State Legislature Wednesday, May 3, from 8am-2pm. We hope to have a good crowd, wearing your RPEN T-shirts if you have one. This is a first for RPEN, and is a great opportunity to see the Legislature in action!

Terri Laird, Executive Director