

2021 Legislative Session-8th Update April 5-16, 2021

Hello to all our AFSCME 4041 Retiree members! Thanks to all who responded to our last Action Alert and either called in to testify, submitted written comments or listened to the April 6th meeting of the Joint Assembly Ways and Means and Senate Finance “General Government Sub-Committee”.

Unfortunately, despite the pleas of our AFSCME members, as well as representatives from other groups who get their healthcare insurance from PEBP, the Subcommittee followed the Governor’s recommendations on the PEBP Board’s decisions (based on PEBP staff’s recommendations and representations to both the Board and the Subcommittee) on the proposed next biennium’s cuts (starting July 1, 2021) and voted the PEBP budget out of subcommittee towards its final budget closing later in May.

Needless to say, we will keep fighting these cuts including in one-on-one conversations with the legislators who are on the full Joint Assembly and Ways and Means/Senate Finance Committee.

We are also continuing to track bills of concern or interest to our members. At least two deadlines were “extended” and suspensions of the legislative session’s rules have been waived in several instances as well. The deadline of April 9th was kept however and (passage out of **committee** in house of origin) resulted in 284 bills “dying” out of a total of 935 bills and resolutions so far this session. **The next deadline is tomorrow April 20th** (bills that survived the first deadline and passed out of committee now need to be voted out of **first house**).

With each deadline our own list of tracked bills gets smaller. There are also a small group of bills that have also been made “Exempt” from deadlines:

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/81st2021/BDRList/exempt.pdf>

We were tracking 128 bills before the April 9th deadline but now are down to 72 bills left. The bills are organized in our tracking system by subject matter and our categories with the most bills and/or the most focus are bills having to do with: PEBP/Healthcare/NV PERS/Elections and Voters’ Rights/Legislature and Government Administration in General.

Needless to say, the PEBP Budget is our TOP priority this session. With billions of dollars on its way to Nevada to help the state and local governments from the just-passed **American Rescue Plan**, **we continue to reject the notion that any cuts to retiree healthcare programs such as our own here in Nevada (PEBP) are needed to balance the budget and we continue to make our voices heard throughout the legislative session.**

Feel free to send us your thoughts and any questions to either Priscilla Maloney, Lobbyist directly maloneypriscilla@gmail.com or to the office: Afscmeretirees4041@gmail.com