

Assembly

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE, 54TH SESSION

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Norman Glaser at 2:18 P.M. February 9, 1967 in Ways and Means Committee Room.

Present: Young, Harris, Ashworth, Bowler, Mello, Tyson, Howard, Jacobsen, Glaser

Absent: None

Also present: Russ McDonald, press, Bob Bruce.

Chairman Glaser announced he had asked Russ McDonald in to explain A. J. R. 10 of the 53rd Session, proposing constitutional amendment to repeal obsolete language and provide that judges be paid in the manner provided by law. He explained that there has been no compliance with the law for the last 100 years. The money goes to the county treasury, then back to the State Controller, a farce which has been followed for 10 years since the 1957 Legislature when there was consideration of whether payment of district judges was state obligation. Prior to that each county contributed to payment which was based on the ratio of assessed valuation.

Mr. McDonald left at 2:20.

John Gamble, Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction, came in at 2:20 to discuss AB 90...An act relating to the selection of textbooks for use in the public schools; to provide for more modern procedures and greater flexibility in the selection of textbooks; to provide for selection of the state textbook commission; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. He gave background, saying the commission is composed of eight members of the State Board and six members are appointed by the Governor. He said of the 14 member board, six active educators actually do the evaluating and selecting of all books. He expressed need for a coordinator. Mr. Jacobsen asked how many people are in the State Department of Education. Mr. Gamble said, including Vocational Rehabilitation and excluding clerical, about 42. Mr. Gamble left at 2:35.

Mr. Jacobsen said he felt he would like to look at AB 90 further. He said he had had people present books to him which seemed Communistic in character. He said it seems one person does the reviewing of books, the others just approve what has been done. Also felt children should be able to go on from one school to another without having to have different books. Chairman Glaser said he didn't believe the State Board of Education had much to do with it, they just meet and approve what has been done. Further discussion.

AB 90 - Mr. Jacobsen moved to amend and re-refer to Education, deleting Lines 44 through 48, Page 2. Seconded by Bowler. Mr. Jacobsen said maybe amend that anything to do with money be deleted. discussion. Vote. Motion carried.

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AB 153 - Requires legislative bills requested by executive agencies to be accompanied by fiscal notes. Inasmuch as the bill was introduced by Assemblyman Mel Close, he came in at 3:42 to give background information on it. He said Mr. Newton of the Taxpayers' association could also give information and that he had discussed it with him. Bob Bruce discussed the bill.

Mr. Young moved "do pass" on AB 153, seconded by Mr. Harris. Motion carried.

Mr. Close left at 3:48.

Mr. Barrett came in at 3:49, discussed AB 63.

AB 63 - Makes certain changes in law regulating state board of sheep commissioners.

Mr. Howard moved "do pass" on AB 63, seconded by Mr. Jacobsen. Motion carried.

Discussion of decline of the dollar in connection with State Employees' pay raises. Discussion by Bob Bruce at 2:58. New sheets passed out.

Mel Jacobsen of Veterans' Affairs Commission came in at 3:01 to discuss his budget, Page 56. He explained money needed for trips for veterans when they needed to go to hospitals outside the state, expenses, etc. Asked for \$300.00 more in travel. He stated that his deputy in Las Vegas is not competent, discussed need for help, and detailed services his agency performs for veterans. Mr. Jacobsen left at 3:31. Chairman Glaser said he felt the budget was self-explanatory.

A five minute recess was called at 3:31.

Meeting resumed at 3:37. All members present. Also present, Alvin R. James, Executive Secretary, Indian Affairs Commission; Bob Hunter, Executive Director, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada; John H. Dressler, Indian Affairs Commission; Robert W. Bauer, on annual leave from work training program, doing work at McDermitt; Woodrow Wilson (Assemblyman); Frank Young; Mrs. Alvin James; Eileen Brookman (Assemblywoman). Howard Barrett. Bill Bailey and Miss Turner (colored) came in to speak on Equal Rights later.

Mr. Wilson presented facts about his budget, stating the need for help in Reno. He said he had no man to help him up here at all and estimated there are 7,000 Negroes living in Washoe County. Assemblyman Frank Young supported Mr. Wilson's position. He said the Commission has done very fine work in southern Nevada. (Commission on Equal Rights).

Press came in at 3:49.

Miss Brookman spoke on behalf of another man to help in northern Nevada. Mrs. Richard Miller of Washoe Valley, who has been doing volunteer work, spoke on behalf of more help, work in finding jobs for colored people. Mr. Bill Bailey spoke on housing problem, urban renewal project where some 180 families were displaced, most of whom went to Black Springs or Sun Valley. He said conditions in Black Springs were deplorable and the Committee should inspect homes there. Chairman Glaser said the

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Committee would take this budget under review.

Indian Affairs Commission, Page 62. Alvin James, executive secretary, Indian Affairs Commission, gave a detailed summary of his budget needs and accomplishments of the Commission during the last year since its organization. He said he is now getting \$6,000 a year working 1/2 time, has been working on his Master's Degree at the University, which he now has.

Mr. James introduced other members of the Commission.

Mr. Dressler of the Commission spoke at 4:17, saying how happy he is that the State of Nevada created the Indian Affairs Commission and how much the Indians of Nevada now approve of it. Eileen Brookman spoke in behalf of the Commission, as did Mr. Robert Bauer; Bob Hunter, who spoke for more salary for Mr. James, governor's recommendation.

All members of Equal Rights and Indian Affairs Commission left at 4:30 P.M.

Discussion among members of Veterans' Affairs budget - Mr. Barrett said he felt Mr. Mel Jacobsen was right on in-state and out-of-state travel - the man in Las Vegas refuses to submit a travel claim, wanted \$100.00 a month whether he travels or not. Mr. Harris said a committee of one or two should talk to the Governor about the situation of the man in Las Vegas, incompetency and incompatibility with Mr. Jacobsen. Lawrence Jacobsen said there was a bill introduced a couple of days ago saying this man would be chosen by the veterans' organizations with approval of the Governor, if it goes through will help solve this. He said the veterans organizations had not recommended this man. Bode Howard suggested abolition of this salary from the budget. Mr. Ashworth said he felt Mel Jacobsen should have something to say about the man he has to work with. Chairman Glaser said that maybe before budget is finalized, someone compatible with the Governor might discuss it with him.

Discussion on Commission on Equal Rights. Mr. Bowler said he thinks we've bought this problem. Discussion investigator on a part time basis first. Mr. Harris said he felt the Governor is well aware of the racial problems in Nevada and would have left it in the budget if he felt it was necessary.

Discussion on Indian Affairs. Chairman Glaser said it seemed the big problem here is fact the Senate had cut Mr. James salary from \$9,500 to \$7,500. Mr. Howard said people in Winnemucca do not approve of Mr. James. Decision of Committee to defer action on Veterans' Affairs, Equal Rights and Indian Affairs budgets.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55.

Norman D. Glaser, Chairman

Agnes M. Nelson, Committee Stenographer