

Assembly

MINUTES - WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
54TH SESSION MARCH 20, 1967

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Meeting called to order by Vice Chairman Don Mello at 3:50 PM in Ways and Means Room.

Present: Mello, Bowler, Ashworth, Harris, Young, Tyson

Absent: Glaser, Howard, Jacobsen (conflict of committee meetings)

Also present: Bob Bruce, Howard Barrett, Assemblyman McKissick

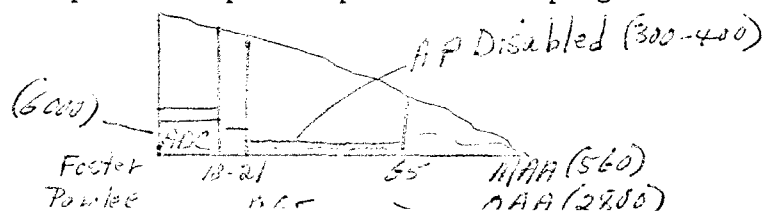
Present to speak on Title XIX: Quenten Emery, Dr. Ravenholt, Jim Roberts
V. A. Salvadorini, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer, Nevada State Medical Association
Nelson B. Neff, Executive Secretary, Nevada State Medical Assoc. (did not speak)
David R. Bauwdsness, Administrator, Sunrise Hospital, Las Vegas

Present to speak on AB 337: Robert List, Ormsby County District Attorney
Don Brown, Chief of Nevada Highway Patrol
Robert Humphrey, Chief of Ormsby County Police
Mr. Raggio, Washoe County District Attorney
Paul Toland, Head of Department of Parole and Probation
Mr. Briscoe, Reno Police Chief
Bob Galli, Sparks Police Chief
Mr. Sanderson, Sheriff, Mineral County
Carl Hocker, Warden, State Prison
Mr. Roberts, Special Investigator, Attorney General's Office

Mr. Emery outlined Title XIX - eligibility and services provided. Dr. Ravenholt put the information in chart form on the board. (based on a census profile). The categories we have are for age 65 and over: MAA (560 individuals), OAA (2800); and under 18 - ADC, Foster Children, Parolees from State Children's Institutions. Title XIX would pick up MAA, ADC, Foster Children, Parolees and extend coverage of medical indigents between ages 18 and 21 because of the Federal rules requiring coverage up to 21 years of age. This would cover medical care for permanent and totally disabled (3-40) (other states, but not Nevada, also provide financial support). By 1975 by federal ruling, included in Title XIX must be medical indigents eligible through an income level established by the state. Presently we use \$3840 for a family of 4. Under the ADC, the medical would be more liberal than the support because residency and other qualifications are not barriers to eligibility for medical service. Also, parents are covered as well as the child in ADC families.

In answer to question posed by Mr. Ashworth, Dr. Ravenholt said that the determination of the eligibility rests with the Welfare Division exclusively. It would not, in any event, be determined by an organization of doctors or such like group. The same applies for the services included and their extent.

In answer to question posed by Mr. Ashworth, Mr. Emery said than any licensed physician can participate in the program. There is a fee schedule set up and the physician is paid accordingly. If he were to charge in excess of this figure, he would not receive it from the program; neither could he go to the recipient for collection thereof. A physician is not required to participate in this program.



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Estimated would be 6000 children and adults in the ADC program; 300 in Aid to Permanently Disabled; number between 18 and 21 not known. This program would be a little more liberal than the financial aid. In-Patient and Out-Patient services would be provided, hospitalization up to 15 days or longer if authorized, includes home care, etc. if qualified, etc..... In answer to Mr. Young's question, Dr. Ravenholt said this would provide that in addition to coverage when in an Old Age Home or Nursing Home, also covered would be private home or boarding home care - nursing out-patient care and medicine.

Mr. Jim Roberts said that a letter was being prepared to be sent to Mr. Glaser on the breakdown of the monies. He put this information on the board.

First Year - General Fund...	\$ 876,947	
Counties.....	<u>1,645,482</u>	(11% tax on the dollar)
Total -	\$2,522,429	
50/50 matching federal -	<u>2,522,429</u>	

1st Yr. Grand Total..... \$5,044,858 Second Year ---- \$5,660,452

The above is a reasonable estimate of the cost of the program based upon comparative costs from different states and deemed adequate to fund the program. The two items not previously covered pose the greatest uncertainty in cost - the aid to permanently disabled between 21 and 65 and the individuals between 18 and 21 years of age.

A further breakdown (first year, next biennium) of costs was put on the board.

Present cost of MAA	\$ 2,104,674
Medical portion of OAA, ADC, AB	581,242
Non-duration (need for medical but)	
(not financial aid)...	86,000
Aid to totally and permanently disabled.	954,232
Increased benefits-public assistance....	740,000
Children under 21 years of age.....	404,511
Additional administration.....	<u>174,199</u>

TOTAL ---\$ 5,044,858

The federal matching funds are approximately 50/50 but vary perhaps in some specific instances.

There were questions and discussions on the affect of this on the present proposed budget - increase or decrease to the general fund. Mr. Roberts said that the cost to the state would remain the same. However, the categories would be changed. The money would be taken out of the medical care categories, not the financial aspect of each, to be set up under one comprehensive medical category.

Dr. Ravenholt pointed out that monies will be coming from the counties and the federal government, so the general fund monies will be more than sufficient. Any monies left after the year would revert back to the counties and not the state.

Mr. Roberts pointed out the federal rule on this is that support now given to some categories will cease after December 31, 1969, unless the state repackages these into a single program. By 1975, according to Social Security Act, the states must do something with their medical indigents.

In answer to question posed by Mr. Harris, Mr. Barrett said that this 11% on the tax dollar would be slightly more in two counties than the present assessment; in other counties - less than what they pay for 1966.

Dr. Ravenholt pointed out that Title XIX does not propose to pick up and guarantee all medical costs not paid by the individual will be paid with public funds; neither does it propose to guarantee the doctor that he be paid for taking care of medical indigents. The statutes prohibit the doctor from receiving compensation.

There were questions and discussions on the counties' financial aspect of this Title XIX coverage. The 11¢ tax would be in addition to what they are now paying for their indigents. It replaces part, but leaves some for the county. So in a county now paying 5½¢, their total tax for this would be 16½¢. Title XIX will pick up some medical indigents previously not covered in the county. Title XIX would cover about 80% of their current coverage. Counties now pay approximately \$850,000 for this; under Title XIX would pay \$1,645,000; this leaves a net savings to the county of approximately \$800,000, (Figures for this year) as federal matching funds double the amount available from county and state to provide more coverage than counties do present. Dr. Ravenholt commented that AB 446 would establish the mechanism to permit the division of the multiple programs into one comprehensive medical program for medical indigents under Title XIX. It would permit the next Legislature to more adequately predict the cost of taking on the total medical indigency care under Title XIX. The present proposal is to incorporate just the existing programs and those between 18 and 21 into the one medical indigency program. Total obligation at the start of the program would just result in dissatisfaction and conflicting ideas on coverage and service. This program can do a good job and go a long way towards improving coverage and care.

V. A. Salvadorini, M.D. of the Nevada State Medical Association wanted to go on record as being in support of Title XIX. A copy of his letter to Mr. Glaser, dated March 8, 1967, is attached and part of the minutes. He assured the committee that the great majority of the members of his Association will cooperate with this program.

Mr. Bauwdsness, Administrator of the Sunrise Hospital in Las Vegas also wanted to go on record as being in favor of Title XIX. He said it appears as if the state will be spending no more or no less and the greater majority of the counties will be spending less. The question is whether the counties would like to have part of this coverage paid for by matching federal funds. The Hospital Association will supply statistics at a later date. Many will have to spend more money under the program, but in total the amount spent for the medical indigents will be less. He then read Paragraph 5, Page 2, starting with line 16, pertaining to dispensing drugs. It should be possible to receive drugs from the hospital dispensary, etc. when feasible. Also, read was (a) under paragraph 6, Section 8, starting on line 22. This relates to out-patient services and he reiterated the above comment. He read Section 20, paragraph 1 and 2. This covers what is reasonable cost. In Mr. Bauwdsness' opinion, the only stable formula is the federal basic standard for medicare. There are various formulas such as New York Blue Cross formula, but the most stable one is the federal one used by law today.

Mr. Emery said that he was not familiar with the reference to the State Pharmacy Act, but it is not our intention to shortchange county hospitals in the disbursement of drugs. Also, we should not specify any particular formula. Medicare does not provide any formula for drugs. The Welfare Division will negotiate a reasonable formula.

Mr. Bauwdsness referred to Public Law No. 8997 which specifies that hospital cost shall be reimbursed on a reasonable rate. He said we are not concerned with the physician fees or drug costs, but interested in what it costs to cover a patient in the hospital, and what the hospital will be reimbursed. He stated that the Welfare or Budget Departments are not qualified to research and determine the formula.

Dr. Ravenholt pointed out that the sketch was not a detailed one. A more detailed plan would have to be determined and then submitted for approval to the federal government.

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Dr. Ravenholt pointed out again that the additional cost to counties - total expenditure for counties for medical indigents will be smaller than those right now. The \$1,645,482 will pay 80% of it.

A recess was declared at 4:10 PM and resumed at 4:25 PM.

Mr. Bob List, District Attorney for Ormsby County, prefaced his statements by saying that the request for this hearing and the bill itself was a result of much communication study, meetings among the many law enforcement groups in the State of Nevada. He went on to say that this bill is necessary and needed. The CII in California has been very cooperative in the past in furnishing our law enforcement officers here in Nevada with information and assistance. We have taken advantage of their identification facilities, etc. Then, one year ago, they cut off this help, so we must now turn to the FBI. A "rap sheet" would come from California in 3 days; from the FBI 10 days to 2 weeks. The FBI has always been helpful, but slow. They are inadequate to help us in terms of time and distance. We can't rely on some other agency to do our work, so we must establish some sort of central bureau and rely on ourselves. We are oftentimes going in 17 different directions in tracking down such a basic item as a man's name. The lab is of particular importance in the smaller counties; the central lab also very important to the larger ones. Narcotics especially is a field where experts are needed. We realize the Legislature cannot create a large program overnight, so for this reason are asking today for a modest start. We are proposing an authorization and appropriation for one man to direct, study and formulize additions to this program, and one secretary. This one man can do much in organizing the records and get the program started. The office would provide a place for the informal working together to build something we can effectively use. Contrary to some opinion, there has been no commitment of appointment made by the Governor, nor any job applications filed. Through at least one Act now known of, as of 1965 we might be able to receive some minor additional help from the federal government for this program. Also, there are bills now before Congress which could possibly give us additional help. The cooperation of local people would create a feasible plan. A modification is proposed by AB 337. Such things as the mandatory provision of providing records to the central agency would not be practicable with such a limited staff. So these details need some re-arranging.

In answer to question posed by Mr. Mello, Mr. List said that a competent man to administer the office and do long range planning would command a salary of approximately \$15,000/year. The budget figure of \$13,200 would be adequate. These other positions listed in the budget were originally planned, but, could be eliminated if we could at least get one man and one secretary for the initial stages.

Mr. Barrett pointed out that the figures listed for this in the budget on page 292 were not all set up for the full 2 years, except the Chief.

Mr. Don Brown pointed that the figure of \$6,588 would not be adequate to hire a Records and Identification Officer. He would command a salary of at least \$13 or \$14,000. The Chief would be able to do some of this work of the Records and Narcotics men.

Mr. Bob Humphrey, Chief of Ormsby County Police, said that the people present represent 7 organizations and number about 1300 officers strong. We all feel the need for this organization and will support it.

Mr. Raggio, District Attorney for Washoe County, said that we have been concerned with a project such as this for a decade. We recognize the financial problems but feel our requests are "bare bone". This would be in line with the suggestions, recommendations, and mandates which appear in the President's Crime Commission Report. There is a great need for adequate crime reporting and records and if we start something to this effect we will be fulfilling this mandate. He also stated the possibility of federal help. Without such an agency on the state level, we could not hope to receive the benefits

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the federal government may be in a position to distribute.

Mr. Brown said that they receive hundreds of requests per year for information from agencies outside the State of Nevada. Law Enforcement is a nationwide mutual effort.

Mr. Paul Toland of the Department of Parole and Probation, again stated the probability of obtaining federal monies for this in the coming years. However, the federal office will not deal with local agencies, only with the official agency of the state. He went on to enumerate the various areas in which this would be beneficial. He also pointed out that we should be fairly established in this field so that we could benefit from the various technological advances. He also said we are asking for a meagre start but will be able to build it up from there.

Mr. McKissick said that the outline approach is reasonable. AB 337, should state, however, that the provisions of Section 6, Page 2, should be done only in such extent as the one secretary could handle same. AB 337 can be tailored to meet the lessened demand without very many amendments. It is necessary to get amended AB 337 or something like it on the books as soon as possible.

The Assistant District Attorney for Clark County said that at the present time, 2 out of 5 counties are receiving very negligible benefits from the agencies set up at the present time; the other 3, due to size, are receiving the benefits. The state as a whole has an ever increasing need for this type of agency. So, he is asking on behalf of the Clark County District Attorney's Office that the bill (AB 337) be considered favorably.

Mr. Briscoe, Reno Chief of Police, said that they have some of these things as a Bureau of Identification, lab, polygraph, etc. However, it is very important for the smaller counties and communities to have the same opportunity as we have in Washoe and Clark Counties. He would advocate the creation of this Central Bureau. He said we are probably the only state in the nation without a State Bureau of this type.

Mr. Sanderson, Sheriff of Mineral County, also appeared before the committee to strongly advocate the creation of the Central Bureau. He said that because of the lack of facilities of this type we probably lose as many criminals as we apprehend. The small counties are far worse off than the larger ones. If the Legislature puts this off, they are doing the people in the State of Nevada a great injustice.

Mr. Carl Hocker, Warden, State Prison, wanted to assure the committee that from his standpoint, this proposal is very much supported. Rather than be redundant, he just stated that they should add his support to the measure, and he urges that it be initiated at the earliest possible date.

There was some discussion and questioning as to the adequacy of just one man and one secretary. Those persons appearing before the committee felt that in light of the tight budget, this would be better than nothing, and it would be most beneficial, not only now, but for building for the future. Mr. Brown said he was unaware that the budget provided for the other positions. However, as the budget was approved and if there are sufficient funds available, they would like very much to get the budgetary items.

Mr. List pointed out that the bill as originally drafted does make certain things mandatory such as certain things furnished by the county, etc. All of these functions were envisioned on the theory that the full budget would be passed. If the budget is cut back, then the bill as originally drafted would require some amending.

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Mr. Roberts, Special Investigator for the Attorney General's Office, said that he must go out to various areas to investigate and wonders how we can get along as well as we do without this central bureau. He wants to go on record as being very much in favor of the Central Record Bureau. Also, he voiced the need for an additional man to aid the ID man for the Attorney General's Office. Mr. Roberts, at this point, asked the committee what the status is on the additional investigator for their office. Mrs. Tyson said they have made no decision to date.

Mr. Roberts said that for certain crimes, in the smaller counties, the counties are handicapped without investigative type help.

Mr. Bob Galli, Sparks Chief of Police, and Legislative Chairman for the Western Nevada Peace Officers Association, also went on record as being in favor of this Central Bureau as proposed .

Mr. List commented that the bill as drafted would place the Bureau on the Executive side of Government rather than the Attorney General's Office. In the long range plan it appears that some of the present agencies would come under this such as the State Department of Corrections, State Prison, Highway Patrol and also the proposed Bureau, etc.

Mr. Lewis of the Las Vegas Police Department also stated his full support and approval of this Bureau. He said it should definitely be under the Executive Branch of Government.

Mr. Roberts commented on AB 283 which authorizes commission on peace officer standards and training to employ a training coordinator. He is a member of the police training commission. In order to solidify our position we requested a meeting with Assemblymen Bowler and Close, Sheriff Young, myself, Mr. Brown and one other commissioner. It was decided that the funding of \$5,400 annually from the state's fund would be ample with the \$10,000 from federal funds. There is presently an academy of this type in Washoe and Clark, but the rural areas do not benefit from this. The training at Stead is not of this type. This program requested is basic police work and basic police procedures for the whole state. Just one man is needed. In answer to question posed by Mr. Bowler, Mr. Roberts said that they have not projected their program beyond 2 years, because by this time they may be able to bring these people from the outlying areas to the present academies in Washoe, Clark and possibly Elko. These are 250 hour type courses. In getting out to the rural areas, the course would be a 72 hour one.

The committee decided to hold the budget item on the agenda for this date.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Nevada State Medical Association

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 THOMAS S. WHITE, M.D., A.M.A. ALTERNATE DELEGATE

NELSON B. NEFF
 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

March 8, 1967

Honorable Norman D. Glaser, Chairman
 Assembly Ways and Means Committee
 Carson City, Nevada

Dear Mr. Glaser:

May we advise you, and through you the members of the Assembly's Committee on Ways and Means, of the affirmation of support by the Association's governing body of the House of Delegates, and the reaffirmation of this support by the Association's Executive Committee, of Title XIX, Social Security Act (42 U.S.Code 1396-1396D). This latest action was taken in annual session in Las Vegas November 27-30, 1966. Background for this action is contained in this excerpt from the report of the Insurance Committee of the Nevada State Medical Association, which reads as follows:

" . . . It appears that there is little choice but to proceed along this direction or suffer the loss of all federal funds aiding in medical programs currently in Nevada. It appears in addition, to be a desirable program in that it will effect uniform medical services for a group of people who have previously been deprived of same. It will, in addition, relieve the counties of responsibilities for the care of the medically indigent, and permit the free choice of physician by the medically indigent . . ."

Please be assured that members of the Association will cooperate with the responsible state agencies in effective implementation of the program included in A.B. 446.

Sincerely yours,


 V. A. Salvadorini, M.D.

Nevada State Medical Association 64th Annual Meeting

Sahara-Tahoe Hotel • South Lake Tahoe, Nevada • November 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1967

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEENEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE, 54TH SESSIONAGENDAMONDAY, MARCH 20, 1967MORNING

No meeting

AFTERNOONTIME

2:00 PM Public Hearing - Welfare - Title XIX

3:00 PM Public Hearing - Criminal ID & Narcotics ----- Robert List
 AB 337 Criminal ID
 AB 283 Peace Officers

4:00 PM Review Budgets

Page 292 - Criminal ID ----- Howard Barrett