

NEVADA LEGISLATURE - 54TH SESSION
 SENATE COMMITTEE ON
 FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of Meeting Held
 February 15, 1967

The fifth meeting of the Senate Committee on Federal, State, and Local Governments was called to order at 11:40 a.m., Wednesday, February 15, 1967, in Committee Room 50, State Capitol, by Committee Chairman Senator James I. Gibson. 2/11

All committee members were present, as follows:

Senator Gibson, Chairman
 Senator Monroe, Vice Chairman
 Senator Alleman
 Senator Bunker
 Senator Farr
 Senator Hecht
 Senator Young

Also present: Senator Pozzi
 Senator Fisher

Chairman Gibson presented the following for discussion by the members:

S.J.R. 1: Limits terms in office of Governor. Introduced by Senator Pozzi.

At the request of Chairman Gibson, Senator Pozzi discussed this measure. He stated that the reason for presenting this resolution was to assure that there would be new blood in the Governorship from time to time and that the state would never be controlled by a single person or machine.

General discussion followed.

Senator Hecht moved that the committee amend S.J.R. 1 by removing therefrom the last sentence ("This limitation shall not apply to any person holding the office of Governor at the time when this section was proposed by the Legislature or ratified by the people."), and report the bill out with a "Do pass, as amended" recommendation. Senator Monroe seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

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S.B. 120: Provides for unmarked automobiles for state fire marshal. Introduced by Senator Farr.

Senator Farr stated that the state fire marshal must, if requested by any of various government agencies, investigate arson cases, and such investigations are seriously hampered unless a "quiet" car is used. In the past the fire marshal has been unable to obtain unmarked cars from the state automobile pools because there is no authorization for such use. Discussion among the members followed.

Senator Alleman moved the committee report the bill out with a "Do pass" recommendation. Senator Monroe seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

S.J.R. 9: Proposes annual sessions of Legislature. Introduced by this Committee.

Chairman Gibson explained that the Assembly has a similar bill before it, introduced yesterday, but limiting the even-year sessions to budget consideration.

Senator Farr moved that the committee report the bill out with a "Do pass" recommendation; Senator Bunker seconded the motion. However, Senator Farr withdrew his motion following lengthy discussion, during which Senator Monroe said he would be in favor of the bill if it were amended to make the even-year sessions 60 days long, and Senator Young stated he would be in favor of screening the bills in the even-year sessions, as is done in the Rules Committee in Congress. Senator Gibson suggested that perhaps introduction of bills could be limited by providing that only standing committees could introduce bills in even-year sessions. Senator Monroe suggested that the committee have Russ McDonald appear before it to discuss the measure and possible variations thereof. This was satisfactory to all the members.

It being then 12:00 noon, the meeting was recessed until 1:00 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m., with Senators Gibson, Monroe, Alleman, Farr, and Hecht present and Senators Bunker and Young absent. Legislative Counsel Russ McDonald was also present.

Chairman Gibson called for discussion of the following measures:

S.B. 133: Authorizes Nevada political subdivisions to borrow money, otherwise incur obligations and issue securities

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in connection with any project authorized by another act. (Local Government Securities Law.) Introduced by this committee at the request of the Legislative Counsel.

Mr. McDonald explained that this bill was requested in order to cut down the paper work involved whenever a bond proposal is received. At present, he said, the bill drafter must deal with about 37 different acts. The bill does not itself authorize any specific bond issue, but will serve as a code, sections of which can be incorporated by reference thereto (rather than set out in full) in bond proposals. The Counsel has asked for early consideration of this bill, because, if it passes, other bills now before the Assembly, or to be presented, may be presented in shortened version in accordance with this code. As an example, he quoted the Municipal Airports Act now before the Assembly. In its present form the proposed act is 16 pages long, but if S.B. 133 passes, the alternate bill, which is just three pages long and which is ready to go, can be presented.

Mr. McDonald also presented a suggested amendment to S.B. 133, should the bill be considered favorably by the committee, as follows:

Insert between lines 22 and 23 on page 28:

"All cases in which there may arise a question of the validity of any matter under this section shall be advanced as a matter of immediate public interest and concern, to be heard at the earliest practical moment."

Mr. McDonald said this amendment is suggested to insure that the courts give prompt hearing to all questions involving public bond issues.

Senator Monroe moved the committee adopt the amendment. Senator Alleman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Senator Monroe then moved that the committee report the bill out with a recommendation of "Do pass as amended." Senator Alleman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

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A.B. 45: Resolves conflicts concerning legal holidays and days of observance. Introduced by this committee at the request of the Legislative Counsel.

Chairman Gibson asked Mr. McDonald to explain the reason for this bill. Mr. McDonald said conflicts occur in the statutes, some of which deal with judicial and nonjudicial holidays, some with legal holidays, and some with days of observance proclaimed by the Governor. He said this bill is to resolve these conflicts.

After discussion by the committee, Senator Farr moved that the bill be reported out with a "Do pass" recommendation. Senator Monroe seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

S.J.R. 9: Proposes annual sessions of Legislature.

The discussion which began this morning on this bill was resumed. Chairman Gibson requested Mr. McDonald's comments. Counsel McDonald stated that, in this connection, he had prepared at Governor Laxalt's request a draft of a measure that would provide for the money committees of the Legislature to come in 10 to 14 days in advance of the even-year sessions and hold meetings and hearings on the budget bills. Then the rest of the Legislature would come in and be open for the 30 days that S.J.R. 9 provides for. Mr. McDonald said it would be his own suggestion that the Legislature meet annually for 60 days, but acknowledged that this stood little chance of popular support by the voters. He said he would give S.J.R. 9 further study and perhaps could come up with some alternative suggestions. The members agreed to put this item over for further consideration.

As the Senate was about to go into afternoon session, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


 Louise Glover - Secretary

I certify that the foregoing minutes are correct.

Senator James I. Gibson - Chairman