

NEVADA LEGISLATURE - 54TH SESSION

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of Meeting Held
March 8, 1967

The 17th meeting of the Senate Committee on Federal, State, and Local Governments was called to order at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 1967, by Chairman Gibson.

All committee members were present except Senators Alleman and Bunker. Senator Bunker joined the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Also present were Senators Pozzi and Swobe and Mr. Curtis Blyth, Executive Director of the Nevada Municipal Association.

The following bills were considered:

S.B. 202: Changes boundary between Ormsby and Washoe Counties. Introduced by Senator Pozzi.

Senator Pozzi stated that the county commissioners of both counties have asked for this legislation and have passed resolutions approving this change of boundary.

S.J.R. 18: Proposed constitutional amendment to provide for state civil service system. Introduced by Senator Pozzi.

Senator Pozzi stated that state employees would feel safer with a constitutional provision for the state civil service system, rather than with the present statutory provision, which could be deleted by the Legislature at any time. Senator Young asked if other states have such constitutional provisions. Mr. Blyth said a number of states do. Senator Monroe asked if the state employees' retirement system is set up under a constitutional provision. It is not, but Senator Pozzi felt there was no danger of the state's dropping that because of the obligations involved in the sizable trust funds of the system.

A.J.R. 28 of the 53d Session: Proposes constitutional amendment to allow Legislature to consolidate Carson City and Ormsby County. Introduced by Assemblyman Pozzi.

Senator Pozzi commented on the history of this resolution and stated that if it passes the Legislature this session it will go on the 1968 ballot. Mr. Blyth stated the Nevada Municipal Association strongly endorses this legislation. Discussion followed. Then Senator Pozzi left the meeting.

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The committee then acted on the foregoing bill and resolutions as follows:

S.B. 202: Senator Farr moved "Do pass"; Senator Bunker seconded; motion passed unanimously.

S.J.R. 18: Senator Monroe moved "Do pass"; Seconded by Senator Young. Motion passed unanimously.

A.J.R. 28 of the 53d Session: Senator Young moved "Do pass"; Senator Bunker seconded; motion passed unanimously.

The committee resumed consideration of bills as follows:

A.J.R. 7: Urges early military victory in Vietnam. Introduced by Messrs. Lowman and Smith.

Senator Farr opposed the resolution, saying, "They know what they're doing over there. We don't have to tell them what to do." Senator Monroe also felt such a resolution was futile.

DISPOSITION: Senator Young moved "Do pass"; Senator Bunker seconded; motion passed. The vote was:
 Aye: Senators Bunker, Hecht, Monroe, Young. (4)
 No: Senator Farr
 Not Voting: Senator Gibson
 Absent: Senator Alleman

S.B. 375: Authorizes counties, cities, and towns to make payroll deductions from salaries of officers and employees. Introduced by Senator Farr.

Senator Farr commented on the bill. Mr. Blyth questioned the manner of authorizing deductions from payrolls; felt perhaps the definition of withholdable items should be left to the governing body, rather than allow the officer or employee to authorize unspecified (in the bill) deductions. Senator Farr explained the particular problem in Sparks, where city officials refuse to authorize deductions for union fees. Discussion.

DISPOSITION: The Chairman asked Mr. Blyth to study the bill and bring in alternative language that the Municipal group might recommend, for review by the committee.

S.B. 382: Establishes additional allowable investments for funds of local governments. Introduced by Senator Swobe.

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Senator Swobe said this bill had been requested by the counties, and commented that the counties get most of their revenue in July and want the right to reinvest it. Mr. Blyth, commenting that his group was not objecting to the bill, because it gives much more flexibility, pointed out that its terms would allow interest earned by one fund to be placed to the credit of the general fund. Discussion of investment practices of counties followed.

S.B. 369: Authorizes conveyance of land by Division of Forestry to Washoe County. Introduced by Senator Swobe.

At this point George Zappettini, State Forester Firewarden, entered the meeting. He explained the history of the bill, said that Washoe County had requested this measure, and it is agreeable to the Division of Forestry.

S.B. 315: Allows State Forester Firewarden to enter into contracts, conduct studies and perform work to restore forests and vegetative cover. Introduced by Senator Farr.

Mr. Zappettini explained this bill is needed to give his department legal authority to enter into contracts to restore burned watershed or forest land. Senator Monroe asked whether this involves money. Mr. Zappettini said that so far they have not spent money, have just provided labor, technical assistance and advice. (Mr. Zappettini left the meeting.)

S.B. 336: Amends various provisions relating to regulation of public utilities by Public Service Commission. Introduced by Senator Swobe.

Senator Swobe said this bill had been requested by the Public Service Commission. The Chairman asked him to have George Allard of the PSC appear before the committee tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. (Mr. Swobe left the meeting.)

The committee then acted on the following bills which had been discussed earlier in the meeting:

S.B. 315: Senator Farr moved "Do pass"; Senator Young seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

S.B. 369: Senator Monroe moved "Do pass"; Senator Young seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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S.B. 382: The Chairman asked Senator Hecht to have Mr. Quilici of the First National Bank of Nevada, Reno, appear before the committee to discuss this measure.

The committee resumed consideration of bills as follows:

S.B. 384: Authorizes member of board of county commissioners who is sole supplier to sell supplies and services to county. Introduced by Senator Titlow.

Discussion centered on the hazards involved in this type of legislation.

DISPOSITION: It was agreed that Senator Titlow would be asked to appear before the committee to comment on this bill.

S.B. 385: Expands and clarifies municipal court duties, power, and jurisdiction. Introduced by Clark County Delegation.

Discussion.

Senator Hecht moved that the bill be rereferred to the Committee on Judiciary; Senator Farr seconded. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: Senators Bunker, Farr, Hecht, Gibson
 No: Senators Monroe and Young
 Absent: Senator Alleman

Senator Young asked that S.J.R. 11, allowing 18-year-olds to vote, be acted on by the committee, and the Chairman said it would be put on the agenda soon.

The Chairman announced that the next committee meeting would be held at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, March 9, 1967.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.


 Louise Glover - Secretary

I certify that the foregoing minutes are correct.

 Senator James I. Gibson
 Chairman