

MINUTES OF MEETING - WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGIS.
1968 SPECIAL SESSION - FEBRUARY 22, 1968

JOINT MEETING WITH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 AM in the Ways and Means Room by Assemblyman Garfinkle, Chairman of the Education Committee.

Present for Ways and Means: Glaser, Mello, Tyson, Webb, Howard
Absent: Jacobsen Young, Ashworth, Bowler

Present: Education Committee, Assembly

S. B. 18: Provides for emergency assistance to school districts from state distributive school fund

S. B. 5: Provides for emergency financial assistance to school districts. Estimated cost to state: \$101,553

Mr. Glaser reviewed for the committees the discussions relative to S. B. 5. This calls for the emergency appropriation for Lyon and Lincoln Counties. However, it was determined that, by gearing up some formula to handle emergencies, this emergency need could be handled by the Nevada Plan and this new formula without the necessity of bringing it in every year by Special Session. It would take some of the money in the distributive school fund, as a result of a drop in ADA, and use it for emergency funding. The emergency situations would be determined by the State Board of Education who would make the initial study and recommendations, reviewed by the Board of Examiners, and in the event of a difference of opinion or an amount over \$50,000 an Interim Committee would be called in composed of Senate Finance and Ways and Means Committees. This Interim Finance Committee is not in the bill; it is by gentlemen's agreement.

Mr. Barrett said it cannot be put in the bill for constitutional reasons but would be clearly legislative intent. They would not have a binding vote but would carry a great deal of influence.

Mr. Young asked about the provision for a copy of the request for aid being submitted to the Legislature. Mr. Barrett said this would show up in the Executive Budget when reported at the next session of the Legislature.

Mr. Garfinkle felt the school districts would be a little more responsible concerning their individual budgets with these standards set up. They are a good set of checks and balances.

Mr. Barrett called the committees attention to Page 3, Paragraph F, of S. B. 18, which provides the amount would not necessarily be the monies in the distributive school fund but would be the amount authorized to be received and spent from general funds and general fund appropriations. It might be that the amount authorized at the '67 Session to be received from non-general funds and spent is now actually in cash less than what you authorized but this language

gives us a firm figure on the amount appropriated and authorized. This is the part that was changed last week. 71

Question on the Interim Finance Committee. ... Mr. Barrett said there has been one for a number of years, but it has been inactive for the last 4 or 5 years. The Legislative Commission will decide how many members will be on it. In the past, there have been 5 from each committee.

Mr. Young moved that S. B. 18 be reported out with a DO PASS.
Mr. Howard seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Garfinkle said he would move it off the Chief Clerk's desk for a second reading today.

Mr. Garfinkle said the new community college bill went to his committee on Education because there is no money attached.

Mr. Glaser said the original bill was killed in Senate Finance. There was a lot of sentiment for it on the floor. There were a number of amendments offered after the committee killed it but 5 or 6 members were required to reconsider it. Senate Finance were apprehensive about bringing it back for fear when it got on the floor the amendments would be taken off and the original bill passed. So, these amendments were incorporated into a new bill - A. B. 22. It takes out all the money. The community college people in Elko say if they can get some recognition that the college does exist in fact, they can attract some federal funding grants, private donations and individual contributions, etc. so that they can effect a program, although not as good as it might have been with the cluster area of the original bill, until the next regular session. The University will offer a block of courses through their extension service as part of the college transfer program. Another change put in this bill is the reference to it being established by the State of Nevada has been deleted for fear of future obligation by the state. It states it is a function of the Elko County School District.

Mr. Burnell Larson, State Department of Education, and several members of the committees said they would like to hear the feeling on this of the Elko County Board of Trustees because they have some responsibility to this college through this new bill.

Miss Foote said that when the community college concept was brought to Reno, it was her understanding that the interest was in having classes which would ultimately result in the now vacant jobs in Elko being filled through this training for them. Now, the stress seems to be on the Junior College type program with this extension program and college transfer. Mr. Glaser said it is still primarily a community college idea with vocational and technical courses. For the first time a block of college transfer courses will be offered. There are 8 functions of a community college concept. Elko is presently only offering 2 of these but will offer more as it grows. In the community college concept, 10% of total enrollment is a college transfer function, but in the Junior College concept it is the most important.

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Mr. Glaser added that the community college concept is needed as much or more in the larger communities. The students in Clark County have only one choice - NSU. In 1965, of the total freshman enrollment, only 33% went on into the sophomore year. He gave more statistics showing the great academic mortality rate in the University. For some reason this rate is higher at NSU than at Reno. The University is thus geared to handle this large freshman load which then falls back. A solution to this would be an Associate Degree program reaching those students who finish only a part of the 4 year program. This would be less of a dollar cost to the state. We would not be adding another layer of cost but would fit this in the total educational picture. The study will no doubt show this.

It was the feeling of the committees that this new bill would receive favorable attention. However, any action should be deferred until after receiving comments on it from the Elko County Board of School Trustees. Mr. Garfinkle mentioned various rebuttals which might come about with reporting out this bill and wanted the committee members to be prepared for them.

Mr. Young said he agreed with Dr. Tucker of the University that perhaps we have been spending our educational money in foolish ways. Perhaps this would provide a better educational system with the same money we now spend.

Meeting adjourned at 11 AM.