

Assembly

MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, 55TH ASSEMBLY SESSION,
FEBRUARY 18, 1969

Present: Smith, Hilbrecht, Branch, Mello, Wood, Dini, Bryan Hafen,
Getto and Lingenfelter

Absent: None

Chairman Smith opened the meeting by introducing Jac Shaw, Superintendent of the Buildings and Grounds Division and asked if he would make his presentation on AB 166 and AB 279. Mr. Shaw asked to be excused to obtain some additional evidence with regard to one of the bills. He said he would make his presentation when he returned.

Assemblyman Frank Young then was introduced to make his comments on AB 31 which adopts the Western Interstate Nuclear Compact. Mr. Young provided the committee with a copy of the compact as drawn by the Western Governors' Conference Committee on Western Interstate Nuclear Compact. He said that he appeared before the committee as sponsor of AB 31 and also as the Governor's designate member in the Conference Committee. The Compact is made a part of this record.

Assemblyman Young outlined the purpose of the compact is to promote the competent control radiation and development of the nuclear energy program for peaceful economic development in the Western Region. He emphasized the primary role Nevada has played in the development of nuclear energy since its inception and indicated some apparent needs that have developed for control. Radioactive substances are presently being adapted for wide use in industry, particularly in agriculture, mining and medicine. Proper control of their use and transport is essential. The tendency has been for federal agencies to institute controls without regard to local needs and development. Hence the importance of the Compact for implementing the development within the Western Region and providing the expertise counsel within each state for guidance in this highly technological field. The tremendous success of the Southern Conference's Nuclear Compact was outlined as an example of what can be accomplished in the Western Region. Presently, Colorado and California have approved the compact. The approval of Idaho is imminent and Mr. Young urged the approval of Nevada. It will be necessary for five states to ratify the compact before it is submitted for federal congressional approval. It is anticipated that five western state's approval may be obtained this year which will expedite the Compact's development and lead to the eventual participation of the other western states. Washington, for example, is deeply interested at the present time. The language in AB 31 has been adopted directly from the Compact itself which was drafted one year ago. Traditionally the United States has left the ultimate responsibility for health and safety of citizens at the state level of administration and this Compact will enable the establishment of the necessary machinery in each state for this administration in the newly developed area.

The importance of retaining state control was recently emphasized when the Department of Transportation issued a directive with regard to air shipment of many materials usurping the state's prerogatives. The Southern Conference demonstrated its effective-

ness by petitioning for a change in this directive which was effected. Assemblyman Young concluded his presentation by stating that he thought the Compact was the most economical way we have to develop the expertise we need for regulations in this area. He called attention to the projected expenses that are contained on page 22 of the Compact and explained that each state would share equally in the expenses and that a reciprocal agreement existed for the state's to utilize each others manpower and equipment.

It was developed that AB 31 appropriates from the general fund \$20,000 for the support of the Western Interstate Compact and the Western Interstate Nuclear Board for the biennium beginning July 1, 1969 and ending June 30, 1971 any unexpended balance of which would revert back to the fund. For this reason, Chairman Smith stated that the bill will go from this committee to the Ways and Means for further consideration.

After answering the individual members' various questions, Assemblyman Young was thanked and excused from the meeting.

Chairman Smith then introduced Superintendent Jac Shaw again to the committee for his comments on AB 166 and AB 279.

Mr. Shaw produced a drawing of the area referred to in AB 166 and outlining the parcels of land involved. One parcel of land consisting of about 12-1/2 acres is now under the administration of the department of conservation and natural resources. The other parcel which is in the same complex of the state's planning board negotiations is under the administration of the department of buildings and grounds. The purpose of this bill would be to allow the conveyance of the 12-1/2 acre parcel to buildings and grounds to clarify and solidify the administration of the whole. It was developed that the property metes and bounds have been researched as to accuracy to preclude any further adjustments.

Mr. Shaw then produced for the committee another drawing outlining property in Washoe County contiguous to the Nevada State Hospital property near the City of Sparks which AB 279 would allow to be sold. It is felt that the State does not need this particular parcel of land for its future development plans but that the land is being sought for development in that area by industry which would be valuable to that area's development. An amendment is necessary to correct the bills as follows: Delete the last word "along" from line 7; delete all of line 8; delete "to an intersection with the western boundary of the" from line 13; delete "property of the Nevada State Hospital" from line 14. This amendment will be drawn and submitted to the committee for future consideration of the bill. Mr. Shaw and his assistant were excused from the meeting.

Assemblyman Mel Close was then introduced for his comments on AB 52 which would provide for the observance of certain legal holidays on Mondays. Mr. Close said that he had prepared the bill with the idea of creating no new state holidays but to bring certain of the present state holidays into conformity with the Federal Act. Under the bill Memorial Day, and Veterans Days would be altered to Monday observance and the traditional holidays would remain as they are presently celebrated. The committee discussed at

length the possibility of adding Washington's Birthday to the bill. Mr. Close submitted a partial research he had made of the cost to the state of holiday salaries which he admitted was limited only certain segments of Clark County and Washoe County employees plus the State employees. He had included school district teacher salaries which Assemblyman Getto said would be misleading inasmuch as they are on contract salary. This research report is copied for this record. Mr. Close noted that Mr. Les Kofoed was present and said that he knew the committee would be asked by him to add Washington's Birthday as an amendment to the bill. He stated that in his view he did not favor the creation of any additional state holidays. His purpose was to make the present state holidays conform with the federal holidays. The cost of the holiday to the state in manpower costs should be considered. Mr. Close was thanked for his presentation and excused.

Mr. Les Kofoed was then introduced and stated that he represented many groups particularly the National Association of Travel Organizations and that he also was a member of the federal group created to sponsor state adoption of laws conforming to the Federal Act. He emphasized the economic gains to the state's tourism oriented businesses that result from weekend long holidays. It was developed that arguments can be made for the advantage to a private industry of closing for a long weekend rather than closing in mid-week and then resuming business again the following day. Mr. Kofoed was thanked for his presentation and excused. The committee agreed that full consideration should be given to this bill with regard to labor contract holiday provisions, economic advantages and disadvantages, and that two amendments should be prepared.

Chairman Smith asked the committee's pleasure with regard to SJR 27 of the 54th Session which would propose a constitutional amendment concerning compensation, and expenses of legislators. The committee agreed to defer this bill for consideration later. Chairman Smith said it would be considered then at next Monday's meeting.

SB 76 which would replace the highway patrol chief with the Attorney General on the Private Investigator's Licensing Board was discussed.

Dini moved Do Pass SB 76.
Lingenfelter seconded.
Motion unanimously passed.

Chairman Smith read the agenda that had been prepared for the next meeting. The committee chose to discuss AB 278 which would declare recreational use of water a beneficial use in Nevada. They reviewed the circumstances which led to the drafting of this bill as it related to AB 60 and the hearings on the Nevada-California Interstate Water Compact. Members indicated that AB 278 would affect persons who were not directly concerned with the regional effects of AB 60 but who were vitally interested in its effects on their particular region. Chairman Smith said that he would set Wednesday, February 26th as the date for an additional hearing on these two bills.

Mr. Clay Lynch appeared before the committee and stated that as the City Manager of North Las Vegas he wished to announce that SB 148 had been passed out of the Senate Committee and that negotiations between the Public Employees' Retirement Board and himself had been completed over the manner in which the assessment bonds of North Las Vegas could be refunded. Chairman Smith stated that he had asked Assemblyman Lingenfelter to sit in on those negotiations on behalf of the committee. Mr. Lingenfelter reported that he had done so, that the meeting was very short, and that after a concise presentation from Mr. Lynch the retirement board, at the chairmanship of Mr. Ken Buck, acted upon the agreed manner for refunding these assessment bonds. Chairman Smith thanked City Manager Lynch for his information and excused him from the meeting.

Chairman Smith then stated that for the information of the committee Senator Gibson had said that SB 148 had been passed out of the Senate with the understanding that this committee take no action until a complete audit of North Las Vegas was completed and available for further consideration. It was developed that in this connection it would be well for the committee to give consideration to restricting the investment of Public Employees' Retirement Board funds in the future. The committee agreed that action on SB 148 be deferred until the complete North Las Vegas audit was available and other details of the negotiated agreement between Chairman Buck and City Manager Lynch were gathered.

Before adjourning Chairman Smith emphasized his feeling that the committee members should each recognize the importance of each bill. He said that this meeting had demonstrated how vital they can become and how many different interested groups can be affected. He urged the continued careful consideration of each bill and the offering of an opportunity for all positions to be heard. The committee agreed to offer Assemblyman Branch's amendment to AB 241 on the assembly floor. This would correct the ward designations in the bill that would be created in North Las Vegas for electing councilmen. It was also agreed that Chairman Smith arrange for the introduction of Assemblyman Hilbrecht's amendment to AB 1 and: BDR C-767 which proposes to amend state constitution to increase maximum state debt allowance; and BDR 23-1329 which enlarges privilege of reinstating prior service for public employees' retirement.

Meeting adjourned.

(5)

close

151

School Districts (1967-68) payroll

(Teachers) Certified persons - \$ 48,800,000 ✓

Maintenance (etc) 9,000,000 ✓

\$ 57,800,000

(\div 187) = daily

309,000

State employees (1967-68) payroll

including U. of N

\$ 50,975,754

converted to daily (\div 261)

195,309

Clark County employees (6) 12,000,000
 ($\frac{1}{1} 260$) = daily 46,000

Washoe County employees 4,500,000
 $\frac{1}{1} 260$ = daily 17,000

DAILY TOTAL	309,000	School Dists
	195,309	State employ
	46,000	Clark Co.
	17,000	Washoe Co.

\$ 567,309
 PER DAY