

## MINUTES - COMMERCE COMMITTEE - 56TH ASSEMBLY - February 24, 1971

Present: McKissick, Hilbrecht, Capurro, Lingenfelter, Dini, Hafen,  
Branch

Absent: Ashworth, Poggione

Others present: Evo Granata, PSC; Senators Hug & Dodge; Dr. Homer;  
Don Walsh; Dr. Scribner - Mayor of Carson; Assemblyman  
Hal Smith

Chairman McKissick convened the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Senator Hug explained - S.B. 34 - Incorporates Episcopal Diocese of Nevada to missionary district. He explained that at present the Episcopal Diocese is now under the National Churches who appoint the bishop. They now feel that they can self-support themselves and would like to ~~incorporate~~ incorporate. This would repeal portions of N.R.S. 82.380. Chairman McKissick appointed Branch to work on this proposed bill.

Senator Dodge explained SB-92 - Makes transcription of Public Service Commission hearings discretionary in certain cases. He said there was a problem with the small trucker filing for common carrier licenses. The cost is now prohibitive as they must pay \$200 for filing plus pay for the transcription. Many truckers simply cannot do this. They wished this bill to go through so they may be permitted to keep tapes of small hearings and only have them transcribed if there is a protest. Hilbrecht brought up that the parties protesting should pay for this cost. Mr. Granata said the Public Service Commission simply do not have the personnel for all transcriptions. He also concurred that the small applicants were being discouraged from applying.

Motion by Hilbrecht for a do pass on S.B. 34 and S.B. 92, with McKissick seconding. Motion passed with the quorum of McKissick, Hilbrecht, Lingenfelter, Dini, and Branch voting in favor.

Motion by Hilbrecht to postpone A.B. 294 to give time for the committee to meet with Mr. Luker and the PSC. Seconded by McKissick and carried.

Dr. Homer appeared concerning A.B. 64, prohibits exclusion of podiatric and chiropractic treatment from accident and sickness insurance policies. He stated that the American Medical Society is against this proposal, stating that it will cost more if chiropractors are included in the policy but the policies state how much may be spent on one certain ailment so this is not true. He also said this would be discrimination as it would freeze the chiropractor profession out.

Dr. Homer stated that petitions had been sent to every chiropractor in the State of Nevada and each petition contained the following:

"We, the undersigned, respectfully petition the Nevada legislature:

I. To recognize our need and desire for the benefits of chiropractic care, which embraces elements of the healing art not customarily applied by physicians of other schools of healing.

2. To require that chiropractic care be made available, at the option of the patient, by the Nevada Industrial Commission and any other insurance carrier providing group coverage, on an equal basis with care according to other schools of healing.
3. Not to restrict the use by chiropractors of the several means of diagnosis now permitted by law, or other means not involving surgery or the administration of drugs which the chiropractic branch of the healing art may develop.
4. Not to require the approval of schools or colleges of chiropractic, as a condition of practice in this state by their graduates, by any authority except the Nevada State Board of Chiropractic Examiners or a recognized professional association of chiropractic physicians."

The above petition has some valid 3,000 signatures throughout the state.

Dr. Homer also brought out that the American Medical Association is trying to get legislature passed whereby chiropractors would be unable to x-ray patients. Hilbrecht said that A.B. 366 applies to proper screening and shielding when x-rays are given.

Mr. McKissick said he received a letter from Mr. Hanna, who is the life insurance representative for America, in which he objected to chiropractors being included in group policies. These copies were given to the Commerce Committee members and shall be included as part of these minutes.

Don Walsh appeared and said that the inclusion of chiropractors in group insurance would not increase costs. He also said that he believed this would be discrimination if they were not included.

Mayor Scribner appeared and presented the following list of states which now include chiropractors in their State Insurance Equality Laws. They are: New Mexico, Delaware, Utah, Michigan, Montana, Maryland, Connecticut, Ohio, Texas, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Virginia, California, Indiana, Nebraska, Illinois, North Carolina, Missouri, New Hampshire, South Dakota, and Arkansas.

Don Walsh submitted a copy of a news release from the Las Vegas Review Journal whereby they endorse the Insurance may pay for chiropractors. This article is attached to these minutes and shall become a part thereof.

Motion by Branch for a do pass on A.B. 64 as amended, seconded by Capurro and carried with a quorum of Branch, Capurro, Hafen, Lingenfelter and McKissick voting in favor.

Assemblyman Smith who introduced A.B. 278 - provides that certain telephone solicitations constitute false, deceptive or misleading advertising - explained his reasons for this proposed bill. He explained that in business as well as homes people are getting calls whereby they must listen to the whole conversation before finding out it is requesting money for some service. Many of these calls are under the guise of promoting money for civic organizations, school functions, etc. Mr. Hafen suggested that perhaps this proposed bill should be included in the real estate bill. It was brought out that this bill could possible define what is false, deceptive and misleading advertising.

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Motion by Lingenfelter that a do pass be given on A.B. 278, seconded by Branch and carried.

Chairman McKissick brought up that on gaming subcommittee hearings, and hearings on proposed legislation for cities, counties, only the Legislative Commission members are paid.

Motion by Hafen: I move to introduce the bill<sup>\*</sup> to provide legislators as well as the legislative commission members be paid for attending hearings. Seconded by Lingenfelter and carried.

Chairman McKissick explained that he had a lengthy memo from Russ McDonald explaining changes in computing the way legislators are paid for salary and per diem. It was decided that this should go to Ways and Means.

Chairman McKissick stated that he would be in court in Las Vegas at the start of the meeting on Friday so Mr. Lingenfelter agreed that he would convene the meeting until McKissick could attend.

The March 1 meeting was changed back to room 214.

Chairman McKissick said he would like to set up agendas for the auto repair bills - A.B. 213 and 358 for March 15. The green stamp bill is to be set for March 17 (A.B. 351).

McKissick reported that Russ McDonald had received word from Mr. Denenberg that he would be unable to attend meetings on the new insurance code until the week of March 22. It was decided that hearings on A.B. 416 - insurance code - would be set for March 25, 26 and if necessary, March 27. This will be a joint meeting with the Senate in room 131.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

\*A.B. 479 (BDR 17-712)

LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL - February 20, 1971

R-J viewpoint

# Insurance may pay for chiropractors

A proposed bill that should be passed by the current State Legislature has provisions in back and accident insurance policies excluding payments to licensed chiropractors and podiatrists.

Introduced as Assembly Bill No. 61 by Assemblyman Dr. John H. Horner, Fallon City, it has been referred to the Committee on Commerce. Hopefully, the legislators will give it the consideration it deserves.

The bill specifically provides that "no policy of accident and sickness insurance shall be delivered or issued for delivery to any person in this state if it prohibits the insured from seeking a podiatrist or a chiropractor licensed under Nevada Revised Statutes to perform services covered by terms of the policy.

An underlying issue in the matter is whether a resident of Nevada should be restricted from seeking the services of a chiropractor or a podiatrist to relieve an I.I.D.

Anyone who has been relieved of pain by a chiropractor's manipulations can attest to the benefits of such treatments. In some in-

stances those who have been helped by a chiropractor initially sought the services of an I.I.D. but were unable to gain relief from pain through the usual type of medical care. Others who find the treatments of podiatrists beneficial may not feel it necessary to seek the care of an I.I.D.

Chiropractors believe that diseases result from lack of normal nerve function, and they manipulate body joints and especially the spinal column to alleviate ailments. Podiatrists deal with the care of the feet and particularly foot disorders.

Certainly, no one can question the value of the services performed by an I.I.D. There are many conditions that can only be cured through surgery or by taking medicine prescribed by a physician who has graduated from a medical school at a university.

But the fact remains that some people are helped by methods of treatment such as chiropractic and podiatry, and it is only fair to ensure that Nevadans in this category are allowed to be compensated by health and accident insurance companies when they are treated by licensed chiropractors and podiatrists.

LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL – February 20, 1971

*R-J viewpoint*

## **Insurance may pay for chiropractors**

A proposed bill that should be passed by the current State Legislature bans provisions in health and accident insurance policies excluding payments to licensed chiropractors and podiatrists.

Introduced as Assembly Bill No. 64 by Assemblyman Dr. John H. Homer, R-Carson City, it has been referred to the Committee on Commerce. Hopefully, the legislators will give it the consideration it deserves.

The bill specifically provides that "no policy of accident and sickness insurance shall be delivered or issued for delivery to any person in this state if it prohibits the insured from selecting" a podiatrist or a chiropractor licensed under Nevada Revised Statutes to perform services covered by terms of the policy.

An underlying issue in the matter is whether a resident of Nevada should be penalized for preferring the services of a chiropractor or a podiatrist to those of an M.D.

Anyone who has been relieved of pain by a chiropractor's manipulations can attest to the benefits of such treatment. In some in-

stances those who have been helped by a chiropractor initially sought the services of an M.D. but were unable to gain relief from pain through the usual type of medical care. Others who find the treatments of podiatrists beneficial may not feel it necessary to seek the care of an M.D.

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Certainly, no one can question the value of the services performed by an M.D. There are many conditions that can only be cured through surgery or by taking medicine prescribed by a physician who has graduated from a medical school at a university.

But the fact remains that some people are helped by methods of treatment such as chiropractic and podiatry, and it is only fair to ensure that Nevadans in this category are allowed to be compensated by health and accident insurance companies when they are treated by licensed chiropractors and podiatrists.