

Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING - ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE - APRIL 5, 1971

FIFTY-SIXTH NEVADA ASSEMBLY SESSION

386

PRESENT: Homer, Ronzone, Olsen, Lowman, Swackhamer, Bryan, Dini and Getto

ABSENT: Fry

OTHERS: Senator Titlow

Chairman Homer called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M. Discussion followed concerning S.J.R. 2, S.B. 100, S.B. 99, S.J.R. 26, S.C.R. 19, A.B. 803, S.B. 352, A.B. 10, A.B. 295 and S.B. 490.

S.J.R. 2 "Memorializes Congress to amend mining laws to prevent abuses by speculators". Mr. Lowman moved "do pass". Mr. Ronzone seconded. Motion carried.

S.B. 100 "Enables Division of Forestry to accept, sell, reforest, protect, donated lands adaptable for forest growth". Mr. Swackhamer suggested holding this bill for further discussion. It was agreed by the committee.

S.B. 99 "Provides minimum penalties for violation of fire-, tree-, and flora-protection laws". Mr. Swackhamer suggested holding this bill for further discussion. It was agreed by the committee.

S.J.R. 26 "Requests U.S. Forest Service to close vehicle access to certain roads." Senator Titlow was present to speak on this resolution. Mr. Swackhamer was concerned with the affect this would have on mining operations. The Senator explained that there was no mining operation in the designated area because the country is precipitous. He said what is happening is that motor bikes are getting in and tearing up this country. The Forest Service are the ones who want this and so do the people in the area. It does not curtail mining or range rights. Mr. Swackhamer wanted to know how one would get into the country. The Senator said either on foot or horseback and this is because you can't get in that country with a jeep. Mr. Getto moved "do pass". Mr. Ronzone seconded. Motion carried.

S.C.R. 19 "Memorializes Central Nevada Resource Development Authority and State Department of Economic Development to study feasibility of constructing custom milling and mineral recovery facilities." Senator Titlow also explained this resolution. He said the main reason for this is to get Federal funds into the area. There is no State money involved. We just want to get some mining started in the area to help the economy. Mr. Swackhamer moved "do pass". Mr. Ronzone seconded. Motion carried.

A.B. 803 "Requires restoration of mining waste and tailing dumps and performance bond." Mr. Swackhamer explained a little about mine tailings. He said in the early days the tailings from the mines came out of the mines and just went everywhere. Now, there is no way that mines can dump their tailings on any land except their own. The mining industry has been through this before and they know that if they even kill one cow that there will be many lawsuits. He said he knew of several big chemical companies that are running tests to find ways to grow vegetation on the tailings. He felt we should wait a little bit and they will solve the problem. The committee decided to hold the bill.

S.B. 352 "Grants power to enjoin new construction when waste or sewage treatment facilities are inadequate." Mr. Dini moved "do pass". Mr. Getto seconded. Motion carried.

A.B. 10 "Requires reports concerning nondegradable detergents and prohibits their use." And A.B. 295 is "Limiting sale of detergents containing phosphates."

Chairman Homer read a sheet of proposed amendments for either of these bills submitted by Mr. Hutchins, a Registered Professional Engineer. Mr. Ronzone wondered if Nevada alone could do this because many pollutants come into the State from other states in our rivers. Chairman Homer said this is one reason why we have to research this now and get these things out of Nevada's water. He felt passing a bill like one of these would be the greatest thing this committee could do this session. Mr. Swackhamer said he would like to see an amendment to this bill so the grocery man isn't the one enforcing this. He also wondered if this would affect the dishwashers and washing machines. Chairman Homer said it would not and that it is only a compromise measure. Mr. Bryan moved "do pass" A.B. 295. Mr. Olsen seconded. Motion carried. Mr. Swackhamer vote against it and Mr. Dini did not vote.

S.B. 490 "Provides for establishment of solid waste management systems." Mr. Bryan moved "do pass". Mr. Getto seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 A.M.

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