

MINUTES OF MEETING--COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS
56TH ASSEMBLY SESSION

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March 25, 1971

PRESENT: N. Lauri, Chairman, R. Young, D. Mello, W. Wilson,
N. Glaser, J. Schofield and R. Torvinen

OTHERS

PRESENT: Lawrence Jacobsen, Speaker of the Assembly.

Mr. Lauri convened the meeting at 12:00 Noon, in the Ways and Means Committee room.

The draft of a bill, requested by Frank Young, was read by Mr. Lauri. Basically the bill would set up the machinery to take care of elections of the Senate and Assembly, after reapportionment. Committee introduction was approved.

Discussion followed on A.B. 784.

A.B. 784: Restricts public employees from serving as elected officers under certain conditions.

Mr. Lauri explained that this basically may be a conflict of interest bill, however, it would restrict the public employee from moving into a higher body thereby telling their representation on the lower level how they shall serve.

Mr. Schofield said he would go along if an amendment was added to include attorneys, insurance men, railroad people etc. Mr. Lauri stated that people in the private sector are subject to the push and pull of the over-all economy whereas the public employee is paid by a state fund which, he believed, would indicate a conflict with the democratic system.

Jack Schofield stated that he felt the bill was unconstitutional when you are trying to deprive people like himself from running for Assemblyman. Also, he stated that there was no one in here that doesn't have some form of conflict of interest.

Nick Lauri said the bill has been checked with the Attorney General's office and it is not unconstitutional. Since several members felt there was not sufficient time to discuss this bill at the meeting, further discussion will be taken up at the next meeting.

Mr. Jacobsen spoke briefly on the various studies recommended and given to the Legislative Functions committee for action and referral to the Legislative Commission. He said there were about 21 of these studies proposed, at the present time. There will be a meeting of the Legislative Commission on Monday, March 29th, at which time Mr. Jacobsen would like this committee's recommendations as to which studies should be made. There will be a meeting of the Legislative Functions committee on Monday the 29th, at the a.m. recess, to have their recommendations ready for Mr. Jacobsen. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.