

Assembly

Margot 127

MINUTES - WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 56th SESSION - FEB. 19, 1971

Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 1:50 P. M.

Present: R. Young, Howard, Capurro, Hafen, F. Young, Brookman, Mello, Swackhamer, Hilbrecht, Lingenfelter

Absent: Schofield (Excused)

Guests: Earl Oliver, Fiscal Analyst; R. McLeod, Budget Div.; John Dolan, Budget Div.; Roger Trounday, Dir. HWR; M. Flander, Services to the Blind; Mike Vador, Services to the Blind; George Miller, Welfare Div.; John Duarte, Chief, Mgt. Services, Welfare; Dino Martini, Chief of Finance, Welfare; Bill Labadie, Dept. Admin, Welfare; O. Wahrenbrock, Dept. Dir. HWR; Minor Kelso, Chief, Medical Care.

Chairman Young asked for approval of the minutes of the Feb. 17th meeting.

Mr. Mello moved to approve the minutes.

Mr. Lingenfelter Seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

PAGE 223 - WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

New Positions - Two welfare hearing officers, one legal steno, 1 accountant, two senior clerk typists, two work training technicians, four social worker supervisors II, 30 eligibility workers (20 out of 30 requested effective April 1 through July 1 to prevent ineligibles from coming on welfare roles. The salary of these 20 personnel will be paid through salary savings.). In addition Mr. Duhart stated that effective April 1, they need two attorneys plus 1 secretary. This is not in budget. The attorneys are needed to comply with federal laws and regulations requiring that welfare recipients receive fair hearings.

The attorneys are over and above what is in budget now; however, they have money to cover the two attorneys and secretary from April 1 through July 1. If this is approved, starting July 1, they would need additional funding to cover salaries of attorneys and secretary for next biennium.

PAGE 228 - AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Governor is recommending increase to \$37.00 per recipient. The agency had recommended \$72.00 per recipient. ADC program is difficult to project and with the \$5.00 increase, the Welfare administration stated that they would not be able to administer this.

PAGE 230 - AID TO THE BLIND

Increase in case loads; however, there is essentially no change in the budget.

PAGE 231 - OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Increase in number of people on Old Age Assistance. Governor recommends Old Age Assistance payments of \$76.00 per month per recipient (federal government pays \$50 and State will pay \$26.00).

PAGE 232 - CHILD WELFARE

Effective April 1, the Governor recommends average payment be increased from \$80.00 per month to \$100.00 per month. Mr. Miller stated that there are many bills coming out that border into area of children's protective services. He stated that if these bills get passed that they will be not able to handle new programs under the present budget. Mr. Miller stated that their foster care program has been cut down over 25% of what it was two years ago. Mr. Miller stated that the agency asked for \$150 per month for foster parents but the Governor only recommended \$100.

Discussion on foster parents paramedical complaints, clothing, etc. (Hilbrecht, Brookman, Miller). Mr. Miller explained that the law does not allow the agency to pay for treatment after a child has been adopted; many people would like to adopt a handicapped child but they cannot afford to pay the medical expenses.

Discussion on bill regarding protective services (Hilbrecht, Miller). Mr. Miller stated that the way the statute presently reads, they can't get involved because of court action. Chairman Young stated that the Committee would look at these bills dealing with children's protective services which are presently in Judiciary. Mr. Miller stated that he is not in agreement with the cost figures of these bills and went on to say that the fiscal impact must be examined closely.

PAGE 236 - WORK INCENTIVE

No change.

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PAGE 237 - MEDICAL CARE UNIT

New Positions - Dr. Kelso stated that it is impossible to manage Title XIX without fund assistance. Savings have been realized in the past with the addition of new positions. Agency is requesting position of Assistant Chief of Medical Services who would monitor every facet of administration. In addition, the agency requests the position of one pharmacist. Dr. Kelso stated that \$700,000 a year is spent on drugs. The pharmacist would assist Dr. Kelso in putting controls on the disbursement of drugs, i.e. in nursing homes. He mentioned the problem of many drugs that are on the market which cost more than others yet do the same thing (he referred to an acceptable list of 4,000 generics).

More than 35% of welfare budget is in the medical care unit. Dr. Kelso stated that 50 doctors are presently involved in this program. Mr. Miller stated that additional staff is needed to better administer the program.

Dr. Kelso spoke favorably on EDP.

PAGE 243 - INTERMEDIATE CARE PROGRAM

Discussion regarding changes in payments to recipients (Hilbrecht, Miller). Mr. Miller stated that the budget is predicated on \$300 per recipient per month and he stated that nursing homes get \$600 per patient. In addition, there are many levels of care.

PAGE 244 - HOME MAKING SERVICES

Governor has recommended a slight increase in budget. Purpose of program is to maintain care of senior citizens in their own homes.

PAGE 246 - FEDERAL CUBAN REFUGEE

Budget is 100% federally funded. Most of these people are in the Las Vegas area.

PAGE 248 - U.S. INDIAN SERVICE

Budget is 100% federally funded.

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PAGE 250 WELFARE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

No change.

PAGE 257 - SERVICES TO THE BLIND

Agency has experienced a substantial increase in the number of people they have rehabilitated (number has increased by 400% since 1964). Budget has a 25% increase. Mr. Flanders stated they use the California relative scale of \$5.50 per unit value and that they project unit value to increase to 7%. Mr. Flanders also stated that he feels the agency can live within the budget but added that it will curtail state vocational rehabilitation program. He stated that in the next biennium that they would attempt to develop a volunteer program. Also some concession stands would be effected.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE-NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE-56th SESSION

AGENDA - FEBRUARY 19, 1971 - FRIDAYAFTERNOON - BUDGET HEARINGS

<u>TIME</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE</u>
2:00	Tahoe Regional Planning	371	J. K. Smith
2:30	Dept. Health, Welfare and Rehabilitation (remainder of budget)		Roger Trounday