

MEETING  
OF THE  
SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
COMMERCE

Date: April 1, 1971

Members Present:           Senator Close  
                              Senator Drakulich  
                              Senator Hecht  
                              Senator Swobe

Members Absent:            Senator Lamb

Others Present:            Attorney General Bob List  
                              Lou Margullis, formerly with BBB in Reno  
                              Assemblyman Tom Kean  
                              Don McNalley, Real Estate Division  
                              Virgil Anderson, AAA  
                              O. K. McFarland, Fire Marshal, Las Vegas  
                              Richard Bast, Fire Marshal, Carson City

Chairman Close called the meeting to order at 1:12 P.M.

AB 148 - Creates consumer protection responsibilities  
                              in office of Attorney General.

Senator Close told the committee that he had some amendments furnished by Dr. White which would eliminate the three-man board.

Mr. List: Our office and that of the Department of Commerce are not very far apart in our thinking. Our office has received approximately 23 complaints since January and we are running triple the number for the same period last year.

In reviewing AB 148 as it has been finally amended and passed in the Assembly, it seems to us that it sets up a pretty good system. Our interest lies in the enforcement end. We feel the subpoena powers are vital if the enforcement is to mean anything.

I agree with Dr. White's two first amendments but not the last. It may be that some of our powers are inherent, but we would like to see them spelled out expressly. The bill would merely provide for a statutory division within our office for the division of consumer enforcement. If the money committees do not give us an additional position, I will designate one of my deputies as chief of the consumer enforcement division.

Mr. Margullis told the committee that he strongly favors this legislation.

AJR 1 - Memorializes Congress to enact legislation adopting the metric system.

Assemblymen Kean said the reason he introduced this bill was that he hoped for some publicity for the state of Nevada.

AB 198 - Allows Nevada Real Estate Advisory Commission more time for conducting hearings and rendering decisions.

Mr. McNally told the committee that the primary purpose of the bill is to extend the statutory time limits in which hearings or decisions must be held or rendered by the Commission. This would also avoid great expense involved in special meetings.

None of the proposed amendments would prejudice the rights of any applicant for licensing. He told the members that the realtors seem to be in favor of this legislation.

AB 144 - Expands motor vehicle liability insurance coverage.

Mr. Anderson said the present law specifies that uninsured motorist insurance must be in the amount of financial responsibility limits. This bill would allow carriers to exceed this limit if they so desire.

SB 597 - Authorizes state fire marshal to inspect and certify construction of mobile homes, modular

Messrs. McFarland and Bast told the committee that they wish to delete the section pertaining to modular homes on the first page of the bill.

Mr. Joe Midmore, Executive Vice President, Builders' Association of Northern Nevada, appeared before the committee with regard to AB 351.

Mr. Carl Soderblom, Southern Pacific, appeared with questions on AB 63, the definition of a "public utility".

Following all the testimony, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.