

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of Meeting -- April 14, 1971

The forty-first meeting of the Senate Committee on Federal, State and Local Governments was held on the 14th day of April, 1971.

Committee members present: James I. Gibson
Carl F. Dodge
Warren L. Monroe
Lee Walker
Stan Drakulich
Coe Swobe
Chic Hecht

Also present were:

William D. Swackhamer, Assemblyman
Russ McDonald, Legislative Counsel Bureau
Jim Parrott, Clark County Sanitation District
Art Olsen, Assemblyman
Tim Hafen, Assemblyman
Dave Henry, Clark County Administrator
Curt Blyth, Nevada Municipal Association
C. W. Lingenfelter, Assemblyman
Jean Ford, League of Women Voters
Press

Chairman Gibson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Several matters were before the committee for consideration.

AB 726 Authorizes boards of school trustees and boards of hospital trustees in certain counties to establish separate bank accounts.

Assemblyman William Swackhamer explained that this legislation had been drafted at the request of the people of Pershing County. He said that under the new budget act the hospitals and schools have to maintain their own records. This will include only the day-to-day operation, and all bonding will still be administered at the county level.

Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Hecht. The motion carried.

AB 631 Proposes various amendments to General Improvement Districts Law.

Mr. Parrott testified that the purpose of this bill was to make the county commissioners responsible for rates instead of the Public Service Commission, as the county commissioners should be equally responsible to the public for determining rates in the small districts -- the Public Service Commission is in agreement on this. Another facet of this bill is that under Chapter 252, 318 water and sewer districts slowly in each election replaced members of the county commission with local members, and they would like to see this again under the responsibility of the county commissioners.

Mr. McDonald of the Legislative Counsel Bureau spoke in support of AB 631, going over the various provisions and discussing it with the committee.

Senator Monroe moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Dodge. The motion carried.

AB 451 Changes regulation of zoos in certain counties from State to County.

Assemblyman Art Olsen spoke in favor of AB 451. The statutes presently do not allow private enterprise to open a zoo. Mr. Olsen explained this bill has been amended to require the county commissioners to first issue a permit, and if there is any question on the financial responsibility they would require a bond. In addition, the operation of the zoo would have to meet the requirements and regulations set up by Fish and Game. Assemblyman Hafen also commented briefly in support of AB 451.

Senator Drakulich moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Hecht. The motion carried.

(Recess)

Chairman Gibson called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

AB 78 Requires state and political subdivisions to comply with local building and zoning laws.

Assemblyman Lingenfelter testified that in essence this bill makes the State of Nevada and its political subdivisions conform with the same zoning regulations that private citizens have to conform with if they are going to build a commercial development. It was suggested that an amendment should be added to this exempting existing facilities.

ACR 11 Directs Legislative Commission to make study of laws relating to architecture, construction industry, and engineering.

Assemblyman Lingenfelter asked that he be heard on ACR 11, although the committee is no longer considering this proposal. He stressed that he felt this was a serious problem among these professions and perhaps a two year study would help to resolve their differences and give them some definite guidelines.

SB 595 Enacts law regulating land sales.

Chairman Gibson requested action on this bill, since it is identical to AB 782 which has been passed out of committee with a "Do Pass" recommendation. Senator Monroe moved to "Hold", seconded by Senator Dodge. The motion carried.

AB 284 Revises composition of Public Employees' Retirement Board and provides for election of members by employee groups.

Chairman Gibson read the proposed amendment to AB 284. Mr. Blyth spoke in opposition to the bill, stating that it would not improve the law to change the makeup of the Board as proposed here.

Senator Drakulich moved to "Hold", seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

AB 176 Increases salaries of Reno mayor and city councilmen.

This bill would increase the salaries of the city councilmen to \$7,200 and the salary of the Reno mayor to \$9,000 per year. Senator Drakulich moved to "Amend and Do Pass", seconded by Senator Dodge. The motion carried.

AB 667 Expands definition of "police officer" and "fireman" for purposes of public employees' retirement system.

Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Drakulich. The motion carried.

AB 700 Delays further annexations and incorporation of cities in Clark County.

There was a previous hearing on this proposal during which the committee heard testimony from several witnesses. Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

SCR 30 Directs legislative commission to study methods of tax relief for senior citizens.

Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

SCR 31 Directs legislative commission to study subdivision laws and related topics.

Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

AB 441 Makes Columbus Day a legal holiday.

Senator Monroe moved to "Hold", seconded by Senator Dodge. The motion was defeated.

AB 495 Requires sewage disposal and water quantity and quality of new subdivisions to be approved by health division.

Jean Ford of the League of Women Voters stated that they support this bill. Following discussion, Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Drakulich. The motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jean Fondi,
Committee Secretary

James I. Gibson,
Committee Chairman