

Senate

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of Meeting -- April 9, 1971

The thirty-sixth meeting of the Committee on Federal, State and Local Governments was held on the 9th day of April, 1971.

Committee members present:

- James I. Gibson
- Coe Swobe
- Stan Drakulich
- Warren L. Monroe
- Chic Hecht
- Carl F. Dodge
- Lee Walker

Also present were:

- Tom Wilson, Senator
- Jan McEachern, League of Women Voters
- Russ McDonald, Legislative Counsel Bureau
- Jean Ford, League of Women Voters
- Curt Blyth, Nevada Municipal Association
- Press

Chairman Gibson called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. The main purpose of this meeting was to go over the Senate Concurrent Resolutions and determine which studies should be approved. Jan McEachern of the League of Women Voters submitted a statement with regard to the proposed Legislative Commission studies, a copy of which is attached hereto.

SCR-3 Directs Legislative Commission to study environmental pollution and related topics.

SCR-17 Directs Legislative Commission to study environmental problems in concert with the Governor's Environmental Council.

SCR-23 Directs Legislative Commission to study need for and feasibility of statewide land use planning.

Senator Wilson testified before the committee urging that they approve interim studies in the area of environmental control, which would keep them better informed and provide

continuity. Mr. McDonald also testified, stating that he felt there should be at least a "current digest" so that the legislators can be kept informed, and suggested that this be conducted with part staff and part subcommittee members. Since there is an overlap, it was decided that SCR-3 and SCR-23 would be combined under SCR-17.

Senator Dodge moved to "combine SCR-3 and SCR-23 under SCR-17 and Do Pass," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

SCR-8 Directs Legislative Commission to study Truckee River Basin.

Senator Swobe spoke in support of this resolution stating that it was needed to include inter-state study in working with California on the Truckee River Basin.

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

SCR-12 Directs Legislative Commission to study public purchasing laws, practices, and procedures.

SCR-21 Directs Legislative Commission to continue its study of municipal governments.

Senator Monroe stated that he felt this was a needed study (SCR-12) and should be approved. This could be combined with SCR-21, and would fall within the study of municipal governments.

Senator Monroe moved to "combine SCR-12 under SCR-21 and Do Pass on SCR-21," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

SCR-14 Directs Legislative Commission to study facilities for juvenile offenders.

Senator Dodge suggested that the State Planning Board has a special division that would be equipped to look into this and conduct the necessary study. Mr. Hancock will be called to speak on this resolution at the meeting on Monday, April 12.

SCR-28 Directs Legislative Commission to continue highway safety and motor vehicle law study.

Mr. McDonald of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, and Senator Dodge both spoke in support of continuing this study. Senator Dodge moved to "continue study under SCR-28 and Do Pass," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

ACR-10 Directs Legislative Commission to study Nevada Industrial Commission.

Senator Dodge stated that the problems under the NIC are quite broad and that this study should be approved. After discussion with Mr. McDonald it was agreed that this resolution would be abandoned and instead would be drafted into a special act.

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

Mr. McDonald stated that the thrust of this study would be to differentiate between the different professional groups. Following discussion Senator Swobe moved to "Hold," seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

ACR-13 Directs Legislative Commission to conduct study of state welfare laws.

Mr. McDonald stated that this could be done as a staff study, and would include an evaluation of the present statutes to see where they are deficient and what is available.

Senator Dodge moved to "Do Pass as a staff study," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

ACR-20 Directs Legislative Commission to study election laws of State.

Chairman Gibson pointed out that there is one area where the election laws are lacking, and that is with reference to voting machines.

Senator Dodge moved to "Do Pass as a staff study," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

ACR-22 Directs Legislative Commission to study calendar school year for public schools.

Senator Dodge noted that there is presently another study in progress in this regard. Senator Dodge moved that "Mr. McDonald contact the Governor and request that this be included in the study presently being conducted, and to Hold on ACR-22," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

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ACR-25 Directs Legislative Commission to study legislative rules.

Mr. McDonald suggested that this study be approved with special emphasis on the Senate rules. Senator Dodge moved that this "be approved as a staff study and Do Pass," seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

ACR-26 Requests chief of Buildings and Grounds Division to designate "no-smoking" areas in state buildings.

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

ACR-39 Directs Legislative Commission to study problem of conflicts of interest at all levels of government.

It was noted that there is a lot of interest in this type of study and that this has been done extensively in California. Mr. McDonald stated that this could be conducted as a staff study. Senator Swobe moved to "Do Pass as a staff study," seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

ACR-40 Memorializes Division of State Parks to do feasibility study regarding acquisition of buildings, artifacts, and antiques in Goldfield.

Senator Dodge moved to "Hold," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

ACR-35 Directs Legislative Commission to study public employees' retirement system.

ACR-41 Directs Public Employees' Retirement Board to have study made of public employees' retirement system and make recommendations.

Senator Swobe moved to "Hold ACR-35 and ACR-41 and substitute a new bill," seconded by Senator Dodge. The motion carried.

SB-545 Establishes procedure for creating underground electric and communication service districts.

Mr. McDonald stated that there was still some question on parts of this legislation in question by bond counsel, but he recommended that it could be approved at this time and then amended later as needed.

Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass as Amended," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

SB-621 Provides for registration and licensing of geologists.

Chairman Gibson stated that he had checked with the board in regard to classification and found there is no problem. Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass," seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

AJR-2 Proposes to amend Nevada Constitution to permit county governing bodies to fix compensation of county officers.

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

AJR-15 Proposes to amend Nevada Constitution by limiting number of days of regular and special legislative sessions and by conforming number of days of compensation of legislators to such limit.

Senator Swobe moved "Do Pass," seconded by Senator Walker. The motion was defeated.

AJR-38 Proposes amendment of certain limitations on the operation of the initiative.

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

AB-8 Designates use of former legislative chambers and creates Capitol Artists Commission.

Chairman Gibson went over the proposed amendment to AB-8. Senator Swobe moved "Do Pass," seconded by Senator Drakulich. The motion carried.

AB-325 Increases maximum draught from wells for domestic purposes not requiring permits.

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

AB-742 Grants board of county commissioners power to exempt certain land from subdivision regulation.

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

AB-421 Requires certain general improvement districts to share excess capacity.

Senator Swobe spoke in support of AB-421. It was again noted that the Public Service Commission has the authority to take care of the problem in this area. Senator Drakulich moved to "Hold," seconded by Senator Monroe. The motion carried.

AB-85 Authorizes special assessment levies against State and political subdivisions.

Mr. Blyth of the Nevada Municipal Association stated that this legislation had come from a problem in Boulder City, and there is a definite need for it. Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

AB-804 Authorizes State and certain political subdivisions to negotiate sale, lease of Marlette Lake water system; creates advisory committee for system.

Following discussion, Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass," seconded by Senator Swobe. The motion carried.

AB-807 Validates prior action creating unincorporated town of Beatty in Nye County.

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

Chairman Gibson went over the agenda for the meeting on Monday. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jean Fondi,
Committee Secretary

April 9, 1971

TO: The Senate Committee on Federal, State and Local Affairs
Senator James Gibson, Chairman

FROM: The League of Woman Voters of Nevada

Re: Concurrent Resolutions for Legislative Commission Studies

The following list of Senate and Assembly Concurrent Resolutions regarding possible Legislative Commission studies is arranged in the order of priorities concluded by the League of Women Voters of Nevada. There are several other studies suggested which are undoubtedly very worthwhile, but as they do not fall within the scope of present League positions, we cannot comment on them.

It has been a problem to assign priorities, as every listed item has merit. We decided, however, that until some legislative procedures are changed, it will become more and more difficult to carry out any recommendations made in the studies. Therefore ACR 25, directing the Commission to study legislative rules heads the list. We then set down ~~the~~ those items that affect Nevadans statewide. The items at the end, -- ACR 39, ACR 3, SCR 8-- , are in that position because we think these are matters that might be researched outside the Legislative Commission and the findings turned over to that body.

In contemplating the complete list of studies introduced, we do not envy your decision-making role. It is our hope that you will assign priorities to those subjects of most pressing importance to the greatest number of Nevadans, and that our suggestions will be of some assistance. After the final decisions have been made by the Legislature, if the expertise of the League in research can aid the sub-committees of the Commission, please call upon us, no matter what the chosen subjects are.

- 1. ACR 25 LEGISLATIVE RULES
- 2. ACR 13 STATE WELFARE LAWS
- 3. SCR 14 FACILITIES FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS
- 4. SCR 23 STATEWIDE LAND USE PLANNING
- 5. SCR 21 CONTINUED STUDY OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS
- 6. SCR 17 ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN CONCERT WITH GOVR'S ENVIRONMENTAL COUNSEL
- 7. ACR 20 STATE ELECTION LAWS
- 8. ACR 39 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
- 9. ACR 3 CAMPAIGN COSTS
- 10. SCR 8 TRUCKEE RIVER BASIN