

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE

Minutes of Meeting -- March 16, 1971

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Senators present: Chairman Walker
Senator Hug
Senator Herr
Senator Young

Guests present: Lou Paley, AFL-CIO
Orville Wahrenbrock, Health, Welfare, and Rehab.
Ann Roberts, League of Women Voters
Dr. Robert McAllister, Div. of Mental Health
James Faehling, Welfare Division
Gloria Handley, Welfare Division
Bill LaBabie, Welfare Division
Roger Troumday,, Health, Welfare and Rehabilitation
Del Frost, Division of Rehabilitation
Dr. John Carr, Health Division

S.B. 556 Proposed by Committee on Health and Welfare
Eliminates requirement that state board of health
meet in Carson City.

Mr. Wahrenbrock said this was a Department bill that would give them flexibility in setting meetings by eliminating fixed meeting time and places. They are required by statute to hold two meetings a year.

Senator Hug moved "Do Pass", seconded by Senator Herr and carried.

S.B. 335 Proposed by Committee on Health and Welfare
Repeals certain provisions concerning food and drink
establishments and removes money limitation for food-
handlers' physical examinations.

Mr. Wahrenbrock said this bill was requested by Ernie Gregory who was in another committee meeting. He said he had heard some objection to removing subsection 2 of Section 1 and that he didn't think the Department had any objection to this.

Lou Paley objected to the elimination of Subsection 2 because it would remove the limit of \$2 a foodhandler must pay for physical examinations. He said that if the County raised that fee they would not be able to afford it.

It was decided to amend the bill by removing the brackets in subsections 1 and 2 of Section 1 and by crossing out "446.030" on line 12 of Section 2.

Senator Hug moved "Amend and Do Pass", seconded by Senator Young and carried.

S.B. 334 Proposed by Committee on Health and Welfare
Permits payment of educational expenses of rehabilitation division employees and creates rehabilitation division revolving fund.

Del Frost with the Division of Rehabilitation explained the intent of this bill. He said many times their clients do not have any financial support and their needs are severe. In order to get them maintenance or severance pay it takes one or two weeks processing time. For this reason they are asking for a revolving fund so they will be able to write small checks for these needs which would then be processed and returned to the revolving fund. The incentive payments are \$3/day per person for transportation, lunch, etc. The maintenance payments would be only for emergencies and usually a one-shot deal for groceries, medical expenses, etc., and would be processed in the same way.

Senator Walker asked about the training of employees within the division. Mr. Frost said Employment Security and Welfare Division are allowed to pay educational expenses and that Rehabilitation has similar problems and just wanted to be included in the same type of legislation so they could provide additional training for their counselors in new areas they have to deal with.

Senator Young moved "Do Pass," seconded by Senator Hug and carried.

S.B. 336 Proposed by Committee on Health and Welfare
Imposes fee for mental health services and increases qualifications for administrator of such services.

Dr. McAllister with the Division of Mental Hygiene and Retardation said the bill actually called for two changes. One would allow a schedule of fees for services in Mental Health work in the State. Presently the ~~law~~ law is so vague it has to be changed if fees are to be charged. Fees would be charged for outpatient care scaled on the ability to pay. This would bring in from 3 to 13 percent of operating costs in the clinic and would also be ~~good~~ good from a therapeutic standpoint because the patient would be contributing something to his care.

The second ~~provision~~ provision would reinstate the Administrator's position. Dr. McAllister said he is presently serving as Acting Administrator and this would create another position whose job would be to supervise and evaluate programs.

Senator Young moved "Do Pass," seconded by Senator Hug and carried.

S.B. 337 Proposed by Committee on Health and Welfare
Makes health division of department of health, welfare and rehabilitation responsible for licensing certain care facilities.

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Mr. Wahrenbrock said the Department had again requested this bill. Presently the licensing is done by two divisions and ~~this~~ this would bring it under one operation. The only exception would be the licensing for child care facilities and Welfare would continue to license foster homes.

Gloria Handley suggested on page 1, line 12 that "health division" should be replaced by "Department of Health and Welfare," and that on page 6 line 12 "health division" should be changed to "welfare division."

Dr. John Carr suggested ~~that~~ page 4 line 47 should be changed to read "state fire marshal or his designate."

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Stevenson
Judy Stevenson
Secretary

Approved _____