

MINUTES

DATE: JANUARY 17, 1973

COMMITTEE: COMMERCE

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Chairman Ross Prince in Room 222. Present were: Messrs. Prince, Demers, Wittenberg, Vice-Chairman Robinson, Torvinen, Dini, Hafen, and Bickerstaff. Absent was Mr. Capurro. Guests attending the meeting were: Jim Smith, Intern to Dr. Robinson; Bob, Edith, and Cynthia Bivin, guests of Mr. Bickerstaff. Also attending was Brendan Riley, Associated Press representative.

The Chairman asked for discussion on proposed Rules* of the Committee. Dr. Robinson moved to defer action on the Rules until the entire Committee was present. His motion died for lack of a second. There was discussion on Rule 3 regarding the number of members necessary to be present to pass or postpone a bill. The rule was changed accordingly. It was also agreed to add to the proposed rules that voting shall be by roll-call.

Mr. Dini presented a public hearing procedure that the Government Affairs Committee will follow. It was agreed that the Commerce Committee accept the same. (see attached)

The Chairman stated that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday, January 22 when discussion on bills already introduced would take place. He also stated that members would be supplied with minutes of the Committee meetings as soon after the meeting is held as possible and that controversial meetings be tape recorded for future reference.

*(see attached)

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Mr. Torvinen suggested scheduling the "no-fault" bill late in February to enable as many bills to be introduced before that time as possible. It was agreed that bills of similar nature be combined for hearings and/or consideration.

Mr. Hafen stated that he would be absent all next week to attend meetings in Washington, D.C.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

PHYLLIS BERKSON, Assembly Attache

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Provision is made for public hearing on important bills and other matters of high public interest in a place with adequate facilities for all who wish to attend. Advance notice states time and place of the hearing and identifies subject matter under consideration. Sufficient copies of the bill and other printed matter to be considered are available for use of committee members and others attending. Presence of a quorum of the committee is required.

Public hearings are opened by the chairman who calls to order committee members and others attending promptly at the scheduled hour. He announces the bill under consideration by bill number and title or other matter which is the subject of the hearing. The chairman can limit the length of time anyone present is allowed to speak and may announce this limitation at the beginning of the hearing. If so requested by a committee member, he may read or summarize the bill or other matter under consideration or have it done.

After opening the hearing, the chairman inquires whether anyone present wishes to be heard in favor of the bill or other matter being considered. These persons rise in an order determined by the chairman, address the chair, furnish their names, addresses, firms or other organization represented and then address the committee on the subject. As each completes his remarks, the chairman gives committee members opportunity for questions. If any wish to use this opportunity, they address the chair for permission and then question the witness. The chairman maintains supervision of the questioning to avoid debate or argument between committee members and witnesses. Questions from other than committee members are not in order and are not allowed.

After all persons who wish to be heard in favor of the matter have been heard, the chairman inquires whether there are those present wishing to be heard in opposition. Any such persons are heard in the same manner as the proponents with similar opportunity for questioning by committee members.

When all have been heard, the chairman declares the public hearing closed on the matter before proceeding to other matters.

COMMERCE COMMITTEERULES

1. A quorum shall consist of at least five (5) members;
2. It shall require at least five (5) members to act on a bill;
3. Motions will be moved, seconded, and passed by a simple majority of those present, except that definite action ("do pass" or indefinitely postponed) on a bill will require a majority of the entire Committee;
4. Two-thirds (2/3) of all Committee members or six (6) or more "yea" votes are necessary to reconsider action on a bill;
5. All Committee members shall address the chair for recognition to speak;
6. No Committee action will be taken on any bill during hearings;
7. Names of movers and seconds of any action shall be recorded in the minutes;
8. A record of all votes (yeas and nays) on all bills and resolutions will be kept;
9. All votes will be by roll-call.