

MINUTES

COMMITTEE: COMMERCE

DATE: Sunday, April 15, 1973

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Prince, Messrs Demers, Hafen, Torvinen, Dini, Robinson, Capurro and Wittenberg;

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Bickerstaff

GUESTS: Blackie Evans, John Reiser, Speaker Ashworth

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Prince at 2:00 p.m. to discuss SB 629, a bill enacting the Nevada Occupational Safety and Health. Mr. Evans explained that this bill had been enacted on the Federal level in 1971; the the Nevada Senate passed the bill yesterday; that the Assembly must pass it to make it effective in Nevada; that it is agreeable to both labor and management in Nevada, but not to the national AFL-CIO. One provision of this bill would allow an employer to be warned before being fined, as has been done by the Federal authorities.

He stated that the Federal people have been sending Nevada amendments to SB 403 which was the original bill, delaying it to this late date. The number of the bill has been changed and SB 629 came out as a much better bill. Mr. Demers asked the cost of the enactment of this bill and Mr. Evans replied that it will be funded federally over a three year "performance audit" period.

Mr. Torvinen objected to the lack of exercise over the number of employees that could be hired under this bill thereby raising employers' assessments. Mr. Capurro suggested adding an "augment" provision to the bill. Mr. Reiser stated that 1/4 million has been spent on safety in Nevada and that the same amount will be coming in from the Federal authorities.

Mr. Torvinen suggested amending Section 37 to provide that citations may be issued to employees as well as employers who do not comply with safety provisions. (Section 44) This amendment would apply to Sections 49 and 65 also. Mr. Reiser stated that the only penalty to employees at the present time is a reduction in compensation benefits. Mr. Evans stated that it was unlikely that the bill would be approved by the Federal people if this change in it was made and the State would again be under the provisions of SB 403. The Committee was not amenable to Mr. Reiser's suggestion that this change be put in the Industrial Insurance Act.

The Committee agreed that the \$50 per diem allowance be reduced to \$25. Mr. Hafen moved to pass the bill with amendments; Mr. Demers seconded the motion. Mr. Dini amended the motion to request the Chairman to be in contact with the Federal authorities and the NIC. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:30. Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Berkson, Attache