

Members present: Schofield, Foote, Broadbent, Lowman, Vergiels,
McNeel, Barengo

Members absent: None

Guests present: Douglas Byington - Nevada Assn. of School Admn.
Dick Wright - Washoe County School District
Robert Rose - State Department of Education
Kenneth Hansen - State Superintendent
John Gamble - State Department of Education
Dickerson - Intern for Virgil Getto
Leland Roberson - Churchill County School
District
Hank Cerner - Churchill County
Wayne S. Marteney - Esmeraldo County Board Chmn.
Carol Herring - Esmeraldo County Clerk
Ben Colvin - Esmeralda County Board Member

Chairman Schofield convened the meeting at 4:15 P.M. by asking Mr. Petroni to speak on AB 640 which increases salary and expense allowance for travel of school trustees and clerical help, a bill discussed on previous meeting agenda. *See 3/26 minutes.

Mr. Petroni said he wanted to bring out what was really important in this bill and that was the living and travel expenses of trustees. Trustees presently are not paid expenses such as other officials he said. Also they are restricted on how many they can send outside the State for meetings.

Mr. McNeel asked if the trustees were elected and how many they wanted to send out of the State an unlimited amount.

Mr. Petroni said they could easily send three right now and the city commissioners had no such restrictions, nor the county commissioners nor the water board or any other government body. (elected or otherwise)

Chairman asked Mr. Petroni how he felt about the monthly salary. He was answered that the bill was set up now with a monthly salary with limitation or according to how many meetings they held. Mr. Petroni said that three meetings a month would raise the salary and that is what the bill does.

Chairman said you did say that up to three years ago they were paid nothing. Mr. Petroni said that is correct.

Mr. McNeel asked how this was going to benefit the student and teachers. Mr. Petroni said that a Trustee who was being compensated would be a better trustee.

Mr. Marteney of Esmeralda County said that in their small county some people of the Board were going to their 14th year and they favored AB 640, particularly the expenses. He said they were

many miles away from anyplace they held meetings and it cost something any time they went anywhere.

Doug Byington said the School Administration favored this bill.

More discussion was held on this bill and then it was decided to go on to AB 643 which permits special speed limit for public school buses transporting pupils outside school district.

Chairman intervened to say that he had introduced AB 640 and AB 639 by request. AB 639 makes attendance officer classified employee of certain school districts. Chairman said that the attendance officers were actually classified employees and were not in the Civil Service and what this does is to clarify that.

It was asked what an attendance officer was and it was answered that he was an old fashioned truant officer.

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Robert Best said that the School Board Association had gone on record as opposing this bill. He said they didn't like the wording "removes at pleasure". Chairman said if this is clarified you have no objection and he answered "No".

After some discussion Chairman said he would like to set this aside and hear some more rational on it at the next meeting.

Committee returned to previous discussion of AB 643 on speed limits for school buses.

Robert Best spoke on this bill and said they felt it was a good idea to increase the speed limit for school buses outside of their regular daily bus routes such as for transporting sports teams from one school to another but they would like to amend this bill in such a way that they could use a regular school bus on the highway.

Mr. Gamble said the gist of this thing is good. He said that some things in it should be decided by the Motor Vehicle Department and not the Legislature.

Mr. Lowman said was it safe for some of the old school buses to go 50 mph and he was told that only the newer and buses in good condition were allowed on trips that this bill refers to.

Shirlee Wedow of the Nevada Parent Teachers' Association said she would like to go on record as supporting the concept of this bill. She said that an adequate faster speed is safer than the presently existing slow one.

Chairman said that he would like for the Committee to take a look at AB 537 which includes certain vocational experience programs in the computation of average daily attendance for public school finance purposes

One more person asked to speak on AB 643 and he said he was a school bus driver and that he and other drivers were in favor of this for the simple reason that motorists will take the chance of passing them when they shouldn't simply because they think they are so slow and that he has had highway patrolmen tell him that they look the other way if they see a school bus going 60 mph in a proper zone because they think a slower speed is hazardous. He thought that 50 mph is antiquated under conditions that were being talked about in this bill.

Mr. Tad Dickerson spoke next and said he was Virgil Getto's intern and had gone into the bill drafter's office and asked him to make this bill up for him. His intent was just to allow the school buses to go faster. Because the State Board of Education now rules school buses that is why he had it drawn up this way but they had some problems with this he thought it could be easily corrected.

Chairman asked Dr. Parker Woodal to speak on AB 537.

He said the reason for this bill that students taking particular subjects (vocational) might not be able to graduate because it requires so many units to be certified. He said he was taking exception to this bill as it is written and he said it was slanted just for work experience programs. It looked to him, he said, that the funds would come out of the regular formula budget and no funds were provided for this special vocational courses.

He said that he felt AB 715 would meet the needs that were originally intended. Chairman asked Committee to look at AB 715 in conjunction with AB 537.

Mr. Best said that the School Board Association had the same ideas on this. In regard to AB 715 he said they felt that it should be amended to make it clear that it isn't just summer school so that it isn't just summer that classes can be held outside of the regular school year. It was said that the word for that was "intersession".

After general discussion the Chairman said they would have a few minutes recess. The guests then left the room.

SB 215 which would require boards of trustee of school districts to provide 180 days of school was discussed next. There didn't seem to be any opposition to this legislation.

So Chairman then asked for comments on AB 648 which requires compulsory attendance in kindergarten.

It seemed that this would concern a lot of areas not mentioned in this bill judging from the testimony given such as increased busing.

Mr. Ken Hansen, State Superintendent of Schools, spoke next on a proposed piece of legislation, SB 209, which provides for participation in the Compact for Education, a national organization. He said that participating in this program Nevada Education would have opportunities which it did not now have. Contrary to the opinion of some, he said, it is really anti-federalism in nature. He said he was the first program director on this compact plan and he knows the nature and intent. He said he has seen the very effective work it had been doing and it was a chance for the states to have a real voice in Education now and that he would strongly support Nevada becoming the 46th or 47th State to join up now.

Mr. Tim Hafen entered at this time to talk on AB 737 which requires state board of education to adopt standards for school buildings. He said that this did not force anything on the school districts, the intent of the bill is simply this, you could use certain plans for a whole school layout, standard plans for portable type classrooms. The crux of the bill, he emphasized is really aimed at the exorbitant costs of school building. Part of this comes from all the red tape it is necessary to go through to build any kind of a school building or even move a portable classroom anywhere. He said he saw no reason in the world that everytime you move a portable classroom in that you should be required to go through the planning board and get approval on that particular one because it is the same one you put in before only it was six months before that nor any reason why you should be required to pay an architect's fee of 7% if they are preapproved. You could save at least 7% of a school building through the use of this and he said he submitted to the Committee where there are many cases where it could be used beneficially and in many cases where it wouldn't fit where it is determined something specialized it wouldn't stop them from getting that and this would simply permit them to use a standardized plan to save some money.

Mr. Hafen said the origination of this bill was simply his as it had been a pet peeve of his for many years that everytime you do any little thing you have to go through two architect's fees.

Discussion followed on this and then Chairman called for a three minute recess at which time Mr. Hafen and guest left the room.

Chairman reconvened the meeting by saying he wanted to hear more testimony on AB 639. Take a look at AB 640, he said.

Miss Foote moved to indefinitely postpone AB 640.
Mr. McNeel seconded the motion.

Mr. Vergiels said he would like to do something about the travel and delete the salary section.

Chairman said he would suggest that they consider what Dr. Vergiels had said and in addition he would like to cut the salary request in half. These people need this and every other board & agency has it.

Miss Foote said that every day you hear about the rising costs of everything and if we don't start putting our foot down we are never going to be able to afford to pay for anything. We have to learn to say no somewhere and this is something we can live without. She said there are some people who are always trying to get a free trip some place and she was tired of providing for free trips. She said if they want to know about the Seminar buy a tape.

Chairman said that this was put in by the request of the School Board Association and he thought that whereas the Legislators and other officials got free trips they should make it more equal all the way around as a lot of these people had put in much time for nothing.

Miss Foote's motion was sustained after discussion to rescind. Motion not carried with Broadbent, Schofield, Vergiels and Barengo voting against indefinite postponement.

It was decided that Chairman Schofield would redraft the bill and bring it back to Committee.

Mr. Barengo moved to do pass AB 643 as per suggested amendments. Motion seconded by Mr. Lowman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Barengo moved to indefinitely postpone AB 537. Lowman seconded. Motion carried.

Motion made to do pass SB 215. Barengo seconded. Motion carried

Mr. Lowman moved to indefinitely postpone AB 648. Barengo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Barengo made the motion not to introduce SB 209. Motion seconded. Motion carried not to introduce unanimously.

Mr. Broadbent moved to do pass AB 737. Motion seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Date 3/26/73 Time 4:00 Room 336

<u>Bills or Resolutions to be considered</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Counsel requested*</u>
AB 510	Establishes university educational accountability program for University of Nevada System. Neil Humphrey to speak.	
AB 639	Makes attendance officer classified employee of certain school districts.	
AB 640	Increases salary and expense allowance.	
AB 643	Special speed limit for school buses.	
SB 215	Requires boards of trustees of school districts to provide 180 days of school.	
AB 537	Includes certain programs for school financing.	
AB 648	Requires compulsory attendance in kindergarten.	
AB 737	Requires state Board of Education to adopt standards for school buildings.	

*Please do not ask for counsel unless necessary.

ASSEMBLY

*SUPERSEDES
3/26 Agenda

H E A R I N G

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Date 3/29/73 Time 6:00 PM Room Senate Hearing Room 131

Bill or Resolution
to be considered

Subject

Small Counties Teachers' Association