

NEVADA LEGISLATURE
ASSEMBLY

57TH SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS
MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, January 30, 1973

ATTENDEES: Foote, Chairman
Gojack, Vice Chairman
Crawford
Ford
Huff
Smith
Vergiels

ABSENCES: None

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Foote at 4:15 P.M. Chairman Foote announced that Assemblyman Vergiels had a phone call from Mr. Colton and that she talked to him also. He has not had a copy of the bills yet and she advised the bills are not going out. She advised these bills do not have an interest so much to the voters of Nevada but do have an interest in the County Clerks offices, etc. She suggested, therefore, we do not vote them out of the Committee until we hear from some of the people on them.

NEVADA ELECTIONS LAWS

Chairman Foote presented the report of the Interim Committee of the Nevada Elections Laws and advised that most of them have been introduced and that one was introduced this morning. She advised Mr. Meder asked to come talk to us about AB-10. SB-61 should be coming over to us soon, which is in conjunction with AB-10, so the two will be taken up together.

AB-9

Assemblyman Ford advised she would like to know the thinking of the Committee on this bill. Chairman Foote stated she couldn't find anything mentioning the reasons for doing what is proposed and believes it is more restrictive the way it now reads. After discussion by the Committee, it was decided to hold action on this bill until Mr. Dreyer comes in on Thursday and talks to the Committee relative to AB-9.

AB-10

It was decided to hold discussion on AB-10 until SB-61 is received by the Committee, which is in conjunction with AB-10, and they will want to act on this issue as soon as possible. Mr. Meder, Legislative representative for the County Commissions throughout the State, is interested in this bill and will be in attendance.

AB-11

Chairman Foote stated she believed it would be interesting if we had some history on where, when and how our country started in having people register to vote since this will be removed under this bill. Assemblyman Huff advised that originally only landed people were allowed to vote and then when the vote was granted to everyone, whether they owned land or not, it was put into the constitution. Assemblyman Ford stated if we remove the application from ballot, she believes it makes it more flexible and leaves it up to anyone to follow whatever form they want. Chairman Foote advised if we strike the wording of the application, the next time all these people who have anything to do with elections will say, "For Heaven's sake, put in an application because we don't know what to put in it!" Chairman Foote stated she believes we will need some expertise on this. Assemblyman Gojack suggested we ask Mr. Dreyer on this. Assemblyman Ford suggested we have Secretary of the State over to explain his powers of rule-making and elections. It was suggested maybe we could all learn together what they are. Assemblyman Ford suggested Mr. Koontz be invited to come to the meeting if he is interested. Assemblyman Gojack stated she would feel more qualified to get some of the people to come in and give us some background; someone who represents the public at large. Assemblyman Ford advised she is in favor of removing the requirement that the naturalized citizen has to go down and take his papers with him. Assemblyman Gojack stated she is in favor of this, also. Chairman Foote stated it is agreed we need some expertise in these areas and advised she would set up the meeting dates and call these people in so that additional information can be secured to aid the Committee in arriving at decisions on the bills which were scheduled on the Agenda for this date.

AB-48

Assemblyman Crawford stated he had reviewed this bill and is wondering if it could be discussed and passed out of the Committee before adjournment. Chairman Foote advised she felt it was discriminatory in that other voters had strong cases to justify an absentee ballot but were not given the right. Assemblyman Ford agreed, advising she has had FBI men advise her they were sent out of town unexpectedly on a case the night before an election, too late to get an absentee ballot, and would be unable to vote the next day and they resented it. Assemblyman Gojack advised she, too, has been approached by people whose business has called them out of town unexpectedly, without sufficient notice to secure an absentee ballot, and thereby lost the opportunity to vote in the elections. It was generally conceded that the bill should be studied in greater depth before the Committee acted and passed on it.

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AB-51

Assemblyman Vergiels stated he would like to discuss the AB-51 and get something out of Committee on this. Assemblyman Ford replied she had sympathy with what he was trying to accomplish in this bill as well as the AB-54 and AB-55 but felt it didn't go in depth enough - it would have to be spelled out more completely and enforceably. She said the AB-55 was similar to one introduced on the Senate side and was killed. She doesn't see how it could be enforced (postage, direct mailing, hospitality, etc.) Chairman Foote suggested possibly it would be better to identify sources rather than amounts. Assemblyman Ford advised she had a copy of a common cause bill which she believed might be beneficial to Assemblyman Vergiels and what he is trying to accomplish. He suggested she submit the common cause bill to the Committee and we could look it over. He felt we should vote something out of the Committee on the floor to take a first step. Ethics, conflicts of interest, etc. is the same thing - people don't want to be held entirely accountable. He believes we ought to consider something before the end of the session that comes out of here that shows - even though the Senate at Large will not be responsible, the Committee will offer an alternative for them to consider. He wants it recorded on the floor.

Assemblyman Ford stated she believes it would be a good public hearing to see what comes up. Assemblyman Smith stated one of the things to consider might be square footage of signs to stop polluting the roadsides, which would control expenditures. Assemblyman Gojack was quite interested in this proposal since she campaigned with no signs and promised to see what could be accomplished to eliminate campaign billboards and signs.

Assemblyman Vergiels commented he was going to try to get something out before the end of the session. Assemblyman Ford concurred and believes we should have a hearing on the subject of campaign expenditures and signs, etc. to get the general comments on the subject

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Marion Smith
Assembly Attache

Mef

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Date 1/30/73 Time 4 - 5 Room 328

<u>Bills or Resolutions to be considered</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Counsel requested*</u>
✓ A.B.9	Eliminates requirement that certain information accompany notice of political party precinct meetings.	
✓ A.B.10	Redefines the constitution of local government units.	
✓ A.B.11	Makes various technical changes in election laws.	
A.B.13	Amends certain voting machine provisions.	
A.B.15	Enables county clerk to issue election certificates for school trustees-elect.	
A.B.16	Requires members of the state board of education be residents of the subdistrict from which they are elected or appointed.	
A.B.17	Changes residency requirements for hospital trustees.	
✓ A.B.18	Requires that members of the board of regents of the University of Nevada System be residents of the subdistrict from which they are elected.	
✓ A.B.48	Permits senior citizens to vote absent ballot.	

*Please do not ask for counsel unless necessary.

HEARINGS PENDING

Date _____ Time _____ Room _____
Subject _____

Date _____ Time _____ Room _____
Subject _____