

**Assembly**  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
MARCH 20, 1973

MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN DINI  
VICE-CHAIRMAN ULLOM  
ASSEMBLYMAN BROOKMAN  
ASSEMBLYMAN MAY  
ASSEMBLYMAN SMITH  
ASSEMBLYMAN GETTO  
ASSEMBLYMAN GOJACK  
ASSEMBLYMAN FORD

MEMBERS ABSENT: ASSEMBLYMAN YOUNG

ALSO PRESENT: DAVID HOY, TRAILER COACH ASSOCIATION  
STEPHEN COLTER, COLTER TRAILER SALES  
DONALD JORDAN, WASHOE CITY PROPERTY OWNERS  
DAN QUINAN, STATE FIPE MARSHAL  
ELLOTT SALTNER, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
BILL FARR, FIRE FIGHTERS  
KEITH HENDRICKSON  
ED SILVA DEPT. OF MOTOR VECHICLES  
EDITH BEVIN, W.C.M.H.O.  
OTTO MC FARLAND

The meeting was called to order by the chairman.

AB 490 - Creates division of mobile homes and travel trailers in Department of Motor Vehicles.

AB 658 - Enacts Nevada Mobile Home Standards Law

Mr. Hoy spoke first, explaining that his organization had worked hard on AB 490 which would add construction standards to the electrical, plumbing and heating standards already in effect in Nevada. He told the committee that his bill came about because of an ordinance passed by the City of Las Vegas. He stated that the Association had taken the City of Las Vegas to court and had won the case, but felt that regulations on a state level were necessary. He opposed AB 658 because it would provide for third party inspections, and he felt that third party inspections would be shifting the duties of the state to someone else. He pointed out AB 490 would do the following things: 1) create a 5 member board - 2 members from the dealers; 2) 1 member from the general public; 3) 1 member from fire services. It would pay for itself by fees paid by the dealers. It would control the contractors who work on mobile homes putting on skirts, etc.

Mr. Hoy stated that AB 658 had technical errors in the drafting of the bill and he felt the bill as written was not workable. He said that he felt the Fire Marshal did not have the technical knowledge to inspect trailers and if enforced would put the dealers out of business.

Assembly GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS KOMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
MARCH 20, 1973

Mr. Colter told the committee he favored the bill. As a dealer he wanted very much to see the unethical dealer regulated. He felt that AB 658 would be too expensive for the dealers and would not protect the buyers.

Donald Jordan of the Washoe County Property Owners Association told the committee that his organization favored AB 490, but suggested that it be amended to provide for two members of the general public and two dealers on the board.

Edith Bevin, representing the Washoe County Mobile Home Owners, told the committee that her organization favored AB 490. She expressed concern for the resale value of mobile homes if AB 658 were enacted.

Bill Farr, representing the Fire Fighters of the State, told the committee that it was their objective to see legislation passed which would adopt structural standards. He stated that the inspection was vital and that inspection at the factory was preferable to inspection after the mobile homes reach the State would be more work. Setting up a new agency was not necessary in his view. He also stated that this was a problem that had to be handled on a state level.

Mr. Quinan told the committee that it was his understanding that the Department of Motor Vehicles did not want the responsibility of policing the mobile home dealers in the State. He stated that codes were his business and that he should be responsible to see that the codes were met. He explained that it was impractical to hire inspectors to go to other states. It is more economical to hire inspectors to inspect trailers at the factory. He said that AB 658 did not propose to tear apart any trailers after construction. He underscored the problem of non-inspected trailers by telling the committee that since the Legislature began, three people have died in fires in mobile homes in the State. He also stated that local inspections would have helped prevent these fires.

Elliott Saltler told the committee that it was economically impossible for the state to hire enough inspectors to inspect all the mobile homes brought into the state. At present we have to give an approval to any mobile home which has a seal. He told the committee that these seals were not valid because the inspectors in California do not inspect the mobile homes that are to be sent out of state. The same is true for other states. Nevada must have independent inspectors to provide this service for mobile homes manufactured in other states for export. He cited instances of serious fire dangers he had seen in various mobile homes. He recommended the passage of AB 658.

Assembly  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
MARCH 20, 1973

Mr. Hendrickson told the committee that a solution had to be worked out and he hoped the committee could come up with a bill that would solve the problem.

Otto K. McFarland told the committee that he was the one who started the whole thing by proposing the Las Vegas ordinance. He said he had learned a great deal about trailers and mobile homes since he proposed that ordinance and felt more strongly than ever that there has to be a way to enforce construction and other standards on mobile homes. He supported AB 658.

Mr. Silva told the committee that the Department of Motor Vehicles did not want the duties of policing the mobile home dealers. He stated they were not in a position to do the work. At present they have to transmit the work to other departments. He stated they felt that this was not a proper function for the Department of Motor Vehicles, which, as the name suggests deals with moving objects, not mobile homes.

The chairman appointed a sub-committee of Assemblymen May and Getto and Keith Henderickson and David Hoy to present a recommendation to the committee by March 23 on this matter.

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Date 3/20 Time 1:15 PM Room 214

Bills or Resolutions  
to be considered

Subject

Counsel  
requested\*

AB 490

Creates division of mobile homes and travel  
trailers in Department of Motor Vehicles.  
Pertaining to mobile home standards.

AB 658

\*Please do not ask for counsel unless necessary.