

**Assembly**  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
MARCH 6, 1973

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Dini  
Vice-chairman Ullom  
Assemblyman Brookman  
Assemblyman May  
Assemblyman Gojack  
Assemblyman Smith  
Assemblyman Getto  
Assemblyman Young  
Assemblyman Ford

ALSO PRESENT: Secretary of State Swackhamer  
William Bible, Budget Office  
Joe Midmore, Builders Association of Northern Nevada  
Robert Guinn, Nevada Motor Transportation Association  
Ray Knisley  
Senator Richard Bryan  
Les Kofoed, Northern Nevada Resort Association  
Assemblyman Jacobsen

The meeting was called to order by the chairman.

AB 209 - Requires lobbyists to file disclosure statements with Secretary of State.

Assemblyman Ford told the committee that this bill was based on the model law presented by Common Cause. The purpose of the bill was stated in Section 3. The public has a right to know who the lobbyist are and for whom they are working. Assemblyman Ford did not want any person or lobbyist to feel that she opposed the idea of lobbying as she herself had been a lobbyist. She said she felt there were a legitimate part of the legislative process. However, she stated that there was a need for some type of registration and control.

Les Kofoed stated that some form of registration was necessary but felt the proposed legislation was far too advanced to use in Nevada at present. He stated that the legislators could find out who the lobbyist were very easily as their number was so small. He also stated that he felt this bill would make the lobbyist a second class citizen, taking away his constitutional rights.

Assemblyman Ford told the committee that the bill was designed to let the public, as well as legislators know who the lobbyists were, and was not intended to imply any wrongdoing on the part of the lobbyists.

Assemblyman Brookman asked if the Secretary of State's office could handle the amount of work they would have to do if the bill was passed.

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Secretary of State Swackhamer stated he would have to ask for additional personnel to handle the registration of lobbyists.

Robert Guinn told the committee he was in favor of some type of lobbyist registration. He recommended the registration portion of the bill be passed and the disclosure of expenses portion be deleted. He said there are too many ways to get around this section. He referred to it as an exercise in frustration. He also stated that many of the department heads would have to be registered.

Joe Midmore told the committee that this bill had too many loopholes and he felt that a lobbyist who lived in the area would report less expenses than one from Las Vegas so the financial reports would not accurately report what was spent.

Ray Knisley told the committee that there are many legislators who are in fact, lobbyists. There is a difference between a paid lobbyist and an unpaid lobbyist and one who lobbies for a certain interest group and a person who lobbies because of personal feelings.

Assemblyman Ford agreed that the legislators should not be excluded.

Assemblyman Jacobsen stated that he opposed the bill because it was easy to find out who the lobbyists were and the amount of work the Secretary of State would have to do would be "passing the buck again".

Assemblyman Brookman moved that AB 209 be "INDEFINITELY POSTPONED". Assemblyman Young seconded the motion.

Voting YES were Assemblymen Dini, Smith, May, Getto, Young and Brookman. Voting No were Assemblymen Ullom, Gojack and Ford. The motion carried.

AB 199 - Provides for advance notice of meetings of public bodies and for public access to meetings and records thereof.

Assemblyman Ford told the committee that this bill would clearly declare the Legislature a public body and spell out rules and regulations for notices of meetings in advance so that anyone interested could attend.

Senator Richard Bryan told the committee that a similar bill was being considered in the Senate. He stated this was a sensitive area and what meetings are open to the public should be clearly understood by all. He said there were several important areas covered in the bill. First the intent was clearly defined; the public notice section would provide rules that had to be followed by all public bodies; the records would clearly be public and the actions of the body public. He said there are many public bodies whose actions have a semi-judicial nature and he was undecided as to what course of action they should take.

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AB 241 - Permits cities and counties to acquire and develop parks and play-grounds through site dedication or residential tax.

Thomas Miller: Mr. Miller submitted the attached statement and letter from Senator Cliff Young to the committee.

Art Broten: The major purpose of the Reno Recreation Commission is to develop parks. As the population increases the need for parks increase. Park Space becomes more difficult to acquire. The Reno Recreation Commission recommends a "DO PASS" on one of the bills.

Earl Wooster: As time passes it becomes more difficult to acquire land for parks. To issue general obligation bonds becomes more and more difficult and expensive all the time. The great rate of growth is a serious problem in Nevada and we must plan now for further growth. Under AB 241 the city would make the determination as to adopt such ordinances.

Lester Russell: Favors the bill as it lets the city make its own determination. In Washoe County growth has occurred with no provision for parks; people now want parks and cannot have them as the space is either occupied or too expensive to buy. Land values are higher in areas which have a park. The price of maintaining a park is paid by all taxpayers.

Daisy Talvitie: The League of Women Voters has not taken a definite study of the bills but is in favor of the concept.

Pamela Wilcox: Representing 25 groups of homeowners in the Reno area with over 3,000 members. The bills are fair, the cost of providing the parks will fall on the home buyer who will be using the parks. The city of Reno does not have enough parks now. All of the groups represented by Mrs. Wilcox expect to pay for any parks they obtain. The cost of growth is high; at present it is being paid for by the resident who has had property in the city for years. This is not fair, the burden should be shifted.

Pat Gothberg: The public is ready for environmental legislation. The public wants such legislation. The people favor mandatory park development. Now is the time for action.

Virginia Cooke: The Sierra Heights Homeowners Association favors the concept and feel there is a great need for parks in Reno.

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Ester Nicholson, told the committee that the League of Women Voters supported both bills.

Assemblyman Ford presented the Senate bill to the committee to study.

Secretary of State Swackhamer addressed the committee giving a background on the reorganization of state government plan. He told the committee that one out of every five workers is now working for the government. Government is big business and should be run as efficiently as possible. He said the sub-committee compared Nevada's government with that of 37 other states and ~~the~~ recommendations were based on what had worked in other states. He explained that the bills were not drafted in time to let the departments have input into the final version. He called the plan a blueprint for the state government and said that it could be started this session and built upon in the future. He said it would increase the efficiency of the government by streamlining it. He said that at present it would be impossible to obtain the complete reorganization.

Assemblyman Smith asked Mr. Swackhamer to tell the committee some of the immediate results of the study.

Mr. Swackhamer told the committee about the changing of the Tax Commissions handling of money collected that resulted in a increase of about 1/2 a million dollars a year. He also told about the bus service which has saved a great amount in the use of state cars and the replacement of state cars. The chairman thank Mr. Swackhamer for his time and effort.

The chairman told the committee that AB 77 had been amended in the Senate to substitute the words "training and experience" for the word "qualifications" on Page 1, line 22. Assemblyman Smith moved that the committee concur with the amendment. Assemblyman Ullom seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee introduction was moved for BDR 27-208 by Assemblyman Smith. The motion was seconded by Assemblyman May. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee introduction of BDR 31-1289 was moved by Assemblyman Smith. The motion was seconded by Assemblyman Ullom. The motion carried unanimously.

Assemblyman Smith moved for committee introduction of BDR 22-1277. Assemblyman Ullom seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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Assemblyman Smith moved for committee introduction of BDR 58-1066.\*  
Assemblyman May seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously.

Assemblyman Getto moved AB 98 be "INDEFINITELY POSTPONED".  
Assemblyman Ullom seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously.

Assemblyman Ford asked that the committee request a bill be drafted to allow insurance premiums to be withheld from county retirement checks.  
Assemblyman Getto seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously.

Assemblyman Ullom moved that AB 259 be "INDEFINITELY POSTPONED".  
Assemblyman Young seconded the motion.  
The motion carried.  
Assemblyman Brookman DID NOT VOTE.

Assemblyman May moved AB 279 be "INDEFINITELY POSTPONED".  
Assemblyman Young seconded the motion.  
Assemblymen Young, Getto, Brookman, May, Smith and Dini voted YES.  
Assemblymen Ullom, Ford and Gojack voted NO.  
The motion carried.

Assemblyman May moved AB 281 be "INDEFINITELY POSTPONED".  
Assemblyman Young seconded the motion.  
Assemblymen Young, Getto, May, Smith and Dini voted YES.  
Assemblymen Ullom, Ford, Brookman and Gojack voted NO.  
The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

\*A.B. 507

⊕A.B. 649

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Date 3/6/73 Time 1:00 PM Room 214

Bills or Resolutions  
to be considered

Subject

Counsel  
requested\*

Mr. Swackhamer, Secretary of State,  
will speak to the committee on the  
reorganization bills.

**A. B. 199**

SUMMARY—Provides for advance notice of meetings of public bodies and for public access to meetings and records thereof. Fiscal Note: No. (BDR 17-932)

**A. B. 209**

SUMMARY—Requires lobbyists to file disclosure statements with secretary of state. Fiscal Note: No. (BDR 17-945)