

Senate

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of Meeting - January 29, 1973

The third meeting of the Committee on Federal, State and Local Governments was held on January 29, 1973, at 2:30 P.M.

Committee members present: Chairman James Gibson
Senator John P. Foley
Senator Carl F. Dodge
Senator Chic Hecht
Senator Lee Walker
Senator Coe Swobe
Senator Stan Drakulich

Also present were:

Sam Dibitonto, Councilman, Reno
Ernest York, Councilman, Reno
Roy Bankofier, Councilman, Reno
Mayor John Chism, Reno
Bob Van Wagoner, City Attorney, Reno
John Meder, Supervisor, Carson City
Bill Adams, City of Las Vegas
Fred Davis, Nevada Chamber of Commerce
Marsha Mathis, Intern
Press representative

Chairman Gibson called the meeting to order at 2:30 P.M. The first order of business was to ask permission from the committee to introduce a bill requested by the Department of Conservation. This is a bill which provides required relocation payments, advisory assistance and procedural protection by condemning agencies through federally funded projects. The purpose of the bill is to provide statutory authority for the state to reimburse and/or pay any person or persons displaced from their homes or business as a result of any State Agency Program. This Relocation Assistance Act is necessary due to Public Law 91-646, 91st Congress. Without such statutory authority Federal funds will be cut off for any Federally Funded Project. Following discussion, Senator Dodge moved that the bill be introduced, seconded by Senator Swobe. Motion carried.

SB-61 Exempts Carson City and incorporated cities from Local Government Reapportionment Law and provides periodic reapportionment for general law and certain charter cities.

Chairman Gibson explained that this meeting was called specifically to hear SB-61. When the Local Reapportionment Act was

passed in the last session of the legislature, some contradictions resulted. It was felt this occurred because the committee had acted on each of the charters individually and also the General Law and in doing so had not specifically called attention to reapportionment. There was a question of whether this act applied across the board and applied to the charter cities as well as all other local entities. In the last session an amendment was passed to this Act which said in essence "municipal corporations whose charters provide for redistricting or cities incorporated under the general law are hereby exempted from the requirements of this section," which established single-member districts, et cetera. When the amendment was accepted, it was understood that it, in effect, removed the impact of the Local Reapportionment Act from the cities. This was not the effect, and as a result the cities were faced with contradictions as to what was in their charter and what this act provided. This bill has been introduced at this time to clarify the legislative intent of the Act.

Mr. Clinton Wooster of the Legislative Counsel Bureau stated that SB-61 does essentially two things: (1) takes the cities out of the overall provisions of the Local Government Reapportionment Act and (2) amends those charters where wards are created to provide for realignment of those wards when the registered voters in any ward exceeds that of any other ward by more than 5%. He stressed that it is important that some resolution of this problem be taken before the cities get into their election process, which is one of the reasons for the early introduction of this bill. Mr. Van Wagoner, City Attorney of Reno, was present and concurred that this bill would correct the problem for the City of Reno and hoped that it could be expedited.

Following discussion, Senator Swobe moved "Do Pass as an emergency measure," seconded by Senator Dodge. Motion carried.

Attached hereto is a statement of intent of the Federal, State and Local Government Committee on SB-61.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jean Fondi
Committee Secretary

S. B. 61

SENATE BILL NO. 61—COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL,
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

JANUARY 22, 1973

Referred to Committee on Federal, State and Local Governments

SUMMARY—Exempts Carson City and incorporated cities from Local Government Reapportionment Law and provides periodic reapportionment for general law and certain charter cities. Fiscal Note: No. (BDR 19-669)

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to local government reapportionment; exempting Carson City and incorporated cities from the Local Government Reapportionment Law; providing periodic reapportionment for general law and certain charter cities; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

The People of the State of Nevada, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. NRS 237.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 237.025 As used in this chapter, unless the context requires other-
3 wise:
4 1. "Assembly district" means any district created pursuant to the
5 legislative districting provisions of chapter 218 of NRS for the election of
6 assemblymen.
7 2. "Enumeration district" means the series of geographical units in
8 each county of the state, [and Carson City,] which have been created by
9 the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of Com-
10 merce and to each unit of which the Bureau of the Census has assigned
11 a fixed population count, which, when added to the fixed population
12 count of all other units in the series, produces the official population
13 count of the county, [and Carson City,] giving recognition to the official
14 population count of each township, as of April 1, 1970.
15 3. "Local government unit" means any unit of local government in
16 the State of Nevada, including but not limited to counties, [incorporated
17 cities and towns,] unincorporated towns, school districts, general
18 improvement districts, local improvement districts, housing authorities,
19 hospital districts, county hospitals and all other special districts. "*Local*
20 *government unit*" shall not include Carson City, or any incorporated city.

Original bill is 4 pages long.
Contact the Research Library for
a copy of the complete bill.