

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETINGS
APRIL 16, 1973

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Senator Lamb was in the chair.

PRESENT: Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman
Warren L. Monroe
B. Mahlon Brown
James I. Gibson
Archie Pozzi

(Senators Young and Raggio were in another committee meeting)

Earl Oliver, LCB Fiscal Analyst
Bob Tripp, LCB Deputy Legislative Auditor
Howard Barrett, Budget Director
Mike Melner, Director Department of Commerce
Sophie Taylor, Consumers Affairs Division
Joe Lawler, "
Bill Hancock, Planning Board
Assemblyman Vergil Ghetto

A.B. 301:

SUMMARY: Creates consumer affairs division of department of commerce and regulates deceptive trade practices.

This bill also relates to page 399 of the executive budget. Mr. Barrett said, "This is in the budget and is part of our program."

Mr. Melner said that this bill is patterned after the Colorado version of the uniform unfair trade practices act. He said that between 35-40 states now have such an act and that it has been introduced in several states and could be enacted this year in 49 states.

A.B. 636:

SUMMARY: Requires refund of contributions to public employees retirement system if employee fails to become eligible.

Assemblyman Ghetto said, "This bill is the result of a problem we've had in small counties. There are a group of public employees that haven't been considered as that because to be termed that they must earn over \$3,600 a year.

Senate Finance Committee
April 16, 1973
Page Two

In hospitals, for instance, we have many practical nurses that are on call and are not really a public employee. These employees generally are lower income level people and may earn \$3,600 a year but they won't know if they will reach this amount or not until the year is out. The employer has not withheld contributions and at the end of the year the employee generally does not have enough money to pay back what would have been his contribution, so they lose credit for that year. There are many who have lost three and four years of retirement credit. This is to the advantage of the employer because he doesn't have to contribute.

"The nurses association and Mr. Dakin in bill drafting have worked very strenuously to arrive at some language that would require the employer to withhold money from the employee and so that if they did not earn over \$3,600 the money could be refunded to the employee. The retirement board feels it is a good bill."

Mr. Barrett said, "This bill would not affect students who work for the state because they generally only work three months and not the full twelve months."

S.B. 637:

SUMMARY: Sets priorities for expenditures from higher education capital construction fund; and makes appropriation to such fund.

This bill covers the addition of general fund moneys on loan to the university to accomplish the Senate Finance Committee's recommendations for the university capital building program. This would also allow them to build phase three of the Clark County Community College.

Mr. Hancock testified that, "The estimated costs in this bill of phase three of the Clark County Community College if built together with phase two would be \$3,244,000. If you had waited to appropriate funds until the next biennium, it would have cost \$4,100,000, and this figure was based upon construction costs between now and 1977. The immediate savings on building them together would be \$185,500 in direct costs, and an additional estimated savings of \$973,280 by expediting this."

Senator Gibson moved they recommend do pass. Senator Monroe seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. (Although Senator Raggio and Young were absent.)

Senate Finance Committee
April 16, 1973
Page Three

S.B. 640:

SUMMARY: Enacts various amendments relating to public employees' retirement system.

With regard to having the governor appoint members to the system and having them represent various employee groups, Senator Brown said, "Should we limit this so the governor cannot appoint more than one representative from the a, b, c, or d categories?" Senator Lamb said, "I don't think the governor would do that." Senator Brown said, "I think you are leaving yourself open, Floyd." Senator Monroe said, "I don't think the governor would appoint two representatives out of one group." Senator Lamb said, "He can see the intent of this bill is to get some representation of these various groups."

Senator Monroe moved that they recommend do pass. Senator Gibson seconded the motion, and everyone voted in favor of it except Senators Raggio and Young who were absent.

S.B. 636:

SUMMARY: Makes appropriations from general and fish and game funds for various state capital improvements.

Mr. Barrett said, "I made a mistake in figuring this out for this bill. On section 13, page 3, line 5, the figure \$115,500 should be reduced to \$77,000. On section 2, line 9, page one, the sum \$10,864,750 should be changed to \$10,826,250. On Section 19, line 29, page three, the amount of \$128,369 should be increased to \$166,869." In this budget all departments have their capital improvements grouped together. For instance, all prison projects are lumped together in section 3.

Senator Brown moved they amend the above in the bill and recommend do pass. Senator Pozzi seconded the motion, and it passed.

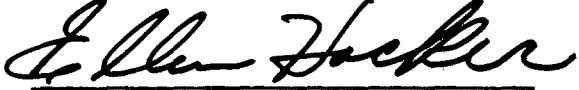
yes -5

absent - Senators Young and Raggio.


The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Senate Finance Committee
April 16, 1973
Page Four

Respectfully submitted,


Ellen Hocker, Secretary

APPROVED:


Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman