

SENATE TAXATION COMMITTEE  
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 20, 1973

2:30 P.M.

Room 231

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 P.M. by Chairman Mahlon Brown, with the following members and guests present:

PRESENT:            Senator B. Mahlon Brown            Senator Eugene Echols  
                  Senator Archie Pozzi                Senator Carl Dodge  
                  Senator Thomas Wilson              Senator Melvin Close  
  Senator Coe Swobe

G U E S T S

Senator Richard Blakemore  
Senator Warren L. Monroe  
John H. Sheehan, Exec.Sec., Nevada Tax Commission  
Louis W. Bergevin, Nevada Tax Commission  
Jack Hunter, Chairman; Nevada Tax Commission  
Wm. B. Byrne, County of Clark Assessor's Office  
Donald Peckham, Washoe County Assessor  
John W. Moschetti, Elko County Assessor  
Dr. John W. Malone, Jr., Chairman Division of Agricultural  
  Resources and Economics, Univ. of Nevada  
Howard W. Winn, Member, Nevada TAX Commission  
Carl Soderblom, Southern Pacific Railroad

Chairman Brown opened the meeting with a brief explanation of the purpose of today's presentation by the Nevada Tax Commission. He pointed out he felt it would be worthwhile to provide an indoctrination course for the members of the Senate Taxation Committee and other interested Legislators covering the responsibilities and duties of the Nevada Tax Commission.

Due to a considerable amount of confusion on the part of legislators in this field, and in view of the fact that the Governor, in his message had proposed an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars from the General Fund for a tax study, a general discussion was most timely.

The Chairman indicated he had asked Mr. Jack Hunter, Chairman of the Nevada Tax Commission, whose letter to the Senate Taxation Committee had, in the past, precipitated this meeting, to appear and speak. Also, Mr. Jack Sheehan, Secretary of the Nevada Tax Commission, and other members of the Tax Commission to express their views.

Also asked to appear were several Nevada County Assessors.

Mr. Sheehan initiated the discussion, in behalf of the Tax Commission, urging support of the Governor's request for an appropriation. He explained several practices and formulas used by the Tax Commission in computing tax assessments, and stressed that, if the law is to be changed with a definite impact on the tax structure, he personally, feels the overall study of the tax system of Nevada should be a forerunner.

Considerable discussion was held on several aspects of the Tax Commission, including:

1. Make up of the Commission itself, i.e., whether a fair representation exists for all industries of the state;
2. Guidelines established for assessment of farm property, which included potential income, fair market value, and a bulletin issued by the Tax

Commission in 1920 or 1921;

3. A report prepared by the University of Nevada, Reno Agriculture Department under contract with the Tax Commission in 1970, looking at income of 'use' approach in taxing processes, with respect to farm and ranch property;
4. A brief discussion of Nevada net proceeds of mines tax, as opposed to a 'severance' tax;
5. Short discussion of method of taxing railroads.

Speaking during the meeting were:

Mr. Louis W. Bergevin  
Mr. Jack Hunter, Chairman Nevada Tax Commission  
Mr. Wm. B. Byrne, Clark County Assessor's Office  
Mr. Donald Peckham, Washoe County Assessor  
Mr. John W. Moschetti, Elko County Assessor  
Dr. John W. Malone, Jr. University of Nevada, Reno  
Mr. Howard W. Winn, Member Nevada Tax Commission  
Mr. Carl Soderblom, Southern Pacific Railroad

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Nykki I. Kinsley, Secretary

APPROVED

  
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Senator B. Mahlon Brown, Chairman

SENATE TAXATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

FEBRUARY 20, 1973

P.M. ADJOURNMENT

ROOM 231

PRESENTATION OF NEVADA TAX COMMISSION