

## Assembly

Election Committee Minutes  
March 4, 1975

Tuesday, 8:00  
Room 336

Members Present:	Demers	Heaney
	Sena	Vergiels
	Chaney	Wagner

Members Absent: Young (Excused Absence)

Guests: Representing:

William Swackhamer	Secretary of State
Donald Klasic	Deputy Attorney General

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Chairman Demers. He announced the first order of business would be A. B. 294

Mr. Swackhamer stated that page 2, line 12 should have the word county deleted and the word election substituted.

Mr. Klasic voiced his opinion that line 10 and 23 on page 1 of the bill should delete the word willfully and substitute the word intentionally. In the discussion that followed, Mr. Klasic stated that the burden would be on the Attorney General's office to show willfulness.

Mr. Vergiels stated that the most important part of the bill was the amount (\$250) spent.

The discussion switched to A.B. 33. Mrs. Wagner stated she had introduced A.B. 33. She felt the reporting time should be done before and after an election. The amount of \$50 was chosen after considerable research on the figure other states had used.

Mr. Vergiels felt that more of a definition of contributions should be made in the bill i.e. stamps; typewriters--if they are contributed, how are they classified. Mrs. Wagner felt that line 22 defined the word contribution.

Mr. Demers said it should be required that all contributions be set up in a bank account. In this way, they could be reportable if necessary.

Considerable discussion was held on the figure of \$250 on A.B. 294. Mrs. Wagner said she would have no problem accepting the figure of \$150., in A.B. 33.

The discussion of billboards came up and Mr. Demers stated that before election time, a businessman would start using pictures of himself advertising the business he was in, but at the same time, he was also a candidate in an election.

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Mr. Heaney posed the question for both the bills by asking if they both needed the contributors, names, amount contributed, date, and their address. Mrs. Wagner stated that in the bills, these things were needed, and they should be explicitly spelled out.

Mr. Swackhamer felt that the name of the contributor should be spelled out. Mr. Heaney asked if the name and address was necessary and the answer was yes. Mr. Swackhamer felt that the figure should not be set too low or there would be non-compliance. He also felt that the amount given should be a culumulative amount and not several sums. In other words, some persons could stretch the law and contribute \$50. each day of the campaign.

Mr. Swackhamer felt the figure of \$150. was all right but stated this figure would have to be higher for the Governor's election.

Mr. Heaney felt that A.B. 294 should be left at the \$250. figure and Mrs. Wagners bill (A.B. 33) should be left at the same amount of \$50. Mr. Demers felt the committee should keep in mind the local government. He also felt there should not be discrimination between offices as we are trying to legislate honestness in politics.

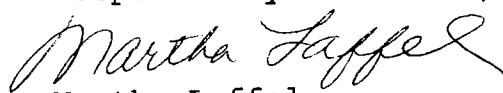
Considerable discussion was held on the word compliance with the law. In filing campaign contributions, Mrs. Wagner said some people filed beautiful papers while others were written on scraps of paper. Mr. Swackhamer stated that the people have the right to know these figures and certainly the opposition party wants to know where the money comes from.

Mr. Swackhamer asked the Committee as to when the financial reports should be made concerning the candidates. Mrs. Wagner felt they should be made out as quickly as possible, otherwise they would have no value. After discussion, it was agreed that a postmark would be used as the legal date a candidate mails his campaign contributions report.

Mrs. Wagner felt there was a considerable difference in A.B. 294 and A.B. 33. Mr. Vergiels suggested that a sub-committee of 3 be set up to carefully study the two bills and come up with recommendations. Mr. Demers appointed Mr. Vergiels as the Chairman of the sub-committee and the two members would be Mr. Sena and Mrs. Wagner. The sub-committee would meet with Mr. Swackhamer concerning these two bills.

Chairman Demers read the amendments to A.B. 32, 18, and 84. He announced that these would be going to the bill drafters today. Some of the members felt that some more changes should be made in the amendments. Mr. Demers disagreed with this and said they should go to the bill drafters as written. Should anyone wish to change the amendments, they can do so in the chambers when the bill is presented. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Martha Laffel  
Assembly Attache

## AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Date March 4, 1975 Time 8:00 A.M. Room 336

Bills or Resolutions to be considered	Subject	Counsel requested*
A. B. 33	Requires filing reports of legislative campaign contributions.	
A. B. 294	Requires campaign contributions and ex- penditures for state office be reported to secretary of state.	