

Elections Committee
May 6, 1975

Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.
Room 336

Members Present: Mr. Demers
Mr. Sena
Mrs. Wagner
Mr. Young

Members Absent: Mr. Chaney
Mr. Heaney
Mr. Vergiels

Guests: Representing:
Patrick Murphy Assemblyman

Mr. Demers called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Mr. Demers announced the first order of business would be A.B. 726. This bill reduces age of eligibility for candidates for state legislature. The introducer, Mr. Murphy was not present, so it was agreed to go on to other bills.

A.B. 670 - Mr. Young made the motion to indefinitely postpone this bill. Mrs. Wagner seconded the motion. All members present voted "aye".

A.B. 677 - Through the legislative council (Perry Burnett's office), it was found out this bill would not hold up in court because of an individuals right to privacy. Mr. Young made the motion to indefinitely postpone this bill. Mr. Demers seconded the motion. All members present voted, "aye".

A.B. 622 - It was decided that in many counties, what the bill proposes is done voluntarily. Mr. Swackhamer also verified this and said this kind of thing is already done in the larger counties. It was unanimously agreed that it was not needed. Mr. Demers made the motion to indefinitely postpone this bill. All members present voted, "aye".

Mr. Demers announced the next bill to be discussed was A.B. 683, which prohibits political criminal libel.

Mr. Demers stated that he was the introducer of this bill which came from the Montana statutes. Mr. Demers stated that what prompted him to introduce the bill was the amount of "mud-slinging" going on between political candidates in Southern Nevada. Mr. Demers cited the case of Harper vs Lombardi in which Lombardi beat Harper by 2 votes. Harper in turn published false statements about Lombardi. Mr. Demers also cited the election race of Laxalt and Talbert. Mr. Talbert published some untrue statements about Mr. Laxalt, and in turn, Mr. Laxalt found there was no law he could turn to other than

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civil law suit. Mr. Demers felt that this bill would protect the candidate.

Mr. Demers stated that they would reconsider A.B. 726. Mr. Murphy testified as follows: He stated the reason he introduced this bill was because there are a lot of young people over the age of 18 who are making their own living, have small children of their own; however, these people cannot run for an elective office because of the age requirement of 21. Mrs. Wagner inquired what other states had this lower age requirement. Mr. Murphy stated that Colorado, Montana and California had this lower age requirement. He stated that he had inquired through the librarian to find out what other states have this law, but that the librarian was away. Mr. Murphy agreed that he would find out what other states had this law and let the committee know. In the discussion, it was stated that persons 18 years of age can vote in federal elections i.e. president, vice-president etc.; however, they cannot drink or gamble. Mr. Fahrenkopf stated from the audience that it was considered criminal action for a person under 21 to drink. After discussion, it was agreed that the bill would be held until later.

A.B. 683 - Mr. Sena made the motion to pass this bill as amended. Mr. Demers seconded the motion. All members present voted, "aye".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 a.m. Mr. Demers stated the committee would reconvene at 12:45 p.m. on this same date to take action on A.B. 639 and A.B. 726.

Afternoon meeting for May 6, 1975 was cancelled until May 7. (To be held in the Assembly Lounge.)

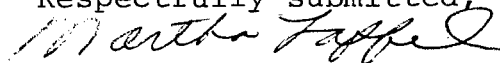
Mr. Demers called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. All members of the committee were present. Two bills were voted on as follows:

A.B. 726 - Mr. Sena made the motion for a do pass. Mr. Demers seconded the motion All members voted aye.

A.B. 639 - Mr. Demers went over the proposed amendments. Mr. Chaney made the motion for a do pass as amended. Mr. Sena seconded the motion. All members voted aye except Mr. Young who voted no, and Mrs. Wagner was excused early for a meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martha Laffel
Assembly Attache

ASSEMBLY
AGENDA
~~HEARING~~

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COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Date May 6, 1975 Time 7:30 A.M. Room 336

Bill or Resolution to be considered	Subject
A.B. 633	Prohibits certain false or misleading statements by political candidates.
A.B. 681	Raises maximum limit on number of voters comprising certain election precincts.
A.B. 683	Prohibits political criminal libel.
A.B. 726	Reduces age of eligibility for candidates for state legislature.