

Assembly

3- 10/12

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

April 17, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN DINI  
VICE-CHAIRMAN MURPHY  
ASSEMBLYMAN CRADDOCK  
ASSEMBLYMAN HARMON  
ASSEMBLYMAN MAY  
ASSEMBLYMAN MOODY  
ASSEMBLYMAN SCHOFIELD  
ASSEMBLYMAN YOUNG

MEMBERS ABSENT: ASSEMBLYMAN FORD

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Swackhammer, Secretary of State  
Mr. Bob Gagnier, SNEA  
Mr. Wittenberg, Purchasing

(The following bills were discussed at this meeting: A.B. 530,  
A.B. 531, A.B. 568 and BDR 5-1618)

Mr. Dini called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

The first bill to be discussed was A.B. 530, which increases fees for photocopy services and permits certain other charges by the secretary of state.

Mr. Swackhammer testified. Mr. Swackhammer stated that the photostat room in the secretary of state's office is running in the red. He stated that the price for photocopying is set by statute and has not been changed in 20 or 30 years.

The next bill to be discussed was A.B. 531, which provides that division of state, county and municipal archives in office of secretary of state be notified before certain obsolete records are destroyed. Mr. Swackhammer testified. Mr. Swackhammer stated that this bill changes the name of the Nevada Historical Society to the Division of Archives. This would allow them to give some instructions as to what to destroy. He stated that they wished to preserve what is worthwhile.

The next bill on the agenda to be discussed was A.B. 568, which permits retired public employees to retain membership in group insurance programs without assuming payment of full premium.

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Mr. Bob Gagnier testified. He indicated that this was a state employee bill. Mr. Gagnier stated that in running some studies they find that people who have retired have a hard time getting comprehensive health insurance. He indicated that this bill would cost the state \$36,000 for the first biennium and \$72,000 each biennium thereafter. He stated that these funds would be general fund money. He stated that on the average there are about 60 state employees retiring each year. It would only apply to long-term employees.

Mr. Dini indicated that a bill had been past last session that would allow them to stay in and that they would pay the premiums themselves. Mr. Gagnier stated that that was correct.

Mr. Young asked if they would pay the whole premium or one-half. He also asked if the state paid the entire premium for the employees who had not reached retirement age. Mr. Gagnier stated that the retired employees who wished to remain in the program paid the full cost themselves and that the state paid the premium for the employees who have not as yet retired. Mr. Gagnier also stated that they felt that it would bring down the total premium because more people are keeping the program.

Mr. Young asked what the premium was.

Mr. Gagnier stated that right now it is \$28, but that as of this July it would be going up and that it could be as much as \$32.00 per employee.

Mr. May asked at what age they generally retire.

Mr. Gagnier stated 65.

Mr. May stated that most insurance benefits are void or go to reduced benefits. Mr. Gagnier stated that it does have a coordination provision. He informed the committee that state employees are not on social security. If they have not earned enough quarters they are not eligible for a portion of medicare.

Mr. May indicated that he has personal reservations about this.

Mr. Wittenberg of the Personnel Department testified next. He stated that this was not in the governor's budget because it was not a high priority item. He indicated that at the time that this was being considered, they looked over what has been done. The figures that Mr. Gagnier gave are accurate.

Mr. Dini asked if there could be administrative problems.

Mr. Wittenberg replied no.

Mr. May asked how many people were working for the state.

Mr. Wittenberg stated that there are 7,200 classified and 800 unclassified, a total of about 8,000. Mr. Wittenberg indicated that in the last couple of years the retirement figure ran a little

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higher than 60. It generally runs from 60 to 100.

Mr. May asked what the cost would be if the individual were paying for this himself. Mr. Wittenberg indicated it would be \$350.00 per year, or about \$28.00 to \$30.00 per month.

Miss Sue Favor, Director of Personnel for Memorial Hospital testified next. She stated that she objected to the employer being requested to pay a portion of the premium. She stated that this would become a negotiable item.

Mr. Petroni testified next. He indicated that he had mixed reactions. The big objection is for the school districts to continue paying the cost of the program. They have 25 retiring each year.

Mr. Warren testified next. He indicated that the City of Reno expects 15 people to retire next year. Their annual premium would be small for these people. He stated that Reno pays 61%, about \$5,000.00 or \$328.00 per employee. He indicated that keeping this open as a negotiable item is of interest to the cities.

Mr. Canigliari, Joint Fire and police testified next. He indicated that there is a problem. He stated that most public employees are making less per month than people who receive social security.

The committee took the following action:

A.B. 530. Mr. Young moved for a do pass which was seconded by Mr. Harmon. The motion carried unanimously.

A.B. 531. Mr. Harmon moved for a do pass which was seconded by Mr. May. The motion carried unanimously.

A.B. 568. Mr. Moody indicated that on this bill in 10 years it would cost much more money. He indicated that it would cause the overall rate to go up.

Mr. May moved for indefinite postponement on A.B. 568, which was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Harmon did not vote.

Mr. Murphy indicated that he had BDR 5-1618 for committee introduction. (The city of Reno has been using the County treasurer and they are restricted to only paying \$1800 per year. That is all they can pay. They want to change it to an agreed upon amount.) Mr. Young moved for committee introduction, which was seconded by Mr. May. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Gomez*  
Barbara Gomez  
Secretary

ASSEMBLY

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON.....  
THURSDAY

Date APRIL 17, 1975 Time 8:00 A.M. Room 214

3-10-11

Bills or Resolutions  
to be considered

Subject

Counsel  
requested\*

THIS AGENDA SUPERSEDES AGENDA FOR  
THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1975

A.B. 530

Increases fees for photocopy services  
and permits certain other charges by the  
secretary of state.

NOTIFY: Secretary of State

A.B. 531

Provides that division of state, county  
and municipal archives in office of  
secretary of state be notified before cer-  
tain obsolete records are destroyed.

NOTIFY: Secretary of State

A.B. 568

Permits retired public employees to retain  
membership in group insurance programs with-  
out assuming payment of full premium.

NOTIFY: Mr. Wittenberg, Personnel,  
Mr. Gagnier

PLEASE NOTE:

The only change in this agenda was  
the correction of A.B. 551 to A.B. 531.

