

ASSEMBLY HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE MINUTES

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April 30, 1975

MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN BENNETT
VICE-CHAIRMAN CHRISTENSEN
MRS. FORD
MR. LOWMAN
MR. MANN
MR. BARENGO
MR. MURPHY
MR. VERGIELS

MEMBERS ABSENT: MR. CRADDOCK

GUESTS: See List Attached

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bennett who said that the first bill to be discussed would be AB-723 which provides for care and protection of abused and neglected elderly persons.

John McSweeny, representing the Division for Aging Services, appeared in support of the bill. He said it was a very worthwhile bill to protect the elderly in the state. The sections of the bill which gives credence to both provider and consumer are Sec. 16 and 17, and Section 20 in regard legal services for those who are not able to pay.

Mr. Lowman asked if this was an overlap since there had been previous testimony about legal services provided for youth, etc. Mr. McSweeny said it was not because the legal services program Mr. Lowman was referring to is the one in Las Vegas that only provides services in that locale and is not state-wide.

Nellie Laird, AARP/NRTA Joint Legislative Committee, and representing the Senior Citizens, said this was a worthwhile bill and she urged the Committee support.

John R. Kimball, Advisory Committee for the Aging, stated there is a terrific need for this type of legislation in the state to protect the abused and neglected elderly people. They need to be cared for in the home, and do not want our State Hospital to become a dumping ground for the poor. He would urge a unanimous do pass on this legislation.

Mr. Lowman asked if additional funding for additional people would be needed, and was informed that money was available under Title XX, and they only needed to apply for it.

The next bill to be discussed was AB-719 which requires school districts to report annually the number of properly immunized children.

Mike Nash, Nevada Division of Health in Charge of the Immunization Program, stated they requested this amendment to the Nevada Immunization Law for several reasons. One, their Federal funding has been reduced a net 68% for next year. This has cost them five staff members. Also, the Federal Government has passed a privacy act which precludes outsiders from getting into the school health records. So, after some discussion, they felt that the districts could provide this information to the Health Division so they would have some basis on which to set priorities for immunization programs in the school and keep track of how low or high they are in any given area.

Mr. Mann thought this would be a burden which would be put on the teachers or the school secretary and they didn't have time to go through these records. Also the taxpayers were paying these people and they shouldn't have to hire extra help to do this job. Mr. Nash said they had just completed a survey of the kindergartens in Clark County and four of them completed the survey in 3-1/2 days. That is about 20 minutes a school. This is a job that could be done by a school secretary more efficiently.

Mr. Lowman asked if any of the school district superintendents or school board trustees have been offered an opportunity to speak on the bill to see if they could handle the financial impact. Mr. Nash said that right now all the school districts, with the exception of Clark, have been furnishing this information for the past two years. Upon further questioning by Mr. Lowman, Mr. Nash said they weren't trying to force Clark County or anyone to furnish this information, but that Clark County had the lowest immunization level of any place in the United States for a city of its size. This low level has been going on for approximately three or four years. He had records to show that at one school 81% of the children had no health record whatsoever. It is his feeling that if they are required to report each year they will at least maintain the records.

Mr. Christensen said he was shocked at reading in the papers how many children were not immunized and he would like to know from Mr. Nash the need for this type of information and if it would help take care of the situation. Mr. Nash said he worked an outbreak this morning with rubella in a track team that has been working all over northern Nevada and was about ready to go to southern Nevada, and they have been spreading rubella for two weeks.

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Mrs. Ford asked if there was a penalty for not making these reports and Mr. Nash said there was not. They find that penalties are not necessary in the rural areas since they are 96% immunized. If the principal of a school has a feeling for immunization it invariably gets done.

Mr. Lowman felt the responsibility for this job shouldn't be passed on to the schools. If the Legislature has the responsibility for deciding this they had better fund the Health Department or whoever at the State level and get it done.

Mr. Murphy again asked how much time it would take to make these reports. Mr. Nash estimated that it would take a school secretary three hours to do five schools once a year.

Shirley Weedow, Nevada P.T.A., strongly supported the bill. The PTA offered to do this work and keep the records, but since the confidentiality law was passed they are not allowed access to the files. These records are greatly needed and that is why they are in favor of the bill.

Mr. Nash presented the one-sheet forms which they had sent out to the schools entitled "School Enterers Survey". A copy of this form is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

Karen Winkler, Nevada Nurses Association Legislative Committee, supported the concept of the bill but did not think it went far enough. She believes a fiscal note should be added to set up a special committee to carry out the duties required in keeping immunization records.

Mr. Lowman returned to the Committee meeting to say that Mr. Guinn, Superintendent of Clark County School District, would like to have this matter held in abeyance until he could talk to the experts at the school level and get back to the Committee. Mr. Mann conveyed this message to the Committee for Mr. Lowman.

The discussion turned to AB-746 which authorizes the state board of nursing to issue interim permits to practice to certain professional and practical nurse applicants. Mr. Murphy gave a brief statement regarding introduction of the bill. He stated that instead of having the bill become effective July 1 of this year, they would have it become effective upon passage and signature by the Governor.

Richard Gray, a student at Orvis School of Nursing, stated they would like two changes in the bill. One is that it would become effective upon the signature of the Governor. After discussion it was decided that the other change he had in mind was not needed.

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Mr. Gray then read a statement to the Committee supporting the bill. A copy of such statement is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.

Phyllis Hansen, Nevada Nurses Association, stated that Mr. Gray had said he had that organization's support, and she wanted to verify that this was true. The nurses are behind this 100%.

The Committee took the following action:

AB-723: Mr. Vergiels moved "do pass"; seconded by Mr. Lowman. Unanimously passed.

AB-746: Mr. Mann moved "Amend and Do Pass"; Mr. Christensen seconded the motion.

Mr. Lowman said if this was passed they were setting a precedent for all professional schools throughout the state, and he wanted to warn the student nurses that if this was defeated on the floor, it would be because of this.

A vote was then taken on the motion, and unanimously passed by Committee.

AB-719: Hold.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Dunne
Secretary

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & WELFARE

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Wednesday

Date April 30, 1975 Time 3:00 p.m. Room 240

Bills or Resolutions
to be considered

Subject

Counsel
requested*

THIS AGENDA CANCELS AND SUPERSEDES THE AGENDA

PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED FOR APRIL 30, 1975

Defers

AB-723 -

Provides for care and protection of
abused and neglected elderly persons.

Hold

AB-719 -

Requires school district annual
reporting of number of properly
immunized children.

Do Pass 5-12

*Amend +
Do Pass*

AB-746 -

Authorizes state board of nursing to
issue interim permits to practice
to certain professional and practical
nurse applicants.

*Please do not ask for counsel unless necessary.

HEARINGS PENDING

Date _____ Time _____ Room _____

Subject _____

Date _____ Time _____ Room _____

Subject _____

GUEST REGISTER

HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

Date: April 30, 1975

NAME	REPRESENTING	Check if you wish to speak
Doris Ashbaugh	St. Marys P.N. School (WNCC)	
Liane Bradshaw	St. Marys P.N. School WNCC	
Batty Lytle	St. Marys Practical Nursing School WNCC	
Mildred Hogan	St. Marys Practical Nursing School WNCC	
Carolyn Leonard	President, N.S. Nevada Student Nursing Assoc.	
RICHARD GRAY	ORVIS SCHOOL OF NURSING	✓
Dorlene Clark	R.N. Orvis School Nursing	
Pat York	RN - WNCC	
Lenore Reinhard	RN - WNCC	
Susan Seli	Vice Pres Nevada Student Nursing Assoc RN - WNCC	
Marlene Gladue	St. Marys Practical Nursing School WNCC	
Darlene Hansen	St. Marys Practical Nursing School WNCC	
Viviane Polich	RN - WNCC	
Norma Martin	RN - WNCC	
Viv Vavas	RN - WNCC	
Lucy M. Langford	RN - WNCC	
Celesta Early	RN - WNCC	
Janet P. Jan	RN - WNCC	
Jean Hamilton	RN - WNCC	
Charon Hansen	student nurse, Western Nev. Comm. College	

Kathryn Frick	RN - WNCC	
Ann C. Luce	RN - Orvis School of Nursing	
Nona Blum	RN WNCC	
Nellie Laird	AARP/NRTA Joint Legislative Committee	
Phyllis Hansen	Nev. Nurses Assn.	✓
Karen Winkler	Nev. Nurses Assoc. Leg. Com.	
Shirley Wedder	hon. CTA	✓
Claire Marks	Student Nurse, Orvis School of Nursing	
RALF PETERSON	SN - Orvis Sch. Nsg	
Candy Wenter	SN Orvis School Nursing	
Mina Carville	OSN	
Jeanne Foley	OSN	
Joseph M. Foley	Las Vegas	
Laura Gibson	Reno WNCC	

58TH NEVADA LEGISLATURE

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE
LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE April 30, 1975

SUBJECT AB-723

MOTION: _____

Do Pass Amend _____ Indefinitely Postpone _____ Reconsiderer _____

Moved By Mr. Vergiels Seconded By Mr. Lowman

AMENDMENT _____

Moved By _____ Seconded By _____

AMENDMENT _____

Moved By _____ Seconded By _____

VOTE:	MOTION		AMEND		AMEND	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Bennett	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Christensen	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Barengo	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Craddock	Absent	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mann	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Murphy	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vergiels	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ford	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lowman	<u>x</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

TALLY: 8

Original Motion: Passed Defeated _____ Withdrawn _____

Amended & Passed _____ Amended & Defeated _____

Amended & Passed _____ Amended & Defeated _____

Attach to Minutes _____
Date _____

SCHOOL ENTERERS SURVEY

The following information is needed to access the immunization needs of Nevada Students.

If immunity levels appear to be low, follow-up clinics will be arranged in the near future.

ENROLLMENT AT TIME OF SURVEY _____

DPT SERIES (Three shots) _____

DPT SERIES PLUS BOOSTER (Four shots) _____

POLIO SERIES (Three doses) _____

POLIO SERIES PLUS BOOSTER (Four doses) _____

MEASLES SHOT _____

MEASLES DISEASE _____

RUBELLA SHOT _____

RUBELLA DISEASE _____

By law each school enterer must have had the DPT Series and one booster; the POLIO Series and one booster; Measles shot or disease; and Rubella shot or disease.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH COMPLETE IMMUNIZATIONS _____

The law provides for exemptions for religious and/or medical reasons. The parent may claim the religious exemption without documentation. The medical exemptions should be signed by a physician but in the event the physician is not available the parent may sign.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS _____

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS _____

Often students will have no record of immunizations either because it has been lost or because of parental apathy.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH NO RECORD ON THE DAY OF THE SURVEY _____

ON MARCH 11, 1975 A COMMUNICATION WAS SENT TO EMPLOYERS OF LICENSED NURSES AND SCHOOLS OF NURSING FROM JEAN PEAVY, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING. ACCORDING TO MRS. PEAVY, THE BOARD OF NURSING HAD BEEN INFORMED BY A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL THAT IT WAS NOT LEGAL TO ISSUE AN INTERIM PERMIT OR TEMPORARY LICENSE TO A NEW GRADUATE OF ANY PROGRAM IN NURSING. THIS NEW INTERPRETATION OF THE NURSE PRACTICE ACT CAME AS A SURPRISE TO THE NURSING COMMUNITY. FOR THE LAST NINE YEARS, THE BOARD OF NURSING HAD IN FACT ISSUED INTERIM PERMITS TO NEW GRADUATES OF ACCREDITED SCHOOLS OF NURSING. MANY NURSES, STUDENT NURSES, AND NURSING ORGANIZATIONS ARE CONCERNED AS TO THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THIS INTERPRETATION OF THE PRACTICE OF NURSING IN THIS STATE.

LET ME EXPLAIN ^{WHAT} AN INTERIM PERMIT IS AND WHAT IT MEANS TO PROFESSIONAL AND PRACTICAL NURSING. PROFESSIONAL NURSING REFERS TO REGISTERED NURSING WHICH REQUIRES FROM TWO TO FOUR YEARS OF EDUCATION. THE GRADUATE OF AN R.N. PROGRAM MAY HOLD AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE, A DIPLOMA, OR A BACCALAUREAT DEGREE. PRACTICAL NURSING REFERS TO LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING WHICH REQUIRES ONE YEAR OF EDUCATION. THE GRADUATE OF AN L.P.N. PROGRAM RECEIVES A DIPLOMA.

STATE EXAMINATION TESTS FOR NURSING LICENSURE ARE GIVEN AT SCHEDULED INTERVALS EACH YEAR. THESE TIMES ARE DETERMINED BY THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING. GRADUATES MUST OFTEN WAIT FOR ONE TO TWO MONTHS FOLLOWING GRADUATION FOR A SCHEDULED TIME TO WRITE THEIR EXAMINATIONS. THERE IS THEN A SIX (6) TO EIGHT (8)

WEEK INTERVAL BEFORE RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS ARE RECEIVED. ALL TOTAL, THIS MAKES A THREE (3) TO FOUR (4) MONTH WAITING PERIOD, DURING WHICH THE GRADUATE IS UNABLE TO PRACTICE NURSING LEGALLY AT THE LEVEL AT WHICH HE OR SHE HAS BEEN EDUCATED. THE FUNCTION OF THE INTERIM PERMIT IS TO ALLOW THE GRADUATE OF AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL OF NURSING TO FUNCTION AS A LICENSED^{GRADUATE} NURSE UNTIL RESULTS OF STATE BOARDS ARE RECEIVED. I ASK YOU TO NOTE THAT WE ARE SIMPLY ASKING FOR LEGALIZATION OF THE ISSUENCE OF INTERIM PERMITS, AND THAT THESE SAME PERMITS HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE LAST NINE YEARS.

MANY STATES ALREADY HAVE NURSE INTERIM PERMITS WRITTEN INTO THEIR NURSE PRACTICE ACTS. AMONG THE WESTERN STATES ARE ^{WASHINGTON} ~~NEVADA~~, UTAH, ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, AND COLORADO. THE RESULTS OF THEIR PROVIDING LICENSURE FOR GRADUATE NURSES ARE MORE GRADUATES STAYING IN THE STATE, SINCE THEY NEED NOT WAIT ON STATE BOARD TEST RESULTS, AND AS A RESULT A LARGER POPULATION OF NURSES TO FULFILL THE COMMUNITY NEEDS.

THE NURSING COMMUNITY HAS IDENTIFIED THE NEED FOR A CHANGE IN THE NURSE PRACTICE ACT IN RELATION TO INTERIM PERMITS, AND HAS STRONGLY BACKED THE PROPOSAL BEFORE YOU. AMONG THESE GROUPS ARE:

NEVADA NURSES ASSOCIATION
NEVADA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
NEVADA LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES ASSOC.-DIV. 1
NEVADA STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION
ARTICULATION TASK FORCE
FACULTY OF ORVIS SCHOOL OF NURSING
NURSING STUDENT BODY-WNCC
SENIOR NURSING CLASS-OSN-UNR

IN ADDITION, MANY OTHER PROFESSIONAL AND PRACTICAL NURSES SUPPORT OUR PROPOSAL. AS A STUDENT NURSE SOON TO GRADUATE, I ASK YOU TO RECOMMEND THIS PROPOSAL TO THE ASSEMBLY. IT IS A MUCH NEEDED PIECE OF LEGISLATION THAT IS LONG OVERDUE.