MINUTES

April 7, 1975

This meeting of the Assembly Judiciary Committee was called to order by Chairman Barengo on Monday, April 7, 1975.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Messrs. BARENGO, BANNER, HEANEY,

HICKEY, LOWMAN, POLISH, SENA, Mrs. HAYES and Mrs. WAGNER.

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE.

Guests included Howard Hill, Wm. Fitzpatrick and John Ciardella, all from the Department of Motor Vehicles, and William Isaeff, from the Attorney General's Office. The Guest Register from this meeting is attached to these Minutes.

Bill Fitzpatrick, Driver's License Division of the Department of Motor Vehicles, testified regarding A.B.391 and A.B.392. As to A.B.391, this would require suspension of a license of an individual if he has failed to meet his written promise to appear after the DMV receives notice from the court. The license would be suspended until further notice from the court was received indicating satisfactory compliance. The court would first notify the DMV of the individual's failure to comply. The DMV then notifies the individual how to begin the process of reinstating his license. He gave this Committee statistics on the number of FTA's monthly. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that this bill was not originally his department's, and he is not sure of just where it did come from. Illinois is a pioneer in enacting legislation similar to this; however, there are differences between their legislation and what is proposed in A.B.391. He said this bill would protect the courts, as it would get the violator to the court one way or another. The DMV does not really feel that this bill is necessary, because it would take a lot of time and money to administer.

As to A.B.392, this would merely be a change in language. Page 2, Lines 1 and 22 would be changed from "recommend" and "Recommend to the department of motor vehicles", respectively, to "order" in both cases. Likewise, Mr. Fitzpatrick does not know where this bill originated.

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John Ciardella testified regarding S.B.132. He stated that this was a department bill drafted to give them some additional enforcement and penalties. He said there are a lot of problems when a dealer reports a sale, and they have had a large amount of applications for duplicate titles. They would request that the penalty for falsifying documents be increased from a misdemeanor to a gross misdemeanor. He said all documents seem to be falsified pretty regularly. He explained to this Committee some of the problems which are created by the dealerships and by title changes when vehicles are sold. Mr. Hickey questioned Mr. Ciardella as to the current penalties for the various situations mentioned, and Mr. Ciardella commented that some of the penalties are misdemeanors and some are gross misdemeanors.

Bill Isaeff, Deputy Attorney General, testified that S.B.318 was introduced at the suggestion of the Attorney General's Office, partly to correct some materials coming from the 1973 Legislature. This bill pertains to entering agreements with foreign nations, particularly Canada, in relation to the Reciprocal Support Act. Their primary interest is in enforcing this Act in Canada. This bill would amend the law to enable this to be brought about. The definition of jurisdiction is restricted to a soverign nation. In Canada a Canadian Provincial Court enters a provisional order. bill authorizes a Nevada District Court to make a provisional order, which is necessary to comply with the Canadian law, by suggesting the dollar amount by stating that the obligor should pay for the minor children in the State of Nevada. This bill was originally suggested by Humboldt County District Attorney, Bill Macdonald. He has dealt with this situation quite a bit. Mrs. Hayes questioned the situation as regards Mr. Isaeff says he has not had any problems with enforcement of this Act in Mexico.

Mr. Hickey commented on A.B.391 and A.B.392. He said that there is a problem in the southern part of this State. after a written promise to appear is signed, it is often ignored. Mr. Hickey related that the courts are having a tremendous problem, and Chairman Barengo interjected that he felt there are adequate remedies for this type of situation. Mr. Hickey told this Committee that warrants just continue to stack up. In Las Vegas the DMV License Department goes out and talks to the people after the warrant has been issued. They request payment before the situation goes any further.

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Considering S.B.251 and S.B.252, Chairman Barengo explained that these bills were part of the Senate Judiciary Committee's work to bring the divorce laws in accordance with the theory of the Equal Rights Amendment. As to S.B.252, this bill provides that in a divorce action, the woman may change her name to a former name which she had in the past legally borne. Under the present statute a spouse could pick any name she wanted—not just a former legal name.

As to A.B.447, Vice Chairman Hayes read a memo to Chairman Barengo dated April 3, 1975. A copy of this is attached. Mr. Lowman moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.447, but the motion died for lack of a second. Discussion by the Committee followed, and it was decided that this Committee request the presence of Secretary of State, William Swackhamer, to testify as to his feelings on the bill. (On April 9, 1975 a letter to Mr. Swackhamer was mailed.) In regards to this bill, Chairman Barengo pointed out that on Page 3, Line 24 the employer of a notary public would be held liable for official acts. This is not now the case.

Senator Melvin Close, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, was present to testify regarding S.B.251 and S.B.252, He began with S.B.252 and told the Committee that the reason for this was that in the past there had been problems in divorce actions where the wife desired a change of name to one she had not ever used before. He told the Committee how one can legally change a name in a separate legal action. Senator Close said 9 times out of 10, the purpose of changing a name to one never used before in a divorce action was to defraud creditors.

S.B.251 was discussed by Senator Close. He stated in the bill they tried to make it reciprocal so that either party would be entitled to temporary support in a pending divorce action. Previously, only the husband was liable to pay temporary support and maintenance. If the husband is unable to obtain it in certain circumstances, it is in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the U. S. Constitution. With the passage of this bill, either party may receive temporary support and maintenance and support for the minor children. This bill does not provide any alimony payments. Only what happens during the pendency of the divorce action is involved.

Chairman Barengo announced that there would be a Joint Meeting of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Assembly Judiciary Committee tomorrow morning, April 8, 1975, in Room 213. The recordings used at this meeting would be held for public record. The bill to be discussed—S.B.399.

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Next, considering A.B.444, Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS. There was no second to the motion. Lengthy discussion followed, and Chairman Barengo read from the present statute. Mrs. Wagner moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.444, and Mr. Sena seconded. A vote was had, and there were 5 Committee members in favor of indefinite postponement. Dissenting were Mr. Hickey, Mr. Banner and Mrs. Hayes. Mr. Heaney was not present for the vote, as he left the meeting during the discussion of A.B.444 to testify before another committee. Legislation Action Form is attached hereto.

MOTION CARRIED INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.444.

As to A.B.446, Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS with Mr. Polish seconding that motion. Chairman Barengo opened the floor to discussion, and subsequently, he proposed an amendment to the bill. He proposed leaving in "disqualification" and "excessive workload", removing all brackets thereafter until you reach Line 21, and from Line 21 on leaving it as it stands. Mr. Hickey then withdrew his original motion and moved DO PASS AS AMENDED. Mr. Polish seconded. A vote was had with 7 Committee members voting in favor of this new motion. Mr. Lowman dissented. Mr. Heaney was absent for the vote. Form attached.

MOTION CARRIED DO PASS A.B.446 AS AMENDED.

Mr. Hickey gave a report on A.B.331. He and Mr. Heaney are working on obtaining the information requested by this Committee on March 20, 1975, the date when the bill was originally considered.

Next, Mrs. Hayes moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.412, and Mr. Lowman seconded. A vote indicated that 7 Committee members voted to indefinitely postpone—Mr. Sena abstained. Mr. Heaney was not present for the vote. Form attached. MOTION CARRIED INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.412.

As to A.B.413, Mr. Barengo distributed to this Committee further information regarding the bill, which was furnished by Mr. Benkovich. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Banner moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.413, and Mr. Polish seconded. A vote was had, which indicated 5 in favor of indefinite postponement, 2 dissented (Mr. Lowman and Mrs. Wagner), 1 abstained (Mrs. Hayes), and Mr. Heaney was absent for the vote.

Regarding taking action on A.B.353, Chairman Barengo told the Committee that he spoke to A/S Bart Jacka of the Las Vegas Metro Police Department, and he advised that there was not the same problem in Las Vegas as Reno had concerning the University Police. He said if this Committee passes the bill to limit it to the UNR Campus only. Mrs. Wagner

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said she would like to see the Committee wait to take action until after a report from Chief Parker, Reno Police Department, and Sheriff Galli, Washoe County Sheriff.

Mr. Barengo handed out to this Committee a letter from Frank Daykin of the Counsel Bureau relative to District Attorney Larry Hicks' comments on murder, which bore the date of April 18, 1975. A copy of Mr. Daykin's comments is attached.

Mr. Barengo opened the floor to discussion on S.B.132. Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS, and Mrs. Hayes seconded. A vote was had, and 8 Committee members voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Heaney was absent for this vote. Form attached. MOTION CARRIED DO PASS S.B.132.

Next, considering <u>S.B.251</u>, Mrs. Wagner moved DO PASS, and Mrs. Hayes seconded. Discussion followed, and a vote indicated 8 in favor of the motion. Form attached. Mr. Heaney was absent for this vote.

MOTION CARRIED DO PASS S.B.251.

As to S.B.252, Mr. Lowman moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE. This motion died for a lack of a second. Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS, and Mrs. Wagner seconded. After a vote, 7 were in favor of the DO PASS motion, and Mr. Lowman dissented. Mr. Heaney was absent. Form attached. MOTION CARRIED DO PASS S.B.252.

Mrs. Wagner moved DO PASS S.B.318, and Mr. Hickey seconded. Lengthy discussion ensued. A vote showed 8 Committee members in favor of passing this bill. Mr. Heaney was absent. Form attached.

MOTION CARRIED DO PASS S.B.318.

Mr. Hickey suggested that action on A.B.391 and A.B.392 not be taken at this meeting. He would like to see these bills set aside for a few days to be considered further for a possible amendment to embrace another subject area.

In regards to A.J.R.16 of the 57th Session, Mr. Hickey commented briefly on showing both sides of an approach on judicial discipline. He discussed the opposite side and he said he did not have any objection to this bill. He just thought he had a better way to do it. Mr. Hickey suggests setting up a judicial commission which would do more than just handle judicial discipline. Mr. Hickey told the Committee that he felt we should be getting these A.J.R.'s going, and if we get his bill which is still tied up in the bill drafter's office, then we could ask the Senate Judiciary Committee to hold up on these A.J.R.'s. All members voted to allow Mr. Hickey until this Friday, April 11, 1975 to

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get his bill to the Committee before taking action on any of the remaining A.J.R.'s. Lengthy discussion followed.

Mrs. Wagner reported on the amendment to A.B.381. She told the Committee that this will be ready for presentation at the meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 1975.

Mr. Heaney proceeded to report to the Committee on A.B.19 and A.B.353. As to A.B.19, there were two questions raised by this Committee: (1.) The effect passage of this bill might have on welfare parents, and (2.) Whether or not standard homeowners policies would cover the foster parents. As to the first question, Mr. Heaney said he spoke to Mr. Holland, Deputy Attorney General assigned to the Welfare Department, and he said that they are aware of a possible problem in this regard, but apparently, it has never become one. As to the second question, Mr. Heaney was advised that the standard homeowners liability insurance would cover the foster parents if they were found to be negligent. Discussion by this Committee followed.

Mr. Lowman moved DO PASS A.B.19 WITH AMENDMENTS, and Mr. Heaney seconded. Then, Mr. Heaney added another possible amendment to this bill. He then listed the three amend-Limiting parental liability ments to be considered: (1.) to the sum of \$3,000-.; (2.) Adding a section specifically exempting foster parents from liability for those children placed in their home through the Department of Welfare.; and Requiring that the juvenile court judge or master use (3.)discretionary authority in the disposition of the case to require the juvenile himself or his parents to make restitution to the victim. Thereafter, Mr. Heaney suggested that possibly No. 3 of these proposed amendments should be set up in a separately drawn bill. Mr. Heaney then moved to amend the original motion by passing with the above No. 1 and No. 2 proposed amendments. A vote on this was taken with 2 in favor of this motion, and 7 voting against the motion, namely Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Barengo, Mr. Banner, Mr. Polish, Mr. Hickey and Mr. Sena. This motion did not carry. Legislation Action Form is attached to these Minutes.

As to A.B.353, Mr. Heaney advised that he spoke to Sheriff Galli, and the Sheriff said that potentially there could be problems with passage of this bill; however, there have been none up to this point. He indicated that there could be a problem with overlapping of jurisdictional control. Mr. Heaney said Sheriff Galli said he would not oppose the bill, but he is not saying that there will be no problems.

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Mr. Heaney tried to get in touch with Chief Parker, but the Chief was tied up with other negotiations and was unable to comment as yet. A/S Bart Jacka indicated that there may be some problems. Mr. Banner moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.353. Mr. Hickey seconded. Brief discussion followed. After a vote, there were 5 members of this Committee in favor of the indefinite postponement. Three voted against the motion—Barengo, Heaney and Wagner. Mr. Lowman was absent for this vote. Form attached.

MOTION CARRIED INDEFINITELY POSTPONE A.B.353.

Chairman Barengo adjourned this meeting at 10:08 a.m. after a motion and second for adjournment.

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

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GUEST	REGISTER	

DATE: April 7, 1975

NAME	BILL NO.	SPEAK ING	
MOWARD HILL			Omv
× BILL FITZPATRICK			DMV DMV OMU A.G.
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TO

Honorable Robert Barengo

FROM

Wm. D. Swackhamer Secretary of State

SUBJECT

AB 447

Memo

DATE April 3, 1975

Above is essentially the Uniform Notary Act. It shifts the complete burden for administration to this office, while it currently is being administered by the Governor's office (about 75% of one employees time) and this office (about 50% of one employees time). If this passes as written, we will obviously need at least an additional staff worker.

WDS:brc

LEGISLATION ACTION

Indefinitely Postpone	Reconsider
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Seconded By	
Seconded By	
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nt for the vote.	
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LEGISLATION ACTION

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Moved By			Seconded By		
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Heaney					
Hickey Lowman	<u> </u>				
Polish					
Sena Wagner	<u> </u>			44.119 1	
mr. Heane	y absent	for the	vote.		
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Amended & P	assed		Amended & De	feated	

LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE Opril 7, 1975	
BILL NO. A.B. 412	
MOTION:	
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Moved By Jones. Haye	Seconded By Mr. Leuman
AMENDMENT:	
Moved By	Seconded By
AMENDMENT:	
Moved By	Seconded By
VOTE: YES NO	AMEND AMEND YES NO YES NO
Barengo Banner Hayes Heaney Hickey Lowman Polish Sena Wagner	
mr. Sena abstained.	mr. Heavey was absent for the w
	Defeated Withdrawn
Amended & Passed	Amended & Defeated
Amended & Passed	Amended & Defeated
Attach to Minutes	

Date

Mr. Robert R. Barengo, Chairman Assembly Committee on Judiciary

Subject: Requested comments on Mr. Hicks' letter concerning murder. (Letter dated 3/18, your request 4/1.)

- 1. The punishment for murder of the first degree, under NRS 200.030 as amended in 1973, is set by the judge upon conviction, just as it is for first degree kidnapping where substantial bodily harm results. The authority in each case is NRS 176.033. On the contrary, upon conviction of forcible rape where substantial bodily harm results, NRS 200.363 requires the jury to set the punishment. In each of the three cases, the choice is between life imprisonment "with" and "without" possibility of parole. There is no indication in the bill drafting records why the legislature chose to parallel the kidnapping rather than the rape procedure. It would be logical to treat all three alike.
- 2. On plea of guilty to murder of the first degree, as with both the other offenses, the punishment is set by the judge. NRS 200.363 is specific on this point, because of the contrast with the jury provision cited above, and NRS 176.033 governs the other two offenses as it does all others. The contrary provision for a three-judge court (former NRS 174.045) was repealed in 1973 and by its terms could no longer apply to first degree murder.

It is a question of policy, rather than law, whether a defendant who pleads guilty should be permitted to specify life imprisonment "with" or "without" parole. Such specification is not recognized by statute for any other offense where there is a range of punishment but of course it occurs by informal agreement subject to the final action of the court.

- 3. Whether capital murder should be limited to "willful, premediated and deliberate" is purely a question of policy. When first degree murder carried a death penalty, it did include situations not meeting that criterion, i.e. murder committed in perpetuating or attempting certain felonies.
- 4. The matter of "common plan, scheme or design" is treated in A.B. 97, as we discussed in committee.

I will be glad to meet with you or the committee to treat any of these points further.

Frank W. Daykin

LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE Opril	7,1975		
BILL NO.	S.B.132		
MOTION:			
Do Pass	Amend	Indefinitely Postpo	n <u>e</u> Reconsider
Moved By	mr. Hickey	Seconded By	mis. Hayes
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Moved By		Seconded By	
AMENDMENT:			

Moved By		Seconded By	
VOTE: Barengo Banner Hayes Heaney Hickey Lowman Polish Sena Wagner TALLY:	MOTION YES NO	AMEND YES NO	AMEND YES NO
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LEGISLATION ACTION

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AMENDMENT:								

Moved By				Seconded	d By			
•	MOT	TON		AMEND	Dr.	AME	VD.	
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Lowman	7777							
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LEGISLATION ACTION

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BILL NO.	S.B. 252		
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Moved By	mr. Hickey	Seconded By	mrs. Wagner
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Moved By		Seconded By	
AMENDMENT:			
Moved By	<u>- </u>	Seconded By	
VOTE:	MOTION YES NO	AMEND YES NO	AMEND YES NO
Barengo Banner Hayes Heaney Hickey Lowman Polish Sena Wagner			
mr. Wea	0		
	MOTION: Passed		Withdrawn
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LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE Apr	il 7, 1975				
BILL NO.	S.B.318				
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LEGISLATION ACTION

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Moved By		Seconded By	
	MOTION	AMEND	AMEND
VOTE:	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO
Barengo Banner Hayes Heaney Hickey Lowman Polish			
Sena Wagner			
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