MINUTES

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE JOINT SENATE/ASSEMBLY HEARING

MEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 58TH SESSION - MARCH 11, 1975 - 7:30 P.M.

The hearing was called to order by Senator Monroe at 7:40 P.M.

Assemblymen Bennett, Brookman, Dreyer, Jacobsen MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mello, Sena and Wagner

Senators Brown, Close, Monroe, Echols, Lamb,

Young and Gibson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

SPEAKING GUESTS: Assemblyman Dini

Martha Jessup, President of the Association of

University Women

Robin Morgan, League of Women Voters of Nevada

Father Larry Dunphey, Common Cause

Mr. Coffin, Clark County Democratic Central Committee

Elmer Roscoe, Common Cause

Connie Fry, AAUW

Dave Helgren, Common Cause Dorothy Paulson, Visual Arts

Merle Snyder, Nevada State Council of Arts

Steve Pulkkinen

Esther Nicholsen, Democratic Club of Boulder City

Shirley Weidow, PTA Betty Carlson, PTA.

Pam Wilcox

Assemblyman Murphy

Judith Dankel Assemblyman Getto Senator Bryan Douglas Miller

Dick Bennet, Legislative Counsel Bureau

Assemblyman Ford

The purpose of this hearing was to hear testimony regarding the proposed Legislative Reform Package which includes the following bills: AB 263, 266, 267, 281, AR 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, AJR 11, 12, 13, ACR 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, SB 193, 231, 233, 234, SR 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 7, 8, 9, 10, SJR 6, and SCR 1.

Mr. Dini who headed the subcommittee presenting this package spoke of this committee's recommendations. He said these recommendations would help correct inaccuracies and inefficiencies that currently exist. This committee was chaired by Mr. Dini and the Vice Chairman was Jean Ford and included Senator Young, Senator Bryan, Senator Foote and two other Senators, 'An extensive questionnaire was sent out to each legislator in the Fall of 1973, 70% responded and of that 70% 94% felt there was a need for change. In hearings in Las Vegas and in Carson City, the citizenry expressed the need for change. The recommendations presented by this committee were for the purpose of improvement -- not simply for the sake of change.

He spoke of AJR 13 which:

Proposes to amend Nevada constitution to permit 2-day organizational session before each biennial session.

This was done at the beginning of this session and he felt it made the freshmen legislators 50% more effective than before.

He spoke of AJR 11 which:

Proposes to amend Nevada constitution to provide compensation for members of legislature on basis of legislative days instead of calendar days.

He felt this was important in conjunction with the proposed legislation allowing for 100 day pay for legislators.

With regard to AJR 12 which allows the calling of a special session upon petition of two-thirds of members of each house, he said this was very important for the separation of departments of government.

He then spoke of AB 263, SR 11 and AR 8 which provide for standing committees and joint Legislative Functions Committees. He felt this would give continuity and would get leaders of both houses into this Legislative Functions Committee and make it very strong. He felt there was a definite relationship between the Session and the interim.

He spoke of SJR 6 which discontinues the Lieutenant Governor as President of the Senate. He felt the Lieutenant Governor should be related directly to the Governor and the Executive Branch. This would strengthen this branch of the Government.

- SR 15 and AR 15 would provide for parallel committees and establish jurisdictions. By establishing jurisdictions, you will do away with the numerous one-minute recesses to determine where a bill should go. These bills would also give opportunity for joint meetings which would speed up the legislative process.
- AR 11 and SR 14 would provide uniform procedure rules for all committees. This would benefit those testifying by their knowing what is expected of them in each committee.
- SR 9 provides for 5 day notice of public hearings and 24 hour notice of committee meetings. The people of the State of Nevada have a right to know what is going on.
- SR 15 would also provide for uniformity of method of record keeping in all committees.
- ACR 13 would provide for one conference committee rather than three. He felt this would save time.

78

AB 267 would allow Legislative Counsel Bureau to charge the requesting agencies for bill drafting costs. This would exclude those bills requested by legislators, and executive branch of government. He did not feel the cost of drafting bills for other agencies should be charged as a legislative cost.

ACR 12 would set up deadlines and it was felt this would help speed up the Session providing bills could be obtained for bill drafters.

Another time saver would be provided for in AR 13 and SB 10. The reading of the history would be discontinued unless specifically requested. The bill and the title would only be read.

ACR 15 would provide for studying the feasibility of conducting performance audits. This would determine if the individual branches of government are doing their jobs performance-wise.

SR 12 provides that the budget be brought periodically before each house for the purpose of informing the body as a whole and for the body to ask questions and make comments and recommendations.

Mr. Dini continued his testimony giving brief summaries of each of the bills in this package and the highlights of his committee's study.

Martha Jessup then spoke. She said at the April 1974 Convention of the Nevada AAUW the following resolutions were adopted:

That measures be supported to make the legislators more accessible, visable and accountable resulting in more efficient and functional operations and procedures.

Measures be supported for a more informed Legislature with increased capacity for responsible decisions and budget making. This would include longer sessions, pay to match time spent, increased staff and standing committee operations.

With growing population and increasingly complex problems, it is essential that the State Government streamline its operation to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of Nevada citizens. She went on to say they support pay by legislative day rather than calendar day and the creation of interim standing committees. They feel an open meeting policy should be adopted. Mrs. Jessup's complete testimony is attached hereto.

Robin Morgan then spoke. She said the number of bills being discussed at this hearing was an indication of the genuine concern of Nevada's legislators for the legislative process. She said the League of Women Voters of Nevada support many of these bills especially those to increase efficiency, improve the degree of productivity and increase public participation in the legislative process. She said they supported the following bill:

AR 15, SR 15, AB 263, SB 234, AJR 13, AJR 11, AJR 12, AR 11, SR 14, AR 12, SR 9, SR 7 and AB 266. Ms. Morgan's complete testimony is attached which included their reasons for supporting the above legislation.

Father Larry Dunphey then spoke on behalf of Common Cause. He said the Legislature should be open to the people. The creation of suspicion should be avoided. He felt some provisions should be made enabling the Legislature to function in the interim as decision making for a two year period is extremely difficult. He said Common Cause supported the following bills:

AB 263, SB 193, AB 266, ACR 10, AJR 12, and SR 14. He said they also were in support of AB 336.

Mr. Coffin of the Clark County Democratic Central Committee then spoke saying in the interest of good business and of speeding up the legislative process, they urge passage of this group of bills.

Elmer Roscoe of Common Cause spoke stating that this country and the State of Nevada are in a situation that has a very serious loss of public confidence and public trust. He said he was in favor of any legislation opening up the legislative process to the public and all measures concerning items such as conflicts of interest, campaign financing and the formation of a citizens commission.

Connie Fry, President of Carson City Branch of AAUW. She said they supported AJR 11 and the open hearings bill.

Mr. Abe Helgren of Common Cause spoke. He felt this was a good package and a constructive way of dealing with change. He was in favor of open committee meetings but did see reasons for closure but felt such closures should be specifically pointed out.

Dorothy Paulson spoke in favor of <u>SB 231</u> authorizing the placement of a mural. She went into some detail as to type and location of this mural. Mr. Merle Snyder also supported this bill and said the Bicentennial Commission has also endorsed it. He said he also supported the bill allowing five day notice of hearings and recommended that with regard to the bill providing that each agency pay the costs of bills they have drafted that guidelines be set up so this could be budgeted for. He also thought the bill providing for joint hearings was very commendable.

Steve Pulkkinen then spoke. He urged the passage of this package in its most stringent form. He commented on the lack of action in the Legislature and felt much of session was spent on unimportant things and stated that the major decisions are being made in the money committees of both houses without the benefit of real public debate. He urged particular consideration of AJR 11. He felt if you want input from the citizenry, you must meet them halfway.

Ester Nicholson spoke on behalf of the Boulder City Democratic Club They support AJR 26 of the 57th Session, AJR 11, AJR 13, AB 263, AR 15, SR 15, ACR 10, ACR 12, AR 13, SR 10, AR 7, SR 8, AB 267, AB 266 and AJR 12. Her complete testimony is attached hereto.

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE JOINT SENATE/ASSEMBLY HEARING MARCH 11, 1975 PAGE FIVE

Shirley Weidow of the Nevada Parent Teacher Association spoke. They have adopted a resolution of support of the concept of the legislative improvement package. She said they supported many of the recommendations and added that they strongly recommend the formation of a citizens commission to further study the improvement of the legislative process. Betty Carlson also representing the PTA concurred with Mrs. Weidow.

Pam Wilcox said she was impressed with the proposed reform and added that she found it ironic that the body of the people is the hardest body to keep on top of and felt this package would make it easier for the citizenry to be more informed and more active. She urged favorable action on this package.

Assemblyman Murphy spoke saying there would be those who would oppose this package on the premise that Nevada isn't big enough yet for all these reforms. Our interest is not in numbers but in quality. We have the responsibility to create the most effective and operational body the State can have. He said many of these measures do not involve any expense or only a minimal expense. He supported AR 15 and SR 15 providing for parallel standing committees saying this was good common sense. Supporting this reform package is in the best interest of the people of the State of Nevada.

Judith Dankel spoke representing the Reno Branch of AAUW. They feel AB 263 is one of the most important legislative reform bills. Joint hearings will lead to a more efficient legislative process. They feel ACR 10 will give continuity and will allow more time for research, better public hearings and a better legislative process.

Assemblyman Getto then spoke saying it behooves this body to take serious consideration about restoring public confidence. He commented on the people in California taking this type of issue into their own hands by referendum. He said allowing auditing would have his support.

Richard Bryan said he did not think all of these proposals were perfect but the spirit in which they were intended was constructive. He suggested that the subcommittee be allowed to meet with the Legislative Functions Committees in order to resolve any conflicts. He added that a purpose of the package was to make the legislators' time more efficiently spent.

Mr. Douglas Miller, representing industry in the State, spoke saying this package was good procedure in the right direction and at \$25 per minute it is important that this package be given serious consideration.

Dick Bennett of the Legislative Counsel Bureau Legal Division said this package was certainly necessary in many aspects.

Mrs. Ford then spoke. She said she basically supports all of the measures in the reform package. She then said it is necessary

to look at the time we have spent in what we call the general session. She submitted to the committee a computation of time taken from the daily journal that when averaged indicated 45 minutes per calendar day or 67 minutes per legislative day was spent in session. She commented that this was the "time worked". Much discussion followed involving most committee members asking that she clarify her statement. She said time had also been spent in committee meetings, caucus meetings and in research, She recommended that they "gear up" ahead of time to utilize all the days more fully from the first day. Most of the committee members felt her statement to be misleading to the Mrs. Ford said her statement was not intended to be misleading but only to inform the people how long we have spent legislating. Mr. Dreyer felt the public was aware of the time spent in committee meetings by the legislators and Mrs. Ford said the actual making of new laws is not done in committee, it is done on the Floor. Senator Close commented that legislation may be voted on in session but is worked on and put in a form that can be voted on in the committee rooms. He continued by saying things have already been done such as the electronic voting to eliminate some of the time spent in session to allow more time for committee work, etc. and that many of the bills in the proposed package would still further reduce the time actually spent in session. He felt it was important for the public to know the real work is done in committee rooms. Mrs. Ford said she was in favor of the bill allowing for legislators to be paid by the calendar day rather than legislative day. She said it was not her intent to give the impression that legislators only work 67 minutes per day. She only wanted to say what is put in the Journal. Legislators do twenty times that each day. The actual work in the general session is what makes the laws of the State and this is what the public hears. We could get the work done within the number of days the people feel we should if we organize ourselves and if we spend more time than this on the Floor. Mr. Dreyer asked that she submit to the press a clarified statement as to her original comments so there would be no misunderstanding.

The hearing was then concluded and adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Anderson, Secretary

JOSEPH E. DINI, JR.
ASSEMBLYMAN
MAJORITY LEADER
DISTRICT NO. 38
P.O. BOX 968
YERINGTON, NEVADA B9447
TELEPHONE
BUSINESS 463-2868
HOME 463-2069



COMMITTEES
CHAIRMAN
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION

Nevada Legislature

FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

83

PRESENTATION TO JOINT LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE HEARING March 11, 1975

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to appear before your committee and present the report from the LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION'S SUBCOMMITTEE FOR STUDY OF COUNSEL BUREAU ORGANIZATION AND LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES.

The study was the result of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 23 of the 57th Session directing the legislative commission to study legislative organization, procedures and operations and report recommendations to the 58th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Recognition of inadequacies and inefficiencies in legislative methods, procedures and staff support for the Nevada Legislature was reflected in two tangible ways during the 57th Session. First, during that session, 36 bills and resolutions were introduced to change and update legislative rules and procedures. Of these, 11 were adopted. It was evident that many legislators were convinced that improvements were both possible and necessary, and that there had to be a better way to do many of the things that the legislature did during its 100 day plus session of 1973. The legislative commission appointed the Subcommittee which over a 10 month period sought to solicit the best ideas to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of the legislature. The subcommittee was chaired by me with Assemblyman Jean Ford as Vice Chairman and included Senators Clifton Young and Richard Bryan and Assemblyman Margie Foote, Lawrence Jacobsen and James Ullom. The report transmitted was the result of at least four basic undertakings by the subcommittee

- 1. An extensive questionnaire was sent to each legislator in the Fall of 1973. It included questions on virtually all aspects of the legislative process. Over 70 percent responded and of those, 94 percent agreed that changes for improvement were in order.
- 2. An independent analysis of the Nevada legislature was conducted by the Citizens Conference on State Legislatures. This study was funded by the Legislative Commission and was used as a guide for the formation of our final report.

JOSEPH E. DINI, JR.

ABBEMBLYMAN

MAJORITY LEADER

DISTRICT NO. 38

P.O. BOX 968

YERINGTON, NEVADA 89447

TELEPHONE

BUSINESS 463-2868

HOME 463-2669



COMMITTEES
CHAIRMAN
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION

Nevada Legislature

FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

84

Page Two

- 3. In hearings held in Las Vegas as well as Carson City, representatives of a broad spectrum of Nevada citizenry expressed their views on the major proposals for change. A great deal of the testimony was expert and well grounded in experience.
- 4. The subcommittee, after lengthy consideration, distilled the numerous recommendations, refined some, amended others and rejected several as well. The result was Report #114.

The report represents the thinking and experience of people too numerous to mention. What they all had in common with the members of the subcommittee was a strong commitment to legislative improvement. Understandably, there was not always agreement on the best road to travel to get to that goal. As a result, while many recommendations in the report were agreed to unanimously, others were hotly debated and approved with strong dissent.

A unifying thread through the subcommittee's deliberations was the agreement that change would be recommended only for definite and forseeable improvement, not simply for the sake of change. The report reflects that consensus.

The report makes specific recommendations in several broad areas including increased accessibility of the Legislature to our citizens, increased capacity of legislators to be informed, improved utilization of the biennium, and increased participation of all legislators in the budget process.

While the recommendations included herein were conceived of as part of a total program of reform, and are, in some cases, interlocking, most of the recommendations can stand on their own.

Adoption of any of the proposals should result in some improvement in the effectiveness and efficiency of the legislature. Adoption of all or most of the proposals should lead toward the optimum in legislative efficiency, effectiveness, and responsiveness for the State of Nevada.

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Senate and Assembly Legislative

Functions Committee

From: Martha Jessup, President,

Nevada State Division,

American Association of University Women

I am Martha Jessup, President of the Nevada State Division of the American Assoication of University Women.

The April, 1974, Convention of the Nevada AAUW adopted the following resolution:

"AAUW should support measures to make the legislature more accessible, visible and accountable resulting in more efficient and functional operations and procedures, a more informed legislature with increased capacity for responsible decisions and budget making. This would include longer sessions paid to match time spent, increased staff, and standing committee operations."

The Nevada State Legislature faces a rapidly growing population in addition to increasingly complex problems. It is essential that our state government streamline its operations to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of Nevada's citizens.

AAUW commends the 1973 Legislature for establishing the commission to study legislative organizational procedures and operations. We, too, believe that improvement is best accomplished by a complete overview and a total program of reform.

AAUW is particularly interested in serveral areas of legislative reform.

We urge a change to compensation for legislative rather than calendar days. A less concentrated legislative session would enable the Legislators to be better informed, have a greater exchange of ideas among themselves and with the public, thereby increasing their decision-making ability.

We support the establishemnt of interim standing committees which would increase the ability of Nevada's elected officials to govern the State in an orderly and consistent manner throughout their full term of office.

Citizens are vitially interested in their government as never before and in part for very negative reasons. The Legislature should adopt an open meeting policy for themselves just as they have mandated open meetings for other public bodies. Since much of the business of the Legislature is handled in committees, it is important that records of committee discussions and votes be available.

In this era of unparalleled growth and change it is imperative that the Nevada State Legislature adopt new procedures appropriate for Nevada in 1975 and beyond.



League of Women Voters of Nevada

STATEMENT BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS March 11, 1975

87

I am Robin Morgan, President of the League of Women Voters of Nevada. The League has had as a major study item since 1965 - The Nevada Legislature. During these past nine years our membership has studied and arrived at consensus on many issues involving the Nevada Legislature. Several publications have resulted from our studies, including such widely distributed brochures as "The Nevada Legislature" and "A Look at the Record."

We believe the Legislature should be commended for its continuing efforts to improve its operation and organization. No governmental entity is ever so perfect that it need not look introspectly at itself from time to time. The number of bills before this committee tonight indicates a genuine concern on the part of Nevada Legislators for the legislative process. We are pleased to support many of these issues, especially those which will increase efficiency, improve the degree of productivity and increase public participation in the legislative process.

We favor the following bills because we believe they will allow the best utilization of legislators' time and enactment of higher quality legislation in the public interest.

AR 15 and SR 15: Establishment of nine parallel committees in the Senate and Assembly, with the jurisdiction of those committees clearly stated, should serve to facilitate the legislative process. AR 15 and SR 15 would also limit the number of committees that a legislator may serve on to two, allowing each legislator to concentrate his or her attention on specific issues. In conjunction with AR 15 and SR 15 we support

AB 263. The League believes establishment of joint interim committees under AB 263 would provide for more informal, and yet more thorough consideration, of legislation and more citizen participation in the legislative process.

SB 234: We support the addition to NRS 218.085 authorizing per diem and travel expenses for legislators attending presession orientation conferences. The advantages of preparing freshmen legislators so that they are equipped to function efficiently and productively as soon as the legislative session begins are obvious. Those opposing presession orientation of legislators often do so because they fear knowledgeable new legislators will threaten the power structure of established legislators. We favor also

AJR 13, which would amend the Nevada Constitution to permit a two-day organizational session before each biennial session.

AJR 11. Amendment of the Nevada Constitution to provide compensation of members of the Legislature on the basis of legislative days rather than calendar days is more realistic than the present 60-day limitation. League members have indicated a clear desire to support more adequate compensation for legislators.



League of Women Voters of Nevada

E&

ARJ 12. We support a constitutional amendment to require the governor to convene a special session upon petition of two thirds of the members of each house and to permit expansion of the agenda of any special session by two-thirds vote of the members of each house. This change is clearly necessary to give the Legislature equal status and power with the executive branch.

Because the League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of all citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizens' right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public record accessible, it follows therefore that the Nevada League supports the following bills:

AR 11 and SR 14. These resolutions would provide for open committee and sub-committee meetings as well as complete records of what transpires in committee. There seems to be a feeling among a very few legislators that the legislative decision-making process is a semi-secret process, which can only be fully understood by a limited number of insiders. This attitude belittles the intelligence of the public. When decisions concerning public policy are made in secret, it is inevitable that people will assume their legislators have something to hide.

AR 12 and SR9. We believe five days is adequate notice for public hearings during a legislative session. It is also important to assure the public access to committee meetings by 24 hour advance notice. Meetings called on the spur of the moment often give the impression, whether true or not, that the committee wishes to exclude the public. I don't believe it can be stressed too much how easy it is to undermine public confidence with the appearance that deals are being made behind closed doors.

SR 7. We strongly support the addition of sections 4, 5 and 6 to Senate Standing Rule 44 which would adopt standing rules for prevention and disclosure of conflicts of interest; require each legislator to file a statement of his assets, his employment, occupation or profession, and his major sources of income. Passage of SR2 would assure the public that the members of the legislature are indeed public servants and not self-serving politicians. This, perhaps more than any other piece of legislation, would convince the public of the openness and integrity of the Nevada legislative process.

AB 266. We support the concept of a citizen's Advisory Commission, provided it is funded sufficiently to cover expenses of commission members.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee on Legislative Functions .

The Boulder City Democratic Club supports the study and recommendations for improving the legislative process made by the sub-committee of the Legislative Commission, and urges the joint Legislative Functions Committees to approve passage of the enabling legislation especially:

AJR 26 of the 57th session and AJR 11 and 13 of this session concerning legislative days, pay and pre-session organization.

AB 263, AR 15, SR 15 and ACR 10 concerning standing committees.

 $\underline{\text{ACR 12}}$, $\underline{\text{AR 13}}$, $\underline{\text{SR 10}}$, $\underline{\text{AT 7}}$ and $\underline{\text{SR 8}}$ regarding session schedule, bill histories and consent calendar.

AB 267, providing charging the cost of bill drafting to executive agencies.

AB 266, providing for the appointment of a Citizens' Advisory Commission on the Legislatufe

and

AJR 12, giving the legislature a voice in calling a special session and in expanding the agenda of one called by the Governor.

President: Katherine Carroll



COMMITTEES
MEMBER
GOVERNMENT AFFARRS
TREATION
HEALTH AND WIFEARE

Nevada Legislature

30

FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

March 11, 1975

To: Legislative Functions Committees of Senate & Assembly

Re: Improvement of Legislative Process

While I basically support the entire group of recommendations resulting from the Interim Subcommittee on the Legislature, I wish to direct this memo to the specific question of how to make better use of time during the Legislative Session.

First, let us take a look at our work progress this session. From an analysis of the Daily Journals of the Assembly, the following is an accounting of actual time spent by this Assembly in formal legislative session as of March 20, 1975:

| | | J . |
|------------------------|----------|--|
| January 20: 85 minutes | February | 14: 107 minutes |
| 21: 111 minutes | ~ | 15: 0 minutes |
| 22: 32 minutes | | 16: 0 minutes |
| 23: 20 minutes | | 17: 72 minutes |
| 24: 0 minutes | | 18: 79 minutes |
| 25: 0 minutes | | 19: 60 minutes |
| 26: 0 minutes | | 20: 96 minutes |
| 27: 41 minutes | | 21: 12 minutes |
| 28: 45 minutes | | 22: 0 minutes |
| 29: 49 minutes | | 23: 0 minutes |
| 30: 82 minutes | | 24: 94 minutes |
| 31: 0 minutes | | 25: 73 minutes |
| February 1: 0 minutes | | 26: 61 minutes |
| 2: 0 minutes | | 27: 53 minutes |
| 3: 38 minutes | | 28: 0 minutes |
| 4: 40 minutes | March | 1: 0 minutes |
| 5: 42 minutes | | 2: 0 minutes |
| 6: 85 minutes | | 3: 45 minutes |
| 7: 29 minutes | | 4: 72 minutes |
| 8: 0 minutes | | 5: 88 minutes |
| 9: 0 minutes | | 6: 66 minutes |
| 10: 85 minutes | | 7: 107 minutes |
| 11: 101 minutes | | and the control of th |
| 12: 138 minutes | | |
| 13: 55 minutes | | |
| | | 2158 total minutes |
| | | |

This is an average of 45 minutes per calendar day for which the legislators are paid or 67 minutes per legislative day on which the legislators actually worked.

Are there ways to improve this record and more efficiently get the job done? My point is not to criticize any specific individuals or political parties but to suggest that the slow pace of legislative activity, which has prevailed in other sessions as well, is largely due to two factors:

- (1) the lack of adequate legal staff hired early enough by the Lagislative Commission to adequately prepare the executive and legislative bill drafting requests that are made prior to the session, and
- (2) certainly laws and procedures by which we now operate.

For your consideration, I suggest that a number of the recommendations made in LCB Bulletin #114 would improve these procedures by facilitating better use of the Legislature's limited time and increasing its productivity particularly in the early weeks of the session. These are:

- AB 263 Establishes and spells out duties of Joint Legislative Functions Committee, provides for parallel standing committees and joint interim committees
- ACR 10 Provides for Joint Interim Standing Committees in joint rules; specifies interim records and reports, preprinting of drafted committee bills
- AJR 13 Allow pre-session organizational meeting
- AJR 2 of the 57th Session Amends Constitution to provide for a consent calendar
- ACR 12 Provides schedule of session deadlines for drafting requests, introduction, passage from house of origin, conference, etc.
- AR 13 Optional reading of History in General Session
- SB 234 Allows payment of travel, per diem for pre-session orientation of legislators
- AB 267 Executive branch agencies charged for drafting of agency bill requests

In addition, AJR 11 (Amends Constitution to provide compensation for legislative rather than calendar days) would allow a much more realistic picture of the Legislature's work progress as the compensation would be for each legislative working day instead of the present practice of paying by calendar days.

For instance, March W, was the 47th calendar day, but Dade everyone refers to our having been in session for 47 days. Indeed, we have been paid for 47 days at this point but the Assembly has been in working session only 32 of those days.

Along the same line, history refers to the record-breaking 1973 session of 102 days, yet the Legislature, in fact, met only 75 working days.

In the interests of a more efficient, responsive, and effective Legislature, I urge your consideration of these proposals.

JOSEPH E. DINI, JR.
ASSEMBLYMAN
MAJORITY LEADER
DISTRICT NO. 38
P.O. BOX 968
YERINGTON, NEVADA 89447
TELEPHONE
BUSINESS 463-2868
HOME 463-2669



COMMITTEES
CHAIRMAN
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION

Nevada Legislature

FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

9,3

PRESENTATION TO JOINT LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE HEARING March 11, 1975

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to appear before your committee and present the report from the LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION'S SUBCOMMITTEE FOR STUDY OF COUNSEL BUREAU ORGANIZATION AND LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES.

The study was the result of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 23 of the 57th Session directing the legislative commission to study legislative organization, procedures and operations and report recommendations to the 58th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Recognition of inadequacies and inefficiencies in legislative methods, procedures and staff support for the Nevada Legislature was reflected in two tangible ways during the 57th Session. First, during that session, 36 bills and resolutions were introduced to change and update legislative rules and procedures. Of these, 11 were adopted. It was evident that many legislators were convinced that improvements were both possible and necessary, and that there had to be a better way to do many of the things that the legislature did during its 100 day plus session of 1973. The legislative commission appointed the Subcommittee which over a 10 month period sought to solicit the best ideas to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of the legislature. The subcommittee was chaired by me with Assemblyman Jean Ford as Vice Chairman and included Senators Clifton Young and Richard Bryan and Assemblyman Margie Foote, Lawrence Jacobsen and James Ullom. The report transmitted was the result of at least four basic undertakings by the subcommittee.

- 1. An extensive questionnaire was sent to each legislator in the Fall of 1973. It included questions on virtually all aspects of the legislative process. Over 70 percent responded and of those, 94 percent agreed that changes for improvement were in order.
- 2. An independent analysis of the Nevada legislature was conducted by the Citizens Conference on State Legislatures. This study was funded by the Legislative Commission and was used as a guide for the formation of our final report.

JOSEPH E. DINI, JR.
ASSEMBLYMAN
MAJORITY LEADER
DISTRICT NO. 38
P.O. BOX 968
YERINGTON, NEVADA 89447
TELEPHONE
BUSINESS 463-2868
HOME 463-2669



COMMITTEES

CHAIRMAN

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

MEMBER

TRANSPORTATION

Nevada Legislature

FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

93

Page Two

- 3. In hearings held in Las Vegas as well as Carson City, representatives of a broad spectrum of Nevada citizenry expressed their views on the major proposals for change. A great deal of the testimony was expert and well grounded in experience.
- 4. The subcommittee, after lengthy consideration, distilled the numerous recommendations, refined some, amended others and rejected several as well. The result was Report #114.

The report represents the thinking and experience of people too numerous to mention. What they all had in common with the members of the subcommittee was a strong commitment to legislative improvement. Understandably, there was not always agreement on the best road to travel to get to that goal. As a result, while many recommendations in the report were agreed to unanimously, others were hotly debated and approved with strong dissent.

A unifying thread through the subcommittee's deliberations was the agreement that change would be recommended only for definite and forseeable improvement, not simply for the sake of change. The report reflects that consensus.

The report makes specific recommendations in several broad areas including increased accessibility of the Legislature to our citizens, increased capacity of legislators to be informed, improved utilization of the biennium, and increased participation of all legislators in the budget process.

While the recommendations included herein were conceived of as part of a total program of reform, and are, in some cases, interlocking, most of the recommendations can stand on their own.

Adoption of any of the proposals should result in some improvement in the effectiveness and efficiency of the legislature. Adoption of all or most of the proposals should lead toward the optimum in legislative efficiency, effectiveness, and responsiveness for the State of Nevada.

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Senate and Assembly Legislative

Functions Committee

From: Martha Jessup, President,

Nevada State Division,

American Association of University Women

I am Martha Jessup, President of the Nevada State Division of the American Assoication of University Women.

The April, 1974, Convention of the Nevada AAUW adopted the following resolution:

"AAUW should support measures to make the legislature more accessible, visible and accountable resulting in more efficient and functional operations and procedures, a more informed legislature with increased capacity for responsible decisions and budget making. This would include longer sessions paid to match time spent, increased staff, and standing committee operations."

The Nevada State Legislature faces a rapidly growing population in addition to increasingly complex problems. It is essential that our state government streamline its operations to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of Nevada's citizens.

AAUW commends the 1973 Legislature for establishing the commission to study legislative organizational procedures and operations. We, too, believe that improvement is best accomplished by a complete overview and a total program of reform.

AAUW is particularly interested in serveral areas of legislative reform.

We urge a change to compensation for legislative rather than calendar days. A less concentrated legislative session would enable the Legislators to be better informed, have a greater exchange of ideas among themselves and with the public, thereby increasing their decision-making ability.

We support the establishemnt of interim standing committees which would increase the ability of Nevada's elected officials to govern the State in an orderly and consistent manner throughout their full term of office.

Citizens are vitially interested in their government as never before and in part for very negative reasons. The Legislature should adopt an open meeting policy for themselves just as they have mandated open meetings for other public bodies. Since much of the business of the Legislature is handled in committees, it is important that records of committee discussions and votes be available.

In this era of unparalleled growth and change it is imperative that the Nevada State Legislature adopt new procedures appropriate for Nevada in 1975 and beyond.



League of Women Voters of Nevada

STATEMENT BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS March 11, 1975

96

I am Robin Morgan, President of the League of Women Voters of Nevada. The League has had as a major study item since 1965 - The Nevada Legislature. During these past nine years our membership has studied and arrived at consensus on many issues involving the Nevada Legislature. Several publications have resulted from our studies, including such widely distributed brochures as "The Nevada Legislature" and "A Look at the Record."

We believe the Legislature should be commended for its continuing efforts to improve its operation and organization. No governmental entity is ever so perfect that it need not look introspectly at itself from time to time. The number of bills before this committee tonight indicates a genuine concern on the part of Nevada Legislators for the legislative process. We are pleased to support many of these issues, especially those which will increase efficiency, improve the degree of productivity and increase public participation in the legislative process.

We favor the following bills because we believe they will allow the best utilization of legislators' time and enactment of higher quality legislation in the public interest.

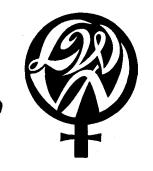
AR 15 and SR 15: Establishment of nine parallel committees in the Senate and Assembly, with the jurisdiction of those committees clearly stated, should serve to facilitate the legislative process. AR 15 and SR 15 would also limit the number of committees that a legislator may serve on to two, allowing each legislator to concentrate his or her attention on specific issues. In conjunction with AR 15 and SR 15 we support

AB 263. The League believes establishment of joint interim committees under AB 263 would provide for more informal, and yet more thorough consideration, of legislation and more citizen participation in the legislative process.

SB 234: We support the addition to NRS 218.085 authorizing per diem and travel expenses for legislators attending presession orientation conferences. The advantages of preparing freshmen legislators so that they are equipped to function efficiently and productively as soon as the legislative session begins are obvious. Those opposing presession orientation of legislators often do so because they fear knowledgeable new legislators will threaten the power structure of established legislators. We favor also

AJR 13, which would amend the Nevada Constitution to permit a two-day organizational session before each biennial session.

AJR 11. Amendment of the Nevada Constitution to provide compensation of members of the Legislature on the basis of legislative days rather than calendar days is more realistic than the present 60-day limitation. League members have indicated a clear desire to support more adequate compensation for legislators.



League of Women Voters of Nevada

37

 $\overline{\text{ARJ 12.}}$ We support a constitutional amendment to require the governor to convene a special session upon petition of two thirds of the members of each house and to permit expansion of the agenda of any special session by two-thirds vote of the members of each house. This change is clearly necessary to give the Legislature equal status and power with the executive branch.

Because the League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of all citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizens' right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public record accessible, it follows therefore that the Nevada League supports the following bills:

AR 11 and SR 14. These resolutions would provide for open committee and sub-committee meetings as well as complete records of what transpires in committee. There seems to be a feeling among a very few legislators that the legislative decision-making process is a semi-secret process, which can only be fully understood by a limited number of insiders. This attitude belittles the intelligence of the public. When decisions concerning public policy are made in secret, it is inevitable that people will assume their legislators have something to hide.

AR 12 and SR9. We believe five days is adequate notice for public hearings during a legislative session. It is also important to assure the public access to committee meetings by 24 hour advance notice. Meetings called on the spur of the moment often give the impression, whether true or not, that the committee wishes to exclude the public. I don't believe it can be stressed too much how easy it is to undermine public confidence with the appearance that deals are being made behind closed doors.

SR 7. We strongly support the addition of sections 4, 5 and 6 to Senate Standing Rule 44 which would adopt standing rules for prevention and disclosure of conflicts of interest; require each legislator to file a statement of his assets, his employment, occupation or profession, and his major sources of income. Passage of SR7 would assure the public that the members of the legislature are indeed public servants and not self-serving politicians. This, perhaps more than any other piece of legislation, would convince the public of the openness and integrity of the Nevada legislative process.

AB 266. We support the concept of a citizen's Advisory Commission, provided it is funded sufficiently to cover expenses of commission members.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee on Legislative Functions .

The Boulder City Democratic Club supports the study and recommendations for improving the legislative process made by the sub-committee of the Legislative Commission, and urges the joint Legislative Functions Committees to approve passage of the enabling legislation especially:

AJR 26 of the 57th session and AJR 11 and 13 of this session concerning legislative days, pay and pre-session organization.

AB 263, AR 15, SR 15 and ACR 10 concerning standing committees.

ACR 12, AR 13, SR 10, AT 7 and SR 8 regarding session schedule, bill histories and consent calendar.

AB 267, providing charging the cost of bill drafting to executive agencies.

AB 266, providing for the appointment of a Citizens' Advisory Commission on the Legislatufe

and

AJR 12, giving the legislature a voice in calling a special session and in expanding the agenda of one called by the Governor.

President: Katherine Carroll

3511 PUEBLO WAY LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89109 (702) 735-0375



COMMITTEES

MEMBER

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

TAXATION

HEALTH AND WELFARE

99

Nevada Legislature

FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

March 11, 1975

To: Legislative Functions Committees of Senate & Assembly

Re: Improvement of Legislative Process

While I basically support the entire group of recommendations resulting from the Interim Subcommittee on the Legislature, I wish to direct this memo to the specific question of how to make better use of time during the Legislative Session.

First, let us take a look at our work progress this session. From an analysis of the Daily Journals of the Assembly, the following is an accounting of actual time spent by this Assembly in formal legislative session as of March 1975:

| January 20: | 85 minutes | February | 14: | 107 | minutes | |
|-------------|-------------|--|---|-----------|---------|---------|
| | 111 minutes | | 15: | 0 | minutes | |
| 22: | 32 minutes | | 16: | 0 | minutes | |
| 23 5 | 20 minutes | | 17: | 72 | minutes | |
| 24: | 0 minutes | | 18: | 79 | minutes | |
| 25: | 0 minutes | | 19: | 60 | minutes | |
| 26: | 0 minutes | | 20: | 96 | minutes | |
| 27: | 41 minutes | | 22: | 12 | minutes | |
| 28: | 45 minutes | | 22: | 0 | minutes | |
| 29: | 49 minutes | | 23: | 0 | minutes | |
| 30: | 82 minutes | | 24: | 94 | minutes | |
| 31: | 0 minutes | | 25: | 73 | minutes | |
| February 1: | 0 minutes | | 26: | -61 | minutes | |
| 2: | 0 minutes | | 27: | 53 | minutes | |
| 3: | 38 minutes | | 28: | 0 | minutes | |
| | 40 minutes | March | 1: | 0 | minutes | |
| | 42 minutes | | 2: | 0 | minutes | |
| | 85 minutes | | 3: | 45 | minutes | |
| 3: · | 29 minutes | | 4: | 72 | minutes | |
| 8: | 0 minutes | | 5: | 88 | minutes | |
| 9: | 0 minutes | | 6: | 66 | minutes | |
| | 85 minutes | | 7: | 107 | minutes | |
| 11: | 101 minutes | | 2 | | | |
| | 138 minutes | | 2: | Sale Sale | | |
| 13: | 55 minutes | | Till to the | | | |
| | | 90 R. 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 | ALTERNATION OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY SHARE | 215 | 8 total | minutes |

This is an average of 45 minutes per calendar day for which the legislators are paid or 67 minutes per legislative day on which the legislators actually worked.

Are there ways to improve this record and more efficiently get the job done? My point is not to criticize any specific individuals or political parties but to suggest that the slow pace of legislative activity, which has prevailed in other sessions as well, is largely due to two factors:

- (1) the lack of adequate legal staff hired early enough by the Legislative Commission to adequately prepare the executive and legislative bill drafting requests that are made prior to the session, and
- (2) certainly laws and procedures by which we now operate.

For your consideration, I suggest that a number of the recommendations made in LCB Bulletin #114 would improve these procedures by facilitating better use of the Legislature's limited time and increasing its productivity particularly in the early weeks of the session. These are:

- AB 263 Establishes and spells out duties of Joint Legislative Functions Committee, provides for parallel standing committees and joint interim committees
- ACR 10 Provides for Joint Interim Standing Committees in joint rules; specifies interim records and reports, preprinting of drafted committee bills
- AJR 13 Allow pre-session organizational meeting
- AJR 2 of the 57th Session Amends Constitution to provide for a consent calendar
- ACR 12 Provides schedule of session deadlines for drafting requests, introduction, passage from house of origin, conference, etc.
- AR 13 Optional reading of History in General Session
- SB 234 Allows payment of travel, per diem for pre-session orientation of legislators
- AB 267 Executive branch agencies charged for drafting of agency bill requests

In addition, AJR 11 (Amends Constitution to provide compensation for legislative rather than calendar days) would allow a much more realistic picture of the Legislature's work progress as the compensation would be for each legislative working day instead of the present practice of paying by calendar days.

For instance, March 7, was the 47th calendar day, be and everyone refers to our having been in session for 47 days.

Indeed, we have been paid for 47 days at this point but the Assembly has been in working session only 32 of those days.

Along the same line, history refers to the record-breaking 1973 session of 102 days, yet the Legislature, in fact, met only 75 working days.

In the interests of a more efficient, responsive, and effective Legislature, I urge your consideration of these proposals.

101

Honorable Assemblyman Darrell Dreyer, Chairman Assembly Legislative Functions Committee

Dear Assemblyman Dreyer and members of this committee:

We, the undersigned representatives of the Northwest Reno Improvement Association (homeowners association of Northwest Reno) urge each of you to consider carefully and support the improvements for legislative methods and procedures as outlined in Bulletin No. 114 submitted by the Sub-Committee appointed by The Legislation Commission.

We congratulate the dedicated public servants who must have worked diligently to formulate these changes.

As set forth in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 23 (para. 2), we concurrently agree that the Legislature of the State of Nevada is the most direct expression of the will of the people. Therefore, we as citizens of this great State, are expressing our desire that these changes for improvement in our legislative process be adopted. Hopefully these changes will be supported unanimously by our legislators. It's inconceivable how one could object to change for definite and foreseeable improvement.

It is part of our responsibilities as outlined in our Articles of Constitution to sponsor improvement programs for our members; and we sincerely hope our voices will be heard by our legislative representatives. We are asking for positive decisions for approval of this "package of reform".

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim A. Hunt, President

Northwest Reno Improvement Assoc. 1511 Wesley Dr. - Reno, Nev. 89503

cc: Assemblymen
Lawrence Jacobsen
Donald Mello
Marion Bennett
Nash Sena

Sue Wagner

Eileen Brookman Albert M. Wittenberg (Rep.) Jean Klebenow, Secretary

Barbara Swanson, Director

NEVADA LEGISLATURE

102

October 1966

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEVADA 2740 East Owens, North Las Vegas, Nevada

\$.15 per copy

The American tradition of check and balance of governmental powers is practiced in all 50 states; each state government is constitutionally separated into three departments: the Executive, the Legislative, and the Judicial. The Legislative branch is the policy- or law-making department and it usually has broad powers. Although these powers are restricted by certain sections of both the federal and the pertinent state constitutions as well as by the doctrine of implied limitation applied by the courts, the legislative body is free to act in all other areas.

Legislation concerning local governments is considered by many experts to be a special category or power and the constitutional restrictions placed on the legislative department in effecting local legislation is usually indicative of the nationwide tenor of faith and trust in legislatures at the time the state constitution was adopted. A thorough discussion of legislation pertaining to Nevada local governments will be found in Nevada Counties and Cities, the first publication in this series.

In developing subjects for legislation, there are several considerations in addition to the powers given to or restricted by the federal and state constitutions: political -- wherein the tendency is to postpone action on troublesome or controversial matters; public opinion and pressure groups -- wherein professional lobbyists as well as spokesmen for vocal, well-organized groups exert pressure for or against one subject or one piece of legislation; executive influence -- wherein the governor tells the legislature what legislation he wants passed and uses his political influence and pressure to achieve his goals.

During the 1965 regular session of the Nevada Legislature, a total of 1,095 pieces of legislation was introduced in both houses; 594 of these were enacted with seven vetoed by the Governor.

The role of the person elected to sit in the state's legislative department may or may not be important, respected, or understood. There are conflicting theories concerning the supposed relationship of this chosen agent of the people and his constituency. One holds that the representative is a free agent and is to use his own judgment on specific decisions; the second holds the representative is merely the agent of his electors and is bound to act in accordance with the electors instructions.

Historically, the degree of respect and confidence in legislators and legislative bodies has fluctuated from high to low and currently seems to be in a state of flux. In recent years the evolution of power from state and local governments to the national government has been noted. There have been frequent cries about the federal octopus, about centralization of power, and about limiting Washington's authority. It is apparent that the national government is providing more and more services and state initiative is being more and more limited through outright federal legislation and through various federal grant requirements.

Many of those watching the changing base of power have started to look closely at the states themselves, with the Tennessee reapportionment case of 1962 focusing the spotlight on the state legislatures. Since the decision, the mass communication media have started to acquaint the public with facets of the state legislatures which had received little publicity before. [Saturday Evening Post, Feb. 12, 1966; Harpers, Nov., 1965, Mar. 1966; Readers Digest, May 1965.] Various study groups also have focused their attention on legislative problems.

This investigatory trend is coming on the heels of reapportionment, which was the first renovation for many state legislatures. For years, representation in the state legislature and the concentration of population in the states were considerably out of line so that rural representatives dominated state houses to an extent that it seemed that urban problems were ignored -- or at least frequently not solved.

This reticence of rural legislators to deal with urban problems, which existed in varying degrees from state to state, was credited with encouraging the federal government to take such steps as the creation of a Department of Urban Affairs, for it is felt among governmental observers that if the state governments fail to handle local problems, the national government will petitioned to do so. Several states have also created a department specifically designed to handle urban problems.

The reapportionment issue in Nevada fell well within the mainstream of actions throughout the United States. Dungan v. Sawyer, handed down September 23, 1965, by a Federal District Court sitting in Las Vegas, ordered the Nevada Governor to call a special session of the legislature for the sole purpose of reapportioning the state. Governor Grant Sawyer called the session, and the legislature met the November 20, 1965, deadline with a reapportionment which the Court held to be acceptable following a further petition by one of the plaintiffs to the original case.

THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

Nevada legislative authority is vested in a Senate and Assembly which are designated "The Legislature of the State of Nevada." Biennial sessions are to commence on the 3rd Monday in January next ensuing Assembly members election and are to be held at the seat of government (Carson City). Compensation (\$40 per day) and per diem (\$25) for a regular session are authorized for 60 days of service, after which compensation ceases and per diem is reduced to \$15. Special sessions of the legislature may be convened by gubernatorial proclamation; no legislative business may be transacted except that for which the session was convened or which the Governor may call to the attention of the legislature while convened. Like compensation is authorized for 20 days for a special session. Thus, there is no statutory limit to the length of a session, but in practice adjournment is scheduled as closely as possible to the end of the compensation period.

Senators and Assemblymen must be 21 years of age by the time of their election, qualified electors in the district they represent, and a citizen resident of Nevada one year preceding election to office. The term of office is four years for Senator, two years for Assemblyman. The state constitution disqualifies from holding any public office any person convicted of embezzlement or defalcation of public funds or convicted of having given, offered, or received a bribe to procure for himself or anyone election or appointment to office. Nevada legislators are privileged from arrest on civil process during legislative sessions and for 15 days prior to each session.

The statutes also set forth the punishment for such crimes as bribery of a legislative member, asking or receiving of bribes by legislators, bribing other public officers, rebates and divisions of salaries, agreements to divide salaries, offering rewards for appointment to office, interfering with and influencing public officers, misconduct of public officers, false impersonation of public officers, false reports and false certificates by public officers, extortion, fraudulent appropriation of property and various other violations by public officers. Legislators may not have an interest in any contract made by the legislature in which he is a member.

The basis of representation for future legislatures was changed in 1965. Under the reapportionment bill enacted, the Senate was increased from 17 to 20 members and the Assembly from 37 to 40. Clark County got 8 senators and 16 assemblymen; Washoe and Storey counties (combined) got 6 senators and 12 assemblymen. The remaining 14 counties, divided into 6 legislative districts, shared the remaining 6 senate and 12 assembly seats.

SENATE - Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8: 1 senator each, elected at large ASSEMBLY -

District 3: 2 elected at large

District 4: 1 - Humbolt; 1 - Eureka, Lander, Pershing

1 - Churchill; 1 - Lyon District 5:

District 6: 2 elected at large

1 - Esmeralda, Nye, Mina Twp. in Mineral; District 7:

1 - remainder of Mineral

2 elected at large District 8:

The two large population districts (Districts 1, 2) are subdistricted: Clark County is divided into 4 senatorial and 5 assembly districts. Washoe and Storey combined are divided into 3 districts.

Clark County Senate Sub-districts:

- 1 Townships of Goodsprings, Henderson, Nelson and Searchlight: 1 at large
- 2 City of North Las Vegas: 1
- 3 All of Clark County not included in subdistricts 1 and 2: 5 at large
- 4 Clark County as a whole: 1

Clark County Assembly Sub-districts:

- Townships of Bunkerville, Goodsprings, Logandale, Mesquite, Moapa,
 Nelson, Overton, and Searchlight: 1 at large
- 2 City of North Las Vegas: 2
- 3 Township of Henderson: 2
- 4 All of Clark County not included in subdistricts 1, 2, 3: 9 at large
- 5 Floterial district comprised of subdistricts 2 and 4: 2 at large

Washoe-Storey Senate and Assembly Sub-districts:

- 1 Reno, North Tahoe, Verdi, Storey: 4 senators, 9 assemblymen
- 2 Sparks, Sun Valley, Roup Legislative District (Bald Mountain, Gerlach, Sparks, Wadsworth Townships): 1 senator, 3 assemblymen
- 3 Storey and Washoe counties as a whole: 1 senator

Under the 1960 census figures, now already out of line with actual population concentration, the disparity between the smallest senatorial district and the largest gives a ratio of 1.47 to 1, and the smallest and largest assembly districts, 1.53 to 1. It would take 49.7 percent of the state's 1960 population to elect 11 senators and thus control the Senate, and 46.8 percent to elect 21 assemblymen and thus control the assembly.

103

Legislative sessions are financed by appropriations to the legislative fund which is a continuing fund authorized to support the Legislative Department. Legislative salaries and expenses, supplies and equipment, and routine operating expenses as well as Legislative Counsel Bureau costs are paid from this fund. It is extremely difficult to pinpoint the exact costs of a legislative session and there has been no attempt to do so in this publication. The Report of the Legislative Auditor for fiscal 1960-61 shows the following disbursements: Legislative Counsel Bureau - \$107,442.52; Legislature, 50th Session - \$16,016.14; Legislature, 51st Session - \$277,080.77.

Compensation for legislators and attachés is defined by statute; salaries for full time employees are governed by state civil service pay schedules. All legislators, attachés, and legislative employees pay federal income tax on their earnings and contribute to the state retirement plan. Daily pay for both legislators and attachés is computed on the basis of a 7-day week for 60 days (regular session) or 20 days (special session).

Appropriations for special studies or special services required by the legislature must be considered separately and are included in the appropriations bill approved for the ensuing two years. A discussion of legislative control over local government finance will be found in <u>Financing Nevada Local Governments</u>, the second publication in this series

Within both houses of the legislature, the internal procedures are fairly clearly defined. In the Senate, the Lieutenant Governor presides as President, the President pro Tempore is elected from the membership, and the Secretary of the Senate is elected from qualified applicants. Attachés are recommended by the Committee on Legislative Functions and appointed to their respective positions by a one-house resolution; in practice, attaché positions are filled by political patronage. The Assembly elects a Speaker (invariably a member of the majority party), a Speaker pro Tempore, and a Chief Clerk. Assembly attachés are appointed in the same manner as in the Senate. The Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the Assembly manage the parliamentary and technical processes and procedures as well as supervise the staffs of the respective houses.

Party caucuses are held prior to the opening of the legislature and selections of majority and minority floor leaders, committee chairmen, and members are agreed upon. Assignments made during party caucuses are announced in the respective houses after the legislature convenes.

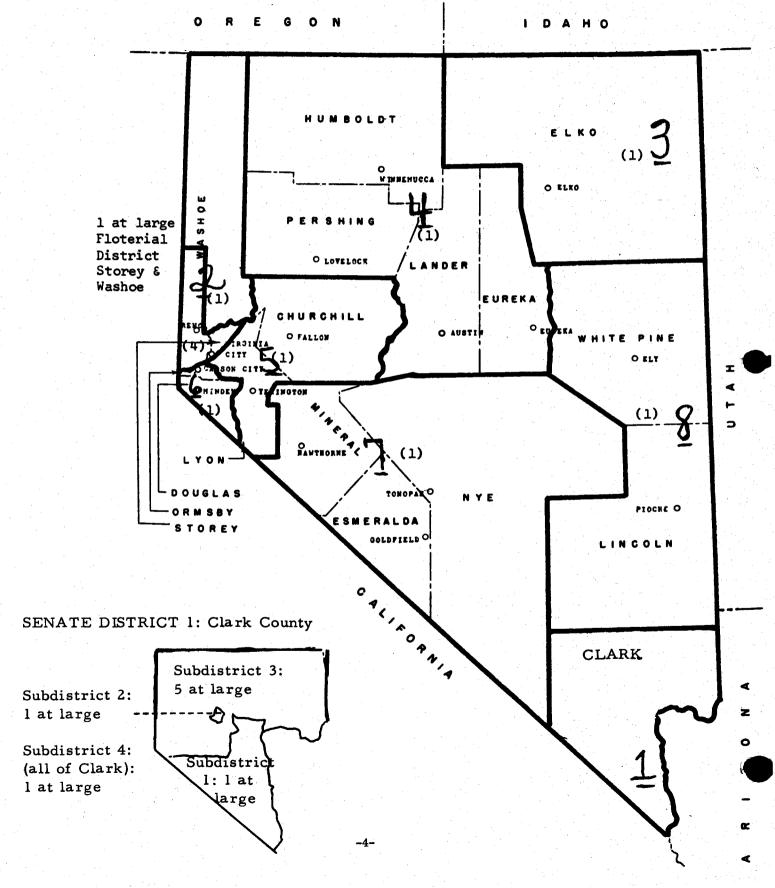
Parliamentary procedures govern all legislative actions and encompass the Constitution and Statutes of Nevada, the Standing Rules and Joint Standing Rules of the Senate and Assembly, and Mason's Manual

NEVADA SENATE AS REAPPORTIONED

BY THE 1965 SPECIAL SESSION

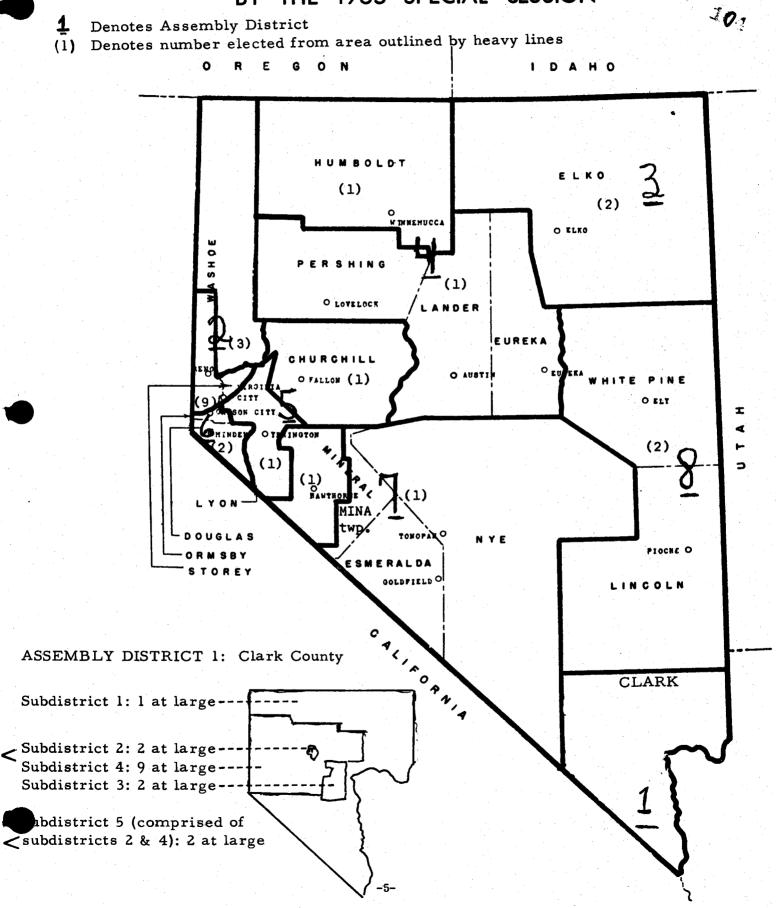
Denotes Senate District

(1) Denotes number elected from area outlined by heavy lines



NEVADA ASSEMBLY AS REAPPORTIONED

BY THE 1965 SPECIAL SESSION



of Legislative Procedure. An official order of business is incorporated into the standing rules for each house. Lobbyists also are governed by certain statutory provisions and a standing rule in the Assembly.

Standing committees include:

SENATE

Agriculture and Irrigation Aviation, Transportation, and Highways Banks, Banking, and Corporations Education and State University Federal Affairs Finance Fish and Game Interstate Cooperation Judiciary Labor Legislative Functions Livestock Mining Public Health Public Morals Rules State, County, and City Affairs State Institutions Taxation

ASSEMBLY

Agriculture and Irrigation Banking, Insurance, and Corporations Building and Construction Civil Defense and Veterans Affairs Education Elections Federal, Indian, and Military Affairs Fish and Game Judiciary Labor Legislative Functions Livestock Mines, Mining, and Public Lands Public Health and Public Morals Roads, Transportation, and Aviation Social Welfare State, County, and City Affairs State Institutions and Libraries State Publicity and Economic Development Ways and Means

The Committee of the Whole is the entire membership of a house sitting as a committee. Unless the pressure of bill consideration during the closing days precludes it, standing committee meetings are not scheduled at the time the entire house is meeting.

Conditions under which legislators work during a session do not meet the standards expected in a modern business establishment. Legislators are assigned a desk on the floor of the house to which they were elected and have coat space in the appropriate cloakroom; no office space in provided. There are six committee rooms available in the capitol building and a legislative telephone message center is maintained during all sessions. Stenographic services required by legislators are provided by attaches of that house. There is a visitor's gallery in each house. In addition, certain supportive services are available and are discussed below.

The Legislative Counsel Bureau was established in 1945 and provides year-round legislative support services. A Legislative Commission composed of four Senators and four Assemblymen coordinates interim activities. Divisions of the counsel bureau and their heads are as follows: Research - Research Director; Legal - Legislative Counsel; and Fiscal and Audit - Fiscal Analyst. The research division supplies statistics, general information and specialized research at any time for any legislator in addition to publishing various studies and manuals. The legal division drafts all bills and amendments, with bill drafting functions usually beginning immediately after the general election and continuing until the close of the session; bill drafting, however, is available on a 12-month basis. The fiscal and audit division supplies financial data to individual legislators and the entire legislature as directed including the postaudit of all state departments and budget analysis. Pre-legislative hearings throughout the state are scheduled and conducted by the Legislative Counsel prior to the opening of a regular session. There are 39 permanent employees presently working in the three divisions of the counsel bureau. The Legislative Counsel Bureau is a member of The Council of State Governments.

The Amendment Clerk of the Legislature is responsible for duplicating and distributing copies of all amendments to bills and for keeping up-to-the-hour information on the progress of each bill and its amendments.

Attachés include pages, floor clerks, stenographers, committee stenographers, engrossment and enrollment clerks, supply clerks, typists, and sergeants-at-arms.

The State Printing Office, established in 1879, is required by law to print and distribute all legislation introduced, all amended legislation, final legislation, a daily journal, history, and file for each house, the statutes enacted during the session, and the Nevada Revised Statutes. In addition, this office publishes reports, manuals, and other documents produced by the Legislative Counsel Bureau as well as all other departments of the state.

Nevada is a member of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and the Nevada Commissioners are the Legislative Counsel and two legislators who are attorneys.

105

In its <u>Legislative Manual</u> published prior to each regular legislative session, the Legislative Counsel Bureau charts 30 basic steps, with various sub-steps, in the passage of a bill through the Nevada Legislature. In general these steps may be summarized as follows:

- 1. Introduction and First Reading
- 2. Committee Consideration [recommendations: none, pass, don't pass; pigeon-hole; refer to another committee]
- 3. Second and Third Readings [on separate days]
- 4. Passage or Defeat... If passed...
- 5. Sent to other house where same procedures occur
- 6. Final printing (enrollment) and signing
- 7. Governor approves or vetoes

Procedures for amendment introduction and consideration and overriding the Governor's veto are not included above, nor are procedures for emergency measures, joint resolutions, concurrent and one-house resolutions.

METHODS OF STREAMLINING LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES

Because of the various en hases currently directed toward all state legislatures, and because by modern business practices many state bodies are considered "old-fashioned", the next decade will may well become the "do-or-die" of state legislative powers. To attract highly qualified representatives and keep them, to reserve to the states the powers they wish to keep, to manage the local governments they are required to legislate, to not only keep up with but be able to fortell the needs of the state during the last quarter of this century is going to require innovations and streamlined procedures effective and implemented immediately. Some of these are already in use in other states; some are considered radical innovations. Some have been considered by the Nevada Legislature; others have not. A few are discussed briefly in the text that follows; a great deal of discussion and decision making of all new trends in legislative processes is mandatory.

A cursory examination of these new trends will show: the unicameral legislature; "automatic" apportionment; electric roll call and other electronic devices; granting of "home rule" powers to local governments to relieve the legislative burden; annual sessions; year-round sessions; removal of time restrictions on legislative sessions; election of professional legislators; creation of the office of "ombudsman"; increased pay; lengthening legislative terms; provision of office space; increased support services; review and revision of house rules; review and reorganization of standing committees.

In 1958 Nevada voters approved changing from biennial to annual sessions of the legislature; in 1960 the voters reversed themselves, revoked their approval of annual sessions, and returned the Legislature to biennial sessions. Many state legislatures now meet in annual sessions with the first meeting devoted to regular legislative business, the second devoted to budget and emergency measures.

As an aftermath of the Nevada reapportionment decision, unicameralism received a rebirth of interest and several resolutions were introduced in both houses during the special reapportionment session, but none of them received serious consideration.

The Nevada Legislature does not employ electronic roll call devices; consideration for passage of legislation is by "voice" vote. As mentioned earlier, no office space is provided Nevada legislators; minimal secretarial services are available. The state has an excellent Legislative Counsel Bureau which could still be strengthened by additional staff and higher pay scale. The question of an "ombudsman" for Nevada was discussed in a Newsletter of the University of Nevada Bureau of Governmental Research (February, 1966). If passed by the 1967 Legislature, the question of consolidation of Carson City-Ormsby County governments will be presented to the voters in November 1968. The question of legislative control over all Nevada local governments may require further defining and refining. The

various other problems relating to appropriations, finance, health, welfare, institutions, highways, the legislature itself await the convening of the newly reapportioned legislature in January 1967.

CONCLUSIONS

During the last days of the fall 1965 special session, the League of Women Voters of Nevada reached consensus on several phases of the apportionment issue. Three points are pertinent:

1. Automatic apportionment. The League of Women Voters of Nevada supports some form of automatic reapportionment to prevent the necessity for future court cases and expensive special sessions.

The two forms of automatic apportionment considered by the League both involve a Governor's Commission. If a commission were established to regularly reapportion the State at constitutional intervals, its plan would be subject to judicial review by the Nevada State Supreme Court. Members of this commission could be appointed subject to the advice and consent of the Legislature. Under the second method, such a Governor's Commission would act only if the Legislature failed to reapportion at the time required by the Nevada Constitution.

2. Small constituencies. The League favors sub-districting large population areas so that electors in each sub-district will vote on a small number of seats; in other words, the League opposes "blanket" balloting.

The League has not yet arrived at a definition of a "small district"; however, under the new apportionment, there are two assembly districts in which 9 assemblymen are elected at large. This means that a voter in these districts needs to investigate qualifications for at least 18 candidates for the assembly for the general election if he is to cast an informed vote. In Clark County more than 50 candidates filed for these 9 seats for the Democratic Party primary election in September 1966.

3. The next apportionment. The League believes that the Legislature should reapportion after the 1970 census and at least after each decennial census, keeping apportionment significantly in line with the population concentration. In addition, during this period of Nevada's rapid expansion, legislative consideration should be given to using the interim state census allowed by the Nevada Constitution for an interim apportionment.

The bill establishing the present apportionment makes no mention of a future reapportionment. The Nevada Constitution provides that the Assembly shall be reapportioned after each decennial census, but does not specify when after each census that shall take place. The least that should be done along this line would seem to be an amendment which would require reapportionment of both houses and specify that it shall be done at the first legislature after new census figures become available.

Just how much difference the new apportionment will make in Nevada State Government is an open question. The first indications of an answer can be expected in early 1967 when the newly reapportioned legislature first convenes.

| WORKLOAD OF THE AS | Reféered | | | Died in Co | 4. 然后,我只要说了一样说: | and the state of t |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| NAME OF COMMITTEE | Assembly bills | | | Assmably bills _l | | |
| AGRICULTURE | 28 | | 29 | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| COMMERCE | 111 | 29 | 140 | 53 | 6 | 59 |
| EDUCATION | 49 | 19 | 68 | 26 | 1 | 27 |
| ELECTIONS | 53 | 7 | 60 | 16 | 1 | 17 |
| ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC RES. | 45 | 12 | 57 | 19 | 1 | 20 |
| GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS | 257 | 77 | 334 | 98 | 12 | 110 |
| HEALTH & WELFARE | 63 | 26 | 89 | 18 | 3 | 21 |
| JUDICIARY | 211 | 111 | 322 | 93 | 11 | 104 |
| LABOR & MANAGEMENT | 30 | 23 | 53 | . 17 | 5 | 22 |
| LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS | 47 | 26 | 73 | 16 | 10 | 26 |
| TAXATION | 49 | 12 | 61 | 18 | 2 | 20 |
| TRANSPORTATION | 70 | 38 | 108 | 15 | 2 | 17 |
| WAYS & MEANS | 121 | 61 | 182 | 51 . | 5 | 56 |
| OTHER ⁴ | 23 | 20 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| WORKLOAD OF THE SE | ENATE COMMITT SB | EES - 5 | 7th Sessio Total | on SB | AB | Total |
| COMMERCE & LABOR | <i>25</i> 83 | | 139 | 35 | 24 | 59 |
| ECOLOGY & PUBLIC RES. | 29 | 35 | 64 | 10 | 2 | 12 |
| EDUCATION | 33 | 19 | 52 | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL GOV. | 123 | 161 | 284 | 37 | 22 | § 9 |
| FINANCE | 100 | 84 | 184 | 31 | 17 | 48 |
| HEALTH, WELFARE, ε STATE INST. | 49 | 43 | 92 | 12 | - 6 | 18 |
| JUDICIARY | 167 | 111 | 278 | 46 | 20 | 66 |
| LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS | 28 | 33 | 61 | 5 | 18 | 23 |
| NOITAXAT | 30 | 24 | 54 | 17 | 24 | 41 |
| TRANSPORTATION | 51 | 44 | 95 | 14 | 4 | 18 |
| OTHER | 20 | 22 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 0. |

4= measures referred to Committee of Whole Explanation of footnotes same as in "Look at the Record - 56th Session".

SUMMARY OF RESPONSE TO LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

A thirteen-page questionnaire was developed by the Interim Study Committee on Legislative Operations and Procedures and mailed to all members of the Nevada Legislature in September of 1973. A follow-up reminder and some personal contacts resulted in the return of 42 completed questionnaires for a 70 percent response.

Those responding included 27 Democrats and 15 Republicans, 12 out of 20 Senators, 30 out of 40 Assemblymen; 16 of the respondents are serving their first term of office, another 16 have three to eight years of service, 9 have more than eight years of service, and I did not identify length of service.

General Evaluation. A need for major improvement was felt by 17 percent of those responding; an additional 77 percent felt the Nevada Legislature needs some improvement, leaving 6 percent feeling a need for little improvement or had no opinion.

As a part of a general evaluation, the respondents rated the Legislature's performance in the following four principal tasks as follows:

Formulating state policies
and programs
Appropriating funds for
state government and
programs
Overseeing and supervising fiscal accountability and evaluating
the effectiveness of
state programs
Representing and helping
out constituents

| Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Undecided |
|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| 2 | 11 | 20 | 8 | 1 |
| 7 | 19 | 13 | 2 | |
| | 7 | 18 | 16 | |
| 2 | 15 | 21 | 3 | 1 |

The overall strength or influence of the Legislature was rated as follows:

| | Legislature has | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------|-----------|-----------|--------------|----|
| | more to | say? | about the | same? les | ss? undecide | ьe |
| of the Office of Governor | 1 | | 12 | 28 | 8 | |
| as compared to that of the executive departments and agencies | 14 | | 13 | 11 | 1 1 | |
| as compared to that of interest groups and lobbies in the state | | | 9 | | 7 1 | |

The rest of the questionnaire had extensive sections regarding Committees; Session Structure, Policy, and Procedure; Interim Organization and Function; Budget and Appropriations; Space, Staff, and Facilities; Compensation; and Citizen Education and Involvement.

An analysis of the questionnaires returned indicated numerous areas of agreement of 50 percent or more of the respondents. Each of these areas (with the percentage of those favoring the proposal) is listed in one or more of the categories below:

A. CHANGES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS THAT COULD RESULT IN TIME-SAVING AND POSSIBLE SHORTENING OF LENGTH OF SESSION AND ACCOMPANYING REDUCTION IN COSTS

Numbers and Percentages in Favor

- * 31 or 74% 1. Jurisdiction of each committee clearly stated in standing rules so that bills are referred strictly according to their subject matter rather than the preference of a sponsor
- * 36 or 86% 2. Pre-session orientation of one to two days soon after November election with travel and per diem but no salary
- * 40 or 95% 3. Pre-filing and pre-printing of bills before session begins

^{* =} represents a majority of the entire Legislature though not necessarily of both Senate and Assembly

- * 32 or 76% 4. Adoption of consent calendar (floor action taken periodically on groups of uncontested bills as one bill)
 - 26 or 62% 5. Observers and guests sign Official Guest Registry with names printed in Journal; Speaker introduces groups and special dignitaries; all other introductions discontinued
 - 25 or 59% 6. Discontinuance of reading by Chief Clerk or Secretary of History of bill at time of floor action
 - 7. Use of uniform stationery format for legislator's letterhead, note pads, and other printing needs to conserve costs
 - 27 or 64% 8. Authority for and use of legislative latitude in scheduling the session--convening, recessing, adjourning, etc.
 - 27 or 64%

 9. A specific proposal to convene for short time (such as 1 week), organize, receive Governor's message and budget, etc., then recess for 2-3 weeks to all major part of bill drafting to be completed, reconvene and continue until adjournment (several slight modifications suggested)
 - 26 or 62% 10. Much more staff for drafting and summarizing bills
- * 32 or 76% 11. Electronic voting equipment installed in one or more chambers
- B. CHANGES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS THAT COULD RESULT IN INCREASED EFFICIENCY, AND IMPROVED QUALITY AND DEGREE OF PRODUCTIVITY
- * 36 or 86% 1. Parallel committees in both houses
 - 30 or 71% 2. Parallel meeting times for committees in both houses
- * = represents a majority of the entire Legislature though not necessarily of both Senate and Assembly

- 32 or 76% 3. A maximum number of committees to which legislators can be assigned (suggestions ranging from 2 to 4 committees)
- * 36 or 86% 4. Pre-session orientation of one or two days soon after November election with travel and per diem but no salary
 - 30 or 71% 5. Summary analysis of the provisions of each major bill reported out of committee
 - 26 or 62% 6. Constitutional amendment to allow Legislature to call itself into session
 - 7. Constitutional amendment to allow Legislature to add agenda items to Special Session called by Governor
 - 28 or 67% 8. Constitutional amendment to allow a later opening date in years in which there is a new Governor-Elect (to allow reasonable period for executive budget formulation)
 - 27 or 64% 9. Authority for and use of legislative latitude in scheduling the session--convening, recessing, adjourning, etc.
 - 24 or 57% 10. State Printing Office absorbed by the Legislative Counsel Bureau to facilitate legislative printing needs (both in session and during the interim period)
 - 30 or 71% 11. Use of uniform stationery format for legislator's letterhead, note pads, and other printing needs to conserve costs
 - 27 or 64% 12. A specific proposal to convene, recess, convene (described under A-9)
 - 21 or 50% 13. Proportion of party representation on committees by ratio in each house rather than present one-man majority
 - 21 or 50% 14. Standing committees of the regular session of both houses become interim joint standing committees (with fairly equal division as to whether or not they should be under supervision of Legislative Commission)

^{* =} represents a majority of the entire Legislature though not necessarily of both Senate and Assembly

- * 32 or 76% 15. Departmental budget requests submitted to Legislative Counsel Bureau at same time they are submitted to Budget Officer (for Legislature's own evaluation of information)
 - 26 or 62% 16. Consideration of appropriations bills not included in budget by the appropriate policy committee as well as the money committee
 - 26 or 62% 17. Preparation of separate bills containing major components (such as entire budget of Department of Health, Welfare and Rehabilitation) for debate and action on floor instead of one budget bill at end of session
 - 27 or 64% 18. Policy committees invited to join money committees in hearings on section of budget pertinent to that committee (i.e., Education committee joins in when Education budget hearings are held)
 - 30 or 71% 19. Budget bill or bills accompanied by a written committee report containing a clear statement of overall budget and items of legislative intent
 - 25 or 59% 20. Post audit program to include checking proper accounting procedures but also look at legislative intent and program performance
 - 21 or 50% 21. High priority for professional staff for standing committees
- C. CHANGES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS THAT COULD RESULT IN INCREASED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OR INCREASE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS
- * 34 or 81% 1. Adoption of code of ethics
- * 34 or 81% 2. Adoption of open meeting policy for all legislative committees
 - 22 or 52% 3. Adoption of additional and stronger laws regarding registration of lobbyists
- * = represents a majority of the entire Legislature though not necessarily of both Senate and Assembly

- 25 or 59% 4. Adoption of more comprehensive campaign finance legislation
- 21 or 50% 5. Standing committees of the regular session of both houses become joint standing committees in the interim
- 29 or 69% 6. Individual offices for each legislator
- 7. Travel expenses for standing committee hearings held outside of Carson City-during the Session
- * 31 or 74% 8. Establishment of Citizen's Compensation Commission for the purpose of advising the Legislature regarding appropriate salaries
 - 25 or 59% 9. Formation of a Citizen's Commission to work closely with the Legislature to review and then act as an advocate throughout the State for recommended changes
 - 30 or 71% 10. Convening of a state-wide conference on the Nevada Legislature to provide a forum for legislators, citizens, lobbyists, elected and appointed officials, etc. to discuss methods of improving the effectiveness of the Nevada Legislature
- D. CHANGES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS THAT COULD RESULT IN INCREASED EXPENDITURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION (EACH IS ALSO LISTED IN ONE OF THE "BENEFIT" CATEGORIES ABOVE):
- * 36 or 86% 1. Pre-session orientation
- * 32 or 76% 2. Electronic voting equipment
- * 34 or 81% 3. Ethics commission in connection with code of ethics
 - 21 or 50% 4. Interim joint standing committees
 - 25 or 59% 5. Auditing of program performance in addition to accounting procedures
 - 21 or 50% 6. Professional staff for standing committees
- * = represents a majority of the entire Legislature though not necessarily of both Senate and Assembly

- 29 or 69% 7. Individual office for each legislator
- 27 or 64% 8. Travel expenses for standing committees to meet outside of Carson City
- 25 or 59% 9. Citizen's Commission on the Legislature
- * 31 or 74% 10. Compensation Commission
 - 30 or 71% 11. State-wide conference on the Legislature

represents a majority of the entire Legislature though not necessarily of both Senate and Assembly

MGMRNOA RNO 2-025674E066 03/07/75 ICS IPMRNCZ CSP ZIP

7025658951 MGM TDRN HENDERSON NV 800 03-07 0156P EST GRANTIER



incorporate in minute

ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE. CHAIRMAN DARRELL DREYER CARSON CITY NV 89701



THE JOIN LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE OF THE HENDERSON AND BOULDER CITY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE HAS DISCUSSED MANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OFFERED BY YOUR LEGISLATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE AND IS AGREED THAT YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES WOULD FIND YOUR WORK LOAD AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES GREATLY EASED IF YOU DECIDE TO ADOPT THESE CHANGES IN THE BILLS WE HAVE TAKEN A POSITION ON WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS AJR26 OF THE 57TH SESSION. AJR11 AND AJR13 AS WELL AS ACR12 OF THIS SESSION ALL REGULAR SESSIONS SINCE THE 50'S EXCEPT 1960 HAVE BEEN LONGER THAN SIXTY DAYS THE SHORTEST WHICH WAS 67 DAYS WAS BACK IN 1959. AS MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO EXPECT THAT A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUSINESS CAN BE ADEQUATELY REVIEWED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING EVERY TWO YEARS FOR SIXTY DAYS AND IT HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO SO IN THE RECENT YEARS. WE ASK YOU TO FAVORABLY CONSIDER AJR26 OF THE 57TH SESSION CALLING FOR A PAID SESSION UP TO 100 DAYS, AND AJRII OF THIS SESSION PROVIDING THAT PAY BE BASED ON LEGISLATIVE RATHER THAN CALENDAR DAYS. WE POINT OUT THAT PRIOR TO 1915 THIS WAS THE CASE AND NOW MANY CRITICISMS OF "DO NOTHING" DAYS WOULD BE WITHOUT BASIS. CLARIFICATION OF THE JOINT RULES ON ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW FOR THREE DAYS TO BE COMBINED WITH THE ABOVE WOULD PROVIDE GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN MEETING TIMES. THIS COULD BE OF GREAT BENEFIT NOT ONLY TO THE FLOW OF LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS BUT FOR THE INDEPENDENT BUSINESSMAN OR PROFESSIONAL WHO FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN HIS PRIVATE SOURCE OF INCOME DURING HIS PROLONGED ABSENCE. THESE ARE CITIZENS-LEGISLATORS WHO PROVIDE FOR THEMSELVES AND FAMILIES WHEN NOT IN SESSION. A COMPARISON BILL IS AJRI3, PROVIDING FOR A TWO DAY CONVENING OF THE LEGISLATURE EACH REGULAR SESSION TO SELECT OFFICERS, JOINT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS. THIS ALONG WITH AN EARLIER ORIENTATION CONFERENCE WOULD. IN OUR OPINION. FACILITATE THE OPENING OF THE SESSION AND WORK COULD BE DONE IMMEDIATELY ON LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS. ACRIZ PROVIDING FOR A SESSION SCHEDULE FURTHER IMPLEMENTS AN EFFICIENT SESSION. NO BUSINESS CAN REALLY BE SUCCESSFULL WITHOUT A WORK SCHEDULE AND DEADLINES MUST BE SET AND THEN MET. WE BELIEVE YOU NEED THE ADEQUATE TOOLS SUGGESTED BY YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT WITH THE SCHEDULE SET FOR YOUR WORK LOAD. ACRI2 IS THE RIGHT ONE IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE LEGISLATIVE EFFICIENCES. AB263, AR15, SR15, AND ACR10 ARE A GROUP OF BILLS PERTAINING TO SUB-COMMITTEES STRUCTURES AND JURISDICTIONS HAS OUR SUPPORT. PARALLEL COMMITTEES IN BOTH HOUSES, THE REDUCTION IN THERE NUMBER, AND THE LIMITATIONS OF THE NUMBER OF COMMITTEES ON WHICH A LEGISLATOR MAY SERVE ALL SEEM TO ENCOURAGE SOUND JUDGEMENT. THIS WOULD IN OUR OPINION RESULT IN LESS CONFUSION FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO COME TO YOU REGARDING SPECIFIC LEGISLATION-EXECUTIVE AGENCIES, STAFF, LOBBYISTS, AND PLAIN PEOPLE

Western union Mailgram



115

COULD EASILY LEARN THE COMMITTEES AND THERE JURISDICTION, JOINT HEARINGS COULD BE EASILY ARRANGED WHICH WOULD BE OF CONVENIENCE AND VALUE TO US IN SOUTHERN NEVADA. THE IDEA IN ACRIO OF JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEES IS EXCELLENT. THIS PROCEDURE ALLOWS A CONTINUITY BETWEEN SESSIONS NOT NOW AVAILABLE. SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEES OFTEN DO NOT HAVE THE EXPERTISE ACQUIRED BY SPECIFIC STANDING COMMITTEES WHICH IS VITALLY NECESSARY IN PERTINENT RATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS. WE ENDORSE THE IDEAS IN AB263. BILLS ARI3, SRIO, AJR2 OF THE 57TH SESSION AR7 AND SR8 REGARDING THE READING IS SOUND IN PRINCIPALS AS THIS PROCEDURE HAS BEEN TRADITIONAL AND IS NOT NOW NECESSARY AS LEGISLATORS DO IN FACT HAVE COPIES OF ALL BILLS AND AMENDMENTS. AB267 OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND AGENCIES AND THE JUDICIARY USE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUREAU FOR THE DRAFTING OF THEIR BILLS AND WE FEEL THE EXPENSES SHOULD BE REFLECTED AGAINST THERE SPECIFIC OPERATIVE BUDGET. AB266 A METHOD TO PROVIDE FOR FURTHER AND CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OUTSIDE THE LEGISLATIVE BODY IS PROVIDED ADEQUATELY IN AB266 TO GET A VIEW POINT FROM A DIFFERENT DIRECTION FROM A CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION WE THINK WILL BE OF VALUE THIS GROUP MIGHT MAKE RECOMMENDATION ABOUT MATTERS NOT EVIDENT TO LEGISLATORS OR PERHAPS ABOUT MATTERS LEGISLATORS ARE HESITANT TO RECOMMEND. AJR12. IT IS TIME FOR THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH TO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DO WHAT THE CONSTITUTION STIPULATES IS ITS POWER, NAMELY TO LEGISLATE. AJRIZ MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR LEGISLATURE TO PETITION BY A 2/3 VOTE FOR A SPECIAL SESSION AND THEREFORE, THAT WOULD BE AN ACCURATE REFLECTION OF THIS ELECTED BODY. WE THEREFORE SUPPORT AJRI2. THIS COMMITTEE HAS SENT YOU ITS POSITION ON THESE POINTS OF LEGISLATION IN INTENT TO IMPROVE AND EXPEDITE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS FOR THE STATE OF NEVADA. HAL SMITH CHAIRMAN LEGISLATIVE JOINT COMMITTEES OF BOULDER CITY AND HENDERSON CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

1405 EST

GMRNOA RNO

MGMRNOA RNO

116

FIFTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE 1971



Reid **PRESIDENT**

























Gibson





Manning









Harris









LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEVADA

- copy in library -