

MINUTES

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Assembly Transportation Committee
March 11, 1975

Members Present:	Messrs. Glover, Howard, Dreyer, May and Mrs. Hayes
Members Absent:	Mr. Dini, and Mr. Jacobsen
Guests:	Representing
Nash Sena	Assemblyman
Dr. R. Robinson	Assemblyman
Howard Hill	DMV
John Ciardelli	DMV
Daryl Capurro	Nevada Motor Transport Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Assn
Virgil Anderson	AAA
V.L. Fletcher	DMV
Bill Fitzpatrick	DMV
Grant Bastian	Highway Dept
Robert F. Guinn	Nevada Motor Transport Assn
John Battles	
Patricia Wellson	Student

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glover at 3:10 p.m.
The first bill discussed was:

A.B. 334--Directs highway department, as to new and replacement
highway signs giving distances, to indicate distance
information in miles and kilometers.

Assemblyman Robinson, introducer of the bill, spoke to the Committee first. He said he introduced this bill to anticipate the needs of the future because by 1980 we will be converting to the metric system. He felt if the Highway Department would start using miles and kilometers on new or replacement signs, that we could begin educating the public to convert to the metric system. He also suggested an amendment to the bill to be specific for shorter distances. On page 2, line 8 the following words would be added: "and where shorter distances are indicated, shall be expressed in meters." He stated if we start converting the new or replacement signs now, that by the time we are mandated to do so by the Federal Government we will have saved some of the expense and not have to tear down or waste so many signs.

Grant Bastian, State Highway Engineer, spoke next. He stated there would be two areas of problems with the bill. First, the Federal Government, even though they have had this legislation proposed before, right now only approve of these signs in both miles and kilometers for demonstration purposes. Several states have asked permission to use these signs but at the state's own expense. If our state would wait until the Federal Government passes this legislation, then we would get some Federal funds to cover some of the expense. The second problem would be with the milepost program.

These milepost signs are used for various reasons such as to collect cost data, or spot accidents. Bastian stated there is enough distance between a kilometer and a mile that they could not have both on the sign at the same time. Consequently, they would all have to be converted at the same time which would cost \$100,000.00 to \$200,000.00. He would like to see the State wait until we can get some Federal funds to make this conversion. Bastian showed to the Committee an example of a demonstration sign used in the state of Ohio. He said he would like to see the State put up some of the demonstration signs in the Urban areas like Las Vegas and Reno. Chairman Glover asked if the Highway Dept needed some type of legislation before they could put up demonstration signs. Bastian answered they could do it on their own, but they hadn't realized that there was much interest from public in it. Chairman Glover asked when the Federal Government plans to switch to metric system for highway use. Bastian answered that the bill has not even been introduced in this session of Congress, but that it had been defeated in previous sessions.

Mr. Dreyer asked Mr. Bastian if they needed state authority to act and if so should the Legislature pass this bill now with an amendment saying it would be effective when passed by the Federal Government. Bastian stated they could act without having state authority if the Federal Government happened to pass the bill in a year when our legislature was not meeting.

Mr. May asked if the Federal Government had certain requirements in regard to signs. Bastian stated very definitely. They are trying to standardize all signs in use. He then read a statement from the Federal Government in regard to these signs:
"Approval may be granted for the erection of a limited number of conversion type mileage signs on an interstate or other primary highways. The approval is to be limited to new installations by the States on a non-participating basis."

Mr. Howard asked Mr. Bastian if the Committee eliminated the word "guideposts" line 3, page 2, if he would approve of the bill. He indicated he would.

Mr. Dreyer asked how many educational signs the Highway Dept. would probably put up a year. Bastian indicated maybe 6-12 in the urban areas primarily on the interstates.

Assemblyman Robinson indicated he would not object to eliminating the words "roadmarkers, and guideposts" from the bill. He also stated that the words "for the benefit of the driver" should be inserted after the word department on line 5 pg 2.

The next bill discussed was:

A.B. 292-- requires every applicant for driver's license to present proof of age and designates certain forms for presentation by foreign-born applicants.

Assemblyman Sena, introducer of the Bill, spoke first to the Committee. He first read a letter to the Governor from James Walsh, Supervisory Immigration Officer, asking for a change in the drivers license application to include a question of citizenship and if an alien, require evidence of legal immigration status. (See attached). Mr. Sena wants to make it hard for an illegal alien to obtain a Nevada driver's license because he feels it is a privilege to live and drive in this state, and he thinks everyone should show proof that he is an American citizen or a Nevada resident. He said this bill will also help DMV because it will give them the authority to question all types of people applying for a Driver's License. He stated this bill would apply to those people applying for a new driver's license, but would not affect those renewing a license. It will not solve all problems but it will be preventive for the future. Mr. Dreyer indicated he was against the way the bill read because it states that Every applicant must show proof. He feels this will put a hardship on some people who might have a hard time obtaining their birth certificate. 99

Mr. Fitzpatrick, Chief of Driver's License Dept, spoke next. He said his Dept had no objections to this bill, but the Uniform Vehicle Code which governs their dept's actions states that to obtain a drivers license a person need only demonstrate that he can safely drive an auto.

Mr. Guinn, representing Nev Motor Transport, spoke against the bill. He felt it would cause problems when employing people from other states to come here to work. He suggested changing the wording in line 5, page 2 to add " a drivers license issued in another jurisdiction."

Virgil Anderson, representing AAA, stated that he agreed with the purpose and intent of the bill and with Mr. Guinn's suggested amendment, but thought some more new language might be added in subsection B page 2 to protect a person who might have been born in a foreign country 40-50 years ago. It might be very hard for this person to obtain a birth certificate, but he might have some other evidence or proof that would suffice.

Howard Hill agreed with Mr. Guinn that a driver's license from another state should be acceptable for issuance of one in Nevada.

Virgil Anderson then presented some new language to amend pg 2 line 4 to insert after "States" the following: "including, but not limited to a valid drivers license issued by another state."

Howard Hill stated that all this is still not really going to solve the problem because people can get a phony drivers license in another state. Mr. Dreyer stated that it won't hurt the idea that Mr. Sena is trying to get across with the bill.

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Chairman Glover announced that there was a conflict with the Clark County Delegation's meeting and ask if there was any objections to discussing the other bills on the agenda at some later date. As there were no objections, Chairman Glover adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Camille Lee
Assembly Attache

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Date Tuesday, Mar 11 Time 3:00 pm Room 214

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Bills or Resolutions to be considered	Subject	Counsel requested*
A.B. 292 ✓	Requires every applicant for driver's license to present proof of age and designates certain forms for presentation by foreign-born applicants. Fiscal Note: No (BDR 43-954)	
A.B. 326	Creates vehicle emission control section in registration division of the department of motor vehicles, sets forth duties of emission control officers and grants peace officer powers. Fiscal Note: No (BDR 43-272)	
A.B. 334 ✓	Directs highway department, as to new and replacement highway signs giving distances, to indicate distance information in miles and kilometers. Fiscal Note: No (BDR 35-1050)	
A.B. 117	Revises provisions relating to vehicle dealers and licensing thereof. Fiscal Note: No (BDR 43-274)	

*Please do not ask for counsel unless necessary.

Room 1-519, 500 Las Vegas Boulevard South
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

September 18, 1973

Honorable Mike O'Callahan
Governor of Nevada
State Capitol Building
Executive Chamber
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Governor O'Callahan,

The following named persons are illegal aliens, who have been arrested and removed from the United States within the past few months in the Las Vegas area. They had in their possession the attached valid Nevada Drivers' Licenses:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER</u>
HUNES, Ramon Rosales	EW510321
MEDINA, Jose Refugio Jr.	JM280704
AYON, Juan Ramon	JA440213
ARMENDARIZ, Martin Enriquez	MA361205
MERCADO, Ruben	EM481125
PERMIN, Pabela	Temp. A3683
BARRAGAN, Pedro	Temp. A42308
MANRIQUEZ, Jorge A.,	JM490423
RAMIREZ, Jesus A.	JA400401

As you know, the Immigration Service attempts to locate and remove aliens illegally in the United States. When illegal aliens are found with drivers' licenses in their possession, it is sometimes very difficult to determine their immigration status as invariably, they present the drivers license and claim to be United States Citizens or legal permanent resident aliens. They offer the drivers license as proof of residence and identification. It is especially difficult for a police officer when confronted with this situation.

May I respectfully suggest a change in the drivers license application to include a question of citizenship and if an alien, require evidence of legal immigration status. If this would be possible, a booklet could be distributed to all your licensing officers describing documents of all legal aliens.

I might add that the Las Vegas Immigration Service apprehended 1143 illegal aliens in Las Vegas during Fiscal Year 1973 as compared to 594 during Fiscal Year 1972. This is an increase of 95%.

I would appreciate your thoughts on the merits of the above suggestion.

Sincerely,

JAMES E. WALSH,
Supervisory Immigration Officer

JEW/gts

Attachments