

## Assembly

## MINUTES

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 58th SESSION

April 25, 1975

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mello at 7:30 A.M. in the Ways and Means Committee Room.

PRESENT: Chairman Mello, Mr. Bremner, Mrs. Brookman, Mr. Dreyer, Mr. Glover, Mr. Howard, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Weise and Mr. Wittenberg.

ALSO PRESENT: John Dolan, Bill Bible, Chairman Lamb, Senator Brown, Senator Gibson, Senator Monroe, Senator Raggio, Senator Walker, Senator Young and Howard Barrett.

Page 168 - Statewide Programs, UNLV - Mr. Robinson made a motion to change the recommendation from 1 1/2 positions for the Museum to 1 position. They presently have a half-time position in the Museum. Mrs. Brookman seconded. Motion passed.

Page 299 - Division of Mental Hygiene and Mental Retardation - Mr. Wittenberg made a motion to reopen this budget. Mr. Dreyer seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Wittenberg made a motion to delete the Assistant Superintendent Education Public Information Officer and add the Human Service Educator. Mr. Howard seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Howard made a motion to close the budget as recommended by the Governor and as amended. Mr. Dreyer seconded. Motion passed.

Page 371 - Rehabilitation Division Administration - Mr. Glover made a motion to open the budget. Mrs. Brookman seconded. Motion passed with Mr. Bremner and Mr. Weise voting no. Mr. Glover made a motion to reinstate the Personnel Officer II and the Personnel Technician I and add the Senior Account Clerk and the Account Clerk. Mrs. Brookman seconded. Mr. Wittenberg further amended the budget by adding only the two personnel positions and not the Accounting positions. Mr. Weise seconded. Motion passed with Mr. Glover, Mr. Dreyer, Mr. Bremner and Mrs. Brookman voting no. Mr. Wittenberg made a motion to recommend a "Do-Pass" as recommended by the Governor and as amended. Mr. Glover seconded. Motion passed.

JOINT MEETING:

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*Joint Meeting*

Page 6 - Commission on the Status of Women - Senator Gibson made a motion to amend this budget by changing the name to the Commission on the Status of People and go with the Assembly. Senator Walker seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Bremner made a motion to open the budget. Mrs. Brookman seconded. Motion passed. Mrs. Brookman made a motion to change the name of the Commission. Mr. Bremner seconded. Motion passed with Mr. Dreyer voting no. Mrs. Brookman made a motion to close the budget. Mr. Bremner seconded. Motion passed.

Page 15 - Attorney General - Senator Raggio made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Young seconded. Motion passed.

Page 27 - Secretary of State Archives - Senator Brown made a motion to stay with the Senate recommendation. Senator Gibson seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Bremner made a motion to stay with the Assembly recommendation. Mr. Wittenberg seconded. Motion passed.

Page 107 - Supreme Court - Mr. Glover stated that the new positions were cut because the committee felt that the Judges could put in more time than working 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and could work more than 9-10 months out of the year. If they did, the backlog could be caught up. Senator Raggio stated that they have many cases backed up and they are increasing. They do much of their work in conferences, discussion and preparation. Senator Young stated that there is going to be more litigation in the fields of environment, utilities and crime. If they are not give the tools they cannot work. When they are given enough positions and the job is not getting done, they can then be criticized. Senator Brown concurred and stated that the time a Senator spends on the floor is only a part of the daily routine and the rest is done in committees, etc. Mr. Glover stated that if the court was interested in cleaning up the backlog they would work more and not spend time on unnecessary reports.

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Senator Gibson made a motion to hold their position. Senator Brown seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Wittenberg made a motion to hold their position. Mr. Glover seconded. Motion passed. Mrs. Brookman voted no.

Page 159 - Education Commission of the States - Senator Lamb stated that he could not recall any harm that was done by not belonging. Senator Gibson stated that he has received many publications and noticed that the trend over the years seems to be in pursuing the same old thing such as full state funding of education. He stated that Nevada differs from other states as the other states have a larger property tax to cover it. Chairman Mello stated that there are many areas of education and Nevada should be looking at all of them. Senator Gibson stated that even though they do not belong to the Commission meetings could still be attended. Mr. Howard made a motion to go with Senate Finance. Mr. Weise seconded. Motion passed.

Page 160 - University of Nevada System - Senator Gibson made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Raggio seconded. Motion passed.

Page 162 - Community College Administration - Senator Lamb felt that this budget should not be decreased because the Community College is rapidly growing. Mr. Dolan stated that the decrease was not intended to cut positions. There were several discrepancies in the budget that they just built a new budget and started from scratch and determined the amount needed. Mr. Weise stated the intent was to get rid of the slush fund and find out how many positions exactly they had and how much money would be needed for the programs. Mr. Barrett checked the spring enrollments and the fall enrollments and they are projecting 200 students more for Southern Nevada. He felt the recommendation should remain the same. Chairman Mello stated that the committee could go along with the Senate if a letter of intent was written stating that they could not use systems services money to fund positions. He felt that if any positions were brought aboard at all they should be instructional positions. Mr. Barrett stated they might contract for maintenance rather than have permanent positions. Senator Gibson stated that the community colleges are still in a state of flux and have to be able to cope with the rapid increase in enrollment. Mr. Dolan stated that the most disturbing thing was that they take money from the community colleges themselves to fund positions in administration. They have nine classified positions and the work program shows only four. He stated with the lesser amount of money they would still be able to take care of the growth and the variety of problems. Senator Gibson made a motion to write a letter of intent. Senator Brown seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Wittenberg made a motion to go with the Senate and have a letter of intent. Mr. Bremner seconded. Motion passed.

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Page 166 - Intercollegiate Athletics, UNR - Senator Gibson made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Raggio seconded. Motion passed.

Page 168 - Statewide Programs, UNLV - Chairman Mello stated that this budget was changed by Ways and Means to add a position for the Museum. He felt that they could not handle the museum with only half-time position. The committee moved to go with a full-time position. Senator Gibson was concerned about having a separate museum and is reluctant to start funding another one. Senator Lamb was more concerned with the museum rather than the money and felt they could find a way to staff it. Mr. Robinson stated that UNLV has a very active anthropology department and archeology department. The museum would have other advantages and they are only asking for another half-time position. Mr. Bremner stated that the museum is used for many field trip for education by the school districts. John Dolan stated that the cost of this position would be about \$10,795 in the first year and \$11,551 in the second as the amount shown for the half-time position would double. Senator Raggio made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Walker seconded. Motion passed.

Page 178 - University of Nevada Reno - Senator Brown made a motion to go with the Assembly on the postage. Senator Gibson seconded. Motion passed. Chairman Mello stated that they estimated the amount needed for utilities too low and the Assembly's decision was to just bring it up to the amount needed. Mr. Weise felt that a letter should be written stating the intent of the money is to used for utilities alone. Senator Brown made a motion to hold their position. Senator Gibson seconded. Mrs. Brookman made a motion to hold their position. Mr. Glover seconded. Motion passed with Mr. Howard and Mr. Bremner voting no.

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Page 198 - University of Nevada, New Programs - Mr. Robinson made a motion to go with Senate Finance. Mr. Dreyer seconded. Motion failed with Mr. Weise, Mr. Glover, Mr. Bremner, Mr. Howard, Mr. Wittenberg and Chairman Mello voting no.

Page 205 - Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education - Mr. Robinson stated that the WICHE Commission failed to recommend law students in their program as they did not feel it was necessary. He stated they want to allow 30 students in the first year and 70 in the second. If all of the money appropriated is not spent it will be held over and less would be appropriated in the following year. WICHE felt that if they allowed law students in the program it would diminish the chances of a law school at UNLV. All of this money would be spent on Nevada students. The cost would be less than operating a law school. The WICHE program was designed to help the small states and Mr. Robinson felt that it was selfish on their part in not asking for it. If it ever got to a point where they were financing too many students and the cost was high, then a law school should be built. Senator Raggio stated he was reluctant because he was looking for the law school. He has no reason to act against students who choose this field. Senator Gibson stated that WICHE support the cream of the students and they do not necessarily make the best professionals. He felt it should be for the average student. Senator Brown stated that there should be some sort of means test so that families who can afford it would have to pay and this would provide education for those who couldn't. Senator Lamb also would like the students who are accepted by WICHE to have to return to Nevada or repay the money. No vote was taken.

Page 229 - Aging Services - Mr. Glover stated that the outreach programs provide services to the senior citizens who have contributed much to the community for many years. They need help and do not know of the services that exist for them. This person would provide this information to them. Senator Gibson stated that he still feels the elderly people would be best for the job. He cannot see spending taxpayers money to get these people on the programs and it would give the elderly something to do. Senator Gibson made a motion that they hold on their position. Senator Monroe seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Wittenberg made a motion to hold their position. Mrs. Brookman seconded. Motion passed.

Page 284 - Health Aid to Counties - Senator Gibson made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Young seconded. Motion passed.

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Page 299 - Division of Mental Hygiene and Mental Retardation - Chairman Mello explained that the committee deleted the Public Dducation and Information Officer and reinstated the Human Service Educator. Senator Gibson made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Raggio seconded. Motion passed.

Page 315 - Rural Clinics - Mr. Weise stated that this division recognized that they could recover more money so Ways and Means reduced the General Fund money. Senator Gibson stated that only cutting half seemed to be fair. Senator Raggio felt that the half-time accountant was seriously needed. Senator Gibson made a motion to hold their position. Senator Young seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Wittenberg made a motion to hold with their position. Mrs. Brookman seconded. Motion passed with Mr. Howard voting no.

Page 371 - Rehabilitation Division Administration - Chairman Mello stated that Ways and Means put back the two existing positions but did not add the two new positions. Senator Gibson requested a letter be sent to personnel to look into these two positions. Mr. Weise stated that these positions were not what they seemed and stated that they had 41 reclassifications our of 178 employees. Senator Lamb stated they will hold the budget until these positions could be checked out.

Page 375 - Vocational Rehabilitation - Senator Gibson made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Raggio seconded. Motion passed.

Page 381 - Services to the Blind - Mr. Glover stated that Ways and Means approved two mobility instructors, one for Reno and one for Las Vegas as their function is very important. Senator Gibson made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Walker seconded. Motion passed.

Page 519 - Division of State Parks - Mr. Robinson stated that if these two clerical positions were deleted it would cause a hardship on an already

deficient staff. Senator Brown made a motion to hold with the Senate's position. Senator Gibson seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Howard made a motion to hold with the Assembly's position. Mr. Wittenberg seconded. Motion passed with Mr. Weise voting no. 556

Page 525 - State Park Planning and Development - Mr. Robinson stated that there has been only a slight increase in staff and a great increase in the workload. No vote was taken.

Capital Improvements - Mr. Weise explained how the sub-committee came up with their recommendations on all the capital improvements. Mr. Robinson stated the sub-committee went into great detail on each project separately down to each pipe and manhole cover. Mr. Weise stated they held hearings with the Public Works Board.

75-10 - Campus Lighting, UNR - Mr. Robinson stated that the sub-committee recommended deletion of this project because of the energy crunch. Chairman Mello stated that he disagreed with this because of the problems they have had on the campus. Senator Young made a motion to hold with the Senate's position. Senator Gibson seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Weise made a motion to hold with the Assembly position. Mr. Robinson seconded. Motion passed.

75-12 - Storm Drainage - Mr. Robinson stated that a lot of contingency fees were found in this project and high survey figures. They were requesting \$2000 for manhole covers and on the going market they are only \$1200. When they asked Mr. Hancock about the differences he stated they were only estimates. Mr. Weise stated they do not have experts on these projects but they have a list and they are broken down by zone. They have no particular price for each project but for several projects. Senator Brown stated that he assumes that the money would not be spent if it wasn't needed. Mr. Weise stated that the sub-committee felt the estimates were too high and there was no explanation for it. He felt that contractors would bid for the estimated price as they are public information. Senator Gibson stated he does not know where the planning board has been too high, and several times they have been low. If the projects are low they will come to Interim Finance. Senator Gibson made a motion to go with the Assembly. Senator Monroe seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.