

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 26, 1975

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the Chair.

PRESENT:           Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman  
                  Senator James I. Gibson, Vice-Chairman  
                  Senator Lee E. Walker  
                  Senator Warren L. Monroe  
                  Senator B. Mahlon Brown  
                  Senator William Raggio  
                  Senator C. Clifton Young

OTHERS:           Jim Deskin, Athletic Commission  
                  Lincoln Liston, Department of Education  
                  Ken Hansen, Department of Education  
                  Jane LoCicero, State Distributive School Fund  
                  Pat Shank, State Distributive School Fund  
                  Kenny Gwen, State Distributive School Fund  
                  Marvin Picollo, Washoe County School District  
                  Vernon Bennett, State Retirement  
                  Charles Collins, Retirement Board  
                  Dean Robert Weems, Retirement Board  
                  Howard Barrett, Budget Division  
                  Ron Sparks, Fiscal Analyst

ATHLETIC COMMISSION

Senator Walker noted that there is a \$20,000 increase in fees. Mr. Jim Deskin said this is in accord with the number of title fights and promotion.

Senator Lamb asked about the Host Expenses. Mr. Deskin said that this is for meals when attending out-of-state meetings.

Senator Lamb asked about the Amateur Program. Mr. Deskin said that this is insurance for the 320 programs throughout the State.

Senator Lamb asked about the Contractural Services. Mr. Deskin said that this is for three inspectors and a secretary.

DISTRIBUTIVE SCHOOL FUND (Cont.)

Mr. Ron Sparks said that his office has an original 2% difference with the Budget Office figures on the local school support tax. Mr. made the following revenue projections.

- a) \$27,769,880 (1975-76)
- b) \$30,824,566 (1976-77)

Mr. Sparks said that his office sees nothing that could increase their projections upward at this time. Mr. Howard Barrett said that the Budget Office figures will not increase. Mr. Lincoln Liston said that the estimates made by the Department last year were too high.

PAGE TWO

Senator Lamb opened the discussion on the number of units needed for Special Education. Mr. Ken Hansen said that the number of 60 units comes from two surveys that were based on need, and this revision does not mean a change to the total figures.

Senator Raggio noted that Nevada is currently meeting the need of 2% of the supposed national figure of 16% of the Special Education individuals, and the Senator wanted to know if the requested 443 (1975-76), and 452 (1976-77) would allow the State to continue meeting the same level of need we are meeting now. Mrs. Jane LeCicero said no, not since the growth level of the State continues to change. Mrs. Pat Shank said that there is a need to continue programs in the Junior High and High School level that were begun in the Elementary level, and in order to do this, more units would have to be provided.

Mr. Liston explained to Senator Raggio and Brown that some districts are operating more units than can be counted apportionately. Mr. Liston said that in 1973 the Department used a ratio of 1 to 12 1/2; and in 1975-76 a ratio of 1 to 12 based on Fall enrollments of 1973; and in 1976-77, a ratio of 1 to 11. Senator Raggio asked where do the ratios come from. Mr. Hansen said that this is a ratio of one Special Education unit to a Basic Teacher unit, and this is acquired by looking at the district needs and turning this into a formula to adapt to the Nevada Plan. Mr. Barrett said that money is provided in the budget for enrollment increase, and that this was calculated in mid-December.

Senator Raggio asked what the amount would be for the Special Education percentage of the total enrollment. Mr. Barrett said a 1.7% increase for the first year, and a 1.2% increase for the second year.

Senator Brown asked why the Department did not continue to use the 1 to 12 1/2 ratio. Mr. Hansen said that we do not begin with an identified ratio, we obtain the need and then get the ratio from this.

Senator Young asked how many children are in Special Education. Mr. Liston said more than 5,000, or just a little more than 4%.

Senators Lamb and Young wanted to know how these children are identified. Mrs. LoCicero said that this is done by appearance, and by learning ability.

Mr. Kenny Gwen of Clark County said that they have 242 units, and they have told their speech therapists to stop identifying children with these needs, and just handle the ones already identified. Mr. Gwen said that he agreed with Mrs. Shank that these programs should be continued on every level of education, and that every county should have at least two units.

Senator Lamb asked if all counties qualify for the units. Mrs. LeCicero said yes.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 26, 1975

PAGE THREE

Senator Raggio asked what is done with the academically gifted child in the high school level. Mr. Gwen said that in Clark County there is an Honor's program, early study at the University, independent study, challenge courses, and community work programs; however, at the present time, all units in Clark County are used in the Elementary level. Mr. Gwen felt that the speech and disability needs were of greater priority in the High School level.

Senator Lamb asked if Clark County spends more than the \$14,500 requested for each unit. Mr. Gwen said yes, and he thought that the Department's request for \$16,000 would be adequate.

Senator Young asked how many Special Education needs are not being satisfied. Mr. Liston said that there are many varying figures on this, but if there are the estimated 10%, and the State is serving 4%, and more are being identified, then .... Mrs. LeCicero said that amount is 10%, and 60% of this 10% are not being specially served. Mr. Gwen said that all are in school, but not all are in special programs.

Senator Gibson asked for a fiscal note on the age extension bill. Mr. Hansen said that this will be difficult to do, however, if there are 60 units given, this will cover the age extension. Mr. Gwen did not agree with Mr. Hansen, and said that it will have to be a 60 plus figure.

Senator Gibson noted that in the Department's revised request, they are asking for a 28% in general fund money for 1975-76, and a 21% increase in 1976-77, and the Senator could not see that much growth for the General Fund. Mr. Liston said that this is what it would take to increase the Education Budget by 18% for 1975-76, and 14% for 1976-77.

Senator Lamb asked how many units will be needed with the Age Extension. Mr. Marvin Picollo said that Washoe County will need three units in the Elementary level, and two for the advanced, and that this is only for the disabled classification. Mr. Gwen said that his estimates would depend on the areas going to be covered.

Senator Brown asked what were the District priorities concerning the Age Extension proposal. Mr. Picollo and Mr. Gwen said that this would not mean an 18% and 14% increase in salaries, but rather a 10% increase (1% which goes to retirement); and, if handled on a district basis, then the amount would depend on carry-over, value assessment, and taxes.

SB 336

Mr. Vernon Bennett of State Retirement, presented a line-by-line amendment reading of the bill to the Committee. The Committee secretary was excused from taking minutes on this presentation, and the amendments will be available in the revised bill copy.

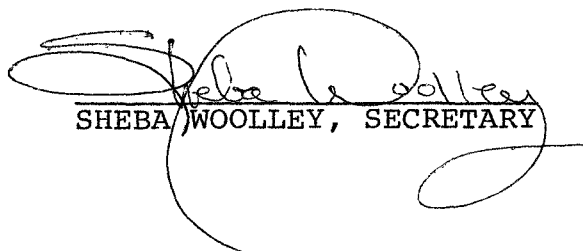
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 26, 1975

399

PAGE FOUR

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

  
SHEBA WOOLLEY, SECRETARY

APPROVED BY:

  
FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN