

## SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

MARCH 27, 1975 - 12:00 P.M.

The ninth meeting of the Senate Legislative Functions Committee was called to order at 12:17 p.m.

Chairman Warren Monroe was in the Chair.

PRESENT: Chairman Warren Monroe  
Vice Chairman Mel Close  
Senator James Gibson  
Senator Mahlon Brown  
Senator Gene Echols  
Senator Floyd Lamb  
Senator Cliff Young

ALSO PRESENT: Art Palmer, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau  
Leola Armstrong, Secretary of the Senate  
Father Larry Dumphy, Common Cause of Nevada  
Robin Morgan, League of Women Voters

ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING BILLS:

SB 233      Establishes administrative division in legislative counsel bureau.

Art Palmer expressed feeling there was no need, at the present, for a separate division. The committee was concerned with the "legislative story" getting to the public, with Mr. Palmer noting an existing rule that prohibits him from calling press conferences or issuing news releases. He stated, however, that the Chairman of the Legislative Commission, had, on occasion, done so. It was noted that the Executive Branch has a dozen or more public information specialists.

Senator Young moved "HOLD" for further consideration.  
Seconded by Senator Gibson  
Motion carried unanimously.

SB 234      Authorizes per diem and travel expenses for legislators attending pre-session orientation conferences.

Pros and cons were discussed regarding necessity of pre-sessions.

Senator Young moved "AMEND AND DO PASS".  
Seconded by Senator Echols  
Motion carried unanimously.

Senate

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS  
MARCH 27, 1975  
PAGE 2

~~126~~  
126

034

SR 10            Amends Senate Standing Rule 109 for the 58th session of the legislature.

Leola Armstrong presented argument against amending Rule 109, but asked, should the committee decide to do so, that they amend to make it "discretionary" with the Secretary. The committee noted Mrs. Armstrong's unique method of calling the various Senators' attention to measures of individual importance during sessions.

Senator Brown moved "DO NOT PASS".  
Seconded by Senator Gibson  
Motion carried unanimously.

SR 11            Amends Senate Standing Rules 40 and 41 for the 58th session of the legislature.

Mrs. Armstrong called the committee's attention to the incorrectly drafted amendment which should read "Environment and Public Resources" in lieu of "Ecology and Public Resources" and "Government Affairs" in lieu of "Federal, State and Local Governments".

Senator Young moved "HOLD" for further consideration  
Seconded by Senator Close  
Motion carried unanimously.

SR 12            Amends Senate Standing Rule 54 for the 58th regular session of the legislature.

Pros and cons were discussed regarding the Finance Committee reporting to sessions on appropriation bills, so that all would be informed as to the complexities involved; and legislators having the opportunity of having input. It was agreed to try the following: once the Senate Finance Committee had gone through the process of "pulling the budget together", and it was agreeable with the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, then the Finance Chairman, or assigned members of the committee, would report to the Senate and give a status report, answering any questions, before the bill is acted on.

Senator Brown moved "DO NOT PASS".  
Seconded by Senator Gibson  
Motion carried. (Young abstaining)

## Senate

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS  
MARCH 27, 1975  
PAGE 3

127

SR 13            Amends Senate Standing Rule 52 for the 58th regular session of the legislature.

Pros and cons were discussed regarding any bill, with a fiscal impact of \$10,000 or more, being sent to Finance, as well as the proper policy committee.

Senator Gibson moved "HOLD" for further consideration  
Seconded by Senator Lamb  
Motion carried unanimously.

SR 14            Amends Senate Standing Rule 53 for the 58th regular session of the legislature.

Father Larry Dumphy spoke in favor of SR 14. After discussion, the committee decided to conform the bill to Committee Rule 53 adopted during the 57th session.

Senator Gibson moved "AMEND AND DO PASS"  
Seconded by Senator Young  
Motion carried unanimously.

SR 15            Amends Senate Standing Rule 40 for the 58th regular session of the legislature.

Leola Armstrong, during earlier testimony, had informed the committee that SR 11 wouldn't be needed if SR 15 was adopted, and also noted that should SR 15 be accepted, there was no provision for Legislative Functions to hire employees, and that one should be added to subsection 1. The committee discussed possible amendment of subsection 2 (two-thirds vote); question of not serving on more than three standing committees; and minority seats on committees.

Senator Brown moved "HOLD" for further consideration  
Seconded by Senator Gibson  
Motion carried unanimously.

SJR 6            Proposes to amend Nevada Constitution by removing lieutenant governor as president of senate.

After a lengthy discussion, the committee decided to amend to read: "He shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote".

Senator Gibson moved "AMEND AND DO PASS"  
Seconded by Senator Young  
Motion carried unanimously.

Senate

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS  
MARCH 27, 1975  
PAGE 4

036

~~128~~  
128

SR 7            Amends Senate Standing Rule 44.

Committee decided to wait on action until pending Judiciary Committee hearing.

Senator Close moved "HOLD"  
Seconded by Senator Young  
Motion carried unanimously.

SR 8            Amends Senate Standing Rules 110 and 120 for the 59th regular session of the legislature.

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 2 of the 57th Session satisfies this resolution.

Senator Young moved "DO NOT PASS"  
Seconded by Senator Brown  
Motion carried unanimously.

SR 9            Amends Senate Standing Rule 92 for the 58th regular session of the legislature.

Father Larry Dumphy stated that not giving adequate notice for meetings was equivalent to a closed hearing. He recommended that no meeting be held without a minimum of 72 hours notice. The committee expressed concern over slowing down the legislative process and what, exactly, "reasonable notice" meant.

Robin Morgan stressed the importance of sufficient notice, stating that 3 to 5 days would suffice, and further stated that a bill of significant public importance should not be considered toward the end of the session, if there was not time to give adequate notice to the public.

Senator Gibson will amend, adding "and whenever feasible, a minimum of five days notice should be given".

Senator Young moved "AMEND AND DO PASS"  
Seconded by Senator Close  
Motion carried unanimously.

Senate

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS  
MARCH 27, 1975  
PAGE 5

~~129~~ 087  
129

SCR 1      Adds joint standing rule for Nevada legislature,  
requiring advance notice of measures to be considered.

Senator Lamb moved "DO NOT PASS"  
Seconded by Senator Brown  
Motion carried unanimously.

SB 193      Authorizes legislature to designate certain officers  
to serve between sessions.

Committee noted bill was in the Assembly, and decided to wait.

Senator Gibson moved "HOLD"  
Seconded by Senator Lamb  
Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Quilici  
Beth Quilici, Secretary

APPROVED:

Warren L. Monroe  
SENATOR WARREN MONROE, CHAIRMAN

(REPRINTED WITH ADOPTED AMENDMENTS)

FIRST REPRINT

S. B. 234

SENATE BILL NO. 234—SENATORS BRYAN,  
ECHOLS, FOOTE AND GOJACK

FEBRUARY 20, 1975

Referred to Committee on Legislative Functions

SUMMARY—Authorizes per diem and travel expenses for legislators attending  
pre-session orientation conferences. Fiscal Note: Yes. (BDR 17-742)

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [ ] is  
material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the legislature, authorizing payment from the legislative fund  
of per diem and travel expenses for pre-session orientation conferences;  
increasing the amount of certain legislative per diem, travel and telephone  
allowances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

*The People of the State of Nevada, represented in Senate and Assembly,  
do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. NRS 218.085 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 218.085 1. The legislative fund is hereby created as a continuing  
3 fund in the state treasury for the use of the legislature, and where  
4 specifically authorized by law, for the use of the legislative counsel  
5 bureau.  
6 2. Support for the legislative fund shall be provided by legislative  
7 appropriation from the general fund.  
8 3. Expenditures from the legislative fund shall be made for:  
9 (a) The payment of necessary operating expenses of the senate;  
10 (b) The payment of necessary operating expenses of the assembly;  
11 (c) *The payment of per diem and travel expenses authorized by law*  
12 *for legislators and for officers and employees of the legislature;*  
13 (d) The payment of necessary operating expenses of but not limited  
14 to:  
15 (1) The legislative commission;  
16 (2) The legal division;  
17 (3) The research and fiscal analysis division;  
18 (4) The audit division; and  
19 (5) The statute revision operation,  
20 of the legislative counsel bureau.  
21 4. Expenditures from the legislative fund for purposes other than  
22 those specified in subsection 3 of this section shall be made only upon  
23 the authority of a concurrent resolution regularly adopted by the senate  
24 and assembly.  
25 5. All moneys in the legislative fund shall be paid out on claims



**S. J. R. 6****SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6—SENATORS BRYAN,  
HILBRECHT, CLOSE, GIBSON, FOOTE AND GOJACK**

FEBRUARY 13, 1975

Referred to Committee on Legislative Functions

SUMMARY—Proposes to amend Nevada constitution by removing lieutenant governor as president of senate. (BDR C-743)

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [ ] is material to be omitted.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Proposing to amend the constitution of the State of Nevada to remove the lieutenant governor as president of the senate, provide for the senate to choose the president of the senate and provide for the president of the senate to be the second in line of succession to the governorship.

1     *Resolved by the Senate and Assembly of the State of Nevada, jointly,*  
2     That section 6 of article 4 and section 17 of article 5 of the constitution of  
3     the State of Nevada be amended to read respectively as follows:  
4     [Sec:] Sec. 6. Each House shall judge of the qualifications, elections  
5     and returns of its own members, choose its own officers [(except]  
6     (including the President of the Senate), determine the rules of its pro-  
7     ceedings and may punish its members for disorderly conduct, and with the  
8     concurrence of two thirds of all the members elected, expel a member.  
9     [Sec:] Sec. 17. A Lieutenant Governor shall be elected at the same  
10    time and places and in the same manner as the Governor and his term of  
11    Office, and his eligibility, shall also be the same. [He shall be President of  
12    the Senate, but shall only have a casting vote therein.] If during a  
13    Vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall be  
14    impeached, displaced, resign, die, or become incapable of performing the  
15    duties of the office, or be absent from the State, the President [pro-  
16    tempore] of the Senate shall act as Governor until the vacancy be filled or  
17    the disability cease.



