

ASSEMBLY
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
April 28, 1977
7:00am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Murphy
Mr. May
Mr. Craddock
Mr. Jeffrey
Mr. Mann
Mr. Moody
Mr. Robinson
Mrs. Westall
Mr. Jacobsen

GUESTS PRESENT: See attached list

Chairman Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00am.

SENATE BILL 219

Mr. Jim Costa from the Department of Education suggested major changes to the committee. He said that the Department of Education should be removed from the zero based budgeting experiment. The Department is currently trying to use zero based budgeting objectives. He suggested deletion of most of lines 3-22 on page 5 as most of the language is superfluous.

Senator Raggio, sponsor of the bill, gave a short explanation of sunset legislation. He explained that it is a comprehensive oversight program run by the legislature. The bill is well drafted and has all the necessary provisions in it. It is to contend with the growing discontent by the public of their government. The bill provides the handle to cope with waste, duplication, inequities, secrecies and poor attitudes by agencies. Agencies must prove their value.

He added that the 2nd and 3rd cycles of boards in Arkell's study for A.B. 278 were deleted in reprint. It is an experimental bill. It is hard to argue against the concept that agencies must justify their existence. The ultimate in sunset legislation is designed to include executive agencies also. The bill provides the criteria for review.

Pat Gothberg, representing Common Cause, told the committee that she was concerned with sunset legislation mechanism language. She would prefer a pilot program on a few boards. She added that the boards need a fair hearing. The amendments she suggested, which are attached as Exhibit 1, are drawn to ensure that that happens. She discussed the amendments and added that the dates are not necessarily concrete but should be considered. She would like to see sunset legislation done properly. The goal of sunset is not for termination but for review. The Fiscal Analyst of the Legislative Counsel Bureau told her that the office could handle the job since the entire LCB will help.

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ASSEMBLY BILL 687

Kathleen Olsen, Bernice Ireland and Rick Kuhlmeier, from the Governor's Commission on the Employment of the Handicapped spoke in favor of the bill with the inclusion of the amendments submitted by Mr. Bill Hancock of the Public Works Board. With those amendments, the bill would place the responsibility with the Public Works Board to make state buildings accessible to the handicapped.

They added that NRS 651.050 has been on the books since 1973 and has not been obeyed. There will be many complaints to the Equal Rights Commission and many lawsuits once handicapped people see the non-compliance of standards set in 1973.

SENATE BILL 198

Chairman Murphy reviewed the amendments drawn by Mr. Russ McDonald and submitted on April 20.

COMMITTEE ACTION

S.B. 198 - Mr. Craddock moved to AMEND AND DO PASS, seconded by Mrs. Westall, passed unanimously except for Mr. Jeffrey who voted no.

SENATE BILL 444

Senator Mary Gojack explained to the committee that the bill simply asks that factors be taken into account when the population plan is being drawn.

Senator Cliff Young told the committee that we have to face up to the fact that water has to be conserved. Plans are rarely followed; we do not have good planning. The bill is merely a guideline that does not bind. Real Estate people and homebuilders constantly oppose these types of planning bills for financial reasons but we have to stop thinking of financial reasons and think of the wellbeing of our living areas.

Gene Milligan, Nevada Realtors, spoke in opposition to the bill by saying that the new language is superfluous.

Mr. George Peek, Vice President of the Lemmon Valley Land Company, told the committee that the regional planning agency is going to get into things they don't know about. He stated that there was no reason to get the planning people involved because Mr. Westerguard the State Water Engineer has the final decision making power on water matters.

Mr. Jack Kenny, Southern Nevada Homebuilders, told the committee that basins might cover more than one county line. He suggested that no one has even offered a definition of a hydrographic basin.

COMMITTEE ACTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 728- Mr. Jeffrey moved to DO PASS, seconded by Mrs. Westall, passed unanimously. Mr. Mann was not present for the vote.

SENATE BILL 402

Mr. John Winters spoke against the bill in any form because the water laws of this state are good now and adequate for our needs.

Mr. Dan Brown, Hidden Valley Water District, told the committee that we need to protect quasi-municipal wells and need to clearup the conflict with NRS 706.

Assemblyman Craddock explained to the committee some of the amendments that he had asked for after the hearings of his subcommittee on the matter. He added that if the laws were followed strictly then the bill isn't necessary, the laws just aren't being enforced.

Mr. Carl Havlin, Cold Springs Development Company, asked the committee why his proposal to include quasi-municipal was not accepted. He explained the problems in Cold Springs with regard to the underground storage of water.

Assemblyman Craddock explained to him that statewide application of his suggestions would create many problems and that specific laws could not be made for Cold Springs Valley.

Havlin asked for some kind of relief to make a study over the next two years.

Assemblyman Craddock told the committee he would meet with the State Water Engineer again to see if there was a solution to the problems.

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chairman Murphy adjourned the meeting at 10:10am.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Morgan, Committee Secretary

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

GUEST REGISTER

DATE: 4/28

NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE NO.	REPRESENTING	TESTIFYING ON BILL NO.
<i>Bernice Ireland</i>	<i>G. C. F. H.</i>	<i>AB 687</i>
<i>Kathleen Olson</i>	"	<i>AB 687</i>
<i>Rick Kuhlmeier</i>	"	<i>AB 687</i>
<i>Jane Muligan</i>	<i>New Assoc. of Realtors</i>	<i>SB 444</i>
<i>JACK KENNEY</i>	<i>SO NEW HOME BLDGS</i>	<i>SB 444</i>

**NEVADA**

Suggested Amendments to SB 219

Page 2, Delete lines 48, 49, 50, and substitute the following:

A performance audit shall be conducted by the office of the Legislative Counsel bureau. The audit shall start no later than July 1st of the year before termination of an agency and shall be completed no later than December 15th of the year before the termination of an agency.

Page 3, add after line 5:

Its recommendations shall be referred to an appropriate standing committee of the Senate or Assembly, which has jurisdiction over the agency, following which a public hearing shall be held no later than February 15th of the next regular session of the legislature.

A committee recommendation for termination, continuation, or reestablishment shall be presented to the legislature no later than March 15th of the next regular session of the legislature.