

ASSEMBLY
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
April 6, 1977
7:30am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Murphy
Mr. May
Mr. Craddock (10:10)
Mr. Jeffrey
Mr. Mann
Mr. Moody
Mr. Robinson
Mrs. Westall
Mr. Jacobsen

GUESTS PRESENT: See attached lists

Chairman Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:30am.

ASSEMBLY BILL 567

Mr. Russell McDonald, Washoe County Employee, told the committee that this bill proposes to insert some realism into short term financing.

ASSEMBLY BILL 568

Russell McDonald told the committee that this bill authorizes local governments to let contracts without competitive bidding if no bids are received. Currently there are no provisions for such circumstances.

ASSEMBLY BILL 571

Mr. Russell McDonald explained that this bill would provide additional compensation to county commissioners for attendance at meetings of boards created by interlocal agreements, such as the Council of Governments in Washoe County.

ASSEMBLY BILL 573

Mr. Russell McDonald said that this legislation fills a void in the planning act.

ASSEMBLY BILL 574

Mr. McDonald explained that this bill would clarify the provisions relating to purchase, sale or exchange of certain county property.

Mr. Robert Warren, Nevada League of Cities, expressed his support for the above mentioned bills.

Mr. Steven Stucker, North Las Vegas, expressed his support for A.B. 567, A.B.568 and A.B. 573.

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Mr. Tom Moore, Clark County, expressed his support for the aforementioned legislation.

ASSEMBLY BILL 571

Mrs. Pam Wilcox spoke in opposition to this bill. She stated that she was in favor of the County Commissioners getting a fair wage for a fair days work but that this is a backdoor approach to a raise in salary.

Assemblyman May commented that the committee would have to limit this bill to affect counties with a population between 100,000 and 200,000 because under NRS245.050 the Clark County Commissioners are limited to \$50 a day or \$500 a month for expenses such as these and under this bill there is a maximum of \$3,000 a year for the Commissioners. Since this legislation was requested by the Washoe County people, then it should be limited to them.

COMMITTEE ACTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 571- Mr. May moved to AMEND AND DO PASS, seconded by Mrs. Westall, motion passed. Mr. Jeffrey and Mr. Craddock were not present at the time of the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 567- Mr. Mann moved a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Jacobsen, motion passed unanimously. Mr. Craddock and Mr. Jeffrey were not present for the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 568- Mr. Robinson moved for a DO PASS recommendation, seconded by Mr. Jacobsen, passed unanimously. Mr. Jeffrey and Mr. Craddock were not present for the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 573- Mr. Mann moved a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Jacobsen, passed unanimously. Mr. Jeffrey and Mr. Craddock were not present for the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 574- Mr. Robinson moved for a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Mann, motion passed unanimously. Mr. Craddock and Mr. Jeffrey were not present for the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 168

Mr. Jack Henny, Southern Nevada Homebuilders, spoke in favor of the bill. He explained that since the construction industry has much to do with the Environmental Commission, they should have some input on the Commission. This is why the board needs to be restructured. He admitted that the original language of the bill is a big jump but he still supported it. He said that there should be some checks and balances on the Commission with "growth" and "no growth" people on the Commission for purposes of discussion.

Assemblyman Robinson commented that he had swung the pendulum completely the other way with the language in the bill, from "no growth" people to all "growth" people.

Chairman Murphy asked him if he would be satisfied if his interests got one member on the board. Mr. Henny said that it would be better than nothing.

Mr. Barry Becker, Nevada Homebuilders Association, also spoke in favor of the bill.

Mr. Roger Trounday, Director of the Department of Human Resources, spoke in strong opposition to the bill. He said that if the bill passed the Environmental Commission would be heavily dominated by economic interests. He added that in the meetings of the Commission there is always an opportunity for everyone to say their feelings and there is always a good give and take discussion from both sides of issues. Any industry or interested party has the right to appear before the Commission and then has the right to appeal the rulings. There is flexibility in the current four members appointed by the Governor and this is where the industry should seek to get their member appointed. The first five members of the Commission are not environmental members or advocates.

Mrs. Daisy Talivete, League of Women Voters of Nevada, spoke in strong opposition to the measure. She said that she was horrified by the original draft of the bill. The Governor should have the responsibilities of appointments.

Ernie Gregory, Environmental Protection Agency, said that his agency was opposed to the bill also.

Senator Norman Glaser, who served for 3 years on the Commission, said that there is a good balance on the board now and that the Governor has appointed a wide range of interests and that the committee should not change the composition of the Commission.

Mr. Norman Hall, Director of the Department of Conservation, said that

he was reluctant to see a change in the composition of the board.

Mr. Bruce Arkell, State Planning Coordinator, said that the proponents of the bill said that they had no redress between sessions of the legislature, but he pointed out that they can go to court and appeal the rullings.

Mr. Roger Steele, Environmental Consultant to the Legislature, told the committee that they shouldn't tamper with success. Leave the Governor's discretion alone. He added that when you start drawing up a laundry list of those interests that should be on the board then you run into the problem of "who do you exclude"?

Chairman Murphy appointed a subcommittee of Mr. May, Mr. Jacobsen and Mr. Robinson and asked them to come up with appropriate recommendations for the committee. He then called a 10 minute recess.

Committee called back to order and Mr. May reported the recommendations of the subcommittee. They suggested the following amendments: change f to g, and 4 members to 3, delete lines 12 and 13 and 14-21, on line 22 delete bracket and add a new line 25, between lines 10 and 11 add new language as follows: (f) one member from among general engineers, contractors or general building constuction interests, licensed pursuant to NRS 624. Restore orig.language on page 2.

COMMITTEE ACTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 168 - Mr. Mann moved for an AMEND AND DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Jacobsen, motion passed unanimously. Mr. Craddock and Mrs. Westall were not present for the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 171

Mr. Barry Becker, Nevada Homebuilders Association, told the committee that since the health board governs homebuilders more now than it did, the homebuilders need a representative on the board. He urged the committee's support of the bill.

Mrs. Ann Hibbs suggested an amendment to the bill. Her statement is attached as Exhibit 1.

Mrs. Daisy Talivete, Nevada League of Women Voters, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Mr. John Carr, Executive Director of the Board of Health, spoke in opposition the the measure and added that he saw no reason to change the composition of the Board because it would then be a clear case of regulatees regulating the regulators.

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COMMITTEE ACTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 171- Mr. Jacobsen moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE the bill, his motion died for lack of a second. Mr. May then moved to AMEND AND DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Mann, motion passed. Mr. Jacobsen voted no and Mr. Craddock was not present for the vote. The amendments were to make one of the current general public members a licensed nurse and to add a contractor to make it a 7 member board.

ASSEMBLY BILL 593

Assemblyman Mann explained his bill. His statement is attached as Exhibit 2.

Mr. Steven Stucker, North Las Vegas, spoke in favor of the bill because the input would come from many sources.

Assemblyman Craddock commented that with all the government reorganization going on, changes like this shouldn't be made now.

Mr. Jim Cashman representing the Greater Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce told the committee that this was not the ideal solution to the problems that there needed to be an Airport Authority, but that this is a compromise.

Mr. Richard Bunker, City of Las Vegas, supported the measure by saying that it would give widespread input to running the airport.

Mr. Tom Moore, Clark County, said that the Clark County Commissioners are opposed to the bill.

COMMITTEE ACTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 593- Mr. Moody moved a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Mann, motion passed with Mr. Craddock and Mr. Jeffrey voting no and Mr. May not present at the time of the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 566

Mr. Paul Loomis, Director of Public Works, told the committee that this bill would adjust the northern boundary of Carson City so that it would encompass nine lots on the County Line Road which are presently in Washoe County but use the Carson water service and snow removal etc. It would be much more practical and equitable if the owners of the lots were to be paying taxes in Carson City since that is who is providing all the services.

Assemblyman Weise explained to the committee that there is no development

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on the land currently and that they are 1 acre parcels. He owns some of the property in question and has developed the land around it. The police and fire protection will come from Carson City and the Carson City school buses will drive right down the street and it would be silly for the children who live there to have to go to Reno schools.

COMMITTEE ACTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 566- Mr. Jacobsen moved for a DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Craddock, motion passed 5-0-1-3 with Mr. Moody absent and Mrs. Westall, Mr. May and Mr. Murphy abstaining.

ASSEMBLY BILL 585

Mr. Richard Bunker, representing the City of Las Vegas, told the committee that this bill would become a negotiating tool with the county. Currently with a sale that occurs in the city but is delivered to the county the county wants their share of the tax.

There was informal discussion of the problem and Chairman Murphy appointed a subcommittee that was to report back on the next Tuesday. (After consultation with Mr. Frank Daykin, Legislative Counsel, the District Attorney in Las Vegas, now feels that with the opinion rendered from Mr. Daykin that he can solve the problem without a statute change or charter change.)

ASSEMBLY BILL 560

Assemblyman Nancy Gomes, sponsor of the bill, told the committee that utility bills and the Public Service Commission are the main concern of her constituency. This bill would change the composition of the PSC. A lawyer would give a new dimension to the Commission. There needs to be a new perspective on the Commission. Because of the new regulations coming down a lawyer would be useful on the Commission.

Assemblyman Jacobsen commented that the PSC has done an excellent job in the past.

Mrs. Gomes continued by saying that if a member of the public is on the PSC it will broaden the approach of the Commission. And responsible consumers won't always say no, no, no.

ASSEMBLY BILL 558

Assemblyman Bennett explained his bill which would have the members of the PSC be elected. He said that 13 other states have elected members.

Assemblyman Mann commented that the people are going to turn into political animals and have to be asking the same people they are regulating

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for campaign contributions.

NO OPPOSITION WAS ASKED FOR.

COMMITTEE ACTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 558- Mr. Mann moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE, seconded by Mr. Jeffrey, motion passed unanimously. Mr. Moody was not present for the vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 560 - Mr. Jeffrey moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE, seconded by Mr. May, motion passed unanimously. Mr. Moody was not present for the vote.

On the above legislation, the committee felt that perhaps there is a problem, but this kind of legislation will not be the solution.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Morgan

Kim Morgan, Committee Secretary

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

GUEST REGISTER

DATE: 4/6

NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE NO.	REPRESENTING	TESTIFYING ON BILL NO.
DICK SERDOR 201 S. FALL ST. 885-4670	AIR QUALITY OFFICER	168 - AB
NORMAN HALL DEPT CONSERVATION & NAT. RES. CARSON CITY - 885-4360		AB 168
Daisy Salvetti	League of Women Voters of Nevada	AB 168
Roger Tronday 1505 E. King St. 885-4730	Dept. Human Resources	AB 168 (OK)
Ernie Gregory 201 S. Fall St. 885-4670	Envii, Post Services	AB 168
M. JOE MERTZEN 100 E. MONNA LN RENO, NEV. 789-4289	SIERRA PACIFIC POWER CO	AB 558 & 560
Steven Stuber	NORTH LAS VEGAS	AB 567, 568, 573 593
C.A. SODERBLOM	NEV R.R. ASSOC	AB-558 - AB-560 RENO
PAUL LUMOS	CARSON CITY	AB 566
BRUCE SPALDING	CITY OF LAS VEGAS	
DAN AHLSTROM	" " "	AB 585

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

GUEST REGISTER

DATE: 4/6

NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE NO.	REPRESENTING	TESTIFYING ON BILL NO.
HEBER P. HARDY	P-5-C.	A-B 558 + AB 560 ✓
John M. Hibbs	Nev Nurses Assoc	AB 171
Roger J. Steele	ENV. Consult. Legislature	AB-168 ✓
M. GENE MATTEUCCI	NEV. POWER Co.	AB 558 + AB 560
Tom Malone	Clark Co.	

April 5, 1977

A STATEMENT ADDRESSED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
OF THE
NEVADA STATE ASSEMBLY

SUBJECT: AB 171 - Revises Composition of State Board of Health

I am Ann Hibbs, representing the Nevada Nurses Association.

The Nevada Nurses Association opposes AB 171. It is noted that persons appointed to the State Board of Health represents specific professional and/or occupational areas. This is limiting in its intent. Identifying persons with particular knowledge and skills creates the opportunity for board members to serve as their own consultants in areas of decision making. The possibility for a "conflict of interest" therefore exists.

It is imperative that boards with regulatory power, such as the State Board of Health, seek and use consultation from outside sources in reaching their decisions and not rely on themselves as experts.

It is also noted that only two members are proposed from health providers, such as "physicians, osteopathic physicians, dentists, veterinarians". Yet the largest group in number of health providers in this state is notably omitted.

Professional nurses are, have been and always will be the providers in greatest numbers located in areas of Nevada, where no other health professionals also live, with direct accessibility to the recipient of care.

We are requesting consideration of this fact in your deliberations.

ONE FACT THAT IS OBVIOUS TO ALL OF US IS THAT NEVADA IS A STATE ORIENTED TOWARD SERVICING VISITORS. HOWEVER, UNLIKE MANY OTHER TOURIST-TRADE DEPENDENT STATES, NEVADA DOES NOT HAVE LARGE CONCENTRATIONS OF PEOPLE LIVING DIRECTLY ACROSS ITS BORDERS IN AREAS WITHIN 50 OR 60 MILES OF NEVADA DESTINATIONS.

BECAUSE OF THIS, AIR TRANSPORTATION HAS BECOME EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AS A MEANS OF TRAVEL BETWEEN POINTS ALL ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND NEVADA AIRPORTS.

WHEN WE FACE FACTS, WE ALL KNOW THAT ANY COUNTY IN NEVADA WHICH CURRENTLY HAS A POPULATION OF 200,000, OR WILL IN THE FUTURE, HAS THIS POPULATION PRIMARILY AS A RESULT OF THE TOURIST TRADE.

RIGHT NOW CLARK COUNTY'S McCARRAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS THE 21ST LARGEST AIRPORT IN THE UNITED STATES. IT DOES NOT HAVE SUCH A HIGH RANKING BECAUSE OF ITS SERVICE TO A RESIDENT POPULATION OF A MERE 350,000, BUT BECAUSE OF ITS HUGE VISITOR TRAFFIC. IF McCARRAN WAS AN AIRPORT SERVICING A TYPICAL RESIDENT METROPOLITAN POPULATION OF 350,000, IT WOULD MOST LIKELY RESEMBLE THE SMALL "FEEDER" AIRPORTS FOUND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. IT WOULD PERHAPS HAVE TWO, OR MAYBE THREE CARRIERS AND RANK WAY DOWN ON THE LIST ON AIRPORT SIZE. TYPICALLY, IT WOULD BE RUNNING IN "THE RED" AND REQUIRE SOME TYPE OF LOCAL OR STATE GOVERNMENTAL SUBSIDY.

INSTEAD, WHAT WE HAVE IN SOUTHERN NEVADA IS AN AIRPORT RAPIDLY GROWING IN SIZE, FACILITIES AND VOLUME. IT IS AN AIRPORT CURRENTLY ON A FIRM FINANCIAL FOOTING; AN AIRPORT WHICH HAS AN INVOLVEMENT WITH ALMOST 50 PERCENT OF U. S.

DOMESTIC CHARTER FLIGHTS. THERE IS A SINGLE REASON FOR THIS SCENARIO, AND THAT IS TOURISM.

WHILE THE AIRPORT IS HEALTHY NOW, WE MUST THINK TO ITS FUTURE AND PLAN AHEAD CAREFULLY. WE MUST NOT ONLY ASK IF THE AIRPORT IS AS SOUND AS IT CAN BE, BUT ALSO IF IT IS RUN IN A MANNER CONDUCIVE TO KEEPING OUR TOURIST ORIENTED BUSINESS HEALTHY AND VIABLE BY TRANSPORTING THEIR CUSTOMERS IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THEIR BEST INTERESTS.

WHEN WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE WE MUST VISUALIZE A RAPIDLY EXPANDING ROLE FOR AIR TRAVEL. AIR TRAVEL HAS BECOME MORE AND MORE POPULAR DUE TO SEVERAL FACTORS. THESE INCLUDE THE 55 MILE PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT WHICH HAS ADDED TIME TO THE DRIVE INTO THE STATE, THE INCREASE IN CHARTER FLIGHTS AND OTHER "PACKAGE" ARRANGEMENTS, AND THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF AIRFARE COSTS.

RIGHT NOW CONGRESS IS REVIEWING AIRLINE FARES AND COMMON RATE STRUCTURES. PACIFIC SOUTHWEST AIRLINES AND OTHERS ARE CONTEMPLATING DRAMATICALLY REDUCED RATES. THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTREMELY LOW COST ROUND TRIP FARES BETWEEN CALIFORNIA LOCATIONS AND NEVADA IS REAL AND APPEALING. UNDOUBTEDLY REDUCED RATES WOULD SHIFT EVEN MORE OF THE TOURIST INFLUX TO THE AIRWAYS. THIS ASPECT OF SERVING THE VISITOR MUST BE CAREFULLY INTEGRATED WITH HOTELS, CONVENTIONS AND ALL OTHER SEGMENTS OF TOURIST RELATED ENTERPRISE.

AND AS ALL NEVADANS KNOW, TOURISM IS A HIGHLY COMPLEX SPECIALTY--A SPECIALTY REQUIRING TIME, ATTENTION AND EXPERTISE. GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES ORIENTED TOWARD SERVICING VISITORS MUST BE COORDINATED CLOSELY WITH THE TOURISM EXPERTS IN OUR PRIVATE

HOTEL AND CASINO INDUSTRY. WE HAVE NO BETTER MECHANISM FOR THIS THAN OUR FAIR AND RECREATION BOARDS--IN CLARK COUNTY THE LAS VEGAS CONVENTION AND VISITORS AUTHORITY. HERE IN THIS BOARD WE HAVE THREE VALUABLE ASSETS:

1. FIRST, WE HAVE A PROPER MIX OF GOVERNMENTAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS; BOTH GROUPS ARE WELL REPRESENTED.

2. SECONDLY, WE HAVE IN THE AUTHORITY BOARD A WEALTH OF EXPERTISE IN SERVICING THE VISITOR AND HIS NEEDS.

3. THIRDLY, WE HAVE THE INHERENT ABILITY TO COORDINATE AIRPORT SERVICES WITH OTHER TOURIST ORIENTED EVENTS SUCH AS CONVENTIONS.

IN NEVADA TOURIST SERVICES ARE PROVIDED NOT BY GOVERNMENT, BUT BY PRIVATE INDUSTRY THROUGH HOTELS, MOTELS AND CASINOS. THIS IS UNLIKE SOME OTHER STATES WHERE TOURISTS OFTEN FLOCK TO STATE PARKS AND CAMPSITES. THERE SHOULD BE A PROPER AND MEANINGFUL "LINKAGE" BETWEEN THE PRIVATE BUSINESSES WHICH NEED TOURISTS AS THEIR CLIENTS AND THE AIRPORT WHICH BRINGS THESE VISITORS TO THEIR DOOR. THE CONVENTION AND VISITORS AUTHORITY IS THE IDEAL MEANS OF ASSURING THIS LINKAGE.

ANY INDICATION THAT RESIDENTS WOULD SUFFER AS A RESULT OF THIS MOVE IS GROUNDLESS. NO ONE WOULD MAINTAIN OTHERWISE THAN TO STATE THAT TOURIST AND RESIDENT ALIKE HAVE A COMMON DESIRE FOR EFFICIENT AND WELL MANAGED AIR SERVICES.

WHILE IN SMALLER AREAS THE FEASIBILITY OF COUNTY GOVERNMENTS SERVING AS THE GOVERNING BOARD OF AIRPORTS IS STRONG, IN LARGE COUNTIES, SUCH AS CLARK, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE STRAPPED FOR TIME AND ATTENTION. THEY MUST SERVE NOT ONLY AS

A GENERAL GOVERNMENT, BUT ALSO ON OR AS, A LARGE NUMBER OF SPECIALIZED BOARDS, SUCH AS THE SANITATION AND WATER DISTRICTS. AS PART TIME COMMISSIONERS THEY CANNOT DEVOTE THE TIME OR EFFORT REQUIRED TO GOVERN HIGHLY SPECIALIZED EFFORTS SUCH AS THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY. THEY ARE OF COURSE REPRESENTED ALONG WITH OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON THE CONVENTION AND VISITORS AUTHORITY. BUT, WITH THEM, IMPORTANTLY, ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "RECEIVING END" OF AIR TRANSPORT, NAMELY BUSINESS INTERESTS--ALL SITTING ON AN AUTHORITY WITH EXPERTISE IN TOURISM, CONVENTIONS AND I FEEL OUR HIGHEST POTENTIAL FOR EFFICIENCY AND COORDINATION.