

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE
Friday, January 28, 1977
9:30 a.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Chaney; Mr. Kissam;
Mr. Bennett; Mr. Dreyer;
Mrs. Gomes; Mr. Robinson;
Mr. Ross; Mr. Schofield;
Mr. Weise

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Barbara Guzman, Developmental Disabilities
Julie Rodolph, Rehabilitation Division
Dr. Richard Bentinck, Welfare Division
Rick Kuhlmeier, Political Action Committee #6
Jeneane Harter, Chiropractic Association
Jeanette Clodfelter
Dr. Wm. Edwards; Chief, Community Health
Services
Assemblyman Banner
Jack Holt, Fire Marshall's Office
Robert Holland, Counsel, Welfare Division
George Miller, Welfare Administrator
Earl Yamashita, Welfare State Planning
Coordinator
Bill LaBadie, Deputy Administrator for
Social Services
Gloria Handley, Child Care Services
Susan Haase, Nev. Assn Retarded Citizens
Mrs. Margie Kissam
Assemblyman Polish

Chairman Chaney called the meeting to order.

AB 86: Mr. Labadie stated that the purpose of this bill is to delete the Welfare Divisions's advisory committee on day care since the Division has been using the policy board in child care services division. He stated that this has been the practice for some time with the approval of the Federal agencies and that there is no need for duplication. Mrs. Gomes questioned the lack of input from users and providers without a Welfare Advisory Committee. Mrs. Handley stated that the policy board is composed of nine members with very good representation and that the goals of both the Welfare advisory committee and the child care policy board are the same.

AB 87: Mr. Yamashita stated that this bill would simply put into law that which is actually in practice. He stated that the administrator of the Welfare Division now formulates standards and policies which the Welfare Board is not familiar with since it is composed of lay people.

Mrs. Gomes questioned the possibility of this setting a precedent for other boards but Mr. Yamashita assured her that the Welfare Board now delegates these responsibilities to the Administrator's Office though he did not know the effect it would have on other agencies.

Mr. Miller stated that this would create a check and balance between the Administrator's Office and the Welfare Board, one requiring the approval of the other before any regulations, policy or standard become effective. Though no problems have arisen, this will standardize their regulations.

Mr. Robinson questioned the reason that the Welfare Division is exempted from filing its regulations with the Secretary of State. Mr. Yamashita stated that the Division follows the Administrative Procedures Act as to notification of hearings, etc., and that all of their records, as required by Federal authorities, are accessible to anyone. He stated the same procedure would be followed if this bill is passed.

Mr. Ross questioned the difference between a rule, regulation, standard, and policy. Mr. Holland, counsel for the Welfare Division, explained the differences.

AB 90: Mr. Labadie testified that licensing of Group Care facilities had been transferred to the Health Department in 1971 and that this bill would correct the statutes. Mr. Weise stated that he wanted to see the new NRS citations before acting on the bill. Mr. Dreyer wondered why these sections were not removed from the statutes before this. Mr. David Dixon pointed out that the bill would remove other matters such as transporting recipients and wondered who would take care of this. Mr. Labadie stated that he would check on this. Mrs. Gomes also expressed concern on this matter and stated she would also like to see the new citations. Mr. Labadie suggested re-drafting the bill.

AB 33: Mr. David Dixon of the Nevada Association of Health, stated that he has no objection to the bill but that the new material in this bill is already covered in Section 230 of Chapter 449 of NRS. He did, however, question the meaning of "other employees of the department of human resources" on line 3 of page 2 of the bill. Mr. Dreyer explained that this was a result of the interim study on the aged whereby an ombudsman is authorized by the Welfare Division to inspect health care facilities at hours other than regular office hours without advance notice. Mr. Dixon stated that he had no objection to this.

Mr. Minor Kelso stated that this language gives further support to what is already being done. Mr. Weise felt that a list should be published of authorized personnel inspecting health facilities. Mr. Kelso felt that this would be unwieldy and that Welfare ID cards would suffice. Mr. Chaney agreed and stated that unannounced inspections were very important.

Mr. Miller of the Welfare Division stated that his office does not have a problem, but that the Health Division might have one.

AB 6: Mr. Dreyer explained that this bill is a result of the interim study. He suggested amending it by adding "and handicapped" persons in lines 1 and 9. He stated that in the rural areas there are distances of from 50 to 240 miles to the nearest health facilities; that the purpose of the facilities in the van are for preventive medicine and that the van would be parked in the nearest towns to remote areas. He felt that giving advance notice to residents in the areas would be no problem. Mr. Ross asked if it was the intent of the service to supply just diagnostic or treatment services. Mr. Dreyer answered that both services would be offered and patients would then be referred to physicians, if necessary. Mr. Ross pointed out that there is nothing in the bill referring to charges for the services. Mr. Weise questioned why the bill is limited only to the aged. He felt that children should also be included.

Jane Rosenbrock felt that the handicapped should be included.

Mrs. Ann Hibbs of the Nursing Association felt that one van would be inadequate to cover all areas and suggested "satellite units" as presently exist in Wells. The City of Wells covers this cost of \$26,000 per year including the salary of a full-time nurse practitioner.

Assemblyman Polish asked if there would be a duplication of services since White Pine County presently has public health nurses making spot checks.

Assemblyman Dreyer stated that public hearings were held all over the State and that this was something everyone said was needed. Mr. Polish felt that medicare and welfare people could also be referred to the service if it was a permanent facility such as a satellite. Mr. Weise reiterated his position of covering everyone with this plan. Mr. Bennett agreed. Mr. Robinson stated that he would like to hear from the State Health Officer and Chairman Chaney re-scheduled further testimony on the bill for Wednesday, February 2.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

PHYLLIS BERKSON, Secretary