

MINUTES

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 21, 1977

Members Present: Chairman Glover  
Mrs. Brookman  
Mr. Bennett  
Mr. Bremner  
Mr. Murphy  
Mrs. Wagner

Members Absent: Mr. Coulter

Guests Present: William Swackhamer, Secretary of State  
Speaker Dini  
Assemblyman Mann  
Assemblyman Jacobsen  
Mouryne Landring, Chief Clerk

Chairman Glover called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

AB 140: Relieves Secretary of State of duty to supervise printing of laws and journals.

Mr. William Swackhamer, Secretary of State, said that this was a housecleaning measure, that in fact the Legislative Counsel Bureau had taken this responsibility a few years ago. Mrs. Wagner moved a DO PASS and placement on the consent calendar, seconded by Mr. Bremner and carried unanimously by the committee.

AJR 20: Memorializes Congress to enact legislation for mandatory adoption of the metric system.

Mrs. Brookman referred to the status report on metrication in the United States (Exhibit A) and stated she felt it should be made mandatory in the State to keep up with national change.

Assemblyman Jacobsen said he was opposed to mandating of the metric system because of the tremendous cost of converting equipment and of keeping dual systems.

Assemblyman Mann stated that the schools are already teaching the metric system and all this resolution would do is give sanction to the State Board of Education's directive that all schools have the metric system in their text books by 1980. He added that Congress deliberately recommended rather than mandated the metric system because they felt the changeover would be quicker if states were given enough time to do it on their own, that this bill was trying to do on a State level what Congress in all their good judgment decided not to do.

SCR 4: Amends Joint Rule 1 relating to conference committee procedures.

Mr. Murphy stated he was in agreement with the changes this bill would make as far as requiring only one conference committee and a narrative summary within 72 hours but that the section that the Senate amended out stating "A majority of the members of a committee of conference from each house shall be members who voted for the passage of the bill or resolution" should be reinstated. He feels that those who serve on a conference committee should share the views of the majority of their house.

Chairman Glover asked Speaker Dini what he felt was wrong with the present system. Mr. Dini stated that the system as it is now is a sham, that it is a waste of time and only the third committee accomplishes anything and the other two are jokes. He added that he was not happy with the 72 hour time limit.

The committee and guests discussed the problems of reporting in 72 hours, the composition of the conference committee, what a narrative summary would entail, and the meaning of announce publicly. The committee concluded that they were in complete agreement with having only one conference committee but felt they should study the other points of the bill further.

ACR 1: Orders study of conditions at the state prison by the legislative commission.

Mr. Bremner moved for a DO PASS on ACR 1, seconded by Mrs. Wagner and unanimously carried by the committee.

AJR 20: Memorializes Congress to enact legislation for mandatory adoption of the metric system.

Mr. Bremner moved to indefinitely postpone AJR 20. The motion failed for lack of a second. Mr. Murphy moved for a DO PASS, seconded by Mrs. Brookman. Mr. Murphy, Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Brookman voted for and Mrs. Wagner, Mr. Glover and Mr. Bremner voted against the motion. It died for lack of a majority.

Chairman Glover adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia V. Hatch*

Patricia Hatch, Assembly Attachee

STATUS REPORT

Metrication in the U.S.  
(Reference A.J.R. 20)

Congress

December 11, 1975, Congress passed PL 94-168.

Its major provisions:

1. Conversion is voluntary.
2. Conversion is declared to be national policy.
3. A U.S. Metric Board is created to carry out the act.
4. The board's powers are limited to helping, encouraging and cooperating toward conversion, developing public education and conducting research.

1866 - Congress made the metric system legal in the United States.

1968 - Congress required the Commerce Department to study the feasibility of greater use of the metric system.

1971 - The Commerce Department recommended that the U.S. become "predominantly metric" within 10 years.

Opposition to mandated conversion comes from small businesses and three AFL-CIO trade unions. It was the opposition that removed the original bill's provision for mandated conversion and a completion date.

Other Action

According to Education Commission of the States, virtually every state has instituted metric education. The Nevada Board of Education did so last year. By 1980, all textbooks in Nevada should use the metric system.

The U.S. Metric Association reports that four states have memorialized Congress on the subject. They are California, Minnesota, New York and North Carolina.

BROOKMAN

59th NEVADA LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE FEBRUARY 21, 1977

SUBJECT AB 140: Relieves Secretary of State of duty to supervise printing of laws and journals.

MOTION: DO PASS and place on consent calendar.

Do Pass X Amend \_\_\_\_\_ Indefinitely Postpone \_\_\_\_\_ Reconsider \_\_\_\_\_

Moved By Mrs. Wagner Seconded By Mr. Bremner

AMENDMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Moved By \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Moved BY \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE:	MOTION		AMEND		AMEND	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
BROOKMAN	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
BENNETT	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
BREMNER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
COULTER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
MURPHY	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
WAGNER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
GLOVER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

TALLY: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ORIGINAL MOTION: Passed X Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED & PASSED \_\_\_\_\_ AMENDED & DEFEATED \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED & PASSED \_\_\_\_\_ AMENDED & DEFEATED \_\_\_\_\_

Attached to Minutes February 21, 1977

59th NEVADA LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE FEBRUARY 21, 1977

SUBJECT ACR 1: Orders study of conditions at the state prison by the legislative commission.

MOTION: DO PASS

Do Pass x Amend \_\_\_\_\_ Indefinitely Postpone \_\_\_\_\_ Reconsider \_\_\_\_\_

Moved By Mr. Bremner Seconded By Mrs. Wagner

AMENDMENT:

Moved By \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDMENT:

Moved BY \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION

AMEND

AMEND

VOTE:	<u>MOTION</u>		<u>AMEND</u>		<u>AMEND</u>	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
BROOKMAN	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
BENNETT	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
BREMNER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
COULTER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
MURPHY	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
WAGNER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
GLOVER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

TALLY: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ORIGINAL MOTION: Passed x Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED & PASSED \_\_\_\_\_ AMENDED & DEFEATED \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED & PASSED \_\_\_\_\_ AMENDED & DEFEATED \_\_\_\_\_

Attached to Minutes February 21, 1977

59th NEVADA LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE FEBRUARY 21, 1977

SUBJECT AJR 20: Memorializes Congress to enact legislation for  
mandatory adoption of the metric system.

MOTION: DO PASS

Do Pass X Amend \_\_\_\_\_ Indefinitely Postpone \_\_\_\_\_ Reconsider \_\_\_\_\_

Moved By Mr. Murphy Seconded By Mrs. Brookman

AMENDMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Moved By \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Moved BY \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE:	<u>MOTION</u>		<u>AMEND</u>		<u>AMEND</u>	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
BROOKMAN	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
BENNETT	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
BREMNER	_____	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
COULTER	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
MURPHY	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
WAGNER	_____	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
GLOVER	_____	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
TALLY:	3	3				

ORIGINAL MOTION: Passed \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated X Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED & PASSED \_\_\_\_\_ AMENDED & DEFEATED \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED & PASSED \_\_\_\_\_ AMENDED & DEFEATED \_\_\_\_\_

Attached to Minutes February 21, 1977