

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 24, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M.

Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the chair.

PRESENT: Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman
Senator James I. Gibson, Vice-Chairman
Senator Norman D. Glaser
Senator Norman Ty Hilbrecht
Senator Eugene V. Echols
Senator Thomas R. C. Wilson

EXCUSED

ABSENCE: Senator C. Clifton Young

OTHERS: Ronald W. Sparks, Chief Deputy, Fiscal Analyst
Howard Barrett, Budget Director
Cy Ryan, UPI
Howard Hill, Director DMV
James Lien, Deputy Executive Director, Taxation
Harold Jacobsen, Mayor, Carson City
Homer Rodriguez, Assessor
Roland Westergard, State Engineer

A.B. 82: Senator Lamb referred to A.B. 82 and asked Mr. Westergard what the status of the litigation was.

Mr. Westergard explained the legal procedures which had occurred during the previous year. He said about 42 days of hearings were held in the Federal District Court in Reno. The judge recessed the hearing and directed that briefs be prepared. This was last summer that it was recessed. The transcript was so voluminous that the reporter doesn't have the transcript done yet. So in the next months, hopefully, if the transcript is completed, the attorneys in the case will be preparing briefs and filing them. Subsequent to that, the court is expected to set a time for oral arguments on the issue as to whether or not when the Truckee River Decree was entered years ago, it omitted the right for the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation and the Fishery on the lower Truckee River. It is anticipated that regardless of what the federal district judge's decision is, in all probability it will be appealed on up. This phase which has been heard could be just the first phase of the trial. The court declared that the first issue to be decided is if, in fact, the decree covered all the rights.

Senator Lamb asked if he could see an ending to this. Mr. Westergard said he was sure it was going to go for some time. He said that what is at stake is really the water supply of the Truckee River, which is somewhere between 450,00 and 500,00 acre feet of water a year. It is not only the agricultural interests, but it is the municipal water supply for Reno and Sparks too, as well as the recreational and agricultural interests up and down the Truckee River and on the lower Carson River as well as the interests at Pyramid Lake. It is the whole Truckee River water supply that is in question and how it is going to be allocated, if in fact those allocations are going to be changed. The state has been supported in large part by other people and entities that would be affected, but he felt it was safe to say that the state has assumed a very important position in the litigation. The total expenditure on this law suit in the last year was close to \$300,000.

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There have been a series of law suits, the first one in 1973; the next one appealed to the Supreme Court to assume original jurisdiction; subsequent to that another in Federal District Court in Reno. Not only is this suit pending but about another half a dozen involving this question. To date approximately they have spent between \$450,000 and \$475,000 since the inception of this. These funds are appropriated to the Division of Water Resources and in cooperation with the Attorney General's Office they are administered. He said they hired outside attorneys because of the time involved and for the need for expertise in this particular field. He said this was no reflection on the Attorney General's Office.

Mr. Westergard said they paid from \$30 to \$40 an hour for some of the newer lawyers and \$70 and \$80 for the principals.

S.B. 144: Increases vehicle registration fees payable to Agents.

Mr. Ciardella spoke, saying he wanted to discuss what the Committee wanted to do relative to the DMV registering cars in Carson City. What they want to do is place a modular unit next to their building as a place to register the vehicles. The allocation of \$828 a month is fine. The building would be about \$735 a month; they would need \$1,600 to bring the unit in because this is the only way they could meet the legislative mandate of having it in operation by July 1; they would set it up not on a permanent block foundation but on a block foundation that would support the unit. Buildings and Grounds indicated that electricity, gas and water lines would cost about \$4,500. This modular building would be built according to HUD specifications and there would be no problem with local authorities. An approximate figure of \$8,750 should make them operational and they would have a unit right in the complex of the DMV. This would eliminate having to make the public make several stops when registering their vehicles.

They had a proposal that they place a scale at the site so the vehicles could be weighed. This would complete a total vehicle complex. The cost of a scale would be \$12,800, which included installation for a 30 foot, 20 ton platform scale with a digital reader and a printer. The total costs for the complete unit would be \$21,550.00 with everything under one roof. There was a general discussion as to the desirability of a scale and it was agreed, based on experiences in Reno and Las Vegas, that it should be included in the new facility.

Mr. Lien of the Taxation Department spoke next. He said that when they establish a branch office for the Motor Vehicle Department it is necessary to have a member of the Department of Taxation there for the purpose of verification that taxes have been collected. This is provided in the statutes. In opening a branch office, the individuals who are going to register have to either go to the County Assessor or they could go to the Department of Taxation in order to get clearances; or have an employee of the Department of Taxation stationed in the Motor Vehicle office. The problem is whether to amend the statute to have a representative of the Department of Taxation in the new centralized location or make the people go to other areas for service. If it is amended to include someone from the Department of Taxation, there will be additional costs.

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Senator Hilbrecht asked why they could not commission someone in DMV who would be there anyway. Mr. Lien said he had no problem with that, he was just asking for a clarification of the action to be taken. Mr. Rodriguez said that he was happy to have DMV take the function back.

Senator Hilbrecht suggested that the two departments get together and work out an amendment to the bill that would authorize a DMV employee to take over the function of tax collecting.

Mr. Lien explained that the members of his department who worked at DMV in Reno and Las Vegas were busy all the time; but this would probably not be the case in the Carson City facility.

Senator Gibson asked them to get together and report back. Senator Lamb thanked them for appearing.

REGISTRATION DMV BUDGET: Senator Hilbrecht moved that this budget be reopened; Senator Echols seconded and the motion carried.

Senator Hilbrecht then moved that the budget be amended to add to the line item Carson City office DMV the sum, in addition to \$60,681, of \$21,550; Senator Gibson seconded and the motion carried.

Senator Hilbrecht moved that the budget be closed; Senator Gibson seconded and the motion carried.

A.B. 82: Makes appropriation to division of water resources of department of conservation and natural resources for certain legal and other expenses. Senator Hilbrecht moved the Committee do pass; Senator Gibson seconded and the motion carried.

MANPOWER SERVICES COUNCIL BUDGET: The Assembly Ways and Means closed the budget with reductions in Communications and Printing, Duplicating and Copying of \$6,660 and \$3,850 respectively in the first year and \$7,276 and \$4,235 in the second year. Senator Gibson moved that the Committee close the budget in agreement with the Assembly; Senator Echols seconded and the motion carried.

A discussion followed on other changes that could be made in the budget. Mr. Barrett said that it was a requirement that they have the Council and they would have to show good faith and not cut the members of the Committee so that it could not function. Senator Hilbrecht suggested that some positions be cut.

Senator Gibson moved that the budget be reopened; Senator Hilbrecht seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Barrett reminded them that this was all federal money and the money was going to come to the agency whether they spent it or not. With a salary savings, they were still going to get the money.

Senator Gibson suggested that the authorized positions be cut to five. Mr. Barrett said he was distressed because he had sympathy for what the Committee was doing except that he didn't think his boss would not want him to put up a defense for the positions. He suggested a letter of intent limiting the number of positions. He felt that taking out three was a little drastic, and said he felt it would be better to take just one or possibly two.

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Senator Glaser suggested that in the letter of intent you would say to cut two of the \$20,000 positions and then cut the authorization by \$40,000. Senator Gibson said the money was not coming from the general fund, it was federal money.

Senator Hilbrecht asked if by a letter of intent the Legislature could dictate that \$40,000 each year be delivered into grants in lieu of salaries. Mr. Barrett said it wouldn't be absolutely binding, but they would have to have a good reason for not doing it.

Senator Hilbrecht moved that the Committee delete the Manpower Planner and the Area Coordinator positions and augment the grant monies available for distribution in the field by that amount. Senator Glaser seconded and the motion carried.

Senator Hilbrecht moved that the budget be closed as amended; Senator Gibson seconded and the motion carried.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES BUDGET: Mr. Dolan said that the Assembly Ways and Means Committee had deleted the new money for New Careers of \$75,000 for each year. This was done because there would still be a balance left at the end of this fiscal year of about \$126,000. Senator Gibson moved that the budget be reopened; Senator Glaser seconded and the motion carried.

Senator Hilbrecht asked for more information on the New Careers Program. Mr. Dolan said that it got off to a real slow start and they had problems in meeting their goals. They were supposed to have placed, by the end of this year, 300 students, they have not placed them and it appears unlikely that they will. They had placed about 106 at the last check, and only about 60 or 70% of those are still in the job in which they were placed. They received \$268,000 in state monies with the idea that they were going to be eligible for federal funds, especially in Social Services. They made several applications for federal funds but received none. In the area of Social Services, he said, in his opinion, they did not make the right kind of effort to get those monies. He said he had seen a letter from Trounaday to Barrett saying that they had discussed this back in November of 1974 and that Social Services funds in all likelihood would be available. The agency just never pursued the proper procedures. He said it might happen once, but for two consecutive years in a row they did not receive any federal Social Service money for this kind of placement. So there was a problem of not getting the federal funds when the program was sold to the Finance Committee on the basis that federal funds would be available; they had a real slow start, the bill was effective in March or April and they didn't get it going until October or November; they haven't placed the number of students they said they were going to place. There was also some question about duplication of services. The same kinds of programs are going on in the Employment Security Department.

The Assembly decided that rather than give them new money, they would let them go ahead and continue to spend the money they have left over from last year's appropriation. They have to report monthly to the Interim Finance Committee on their progress, also a strong letter of intent that they try to get Social Services money. It seemed inconceivable to the Committee that this was in the Governor's State of the State Message and yet he couldn't

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get his troops coordinated to get some Social Services money into that particular program. Senator Hilbrecht asked if it was really a debacle; Mr. Dolan said in his opinion it was. General discussion followed.

Senator Glaser moved that the Committee go with Ways and Means. Senator Gibson seconded and the motion carried. Senator Gibson moved that the budget be closed; Senator Glaser seconded; and the motion carried.

INSPECTOR OF MINES BUDGET: Senator Gibson moved that the budget be reopened and the Senate Finance Committee go with the Assembly; Senator Glaser seconded and the motion passed. Senator Gibson moved that the budget be closed, Senator Echols seconded and the motion carried.

NEVADA JR LIVESTOCK SHOW BOARD BUDGET: Senator Echols moved that the budget be reopened and the Senate Finance Committee go with the Assembly; Senator Glaser seconded and the motion carried. Senator Glaser moved that the budget be closed; Senator Echols seconded and the motion carried.

ALCOHOLISM & DRUG REHABILITATION BUDGET: Since the budget was printed, this agency has received some additional federal dollars They will go out in Statewide Services. (See letter attached.) Senator Hilbrecht moved that the Committee reopen the budget and amend it to show the correct figure of \$726,333 for the first year and \$116,667 for the second. Senator Gibson seconded and the motion passed. Senator Hilbrecht moved that the budget be closed; Senator Echols seconded and the motion carried.

S.B. 245: Makes appropriation to state board of examiners for raising classifications of state employees whose salaries have been set in manner which discriminates against women.

Senator Gibson moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed. Senator Hilbrecht asked if there was another vehicle that had to do with the reclassifications. Senator Lamb suggested that a letter of intent be sent. Senator Hilbrecht said that he was not satisfied that the reclassification committee was doing its job. He said he felt that there should be a larger cross section of people involved in the reclassification. He said he didn't feel there was any legislative input. Senator Lamb said that was why Andy Grose was there. Senator Hilbrecht said he was in agreement that the money should come out, but if Senator Lamb had Senator Gojack's accord that it would be handled in some other way, he would agree as she was the principal sponsor.

Senator Lamb stated he hadn't said anything specific, he just said they would have a study made along with Wittenberg and she asked if Andy could be included and he agreed. Senator Hilbrecht said he thought Senator Gojack had understood that there would be a resolution for a study.

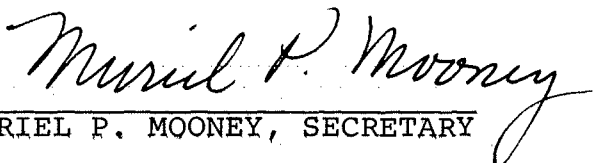
Senator Glaser seconded the motion and Senator Hilbrecht said he would vote for it if the Committee ask that a resolution be drawn doing what Senator Lamb had just said they were going to do. Senator Lamb said that they would work it out. The motion was approved.

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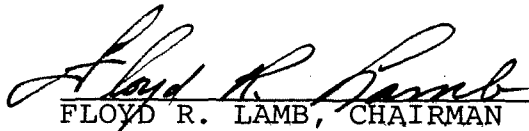
Senator Echols moved that the Committee direct Ron Sparks to have the bill drafter draw a resolution for an Interim Study to be made regarding the classification of positions normally held by women. Senator Wilson seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:


MURIEL P. MOONEY, SECRETARY

APPROVED:


FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN

A. B. 82

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 82—ASSEMBLYMEN SERPA, DINI, HOWARD, WEISE, COULTER, RHOADS, JACOBSEN AND MELLO

JANUARY 19, 1977

Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Makes appropriation to division of water resources of department of conservation and natural resources for certain legal and other expenses. (BDR S-525)

FISCAL NOTE: Local Government Impact: No.
State or Industrial Insurance Impact: Contains Appropriation.



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

AN ACT making an appropriation to the division of water resources of the department of conservation and natural resources for certain legal fees and court costs involving water rights and supply on the Truckee River stream system and for water resources consultation.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated from the state general
2 fund to the division of water resources of the department of conservation
3 and natural resources the sum of \$300,000 for the purpose of paying
4 legal fees, court costs and other costs of litigation involving water rights
5 and water supply on the Truckee River stream system, and for the pur-
6 pose of paying costs of consulting experts in administration of water
7 resources statewide.
8 SEC. 2. This act shall become effective upon passage and approval.



Original bill is on file at
the Research Library.

S. B. 245

**SENATE BILL NO. 245—SENATORS GOJACK, HILBRECHT,
BLAKEMORE, SHEERIN, FAISS, HERNSTADT AND NEAL**

FEBRUARY 18, 1977

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes appropriation to state board of examiners for raising classifications of state employees whose salaries have been set in manner which discriminates against women. (BDR S-461)

FISCAL NOTE: Local Government Impact: No.
State or Industrial Insurance Impact: Contains Appropriation.

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

AN ACT making an appropriation to the state board of examiners for raising classifications of certain state employees whose salaries have been set in a manner which discriminates against women; 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. There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund
- 2 to the state board of examiners the sum of \$2,000,000 for the purpose of
- 3 raising the classifications of certain state employees whose salaries have
- 4 been established in a manner which discriminates against women.
- 5 SEC. 2. The state board of examiners shall expend the money appro-
- 6 priated by section 1 on the basis of recommendations of the advisory per-
- 7 sonnel commission in the personnel division of the department of
- 8 administration and recommendations of any state employee organizations
- 9 recognized by the personnel division.

Original bill is on file at
the Research Library.