

JOINT
SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE
AND
ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE
APRIL 28, 1977 - 12:00 NOON

The sixteenth meeting of the Senate Legislative Functions Committee was called to order at 12:46 p.m.

Chairman Gene Echols was in the Chair.

PRESENT FROM THE SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS:

Chairman Echols
Vice Chairwoman Gojack
Senator Gibson
Senator Schofield
Senator Wilson
Senator Raggio

PRESENT FROM THE ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS:

Chairman Glover
Assemblyman Bennett
Assemblyman Coulter
Assemblyman Murphy
Assemblywoman Wagner

ABSENT:

Senator Close
Assemblywoman Brookman
Assemblyman Bremner

TESTIMONY FROM: John Aramburu, representing Assemblywoman Gomes
Wallie Warren, Nevada Bankers Association
Joe Midmore, Nevada Independent Insurance Agents
Jack Kenney, Southern Nevada Homebuilders
Art Palmer, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau

The Assembly Legislative Functions Committee was furnished with a list of all studies currently referred to the Senate Legislative Functions, which included Art Palmer's analysis of the type of study required for each. (Please see EXHIBIT A) The Senate was furnished the same information by the Assembly (Legislative Functions Committees). (Please see EXHIBIT B)

STUDIES IN SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS:

ACR 1 Orders study of conditions at state prison by Legislative Commission.

It was decided that this should have a high priority, and be a legislative study, rather than a contracted one.

ACR 4 Directs the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of the subject of early childhood development.

Assemblywoman Wagner explained that many states were in the

process of evaluating what services were available in their state for children; that there was an overlapping of public and private agencies; and said that there had not been a study in Nevada for determining the needs of, and services for, children.

ACR 5 Directs the Legislative Commission to study feasibility of establishing state geriatric center.

Assemblyman Glover explained the rationale behind Assemblyman Dreyer's resolution.

Assemblywoman Wagner suggested possibly combining this study with the Veterans' Home study, SCR 38.

ACR 6 Directs the Legislative Commission to study provisions relating to obscenity.

Assemblywoman Wagner noted she had no problem with the Senate amendment which changed the composition of the committee.

Senator Gibson stated that this matter was of great concern in his area; that people are extremely frustrated, as they keep running into obstacles such as the Judiciary; and added that this study would at least pinpoint what can be done.

ACR 8 Directs the Legislative Commission to study assessment and taxation of geothermal resources.

Assemblyman Glover noted their committee had heard testimony from the Tax Commission, and that because this was a whole new area, they thought the study would be justified.

ACR 9 Urges local governments to review their existing liability insurance.

Assemblyman Murphy explained the Washoe County District Attorney had done some extensive research into this subject, and added he felt the study would be valuable, as most local governments do not realize what their insurance status is.

ACR 25 Directs the Legislative Commission to study feasibility of creating new county for north shore area of Lake Tahoe.

Assemblyman Murphy noted the people really have a legitimate interest in a new county, and thinks the study might discourage them after looking at the fiscal impact. Joint Meeting

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Senator Gojack asked that Assemblyman Murphy take a look at SCR 25, and incorporate any language therein that he might think beneficial.

ACR 34 Directs the Legislative Commission to study extent of unclaimed property in Nevada.

Minor staff study.

ACR 35 Directs the Legislative Commission to study and develop rate structures for use by certain public utilities.

Assemblywoman Wagner noted that the number of cosponsors was indicative of the interest, and also noted that it was an important issue in the Assembly.

Senator Raggio stated that it was a misunderstood and complex area, and one that needed studying; that the people didn't understand the high rates, and needed the facts; and that unless something meaningful could be done, nothing should be done.

Senator Gibson said that his problem with the study was that he doesn't think a political body should get involved in rate structuring, as it was misleading to imply that the Legislature could cure the problem by intervention; that one of the primary charges of the Public Service Commission was developing rate structures; and suggested asking the P.S.C. to make their information available to the Legislature.

Senator Wilson expressed interest in a study that would be valuable to the P.S.C., and wanted the report to go directly to the P.S.C.

John Arambeau noted that Assemblywoman Gomes hoped for a comprehensive study, and one only pertaining to Nevada.

Assemblyman Glover suggested moving it from a major to a minor study.

Assemblyman Bennett stated that this was the important problem throughout the State, and didn't understand the reluctance to appropriate funds to get an objective point of view.

Assemblyman Murphy said we might as well kill all measures passed this Session if we stop dealing with issues that the Legislature can directly affect, and stressed his interest in any type of study relative to the problem. Joint Meeting

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In answer to Chairman Echols question, Assemblyman Glover counted four members to one on his Committee in favor of a full-blown study.

ACR 38 Directs the Legislative Commission to study crimes and punishments.

Assemblyman Glover noted that the Assembly Judiciary felt very strong about this, and urged passage.

Senator Raggio noted that a study had been done a few years ago.

Senator Gibson moved that the committee recess until 3:00 p.m.
Senator Schofield seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEES IN RECESS AT 1:26 P.M.

* * * *

COMMITTEES IN SESSION

Chairman Gene Echols reconvened the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

PRESENT FROM THE SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS:

Chairman Echols
Senator Close
Senator Gibson
Senator Schofield
Senator Wilson
Senator Raggio

PRESENT FROM THE ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS:

Assemblyman Glover
Assemblyman Bennett
Assemblyman Murphy

ABSENT:

Senator Gojack
Assemblywoman Brookman
Assemblyman Bremner
Assemblyman Coulter
Assemblywoman Wagner

TESTIMONY FROM: Please see Page one.

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ACR 52 Directs the Legislative Commission to conduct a study of administrative practices of Nevada Industrial Commission and alternative methods of providing workmen's compensation coverage.

SCR 39 Directs the Legislative Commission to study procedures followed by Nevada Industrial Commission and alternative methods of coverage.

Assemblyman Glover said he thought that ACR 52 was a little more comprehensive than SCR 39, and hoped ACR 52 would be favored.

Wallie Warren stated they had hoped to combine some of the language of ACR 52 into SCR 39; then explained those changes; and noted said changes have the support of Senator Dodge.

Joe Midmore confirmed Senator Dodge's support of the amendments.

Amendments suggested were to include that portion of ACR 52, commencing on Page 2, Line 9 through Line 19.

ACR 40 Directs the Legislative Commission to study feasibility of creating commission to regulate transportation.

Assemblyman Glover reiterated testimony heard in the Assembly Legislative Functions, which was the same testimony heard by the Senate Committee at their April 21st meeting.

Assemblyman Murphy said that a bill creating a transportation commission had been killed in the Assembly, and therefore, Assemblywoman Hayes decided to request a study.

Senator Close related that Noel Clark had indicated support for dividing the P.S.C. into utility regulation and transportation regulation.

ACR 42 Directs the Legislative Commission to study "no-fault" automobile insurance.

Assemblyman Glover felt that it was important, and noted that Assemblyman Bremner thought the whole area needed studying.

ACR 44 Directs the Legislative Commission to study community college division of University of Nevada System.

Assemblyman Glover noted that they had killed the studies of community colleges in Fallon and North Las Vegas, and felt

the study would directly affect the money committees.

ACR 47 Directs the Legislative Commission to conduct study of juvenile court facilities in Clark County.

Assemblyman Bennett noted the strong feeling in Clark County for this study, as there are no facilities to assign a child in trouble who has an emotional or mental problem.

ACR 51 Directs the Legislative Commission to provide for tour of rural areas of Nevada by legislators.

Assemblyman Glover stated that this resolution was the result of Assemblyman Hickey's Agriculture Committees' tour earlier in this Session, which was so successful, that they felt it would be beneficial (during the interim) for legislators in determining rural Nevada's problems.

ACR 54 Directs the Legislative Commission to study structures and functions of the State Board of Education and State Department of Education.

Assemblyman Glover stated that this was another result of the action taken by the money committees, and noted that a study was needed, with the possibility of eliminating the board.

ACR 55 Directs the Legislative Commission to study administration of mental hygiene and mental retardation programs in Nevada.

Assemblyman Glover noted this was prompted by Assemblyman Kosinski after actions taken by the money committees relative to mental health.

Senator Raggio felt this area deserved high priority

SCR 25 Directs the Legislative Commission to study feasibility of creating separate local government body for north shore area of Lake Tahoe.

It was decided to process ACR 25.

SCR 41 Directs the Legislative Commission to study building codes and safety standards.

Senator Close explained that the intent of this resolution was to study the various entities, and possibly come up with a unified building code, on a regional basis.

Joint Meeting

Jack Kenney stated they would have no objection to this study

Chairman Echols noted that the resolution only applied to state agencies and would have to be amended to include local governments, where the problem really exists.

SCR 42 Directs the Legislative Commission to study feasibility of requiring health insurance to cover treatment for alcoholism and drug abuse.

Chairman Echols said that SCR 42 was amended into SCR 34, and urged passage by the Assembly.

STUDIES IN ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS:

SCR 12 Directs appointment of legislative committee to study present medical liability insurance problem and submit recommendations to the 59TH Legislative Session and study by Legislative Commission of ongoing problems of medical malpractice insurance.

Senator Close stated that the Senate Judiciary had expanded this to include all malpractice.

Art Palmer said that this would authorize the staff to look into this area, should the need arise during the interim.

SCR 14 Directs the Legislative Commission to study and make recommendations on subject of pupil achievement.

Senator Close explained the rationale behind this resolution, and said that the State Superintendent of Schools favors it.

SCR 19 Requests study of labor-management relations in private enterprise.

The Assembly Legislative Functions will have a hearing on this Saturday.

RAGGIO OUT OF ROOM

SCR 34 Directs the Legislative Commission to study problems and treatment of alcoholism in Nevada.

Chairman Echols said he hoped they would act favorably on this.

SCR 36 Directs the Legislative Commission to conduct study to recodify Nevada's education laws.

Joint Meeting

SCR 36 (cont.)

Art Palmer explained this would be a major study.

SCR 37 Directs the Legislative Commission to study liability insurance and employee group insurance available to local governments.

Chairman Echols said he thought it was an area that needed study.

SCR 38 Directs the Legislative Commission to study feasibility of establishing state home for veterans in Nevada.

Assemblyman Glover noted this was a minor study.

ACR 23 Directs the Legislative Commission to review Nevada Revised Statutes and ferret out obsolete or superseded provisions.

Assemblyman Glover said they had not taken any action on this.

ACR 50 Directs the Legislative Commission to study feasibility of automatic periodic termination and evaluation of certain boards, commissions and similar bodies in state executive department.

Senator Close felt the "sunset" concept had some merit.

General discussion ensued regarding the merit of studies in general.

ACR 53 Directs the Legislative Commission to study Nevada Equal Rights Commission.

There was not much interest expressed in this resolution.

ACR 56 Directs the Legislative Commission to study Nevada water pollution laws and regulations.

It was generally agreed that there had been enough studies on water.

THE JOINT MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

After the Committee progressed through the list of studies to determine priorities,
ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING BILLS:

ACR 1 PLEASE SEE SUBJECT MATTER IN PRECEDING LIST.

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Senator Close moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Schofield
Motion carried unanimously.

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ACR 6

Senator Wilson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Gibson seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

ACR 8

Senator Close moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Wilson seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

ACR 25

Senator Wilson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Schofield seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

ACR 34

Senator Gibson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Wilson seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

ACR 38

Senator Close "BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED" to minor study.
Senator Gibson seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

ACR 40

Senator Gibson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Schofield seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

ACR 44

Senator Gibson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Wilson seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

ACR 54

Senator Wilson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Schofield seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

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ACR 55

Senator Wilson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Schofield seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

SCR 39

Senator Close moved "BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED", to include that
portion of ACR 52 commencing on page 2, lines 9 through 19.
Senator Raggio seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

AJR 15

After discussion,

Senator Schofield moved "INDEFINITELY POSTPONE"
Senator Close seconded
Motion carried. Senator Wilson voting "NO"

ACR 57

Senator Gibson moved "BE ADOPTED"
Senator Schofield seconded
Motion carried unanimously.

SR 13

Chairman Echols suggested waiting for Senator Raggio's
amendments.

SR 7

It was decided to wait until next week for further discussion.

SR 8

Senator Gibson reiterated his explanation of SR 8 from the
April 14th meeting.

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SR 8 (cont.)

Senator Close moved to "RECONSIDER"
Senator Wilson seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

Senator Gibson moved to "BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED"
Senator Schofield seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Chairman Echols adjourned
the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Quilici
Beth Quilici, Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Gene Echols
SENATOR GENE ECHOLS, CHAIRMAN

STUDIES IN SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS
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- ACR 1 Mann, Schofield, Kosinski and five others.
Orders study of conditions at state prison by Legislative Commission.
(Major; Subcommittee; Contract Study and Research.)
- ACR 4 Wagner, Hayes, Murphy and six others.
Directs the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of the subject of early childhood development.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Research.)
- ACR 5 Dreyer.
Directs Legislative Commission to study feasibility of establishing state geriatric center.
(Minor; Staff Study; Research; Fiscal.)
- ACR 6 Wagner, Murphy, Jeffrey, Hayes, Weise and Coulter.
Directs the Legislative Commission to study provisions relating to obscenity.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Legal; Research.)
- ACR 8 May, Craddock, Serpa and Horn.
Directs the Legislative Commission to study assessment and taxation of geothermal resources.
(Minor; Staff Study (possibly subcommittee); Fiscal.)
- ACR 9 Committee on Government Affairs.
Urges local governments to review their existing liability insurance.
- ACR 25 Weise and Murphy.
Directs Legislative Commission to study feasibility of creating new county for north shore area of Lake Tahoe.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Legal; Research; Fiscal.)
- ACR 34 Robinson and Murphy.
Directs Legislative Commission to study extent of unclaimed property in Nevada.
(Minor; Staff Study; Legal.)
- ACR 35 Gomes, Schofield, Wagner and 26 others.
Directs Legislative Commission to study and develop rate structures for use by certain public utilities.
(Major; Subcommittee; Contract Study; Fiscal.)
- ACR 38 Committee on Judiciary.
Directs the Legislative Commission to study crimes and punishments.
(Major; Subcommittee; Legal.)

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STUDIES IN SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS
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ACR 40 Hayes.

Directs Legislative Commission to study feasibility of creating commission to regulate transportation.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Research.)

ACR 42 Kissam.

Directs Legislative Commission to study "no-fault" automobile insurance.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Legal.)

ACR 44 Hickey, Howard, Chaney and seven others.

Directs Legislative Commission to study community college division of University of Nevada System.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Fiscal.)

ACR 51 Committee on Agriculture.

Directs Legislative Commission to provide for tour of rural areas of Nevada by legislators.
(Minor; Staff Study; Research.)

ACR 52 Committee on Legislative Functions.

Directs Legislative Commission to conduct a study of administrative practices of Nevada Industrial Commission and alternative methods of providing workmen's compensation coverage.
(Major; Subcommittee; Contract Study; Fiscal.)

ACR 54 Committee on Education.

Directs Legislative Commission to study structures and functions of the State Board of Education and State Department of Education.
(Major; Subcommittee; Legal; Research.)

ACR 55 Committee on Ways and Means.

Directs Legislative Commission to study administration of mental hygiene and mental retardation programs in Nevada.
(Major; Subcommittee; Contract Study; Fiscal.)

SCR 25 Gojack, Foote, Raggio, Young and Wilson.

Directs Legislative Commission to study feasibility of creating separate local government body for north shore area of Lake Tahoe.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Research; Legal; Fiscal.)

SCR 39 Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Directs Legislative Commission to study procedures followed by Nevada Industrial Commission and alternative methods of coverage.
(Major; Subcommittee; Contract Study; Fiscal.)

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SCR 41 Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Directs Legislative Commission to study building codes and safety standards.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Legal.)

SCR 42 Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Directs Legislative Commission to study feasibility of requiring health insurance to cover treatment for alcoholism and drug abuse.
(Minor; Subcommittee; Research; Fiscal.)

STUDIES IN ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

ACR 14: Directs Legislative Commission to study feasibility of conducting legislative review of existing and future regulations of agencies of executive branch of state government.

MINOR - subcommittee - legal

ACR 23: Directs Legislative Commission to review Nevada Revised Statutes and ferret out obsolete or superseded provisions.

MINOR - staff study - legal

ACR 50: Directs Legislative Commission to study feasibility of automatic periodic termination and evaluation of certain boards.

MAJOR - subcommittee - legal, research, fiscal

ACR 53: Directs Legislative Commission to study Nevada Equal Rights Commission.

MINOR - subcommittee - legal

ACR 56: Directs Legislative Commission to study Nevada water pollution laws and regulations.

MAJOR - subcommittee - legal