

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Horn  
Vice Chairman Bedrosian  
Mr. Barengo  
Mrs. Cavnar  
Mr. Hickey  
Mr. Malone (3 minutes late)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Harmon

GUESTS PRESENT: William Swackhamer, Secretary of State  
Patsy Becker

Chairman Horn called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. He said that a committee introduction had been requested of a bill that would amend the Nevada Constitution to allow justices of the supreme court and district judges to run for non-judicial offices.

Mr. Hickey explained that at the present time judges were not allowed to run for a non-judicial office unless they resigned from office.

Mr. Barengo further explained that judges are elected for a six year term and even though they resign at the end of three years they are not eligible to run for office until the expiration of that term or another three years. He added that this request for committee introduction would permit judges to run for office if they resigned from their judicial office. He indicated that he was not in favor of this request.

Mr. Hickey commented that he thought it unfair that judges could not run for office until the expiration of their term and should be changed.

Since there was no interest by the committee for this introduction, Mr. Horn stated that he had prepared an amendment to AB 596 which is attached to these minutes as Exhibit A.

AB 596: Removes declaration that candidate intends to support the principles and policies of his party.

Mr. Horn explained that AB 596 deleted the entire phrase from the oath whereas the amendment merely watered down the phrase.

Mrs. Cavnar commented that she was in favor of the original bill and felt there was no need to indicate any party loyalty or ties to the party platform.

Mr. Hickey suggested that if the entire phrase was eliminated, then the whole oath should be deleted.

Mr. Bedrosian moved to adopt the amendment (Exhibit A), seconded by Mr. Hickey and carried by a vote of 5 to 1 with Mrs. Cavnar voting no and Mr. Harmon absent. (Committee Minutes)

Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS AS AMENDED on AB 596, seconded by Mr. Bedrosian and carried unanimously by the members present with Mr. Harmon absent.

Mr. Horn asked the committee if they were interested in taking action on AB 145.

AB 145: Reduces age of eligibility of state senators and assemblymen.

Mr. Horn explained that this bill was passed out of the Elections Committee with a do pass as amended recommendation, went to the second reading file two or three times without adoption of the amendments and was finally rereferred to this committee.

Since there was no interest in taking action on AB 145, Mr. Horn informed the committee that tomorrow, April 24th, would be a very important meeting and urged everyone to attend to hear testimony on SJR 12 which provides for appointment of the board of regents.

Mr. Horn then scheduled AB 180, AB 726 and SB 239 for next Monday, April 30th. He requested the secretary to notify the State Department of Education and the members of the Board of Education of the hearing on AB 180.

Mr. Horn stated that the committee would now consider SB 40.

SB 40: Provides for payment of costs of presidential preference primary elections from reserve for statutory contingency fund.

Mr. William Swackhamer, Secretary of State, explained that the costs of the presidential preference primary elections are born by the state but that he had no control over the payment of these costs. He added that in figuring the cost of this election he had underestimated by 50 percent so that reimbursement of the counties was delayed until the Interim Finance Committee met. He explained that this bill provided funding of these elections from the statutory contingency fund and that the cost to the state would be exactly the same. He added that even though there is some discussion of discontinuing presidential preference primary elections, he would appreciate passage of this bill in the event of future elections of this type.

Mr. Horn related that this bill originated in the Senate Government Affairs Committee, was passed and rereferred to the Senate Finance Committee, was passed and sent to Ways and Means where it received a do pass and rerefer to Elections recommendation.

When Mr. Barengo questioned why he objected to going before the Interim Finance Committee, Mr. Swackhamer explained that his only objection was the delay in payment to the counties and reiterated the fact that this bill will not cost the state any more money.

Mr. Horn commented that he met with the Western Conference of State Legislatures on Friday in Sacramento which will consider in July the possibility of having a regional primary that would include eleven states as compared to the three states at present.

Mr. Swackhamer stated that he felt the regional primary was good for the sparsely populated western states because it promoted visits to the state by major candidates. He added that during the last presidential campaign every major candidate appeared in the state at least once and some two or three times and that there was a 65 percent voter turnout.

Mrs. Cavnar said that she heard that there were just as many candidates appearing in Nevada before the presidential preference primary was initiated as after, and Mr. Swackhamer said that candidates were not too motivated by the prospect of only three electoral votes.

When Mr. Horn asked what the cost of this election was to the state, Mr. Swackhamer replied that the actual dollar cost was \$156,000.

Since there was no further testimony on SB 40, Mr. Horn said the committee would now consider SB 39.

SB 39: Clarifies requirements for reporting campaign contributions and expenses.

Mr. Swackhamer explained that attorney general's office gave an opinion that if a candidate was unopposed in an election he was not required to file a report but that Frank Daykin gave an opinion that such a candidate would be required to report. He added that this bill would correct the conflict of opinion. He said that the bill also defines more exactly campaign expenses and contributions, notes the problems in recall and special elections and sets a date for the first date of a declaration of candidacy.

Mr. Barengo commented that he thought sections three and four on page one were absolutely unenforceable because such things as groups listing their choice of candidates in newspapers before elections would fall in the category defined in section three. He added that in section four it states anything of value and that volunteer workers and private parties and donated services would fall into this category.

Mr. Swackhamer replied that in the rules and regulations that were adopted ordinary home hospitality and precinct workers were excluded.

Mr. Horn indicated that during his last campaign a constituent pledged \$100 that he has never received and that this would fall under the definition of a contribution.

When Mr. Barengo suggested shortening the period of filing a declaration of candidacy, Mr. Swackhamer said there was no real reason for January 1st. (Committee Minutes)

When Mr. Horn asked what would happen if this bill did not pass, Mr. Swackhamer urged passage of that portion which states that a candidate who is unopposed must file a report and that portion which establishes the dates for reporting.

Mr. Swackhamer suggested that if the committee were going to eliminate the new language in sections three and four, they should delete section nine which repeals NRS 293.031 which is the present definition of campaign expenses.

Mr. Horn concluded the testimony on SB 39 and thanked Mr. Swackhamer for appearing. He then asked the committee if they wished to take action on either of these two bills.

Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS on SB 40, seconded by Mr. Bedrosian and unanimously carried by the members present with Mr. Harmon absent.

After discussion the committee felt that SB 39 should be amended by deleting all the new language on page 1 making section 6 section one, changing page 2, line 6 and page 3, line 3 to read 90 days before the close of filing, and deleting section nine.

Mr. Barengo moved to amend SB 39 as stated in the above paragraph, seconded by Mr. Malone.

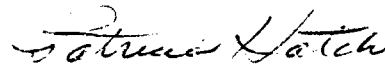
Mrs. Cavnar commented that she preferred January 1st as a date for requiring reporting.

The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 1 with Mrs. Cavnar voting no and Mr. Harmon absent.

Mr. Hickey moved to AMEND AND DO PASS SB 39, seconded by Mr. Malone and unanimously carried by the members present with Mr. Harmon absent.

Since there was no further business, Mr. Horn reminded the committee of their meeting tomorrow and adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Hatch  
Assembly Attache

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ACTION

APRIL 23, 1979

SUBJECT AB 596: Removes declaration that candidate intends to support the principles and policies of his party.

MOTION: DO PASS AS AMENDED

Do Pass XX Amend XX Indefinitely Postpone Reconsider

Moved By Mr. Hickey Seconded By Mr. Bedrosian

AMENDMENT: EXHIBIT A

Moved By Mr. Bedrosian Seconded By Mr. Hickey

AMENDMENT:

Moved BY Seconded By

MOTION

AMEND

AMEND

Table with columns: VOTE, Yes, No, Yes, No, Yes, No. Rows include BEDROSIAN, BARENGO, CAVNAR, HARMON, HICKEY, MALONE, HORN, and TALLY.

ORIGINAL MOTION: Passed XX Defeated Withdrawn

AMENDED & PASSED AMENDED & DEFEATED

AMENDED & PASSED AMENDED & DEFEATED

LEGISLATION ACTION  
ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

APRIL 23, 1979

SUBJECT SB 40: Provides for payment of costs of presidential preference  
primary elections from reserve for statutory contingency fund.

MOTION: DO PASS

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

Moved By Mr. Hickey Seconded By Mr. Bedrosian

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>
BEDROSIAN	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
BARENGO	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
CAVNAR	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
HARMON	<u>absent</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
HICKEY	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
MALONE	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
HORN	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TALLY:	6	0				

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

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

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

added to Minutes April 23, 1979

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ACTION

APRIL 23, 1979

SUBJECT SB 39: Clarifies requirements for reporting campaign contributions and expenses.

MOTION: AMEND AND DO PASS

Do Pass XX Amend XX Indefinitely Postpone Reconsider

Moved By Mr. Hickey Seconded By Mr. Malone

AMENDMENT: Delete new language on page 1 making section 6 section 1. Change page 2, line 6 and page 3, line 3 to read 90 days before the close of filing. Delete section nine.

Moved By Mr. Barenco Seconded By Mr. Malone

AMENDMENT:

Moved BY Seconded By

Table with columns: MOTION (Yes/No), AMEND (Yes/No), AMEND (Yes/No) and rows for voters: BEDROSIAN, BARENGO, CAVNAR, HARMON, HICKEY, MALONE, HORN. Includes a TALLY row at the bottom.

ORIGINAL MOTION: Passed XX Defeated Withdrawn

AMENDED & PASSED AMENDED & DEFEATED

AMENDED & PASSED AMENDED & DEFEATED

AMENDMENT TO AB 596

Instead of omitting lines 5, 6 and part of 7 on page 2 of AB 596 regarding the oath:

Page 2, line 5: add the word "generally" after I and before believe

Page 2, line 6: add the words "concepts found in" after support the and before principles

The oath would then read:

...that I generally believe in and intend to support the concepts found in the principles and policies of such political party in the coming election.