

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Dini
Mr. Marvel
Mr. Fitzpatrick
Mrs. Westall
Mr. Harmon
Mr. Craddock
Mr. Jeffrey
Mr. Robinson
Mr. Getto
Mr. Bedrosian
Mr. Bergevin

GUESTS PRESENT

See Guest List attached

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Chairman Dini called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

AB 387 - MAKES VARIOUS CHANGES IN LAW RELATING TO
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

JOHN CROSSLEY, Legislative Auditor, L.C.B.

Mr. Crossley had distributed to the Committee a document outlining the main objectives of the Bill which are contained in Sections 2 and 3, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The document also contains the proposed Amendments. Mr. Crossley went on to elaborate on each item independently.

AB 411 - PROHIBITS ALLOWANCE FOR LODGING TO STATE
OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES IF LODGING IS FREE

PAUL PRENGAMAN, Assemblyman, District 26

Mr. Prengaman stated the intent of AB 411 was to begin a review of the comp policy in Nevada. He stated the Bill attempts to prohibit public officers and employees from receiving lodging for allowance if, in fact, that lodging has been provided to them free. He stated in section 2 he attempted to set up a formula for use of the \$30 flat fee but at the time he was not clear on what was being done at the present time and he now understands it

is already being done. He advised the Committee he has therefore requested an amendment which would delete the section. He stated by not specifying a penalty it becomes a misdemeanor to accept free lodging and then put in a bill to the State for it. He then went on to elaborate on his motivation for introducing the Bill, namely, that he felt it was time Nevada cleaned up its image in regard to the comp situation. He stated he felt there was nothing more extravagant than someone receiving free lodging and then billing the State for it. Mr. Prengaman stated in support of his motivation he would distribute to the Committee copies of a newspaper article which appeared in The Washington Post, dated Sunday, November 20, 1978, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. Mr. Prengaman stated he was particularly concerned about Nevada's image by outsiders and the newspaper article was the case in point.

A general discussion ensued between the Committee and Mr. Prengaman regarding Nevada's image and the allotment for expenses is not sufficient for either lodging or food service. Mr. Jeffrey stated he thought the per diem policy was the problem; and unless someone did have free room and meals there was no way they could break even. Mr. Jeffrey stated he was told by various state personnel they should be traveling more for the good of the state but could not afford to do so based on the per diem which was insufficient. Mr. Jeffrey stated he would like to have someone tell him where they could get a room for \$13 in the State of Nevada unless it was a flop house and he didn't feel state employees should have to travel that way. Mr. Getto stated he felt the question was an ethical one and felt very strongly that no one should submit for a room and take a comp for one at the same time. Dr. Robinson expressed the opinion that the amount for meals was ludicrous.

ROBERT GAGNIER, Executive Director, SNEA

Mr. Gagnier stated he was not speaking for or against the Bill but had some proposed language changes and to clear up some misconceptions as to state per diem. He advised the Committee at the present time the State Administrative Manual which governs travel policy provides employees will receive a lump sum of \$30 for all expenses incurred for every 24 hours; if they are gone for less than 24 hours the rate is \$17.50 for a room, \$6.50 for dinner, \$3.50 for lunch, \$2.50 for breakfast. Mr. Gagnier stated the only place he knows of in Las Vegas that currently gives a discount to state employees is the Show Boat. He stated the Show Boat was inconvenient unless you had a car

and taxi fare would be prohibitive. He also pointed out it was not in the general area where state employees do their business and it is only good for certain days of the week and not on the weekend. Mr. Gagnier suggested an amendment in section 1, line 3, that it not be limited to just state officer but to everyone. He also pointed out instances where employees have to bring their own campers and living accommodations to an area where they are working because there are no hotel rooms available and they do not get paid for their expense in doing so. He suggested if the Bill is passed that there be added to line 5 language such as except "employee owned or rented R.V.'s or mobile homes".

Dr. Robinson questioned Mr. Gagnier in connection with the abuse that might occur and wanted to know if state employees were "ahead of the game or behind" and Mr. Gagnier responded they were way behind. Mr. Gagnier stated many employees share a room and \$12.50 for food expense in many areas of the state is not enough. He advised the Committee the rank and file state employee does not get comped and staying at the home of a friend is pretty rare and even if they did, Mr. Gagnier felt they would still come out on the deficit side.

AB 330 - EXTENDS TIME FOR COMPLETION OF NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND REQUIRES EXCLUSION OF MATERIAL

FRANK DAYKIN, Legislative Counsel

Mr. Daykin explained to the Committee that the Bill had two purposes: the primary purpose is to extend the date for completion of the Code to November 1, 1982 rather than 1980. He stated they necessarily made a guess when the original statute was drafted how long it would take to complete it and they might be done in the coming interim but it might extend into the next one. He stated the second purpose was contained in the two last lines and is by way of reinforcing by law something they had been doing already by negotiating.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AB 387 - Mr. Fitzpatrick moved AMEND and DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Harmon and unanimously carried.

AB 411 - Chairman Dini appointed Mr. Harmon and Mr. Getto as a sub-committee.

AB 330 - Mr. Bergevin moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Harmon, and unanimously carried.

SJR 8 - Mr. Harmon moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Getto, nine in favor, one absent, Mr. Bedrosian opposed; carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Shatzman
Assembly Attache

AB 387

AB 387 addresses the accounting of the Legislative Branch of government. The two main objectives of the bill are in Sections 2 and 3.

Page One

Section 2

Creates authority for petty cash account for use by the Counsel Bureau. We do have written procedures as to what it may be used for.

Section 3

In 1977 the Legislative Auditor was made the ex-officio Legislative Fiscal Officer (NRS 218.755). In order to carry out this function a bank account was established. This section establishes the authority for that bank account in law. This is in accordance with SB 43, now Chapter 8.

Page Two

Between sessions we find that it is necessary to make minor improvements in the buildings, especially since we assumed complete responsibility for the building and grounds in 1977. These changes are in anticipation of session. Lines 8 and 9 on page 2 allow for that.

During the 1977 session the Research and Fiscal Analysis Divisions were separated. Lines 13 and 14 on page 2 take care of that.

Lines 35 and 36 on page 2 eliminate the requirement that all workpapers are to be retained by the Legislative Auditor. Only certain workpapers are of value, and of course, those would be retained.

AB 387
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Title: Third line:

...pay for certain [capital] improvements,...

Page 1, line 12:

Insert after "branch of government", the following:

", related payroll costs"

Page 1, line 22:

Delete after "as a", the word [continuing]

Page 2, line 1:

Insert prior to the word "fund" the following:

"special revenue"

Delete after the word "fund", the following:

[in the state treasury]

Page 2, line 16:

Delete the following:

[The statute revision operation]

