Assembly Sente Committee on Government Affairs

Date: April 10, 1979 (6:00 P.M.)

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MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Dini

Mr. Marvel

Mr. Fitzpatrick

Mrs. Westall

Mr. Harmon

Mr. Craddock

Mr. Jeffrey

Mr. Getto

Mr. Bedrosian

Mr. Bergevin

GUESTS PRESENT

See Guest List attached

* * * * * *

Chairman Dini called the meeting to order at 6 P.M.

AB 645 - REMOVES REQUIREMENT TO KEEP CLARK COUNTY OFFICES AT COUNTY SEAT

SAM MAMET, representing Clark County

Mr. Mamet advised the Committee this Bill was intended as a clean up to an old statute, N.R.S. 243, which delineates the boundaries and territory of each of the counties and the county seats in the State of Nevada. He stated in the section that deals with Clark County there is a specific reference that all of the buildings and judicial offices maintained by the county must be within the county seat. He advised the Committee as the county has grown through the years they have had to build facilities throughout the county such as the airport and public works.

AB 646 - REMOVES CERTAIN DUTIES OF COUNTY CLERK IN PETITION TO COURT FOR ESTABLISHING PARENTAGE OR DATE OR PLACE OF BIRTH

LORETTA BOWMAN, Clerk, Clark County

SAM MAMET, representing Clark County

Mrs. Bowman explained to the Committee this Bill

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takes the Clerk out of the business of being a process server or sending notices which in other statutes is done mainly by the attorney of record. Chairman Dini interjected that the principal change is that the petitioner gives notice rather than the County Clerk and Mrs. Bowman concurred. Mrs. Bowman stated it puts the responsibility of notice on the petitioner. Chairman Dini asked if it presented a problem to County Clerks statewide and Mrs. Bowman responded it really did not but it conforms with the other statutes wherein the attorney of record takes care of the notice.

The testimony was concluded on AB 646.

AB 664 - CHANGES PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING CERTAIN CLAIMS AGAINST CERTAIN COUNTIES

SAM MAMET, representing Clark County

DARREL DAINES, Controller, Clark County

Mr. Daines explained to the Committee the statute originated in 1865 and counties, with few amendments, have been following the same procedure in the payment of claims against the county as they did back then. He stated the problem results from the fact that the county now processes thousands of claims, and the procedure that was good enough for a county of 500 to 700 people, processing only about 30 or 40 claims a month, was no longer acceptable for counties which have grown and trebled in population. He advised the procedures proposed in the amendment does not remove any of the protections built into the law. He stated it was just a modernization of the bill paying process.

Testimony was concluded on AB 664.

AB 666 - REMOVES LIMIT ON ACCRUAL OF SICK LEAVE WHICH A COUNTY MAY PROVIDE FOR ITS OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

JULIE CONIGLIARO, representing Federated Firefighters of Nevada

Mr. Conigliaro advised he was speaking in favor of the Bill. He stated they were proposing the removal of the limit on the accumulation of sick leave for counties. He stated it was a piece of permissive legislation; it does not mandate the counties to allow their employees to accumulate more sick leave as a result of it. He stated

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they also suggested an amendment to page 2, lines 29 and 30, removing the limitation on payment of the sick leave to be consistent with the removal of the accumulation of working days. He advised the Committee the original Bill is in conflict with N.R.S. 288, the present Employees Negotiation Bill, which makes sick leave a negotiable item. He stated cities have no caps on sick leave accrual or pay out so they are able to set their own policies. He stated it was his belief counties should be able to be flexible in negotiations so as not to hamper the bargaining process.

JACK JEFFREY, Assemblyman, A.D. 22

Mr. Jeffrey stated to the Committee he agreed to sponsor the Bill because he felt it was a good measure. He stated it was permissive as it allows full negotiation of the item in any contract talk; there is nothing binding on the part of the County to grant any more sick leave than they may be granting now

Chairman Dini questioned the fiscal impact and Mr. Conigliaro responded he didn't see any immediate fiscal impact and it was up to the counties and their employees.

Testimony was concluded on AB 666.

AB 665 - PERMITS ALLOWANCES FOR COST OF LIVING AND COUNTY PAYMENT OF EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO RETIREMENT FOR CERTAIN COUNTY OFFICES

CAL DUNLAP, District Attorney, Washoe County

Mr. Dunlap stated to the Committee that the present system of setting the pay of elected public officials is inequitable, and although a person knows the salary when he runs for office it really doesn't answer the question. He stated the question to him was should a person be required to serve in a public position after being elected knowing what the salary is and steadily see his salary reduced by inflation. Mr. Dunlap pointed out that by running for office and being elected he has received a decrease in salary over last year when he was Ass't. District Attorney. He advised the Committee he does not now have his retirement paid.

Chairman Dini pointed out that it looked like there was going to be a cap on spending by the Legislature of local governments and inquired of Mr. Dunlap if he felt the counties would be able to handle the cost of living escalations. Mr. Dunlap responded he thought it would be

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a hardship and cited his own office as an example stating he had requested six new attorneys to keep up with just what had already happened with crime.

Chairman Dini inquired how employees, under Mr. Dunlap, receive more money than he does, and Mr. Dunlap responded the main thing was the retirement which was substantial and net, coming off the top of your salary after taxes, and employees get cost of living merit increases.

Mr. Craddock stated one of the things bothering him specifically was how Mr. Dunlap, appearing here and asking for more, could expect his subordinates to do more and more for less and less, and wanted to know if he had talked with them along those lines. Mr. Dunlap stated he didn't think anyone in his office would complain if the county paid his retirement or increased his salary.

DARREL DAINES, Pres., County Fiscal Officers Assn.

Mr. Daines distributed to the Committee members a matrix prepared by his statisticians representing an elected official's salary set in 1975 and not changed again until 1979, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and the deterioration of the amount of money in 1979. He advised the Committee it would cost Washoe County \$16,762 for all of their elected officials; it would cost all of the counties in Nevada only a total of \$170,000 and the employer pay is not a substantial item.

Mr. Getto asked Mr. Daines if elected officials in Clark County were receiving 1% longevity pay, and Mr. Daines responded those of them who have served more than one term were receiving it.

JOHN McCARTHY, Sheriff, Clark County

Sheriff McCarthy stated he was present to lend his support to passage of the Bill. He stated he felt it would be fundamentally fair to allow county officials to enjoy the same benefits city officials enjoy.

Chairman Dini asked Sheriff McCarthy if he had any compaction in his department now because of the 95% rule. Sheriff McCarthy responded the Under Sheriff makes more than he does because he gets longevity, retirement pay, and clothing allowance.

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PHILLIP MOORE, representing Washoe Co. Sheriff Dept.

Mr. Moore advised the Committee his comments were pretty much in concurrence with those expressed by Mr. Dunlap and Sheriff McCarthy. He stated they would like to see the salary raised because they are compacted and it has a number of adverse affects upon the department. He stated they now had three Chief Deputies who are at the 95% level and he went on to elaborate on salary levels for officers in the department. He pointed out the affect on morale and the fact that if the 95% rule were eliminated, it would provide room for growth for mid-level officers.

VERNON BENNETT, Executive Officer, Public Employees Retirement System

Mr. Bennett advised the Committee that the Retirement System had no position regarding the Bill and there was only one minor technical amendment to be considered if the Bill is approved as drafted. Mr. Bennett distributed copies of the amendment to the Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

GEORGE HOLDEN, District Attorney, Lander County

Mr. Holden stated the Bill doesn't give anything at all. He said the money they are paying in now is their money, part of their salary, and if they terminate before the end of twenty years they get it back; all the Bill would allow them to do would be to use their money now instead of later. He advised the Committee it is not adding to the total income which they receive; their salary remains exactly the same, it is not an increase.

Mr. Bennett clarified there is no requirement that a member has to have 20 years service to retire. He stated the regular members of the system retire at age 60 with 10 or more years service or age 55 with 30 so the system is vested with 10 years service.

HAROLD J. JACOBSEN, Mayor, Carson City

HAL V. DUNN, Sheriff

Mr. Jacobsen suggested that the Legislature should consult with the counties on their ability to pay.

A procession of witnesses which included the Sheriff of Humboldt County, Sheriff of Storey County, and Homer Rodriguez testified in concurrence with the other elected officials who appeared before them.

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COMMITTEE ACTION:

AB 645 - Mr. Jeffrey moved DO PASS; Mr. Bergevin seconded, and unanimously carried.

AB 646 - Mr. Getto moved DO PASS; seconded by Mr. Jeffrey, and unanimously carried.

AB 664 - Mr. Bergevin moved DO PASS; seconded by Mr. Marvel, and unanimously carried.

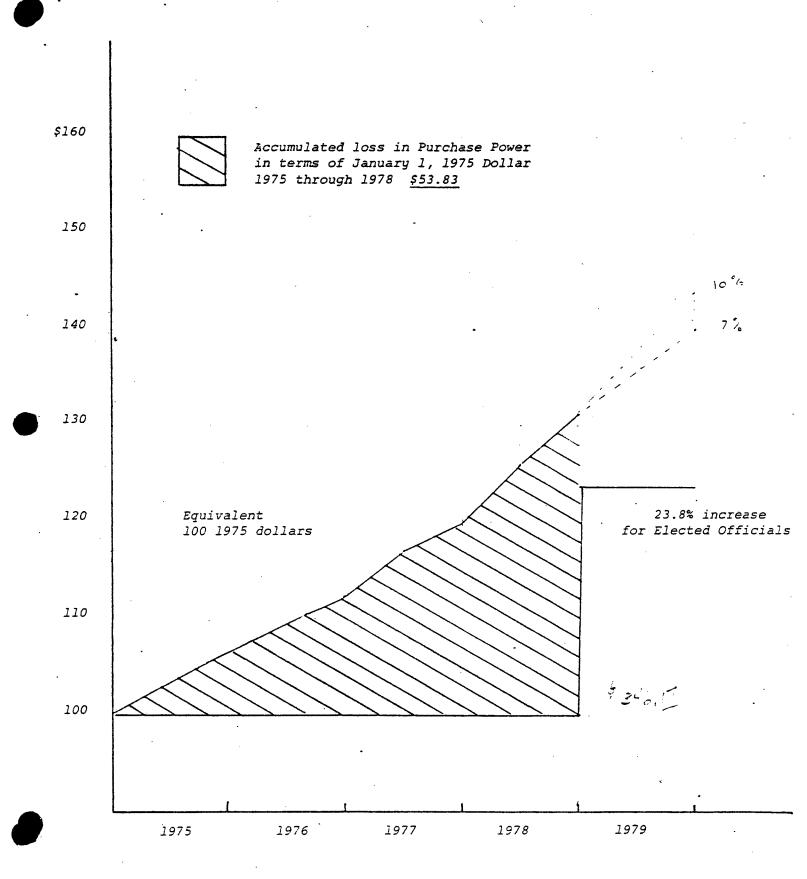
AB 666 - Mr. Jeffrey moved AMEND and DO PASS; seconed by Mr. Getto, and unanimously carried.

 \underline{AB} 665 - Mr. Dini stated with permission of the Committee he would hold the Bill for further study

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Shatzman Assembly Attache



ELBERT B. EDWARDS CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

VERNON BENNETT EXECUTIVE OFFICER

WILL KEATING - ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE OFFICER STATE OF NEVADA

4/10/79EXHIBIT RETIREMENT BOARD

L. ROSS CULBERTSON CHAIRMAN

SAM A. PALAZZOLO VICE CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS

DARREL R. DAINES WILLIS A. DEISS ELBERT S. EDWARDS BOYD D. MANNING DONALD L. REAM

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

P.O. Box 1569

CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701

TELEPHONE (702) 885-4200

April 10, 1979

The Honorable Joseph E. Dini, Jr. Chairman, Assembly Government Affairs Committee Legislative Building Carson City, Nevada 89701

Ref.: AB 665

Dear Chairman Dini:

The Retirement System has no position regarding AB 665. However, there is one minor technical amendment which should be considered if the bill is approved as drafted. Page 5, lines 19 through 21, provide that elected county officers or persons appointed to elective county offices may go under the employer pay program without a salary reduction or in lieu of an equivalent salary increase. Lines 22 through 27 provide to other members, an increase in average compensation upon retirement to counterbalance the in lieu of salary or salary reduction adjustment. Therefore, we recommend that the new provisions on page 5, lines 19 through 21, be amended to exempt the provisions of NRS 286.421, subsection 3, from being applicable to elected county officers or persons appointed to elective county offices who go under the employer pay program under this new provision. The suggested amendment is as follows:

On page 5, line 19, after the word "subsection" and before the word "do", insert the words and subsection 3 .

This will eliminate an elected county officer or person appointed to an elective county office from receiving a windfall increase in average compensation upon retirement. Should your Committee approve AB 665, we would appreciate your favorable consideration to the above technical amendment. This will eliminate the Retirement System's concern regarding the bill.

Respectfully submitted

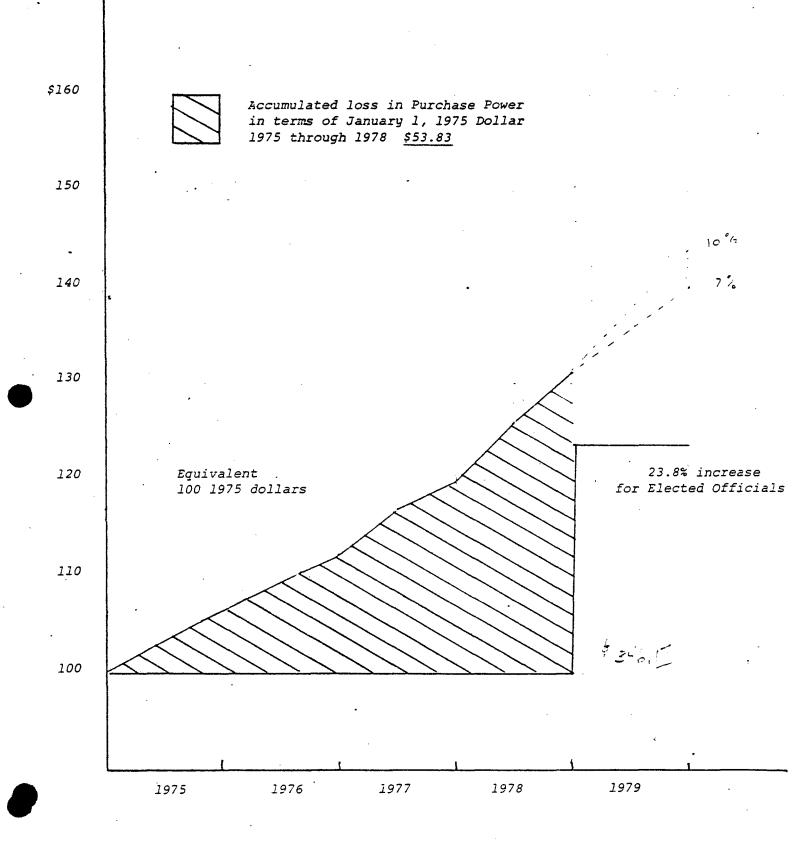
VERNON BENNETT

Executive Officer

Government Affairs Committee

Retirement Board

VB:bb



BEE E BEE E

CITY - COUNTY OF

CANSON CITY

HAL V. DUNN, SHERIFF
THOMAS W. FETTIC, UNDERSHERIFF

901 EAST MUSSER STREET CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701 (702) 882-3451

SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES WILL BE LIMITED BY NRS 245.047 (95 PERCENT RULE)

The sheriff of Carson City currently receives an annual salary of \$24,000 (NRS 245.043).

Based upon the current salary schedule and allowing a seven percent cost of living increase each July 1st for subsequent years, a number of employees will not receive a salary increase until January 1983.

During the current term the following positions will reach 95 percent of the sheriff's salary on the dates indicated.

Undersheriff - effective 1 July 1979 Captain - effective 1 July 1980 Lieutenant - effective 1 July 1981

If the guidelines of the city-county compensation plan are complied with, an equitable relationship between classes will continue to exist. Positions that will reach 95 percent of the next higher position are;

Undersheriff - effective 1 July 1979
Captain - effective 1 July 1979
Lieutenant - effective 1 July 1980
Sergeant - effective 1 July 1980
Sergeant-Technical - effective 1 July 1981
Deputy Sheriff - effective 1 July 1982

The allocation of positions for Fiscal Year 1979-80 are;

Sheriff	1
Undersheriff	1
Captain	2
Lieutenant	3
Sergeant	9
Sergeant-Technical	1
Deputy Sheriff and Detective	38
Desk Officers, Dispatchers and Jailers	13
Clerical positions	_4
Total positions	72

BUDDY SAMPSON
Under Sheriff
.
DARLENE GAMBOA
Office Deputy



Post Office Box 870 Ely, Nevada 89301

Phone (702) 289-4833

4/10/79

DEAN E. SADERUP, SHERIFF

April 6, 1979

Nevada State Assembly Legislative Building Carson City, Nevada 89710

Attn: Committee on Government Affairs

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in reference to Assembly Bill No. 665 in regards to permitting allowances for cost of living and county payment of employee contributions to retirement for certain county officers.

I strongly urge passage of this bill. At the present time there are several employees of White Pine County that are at the 95 percent limit and will not be allowed a raise in salary until the Legislature again increases the elected officials pay.

Over the past several years the inflation rate has sky rocketed and there appears to be no end in sight. For any wages, elected officials or appointed, to be frozen for four years is unreasonable. The allowance for cost of living seems to be the only answer.

I urge you the committee to consider this problem prudently and to pass this bill as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Dean E. Saderup, Sheriff White Pine County, Nevada

DES/dg

Office Deputy



DEAN E. SADERUP, SHERIFF

April 6, 1979

EXHIBIT

Post Office Box 870 Ely, Nevada 89301

Phone (702) 289-4833

4/10/79

Sheriff Hal Dunn Carson City Sheriff's Office Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Sheriff Dunn:

I am enclosing a letter to the Nevada State Assembly supporting Assembly Bill No. 665 that I would appreciate your passing on to them for me.

I would like to be able to attend the session, however, we have a murder trial starting here on April 11th and it is imperative that I be here. Thank you for representing me.

Yours truly,

Dean E. Saderup, Sheriff White Pine County, Nevada

DES/dg

Enclosure

GUEST LIST

	NAME	REPRESENTING	IF T	YOU O SPEAK
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GUEST LIST

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