Assembly Committee on Government Affairs

Date: April 4, 1979

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### MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Dini

Mr. Marvel

Mr. Fitzpatrick

Dr. Robinson

Mr. Craddock

Mr. Jeffrey

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. He requested the record to reflect the absence of Mrs. Westall due to illness, and Mr. Harmon was excused.

AB 583 - REVISES PROVISIONS EXEMPTING CERTAIN COUNTY EMPLOYEES FROM MERIT PERSONNEL SYSTEM

### SAM MAMET, representing Clark County

### JOE DENNY, Ass't. County Manager & County Personnel Officer

Mr. Mamet advised the Committee Mr. Denny was present to discuss the intent of the Bill.

Mr. Denny advised the Committee the Bill was drafted very broadly. He stated they had heard there were concerns about the affect of the Bill upon uniform services, police and fire specifically, and it was never the intent of Clark County to have the Bill affect uniform people in any way. He stated they want to maintain exempt positions relative to supervisory, administrative, and confidential employees as provided under 288. Mr. Denny went on to elaborate about other concerns from various areas in regard to the Bill. He stated there were certain small departments and sections that had a high need for a large number of exempt positions within the County. He stated management could arbitrarily run around with a Bill like this and exempt positions and arbitrarily and capriciously dismiss people. He advised the Committee it was not the intent of the Bill and they would provide any guarantees necessary to insure that including the "grandfathering" of existing people.

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Mr. Denny requested of the Committee that they have a chance to work on the Bill for a week or so and bring back an agreed upon amendment.

Chairman Dini asked Mr. Denny why they need the Mr. Denny responded basically they felt there is a need for an expansion of the number of exempt positions at the county level, whether in District Court, Justice Court, District Attorney's office, etc.

Chairman Dini asked why the County Commission wanted to get their hands over the operation and Mr. Denny responded it was never the intent to get the County Commissioners into the everyday operation of county government. He stated the Bill was drafted in that respect.

Mr. Getto questioned Mr. Denny concerning the percentile the Bill calls for. Mr. Denny responded that is the way the Bill reads now but they were not averse to insuring that in some instances it could rise and then again in some situations there would be none. Mr. Getto asked if it would be a valid suggestion to leave the language as it is now and change the percentage but Mr. Denny responded he didn't think it would solve all the problems.

Mr. Jeffrey stated he still hadn't heard the purpose of the Bill and wanted to know why it was needed. Mr. Denny responded that the feeling was in Clark County they needed a larger number of exempt positions.

Mr. Craddock stated he did not see any purpose for the Bill.

Mr. Bergevin mentioned two other Bills along similar lines which had been killed and he stated he felt this was just another attempt to get some employees outside the dismissal procedure.

Dr. Robinson stated that as a citizen of Clark County he was concerned about 10% of county employees would be subject to patronage when there is a change in County Commissioners and by passing the law it might be opening the door to getting rid of 10% of managerial people who have been doing a good job.

Chairman Dini stated the Bill should go to subcommittee and see if amendments can be worked out, and he appointed Mr. Getto, Dr. Robinson, and Mr. Bedrosian as such.

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## PAMELA STAMNIS, Nev. Pub. Employees Action Coalition

She stated the NPEAC was greatly opposed to the Bill. She advised the Committee since the Bill came down, county employees have been calling every day, extremely upset, feeling their jobs are in deep jeopardy.

# VINCE SWINNEY, Under Sheriff, Washoe County, representing Sheriff, Bob Galley

Mr. Swinney advised the Committee he was in an unclassified position and has seen the transition in his own department over an eight year period where there is additional need for room for unclassified people in a department. He stated the Sheriff objects to the language in the Bill turning the power over from him to the County Commissioners but does see an increase in percentage need to be allowed to him in regard to unclassified people.

A discussion ensued between Committee members and Mr. Swinney as to his rationale which seemed to be unclear in regard to percentage and growth of the department.

AB 587 - INCREASES AMOUNT PERMITTED TO BE HELD IN CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT BY GOVERNING BODY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### SAM MAMET, Management Analyst, Clark County

He advised the Committee that this Bill amends the Local Government Budget Act under which at the present time local governments may establish a contingency fund of up to 3% of the local government budget. He stated it is, for all intents and purposes, an emergency fund, and the Bill proposes to raise the percentage to 5%. He advised the Committee at the time the Bill was put together, it was proposed by the County Budget Officer, and they felt they were going to come very close to the 3%. Mr. Mamet advised the Committee the county has now reconsidered the matter, and feels the Bill is ill-conceived and ill-time and withdraw their support of the Bill and if it is the Committee's wish to "Indefinitely Postpone", they would support that position.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION:

AB 587 - Mr. Getto moved to INDEFINITELY POSTPONE; seconded

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by Mr. Marvel, and unanimously carried.

Chairman Dini advised that AB 588 would be held for tomorrow, April 5, 1979.

AB 589 - AUTHORIZES COUNTIES TO PAY CERTAIN AMOUNTS FOR SALARY AND EXPENSES TO MEMBERS OF PLANNING COMMISSIONS

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

AB 589 - Mr. Jeffrey moved for INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT; seconded by Mr. Craddock, and unanimously carried.

Chairman Dini advised the Committee he had <u>BDR S1883</u> providing for establishment of State Park at Indian Lake. He stated he would entertain a motion for introduction. Mr. Craddock moved for Committee introduction; seconded by Mr. Jeffrey and unanimously carried.

Chairman Dini stated that AB 644 is a Bill that should be in Judiciary and requested entertainment of a motion to refer it to that Committee.

AB 644 - Dr. Robinson moved that AB 644 be re-referred to Committee on Judiciary, seconded by Mr. Marvel, and unanimously carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Shatzman Assembly Attache

# GUEST LIST

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