

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Westall  
Vice Chairman Mello  
Mr. Barengo  
Mr. Rusk  
Mr. Tanner

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Mr. Vergiels

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Harmon  
Mr. Glover  
Mr. Weise

GUESTS PRESENT

See Guest List attached

Chairman Westall called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. She called upon Assemblyman Dini to present testimony on behalf of A.J.R. 16.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 16

Assemblyman Joe Dini of District 38 stated that the same Constitutional amendment has been proposed several times in the past. He presented a memorandum from Andrew Grose, Research Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau containing the breakdown of amounts spent by each member of the Assembly in the last election. A copy of the memorandum containing research and figures is attached hereto and marked Exhibit A. He stated that due to the high cost of campaigns, it is becoming increasingly difficult for assemblymen to run every two years, and would propose that the terms be changed to four years. Reapportionment, the size of the Assembly and multi-county districts are good reasons for going to a four year term.

Mr. Barengo asked if Mr. Dini would have any objection to the Assembly going to a four year term and the Senate going to six years.

Mr. Dini replied that he did not have any objection.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 5

Andy Grose of the Legislative Counsel Bureau stated that the Select Committee on Public Lands was an outgrowth of a study done between the 1975-77 sessions of the Legislature to derive additional benefits from public lands. One of the concrete recommendations was to create a select committee with several duties. There would not be any long range results after only two years. It will take several years to achieve concrete results. He referred

to Pages 14 and 15 of Bulletin No. 79-19 from the Legislative Commission of the Legislative Counsel Bureau entitled "Select Committee on Public Lands", a copy of which is attached hereto and marked Exhibit B. He stated that this can be amended as there was a sale of 240 acres of public land at an average price of \$28,000 an acre in the Las Vegas Valley in December of 1978. There are over 60,000 acres of developable land in the Las Vegas area interspersed with private land. This sale probably would not have been possible without the Select Committee on Public Lands. The resolution asks for a continuation of the relationship with the Legislative Commission as it has in the past for another two years with another assessment at the next legislative session.

Mr. Tanner asked what the cost of operation of the Committee was the last two years.

Mr. Grose answered that it was in the neighborhood of \$15-17,000, including two trips to Washington for six legislators and two staff people and there were several regional meetings.

Mrs. Westall asked how much more one more member would cost.

Mr. Grose replied that it would be approximately 16 percent more. This would depend on what the committee is called on to do and whether there would be long trips or not.

Mr. Rusk asked if there were any kind of formal agenda or plans of what they want to accomplish.

Mr. Grose replied that this is set forth on Page 2 of S.C.R. 5.

#### SENATE BILL 205

Chairman Westall explained that S.B. 205 is a technical bill.

Mr. Barengo stated that temporary regulations can be just as onerous as permanent regulations.

Mrs. Westall questioned what "temporary" means. She said action on this bill would be postponed for further explanation.

Chairman Westall asked for comments on the proposed Recommendations for Accreditation of the Press. It was decided not to act on this until the Senate committee acts one way or the other. See Exhibit C.

A discussion was held on A.B. 161, and Mr. Mello explained that this bill would let a legislator use part of his travel fund to go to parts of the state to investigate for legislative purposes when he was not part of a committee sent there for that particular purpose and not just use the fund for travel to and from home. Following discussion, it was decided to wait for the full committee to take action on this and other bills.

Chairman Westall told the committee that she has had a bill drafted removing the declaration that candidates for public office intend to support the principles and policies of their party when filing for office. She asked if there were any objections to a committee introduction of this bill. There were none.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Olguin  
Committee Secretary



STATE OF NEVADA  
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

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March 20, 1979

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Assemblyman Joseph E. Dini, Jr.  
FROM: Andrew P. Grose, *Research Director*  
SUBJECT: Four-Year Terms in Lower Houses

There is very little critical or analytical material on the pros and cons of 4-year terms for members of lower houses. In fact, I could find no discussion on the subject. It is not an element in the numerous reform proposals that have surfaced in the past 20 years.

There are four states with 4-year lower house terms. They are Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland and Mississippi. Of some interest is the fact that Maryland has no staggered terms. Every legislator is elected at the same election and at the same time as statewide officers for 4-year terms.

I was quite surprised to learn, on the other hand, that there are 12 states in which the upper house has only a 2-year term. They are Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Vermont.

The expenditures for the 40 assembly races in 1978 were as follows.

1. Cavnar	\$ 9,169
2. Mann	12,763
3. Bremner	10,569
4. Malone	1,575

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5.	Brady	\$ 7,794	26.	Prengaman	\$11,014
6.	Bennett	4,050	27.	Coulter	4,388
7.	Chaney	9,812	28.	Rusk	12,498
8.	Robinson	10,750	29.	Barengo	5,135
9.	Tanner	18,627	30.	Mello	21,544
10.	Vergiels	8,305	31.	Westall	7,123
11.	Banner	4,137	32.	Webb	8,338
12.	FitzPatrick	9,666	33.	Rhoads	0
13.	Hayes	17,075	34.	Marvel	4,460
14.	Stewart	13,112	35.	Polish	3,657
15.	Horn	12,654	36.	Fielding	3,864
16.	Harmon	13,940	37.	Dini	1,378
17.	Price	10,938	38.	Getto	6,084
18.	Hickey	12,916	39.	Bergevin	12,747
19.	May	11,345	40.	Glover	10,134
20.	Craddock	5,586			
21.	Sena	11,349			
22.	Jeffrey	11,774			
23.	Weise	29,656			
24.	Bedrosian	5,181			
25.	Wagner	2,107			

V.

Future of the Select Committee

It is not possible to discuss the future of the select committee without some analysis of the accomplishments of this interim. To date, the select committee has not managed to get any federal land disposed to state or private ownership. Given the situation regarding public lands, no one expected such quick results. Several other accomplishments of the committee should be listed. First, and perhaps most important, the select committee has called considerable attention to the public lands problems in Nevada. It has done this in Nevada through media appearances, talking, to civic groups and to official bodies such as the State Multiple Use Advisory Committee. It has done this regionally through appearances at meetings of the Western Conference CSG, Western Region of NACo and Western States Lands Commissioners. It has done this nationally through appearances at meetings of the National Conference of State Legislatures and the several presentations before Congress, at the Department of the Interior and the White House.

Second, the efforts of the select committee have led to the introduction of legislation in Congress. One bill sponsored by Representative Santini but written by the select committee would establish a public lands trust fund so that the money from public lands sold would be used to purchase park and recreation land in other parts of the country (Exhibit B). Hearings may be held on this bill before the end of 1978. Another bill introduced by Senators Laxalt and Cannon along with several co-sponsors would direct the expeditious disposal of the checkerboard lands to the states (Exhibit C). This bill was also instigated and supported by the select committee.

Third, it is no exaggeration to say that the select committee is responsible for the creation of the Western Coalition on Public Lands. The committee used every possible forum and sent some of its members to virtually every relevant regional meeting in order to encourage coalition creation. Not only did it push for coalition creation, it also was the backbone of the coalition in Washington in terms of manpower, staff support and financial commitment.

Fourth, the select committee has served as the focal point of public lands issues in Nevada. It has reviewed proposed federal regulations, followed BLM activities in the state and worked with the executive branch and local governments in an attempt to coordinate knowledge and activities on public lands.

It is the unanimous recommendation of the Select Committee on Public Lands that the 60th session of the Nevada legislature renew the select committee for another 2 years with a continued mandate to represent the interests of the State of Nevada regarding public lands. A proposed resolution is attached. The select committee would continue to operate under the direction of the legislative commission and with financial support by the commission.



## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCREDITATION OF PRESS

1. Persons desiring privileges of accredited media representatives must make application to the Senate and Assembly Committees on Legislative Functions.
2. The application constitutes compliance with any provisions of the Senate and Assembly with respect to registration, conduct and floor privileges.
3. Applications shall contain the following:
  - a. Name of media representative.
  - b. Name of employer (daily newspapers, periodic publications of general application, news associations, radio or television stations.)
  - c. Other occupation, if any.
4. Declaration that they are not employed, directly or indirectly to assist in the prosecution of the legislative business of any person, corporation or association and will not become employed while retaining the privilege of accredited press representatives.
5. No accredited member of the news media shall, for compensation, perform any service of state constitutional officers or members of their staffs, for state agencies, for the legislature or for any person registered or performing as a lobbyist.
6. The application further constitutes that acceptance by the respective legislative committees provides that the accredited media member is entitled to occupy seats in the Senate and Assembly chambers in their business. And further, that one or more rooms will be provided for their exclusive use of correspondents during the legislative sessions, which shall be known as Press Rooms. These rooms shall be under the control of the respective Senate and Assembly committees during the legislative session and by the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau between sessions.
7. Violations of rules:
  - a. Upon the first violation, the correspondent shall receive a letter of admonition.
  - b. Upon the second violation, the proper standing committee of the Senate and Assembly shall revoke all press privileges.

Respectfully submitted,

Leola H. Armstrong  
Secretary of the Senate