

Committee in session at 7:30 a.m. Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the Chair.

Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman PRESENT:

Senator James I. Gibson, Vice Chairman

Senator Eugene V. Echols

Senator Norman D. Glaser (absent during part of voting)

Senator Thomas R.C. Wilson Senator Lawrence E. Jacobsen Senator Clifford E. McCorkle

ABSENT: None

Ronald W. Sparks, Chief Fiscal Analyst Eugene Pieretti, Deputy Fiscal Analyst Howard Barrett, Budget Director OTHERS PRESENT:

Russ McDonald, lobbyist, Washoe County Kent Robinson, Nevada Trial Lawyers' Association

David Hagen, Washoe County Bar Association Steve Brown, Washoe County Commissioners Gary Silverman, Washoe County Bar Association Judge Peter Breen, Washoe County District Judge Judge John Mendoza, Clark County District Judge

Sam Mamet, lobbyist, Clark County

Dr. Ralph DiSibio, Director, Department of Human Resources Victoria Iora, Field Representative, Div. of Aging Services

Ardel Kingham, Senior Budget Analyst, Clark County Senator Wilbur Faiss

Judge James Guinan, Washoe County District Judge

Cy Ryan, United Press

John Rice, Associated Press Lee Adler, Reno Newspapers

SB 243 Adds two judges to second judicial district.

Russ McDonald, representing Washoe County, said that the county has included the costs of the two judges in their budget for the next fiscal year. The maximum cost as far as the county is concerned will be roughly \$261,000.

Kent Robinson, representing the Nevada Trial Lawyers' Association, spoke in support of SB 243. Mr. Robinson stated that the total court setting in Washoe County has increased 35 percent from 1972 to 1978. In 1972 there were 2,548 settings and last year there were 3,444. Mr. Robinson said that motions submitted for consideration by the judges in the Second Judicial District increased by 1,162. In 1972 853 criminal cases were reviewed in Washoe County; that figure has nearly doubled to 1,627 in 1978. There has also been an increase of 190 percent in the criminal caseload.

Mr. Robinson continued that civil actions increased 28 percent, from 2,600 in 1972 to 3,387 in 1978. In 1972 the days spent in trial by the judges was 361 days. That has increased 25 percent to 448 days per year in 1978. In 1972 there were six judges.

David Hagen, Washoe County Bar Association, indicated his support of SB 243.

Steve Brown, Washoe County Commissioner, presented the committee with Attachments A and B in support of SB 243.

Gary Silverman, Washoe County Bar Association, and Judge Peter Breen, Washoe County District Court, spoke in favor of the bill.

Judge John Mendoza, Clark County District Court, asked that this bill, if passed, not become effective until January 1981 at least as far as Clark County is concerned, since Clark County lost its courthouse bond election. They now have 12 district court judges in Clark County, and they have been able to supplement them by the use of masters. Judge Mendoza said they have an increase of 25,000 cases this year.

(SB 243 - bill action continued)

Sam Mamet, lobbyist for Clark County, and Ms. Ardell Kingham, budget analyst for Clark County, spoke against SB 243. (See Attachment C.)

No action taken on SB 243.

SB 495 Makes appropriation from state general fund to state public works board to construct secure facility for emotionally disturbed adolescents.

Since this project is included in the Executive Budget, there was no further discussion on SB 495.

SB 483 Makes appropriation for training of workers in nursing homes; relates to care of the aged.

Senator Wilbur Faiss testified on behalf of this bill, saying that it is a pilot project for nurses to provide proper training for the unskilled help in various nursing homes throughout the State.

Dr. Ralph DiSibio, Director, Department of Human Resources, stated that the cost factor here is \$150,000. He said there are 640 untrained employees in nursing homes in the state.

Victoria Iora, Field Representative, Division of Aging Services, spoke in favor of this bill.

Senator Echols moved to indefinitely postpone SB 483.

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Motion carried.

Senator Glaser absent.

SB 405 Provides increases in certain industrial insurance benefits.

Senator Wilbur Faiss spoke in favor of this bill pertaining to industrial insurance. He also remarked that John Reiser was in favor of <u>SB 405</u>.

No action on <u>SB 405</u> pending testimony from John Reiser.

Makes appropriation from state general fund to division of state lands in state department of conservation and natural resources for purchase of certain property near south shore of Lake Tahoe.

Senator Jacobsen said he introduced this bill to show legislative intent that there will be no more casinos in Douglas County at Lake Tahoe. Senator Gibson asked how he arrived at this figure. Senator Jacobsen said that is what was in federal legislation. He thought there was an assessment made by the U.S. Forest Service. The cost would be \$25 million to purchase the property to stop building of casinos; to be funded by the federal government and the State.

Senator McCorkle moved to indefinitely postpone SB 496.

Seconded by Senator Echols.

Senator Jacobsen voted no.

Motion carried.

Senator Glaser absent.

Minutes	of the Nevada	a State La	gislature
te C	ommittee on	Fi	J.ce
Date:	April	26,	<u> 1979</u>
Page:	3		

SJR 20 Proposed amendment of Nevada constitution to specify authority and duties of and limitations upon legislative bodies to provide support for judiciary.

Judge John Mendoza, Clark County, and Judge James Guinan, Washoe County testified in favor of this resolution. Judge Guinan stated that, at the county level, the executive and legislative branches are combined. It makes it difficult for the commissioners to see that they don't have absolute control of the whole show.

Judge Mendoza commented that this particular resolution is the most important piece of legislation to be considered by the legislature this year. It would do away with a constitutional amendment that was enacted just last session.

Senator Wilson asked if there was a fundamental difference between the nature and practical effect of the operation and separation of powers between legislative and judicial, and legislative and executive. Senator Wilson remarked that a line item budget is set with respect to the executive branch; and that it is a separate and coequal branch of government. If it is appropriate for the Committee to set line item budgets with the executive branch, which is separate and co-equal; why is it not appropriate for the Committee to do that with the judiciary. Both judges replied that there wasn't a problem with setting line item budgets.

Senator Gibson stated he is reluctant to accept State funding for the courts until the legislative responsibilities are clearly defined. He said he is not comfortable with it now. The legislature keeps hearing the threats of the judges - that if you don't give us this that they will go directly to the General Fund - and he didn't think they have the right to do that. Although they say they have under the separation of powers. They have done this in other states, and he doesn't agree with that. Senator Gibson said that is one of the reasons for this resolution; and if they are serious about the State funding of the courts, he wants it clear and the responsibilities spelled out.

Judge Mendoza stated there is a more reasonable approach without such drastic change which has a great impact. That is to have some type of meeting or council aspect as they have done in other states. To meet prior to the budget preparation, where the legislative branch together with the judicial branch have pre-legislative discussion as to the needs of the various bodies. He said they have never done this. Judge Mendoza commented that they are doing it in his county under the judicial council concept, an order established by the Supreme Court just this year. For the first time, all of the judges in his county are sitting down together. They are not talking about the funding in North Las Vegas, the funding in Clark County; but the funding in all the district courts. They are with the task force, meeting with the county commissioners for the first time, asking that they sit down and start talking rather than telling what they're going to give and what they're not going to give the judicial bodies. Sitting down and talking this out has not been done in Nevada before.

Senator Wilson said this question was brought up with Mr. DeGraff of the administrative office of the Supreme Court. This does not resolve the constitutional question. Senator Wilson asked if there is a difference in substance between the jurisdiction over the executive budget and the jurisdiciton over the court budget.

Judge Mendoza replied that he didn't think there was any. As he indicated earlier, if, for example, the legislature should deny the Governor's Office any operating funds, he would have the right to go to court, and get from the treasury what is reasonably necessary to operate his office. He is a constitutional officer in the executive branch, which is equal to the legislative branch, and he is entitled to the funds to operate it.

Senator Wilson said the constitution also provides that the departments of the three separate branches are not going to simply operate separately. They are co-equal and they are supposed to interbalance.

Senator Wilson continued that Judge Mendoza was saying that either department has a right to act unilaterally in appropriating funds for what it deems a reasonable mandate of the constitutional function.

Judge Mendoza replied that necessary is the key word. If it is not necessary, they won't get it. He said that if he wanted to pay his secretary \$100,000 a year no court would uphold that, it is not reasonable or necessary.

Senator Wilson asked if Congress exercises line item jurisdiction over the Federal judiciary. Judge Mendoza didn't know.

Senator Gibson spoke of the Young case, where the judge hired a juvenile probation officer. Since the judge did not agree with the county salary scale, he hired the probation officer at a higher level than the county salary schedule provided for.

Judge Mendoza added that Judge Young made this application directly to the Board of County Commissioners asking for the increase at the budget hearing. This went in as a request which stated that because of the competitive nature of probation officers' salaries around the State, he felt that his probation officer should be paid at that rate. The Board of County Commissioners turned him down. He also asked for support costs for this position. That was turned down. He asked for a desk. That was turned down. It was then that Judge Young filed a writ in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court then assigned Justice Manoukian to hear the case. At the hearing of the case, the Board of County Commissioners came in and stipulated with Young's lawyers and said that they agreed that what Judge Young asked was reasonable, fair, and necessary for the operation of his court.

Based on that stipulation, Justice Manoukian made a finding, a recommendation to the Supreme Court. Therefore, the county should pay because the parties had agreed that it was fair and reasonable for the function and operation of his office.

Judge Mendoza continued, the other case where the same issue, of fair and reasonable, was raised was when one of the Washoe County judges appointed or hired a bailiff which was not authorized. He was then taken to the Supreme Court. The Court said no, he couldn't hire that bailiff because he had not established that it is fair and reasonable; and the record is devoid of that. It has to be shown that that is the case; for that reason the court held it wasn't fair or reasonable. Judge Mendoza remarked that he would like to refer to this as the "Golden Rule", because he who has the gold rules.

Senator Gibson moved "Do Pass" SJR 20.

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Motion carried.

Senator Glaser absent.

SB 511 Provides for state financial assistance for school construction in certain school districts.

Senator Gibson explained that he has worked this out with the Department of Education. It establishes an emergency fund which would be based on conditions as outlined in the bill. Senator Gibson said if the Committee supports the approach, it would be an action which would be entirely justifiable over the years ahead. They limit the amount for the local entities who must be able to come up with at least 60 percent of the necessary funding. After all these conditions are met, the State could allocate funds out of this emergency fund but no more than 40 percent of the total project cost. This would take care of the Alamo situation.

Senator Wilson moved "Do Pass" SB 511.

Seconded by Senator Gibson.

Senator McCorkle voted no.

(Committee Minutes)

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(SB 511 - bill action continued)

Motion carried.

Senator Glaser absent.

Appropriation to department of economic development for tourism and industry.

Senator Gibson moved to increase the amount to \$450,000; with \$300,000 for Clark and Washoe counties.

Seconded by Senator Glaser.

Senator McCorkle voted no.

Motion carried.

Senator Gibson moved that the preceding amounts be divided evenly between the years of the biennium.

Seconded by Senator McCorkle.

Motion carried unanimously.

Senator Gibson moved that an application deadline of January 1 be established for each fiscal year.

Seconded by Senator Wilson.

Motion carried.

Senator Gibson moved that the first two-thirds of the money be matched, dollar for dollar; and the last third be matched one dollar for two dollars from the locals.

Seconded by Senator Wilson.

Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Page 110

Senator Gibson moved to approve the Governor's budget.

Seconded by Senator Glaser.

Senator Jacobsen moved to increase the budget to \$500,000 each year of the biennium.

Seconded by Senator Glaser.

Senator Gibson suggested that since this involves such a large amount of money, that Mr. Buchanan bring back a budget based on that amount.

Budget held.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS - Page 812

Marina Development-Cave Lake, White Pine

Senator Gibson moved to approve this budget.

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Motion carried unanimously.

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inutes of the Nevada State sislature chate Committee on dance Date: April 26, 1979
Page: 6

Lahontan

Senator Jacobsen moved to approve this budget.

Seconded by Senator Wilson.

Motion carried unanimously.

Rye Patch

Senator Glaser moved to approve this budget.

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Motion carried unanimously.

Washoe Lake

Senator Wilson moved to approve this budget.

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Motion carried unanimously.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS - Page 804

Project 79-17 Mental Health Center

Senator Jacobsen moved to keep Fleischmann funds in the budget. If the Fleischmann funds do not materialize, they will have to either scale the project down, or come to the Interim Finance Committee.

Seconded by Senator Wilson.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lee Chavez, Secretary

APPROVED:

Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman

AGRNDA

Senate Committee	onrindice	
DateThursd	ay, April 26, 1979	-
Time 7:30 a	.m. Room 231	-
Bills or Resolutions to be considered	Subject	Counsel Requested*
s.B. 495 V	Makes appropriation from state generate state public works board to constitutionally disturbed acceptable of the state of	cuct secure
S.B. 483	Makes appropriation for training of win nursing.	vorkers
s.B. 405 V	Provides increases in certain industrinsurance benefits.	cial
S.B. 496 √	Makes appropriation from state general division of state lands in state department of conservation and natural resources for certain property near south shore Lake Tahoe.	artment of or purchase
S.J.R. 20 √	Proposes amendment of Nevada constitutions of authority and duties of and upon legislative bodies to provide sujudiciary.	limitations
S.B. 243	Adds two judges to second judicial di	istrict.
S.B. 469	Allows fire departments to recover confighting fires on state-owned property	

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SENATE	COMMITTEE

GUEST LIST

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NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION
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CIVIL	1976	1977	1978
CASES FILED	6,436	6,920	6,965
*ACTIONS PRESENTLY SET FOR JURY TRIAL	298	328	684 4/26
*ACTIONS PRESENTLY SET FOR NON-JURY	836	889	1,810
*SETTLED CASES	4,263	4,699	6,083
"ACTIVE" CIVIL CASES 1974-78			11,171
*Note: These figures inclu filed in previous y			
DIVORCE			
-CASES FILED	6,582	6,097	7,502
*DECREES GRANTED .	5,874	6,980	7,080
CONTESTED DIVORCES		_366	287
UNCONTESTED DIVORCES		5,510	6,119
*Note: Decrees granted inclu- those actions filed in years.	de n previous	-	
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SEPARATE MAINTENANCE		7 L	37
CRIMINAL			
CASES FILED	3,255	3,477	4,069
ARRAIGNMENTS	2,383	2,846	2,568
SENTENCINGS	1,160	1,353	1,376
REVOCATION OF PROBATION	,	. 47	51
MISC. CRIMINAL MATTERS	-	632	445.
. "ACTIVE" CRIMINAL CASES ON FILE			2,000

EX HIBIT -

PETITIONS	1976	1977	1978	
PROBATE PETITIONS	783	864	773	2
MENTAL HEALTH PETITIONS	285	204	291	
ADOPTIONS	337	388	385	
JUVENILE PETITIONS FILED	1,834	1,604	1,908	*
JUVENILE HEARINGS	-	21,814	25,844	ų.
U.R.A. PETITIONS FILED	1,838	. 1,604	2,065	
CIVIL WRITS, PARENTAL RIGHTS NAME CHANGE, PERMISSION TO MARRY	547	660	594	
*GUARDIANSHIP			117	
*Note: Guardianship Petition were included in Prob		or		

1978.

DISTRICT COURT CASELOAD STATISTICS 1974 - 78

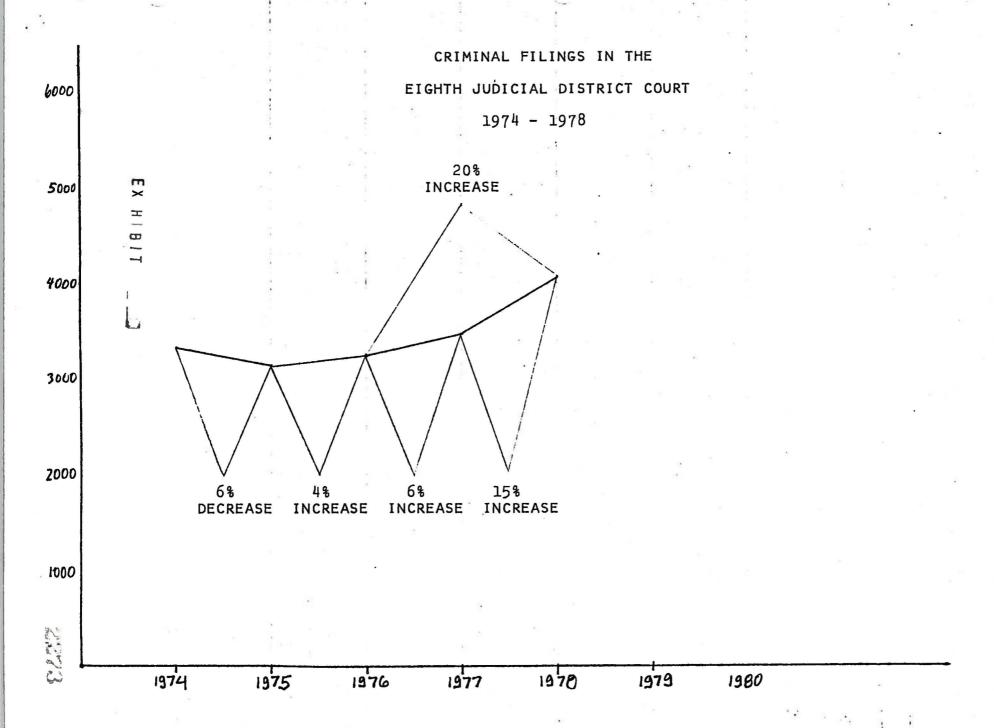
YEAR	DIVORCES FILED	DECREES GRANTED"	CIVIL	PROBATE	CRIMINAL	MARRIAGES	JUVEN I LE	MENTALS	URA	TOTAL
						1				
1974	6,401	5,443	5,693	749	3,337	50,575	1,692	450	1,631	19,953
1975	6,638	5,757	6,273	751	3,140	49,341	1,676	340	1,859	20,677
1976	6,582	5,874	6,436	783	3,255	48,643	1,834	285	1,838	21,013
1977	6,097	6,980	6,920	864	3,477	52,415	1,604	204	2,052	21,218
1978	7,502	7,080	6,965	773	4,069	56,010	1,908	291	2,065	23,573

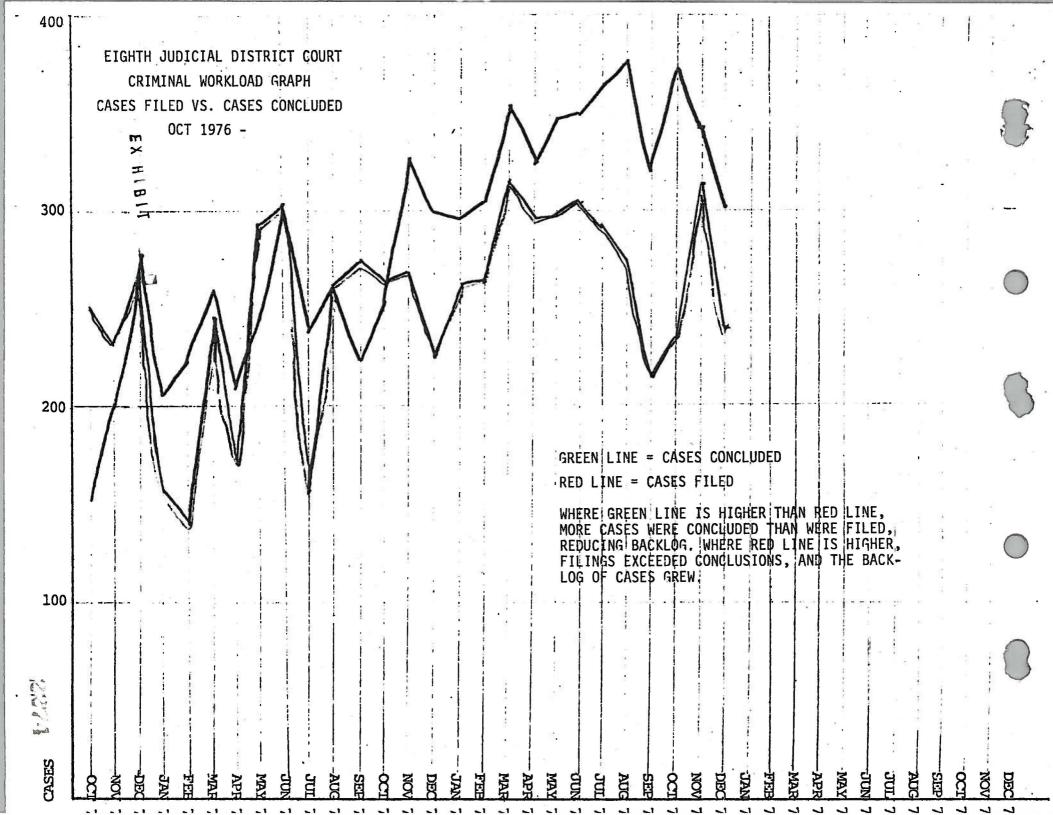
" DIVORCE DECREES AND
MARRIAGES NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL

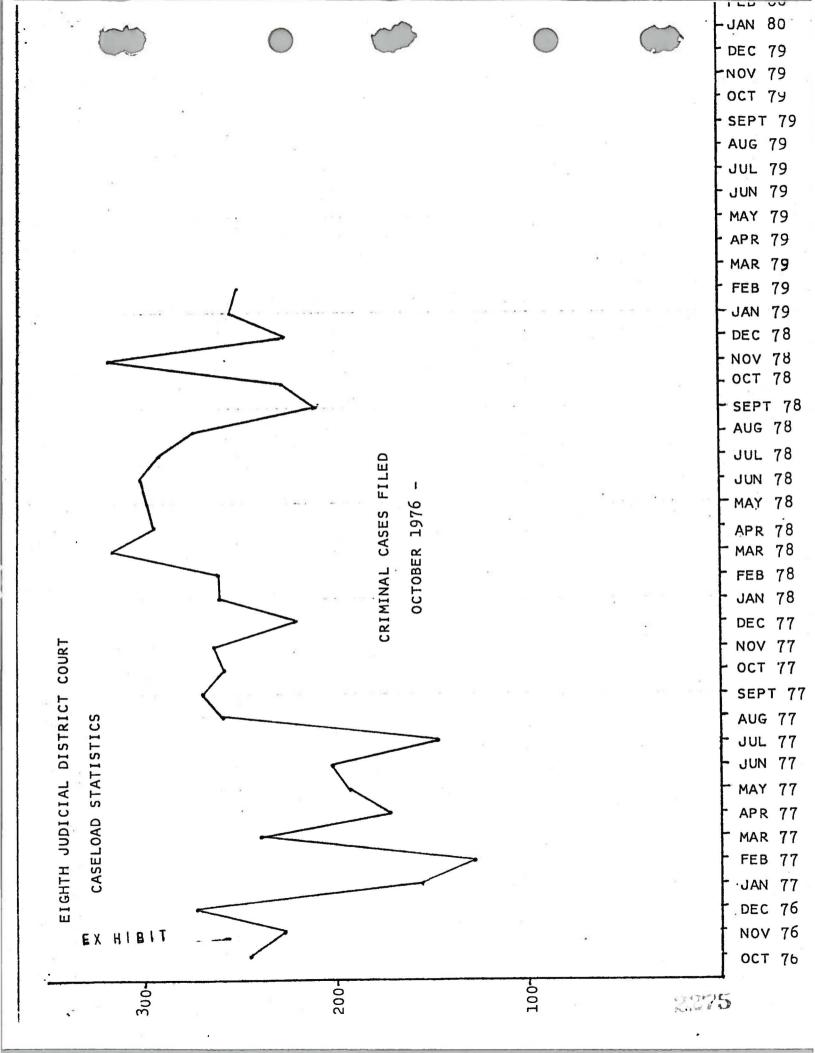
ÝEAR	TOTAL CASELOAD	NUMBER OF JUDGES	CASELOAD PER JUDGE
1974	19,953	10	1,995
1975	20,677	10.5**	1,969 - 2% DECREASE
1976	21,013	11,	1,910 - 3% DECREASE
1977	21,218	11	1,929 - 1% INCREASE
1978	23,573	11	2,143 - 10% INCREASE

** DEPARTMENT 11 BEGAN 7/1/75

X HIBIT



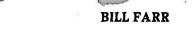




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EX HIRIT





WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

5699 Wedekind Road Sparks, Nevada 89431 Phone: Res. 358-2294 Bus. 785-5454

April 25, 1979

Ipril 26

Senate Finance Committee Legislative Building Capitol Complex Carson City, Nevada 89710

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing, as Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County, to urge your support of SB 243. The Washoe County Commissioners strongly support the creation of two additional judgeships in the Second Judicial District. In anticipation of that need, we have made provisions for additional space in the County Courthouse to accommodate the new judges and we have included funds in our 1979/80 budget to support the two additional judgeships.

The increasing court congestion means that Washoe County citizens are encountering long delays in having their legal affairs brought before the courts to be resolved. Washoe County is prepared to meet its financial obligation to remedy the situation.

We believe that the additional judgeships for Washoe County and additional judgeships for Clark County are two separate and distinct issues and we hope that you will consider our request on its own merits.

Sincerely,

Chairman

Board of County Commissioners

Washoe County

BF/rl

Washoe County Commission District Court Judges







BRUCE W. SPAULDING XAXXistant County Manager

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

TO:

SAMUEL D. MAMET, MANAGEMENT ANALYST

FROM:

ARDEL KINGHAM, SR. BUDGET ANALYST

SUBJECT:

FISCAL IMPACT OF S.B. 243 - TWO ADDITIONAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

DATE:

APRIL 25, 1979

This fiscal report is predicated on the following facts associated with Clark County's ability to support two additional judges.

- 1) Because of existing over-crowded conditions within county facilities and because the courthouse bond issue failed, all space requirements associated with new courts will have to be rented from private sources.
- 2) Because rented facilities are not generally structured to facilitate courtroom requirements, expensive remodeling will be necessary.
- 3) Because of the track and team program established in Clark County, two new district courts will necessitate one additional justice court, one district attorney team and one public defender team.

The total first year costs associated with two new district judges is \$1,198,037, and consists of the following:

District Court @ \$203,540 each	\$407,080
Justice Court @ \$226,717 each	\$226,717
Track and Team - District Attorney	\$350,594
Track and Team - Public Defender	\$213,646

The total second year costs associated with two new district judges is \$975,676 and consists of the following:

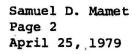
District Court @ \$122,003	\$244,006
Justice Court	\$149,735
Track and Team - District Attorney	\$362,739
Track and Team - Public Defender	\$219,196

The primary reason for the significant difference between year one and year two costs results from the expenditures of \$222,361 for remodeling and capital equipment.

The breakdown of these estimated costs is as follows:

EX HIBIT C

State 6



District Court

	Year One	Year Two @ 8%
Salaries and Wages (Incl. Fringes) 5 positions	\$ 73,160	\$ 79,013
Capital Equipment	29,000	1,000
Space Rental (Incl. Utilities)	27,000	27,000
Services and Supplies	14,380	14,990
Remodeling 3,000 sq. ft.@ \$20	60,000	
	\$203,540	\$122,003
*		
Justice Court		
Salaries and Wages (Incl. Fringes) 6 positions	\$101,661	\$109,794
Capital Equipment	27,000	1,000
Space Rental (Incl. Utilities)	27,000	27,000
Services and Supplies	11,056	11,941
Remodeling 3,000 sq. ft. @ \$20	60,000	
	\$226,717	\$149,735
Track and Tear	<u>m</u>	
District Attorney		
Salaries and Wages (Incl. Fringes) 11.5 positions	\$299,379	\$323,329
Capital Equipment	12,500	1,000
Space Rental (Incl. Utilities)	15,525	15,525
Services and Supplies	21,190	22,885
Remodeling - Minimal	2,000 \$350,594	\$362,739
Public Defender	73337331	70027.00
Salaries and Wages (Incl. Fringes)	\$182,371	\$196,961
6.5 positions		¥ - 450
Capital Equipment	8,500	500
Space Rental (Incl. Utilities)	8,775	8,775
Services and Supplies	12,000	12,960
Remodeling - Minimal	2,000	6210 106
	\$213,646	\$219,196



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM

Subject:

DISCUSSION OF SB 243 - TWO ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS FOR THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Clerk Ref.#

Petitioner

BRUCE W. SPAULDING, COUNTY MANAGER

Commission Backup

Recommendation:

That the Board of County Commissioners discuss SB 243 as amended and consider adopting a resolution opposing additional District Court Judges for which the Legislature does not provide supporting funds.

Fiscal Impact:

Potential savings to the County will be approximately \$1,000,000.

Background:

Amendments to SB 243 have been introduced to create 2 new additional District Court judgeships for Clark County. If the Legislature approves these judgeships, the estimated cost to the County is \$1,000,000 for the first year of operation. Since none of the proposed expenditure caps allow for the augmentation of budgets to provide for mandated expenses, if SB 243 becomes law, then further adjustments would be required in the existing 1979-80 budget. The attached resolution expresses the BCC's opposition to this proposed legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

BRUCE W. SPAULDING

County Manager

EX HIBIT C

Cleared for Agenda

4/17/79 70

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AGENDA /5

BWS/kh

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Nevada State Senate has introduced Senate Bill 243; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 243 has been amended to create two additional District Court judgeships for Clark County; and

WHEREAS, these two additional District Court judgeships will accrue to Clark County an additional expense of approximately \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada State Legislature will implement a comprehensive tax reform package, which will severely impact the County budget; and

WHEREAS, this tax reform measure will contain an expenditure ceiling for local government; and

WHEREAS, every proposed expenditure ceiling has included State mandates within the ceiling, so that budgets may not be augmented to allow for mandated expenses; and

WHEREAS, given these impending constraints it becomes impossible for the County to absorb these additional expenses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Clark County Board of Commissioners that:

the Board strongly opposes Senate Bill 243 as amended and urges the Nevada Legislature to reject this proposal which would mandate increased costs contrary to the expressed desires of the voters to reduce governmental expenditures.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Clark County, Nevada

SAM	BOWLER,	Chairman	

ATTEST:

EX HIBIT C

LORETTA BOWMAN, County Clerk