

The Senate Committee on Legislative Functions was called to order on Thursday, April 19, 1979 in Room 243 at 2:40 p.m. Senator Gene Echols in the Chair.

PRESENT: Chairman Echols
Vice-Chairman Close
Senator Ford
Senator Gibson
Senator Wilson
Senator Young

GUESTS: Leola Armstrong, Secretary of the Senate

Leola Armstrong, Secretary of the Senate, stated that SB-263 (which provides for a bifurcated session) had had no provision for any staff at all. Mrs. Armstrong stated that Senator Ford got an amendment to the bill which provided that the secretary shall, during adjournment, assign the assistant secretary and history clerk to assist the committees of the Senate which are meeting (the new language is on Page 3, Section 3, subsection 2). Mrs. Armstrong stated that the new language is impossible because she could use the assistant secretary and history clerk to help her which would cut off a week of work the secretary has to do after the session has ended. Mrs. Armstrong informed the Committee that the worst thing about SB-263 is that she doesn't know how she can hire a staff with the provision that they will be laid off for a week during the session without pay. Mrs. Armstrong stated that the bill needs to be amended to provide that the staff will receive pay for that week.

Senator Gibson stated that we could amend SB-263, Page 3, Section 3, subsection 2 to read, "During periods of extended adjournment, the employees of the legislature whose service is required, shall perform such duties as assigned and shall be entitled to be paid at the rates specified in this section for each day of such employment."

Senator Gibson moved that the Committee draft this new language as a further Committee amendment to the first reprint of SB-263 (See Exhibit "A").

Senator Young seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

* * * * *

Mrs. Armstrong informed the Committee that she and Mouryne Landing, Assembly Chief Clerk, have prepared a suggested salary scale which would increase the salaries of the legislative staff to be comparable with what the state employees will be earning next biennium (See Exhibit "B"). Mrs. Armstrong said the salaries

were based on the amount of work that has to be done. She said the committee stenographer's pay was increased quite a bit because they are valuable to the legislature and work very hard. Mrs. Armstrong said the secretary's pay was increased a big chunk because they have been getting raises at a dollar a day for about ten years. Mrs. Armstrong said the Committee could cut it down if they wanted to.

Senator Gibson asked when the salary schedule was last changed.

Mrs. Armstrong stated that it was changed a little bit last session in some of the categories. She said each session there's been a raise some place.

Chairman Echols asked the Committee if the salary increases could be put right in with SB-263 because he was concerned that a bill would not get drafted before the end of the session.

Mrs. Armstrong informed the Committee that there may be a problem with the suggested salary scale because the Assembly had requested that their supervisor of clerks be paid \$40 a day and Mrs. Armstrong said she changed it to \$36 a day. Mrs. Armstrong said she would be willing to increase it because the Assembly clerk supervisor is in charge of 20 people and the Senate clerk supervisor is only in charge of 6 people.

Senator Gibson moved that the Committee incorporate the new suggested salary scale into SB-263, Page 3, Section 3, Subsection 1, as a further amendment (See Exhibit "B").

Senator Young seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

* * * * *

Mrs. Armstrong informed the Committee that she had sent a memo to each member of the legislative staff requesting that no one ask for Saturday off unless they were very ill or someone in their family was in the like situation. Mrs. Armstrong stated that one of the Pages (Derek Rowley) had signed up and paid for a youth conference at his church some months ago. She said the conference starts Friday night and lasts all day Saturday. Mrs. Armstrong said she would be willing to give him Saturday off without pay but asked for guidance from the Committee.

The Committee decided to let Derek Rowley have Saturday off but he would be docked for it.

* * * * *

Mrs. Armstrong spoke to the Committee regarding media correspondents regulations. She presented to the Committee a copy of the Capitol Correspondents application for credentials, and the by-laws of the Capitol Correspondents Association which California uses (See Exhibit "C"). Mrs. Armstrong stated that a rule would have to be drafted to incorporate this. She said in California they use a joint rule.

Mrs. Armstrong said she would furnish the Committee with a copy of the California Joint Rule for the media correspondents regulations so the Committee would have a guideline to draft a rule.

Senator Young moved that the Committee draft a rule change for the media correspondents regulations.

Senator Ford seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

* * * * *

Senator Ford moved for Committee permission to have a joint resolution drafted which would be an introduction of a constitutional amendment to allow for pre-session organization of the legislature.

Senator Wilson seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Conni J. Horning
Respectfully Submitted By:
Conni J. Horning, Secretary

Gene Echols
Approved By:
Senator Gene Echols
Chairman

EXHIBIT "A"

(REPRINTED WITH ADOPTED AMENDMENTS)

FOURTH REPRINT

S. B. 263

SENATE BILL NO. 263—COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS

FEBRUARY 26, 1979

Referred to Committee on Legislative Functions

SUMMARY—Provides for remuneration of legislators and staff during
certain adjournments. (BDR 17-876)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

EXPLANATION—Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the state legislature; providing for the remuneration of members and staff during certain adjournments; increasing the compensation and per diem expense allowance for members of the legislature; increasing the remuneration of employees of the legislature; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

The People of the State of Nevada, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. NRS 218.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 218.210 1. Each senator [and assemblyman] elected before
3 [November 7, 1978,] *November 4, 1980*, or appointed to succeed a
4 senator [or assemblyman] elected before [November 7, 1978,] *Novem-*
5 *ber 4, 1980*, is entitled to receive as compensation [\$60] *\$80* per day for
6 each day of service:
7 (a) During any regular session, for the number of days the legisla-
8 ture is in session, *or in adjournment for not more than 3 days*, or the
9 maximum number of days for which compensation for a regular session
10 is permitted by the constitution, whichever is smaller; and
11 (b) During any special session, for the number of days the legisla-
12 ture is in session or the maximum number of days for which compensa-
13 tion for a special session is permitted by the constitution, whichever is
14 smaller.
15 2. Each senator and assemblyman elected on or after [November 7,
16 1978,] *November 4, 1980*, or appointed to succeed a senator or assem-
17 blyman elected on or after [November 7, 1978,] *November 4, 1980*, is
18 entitled to receive as compensation [\$80] *\$95* per day for each day
19 of service:
20 (a) During any regular session, for the number of days the legisla-
21 ture is in session, *or in adjournment for not more than 3 days*, or the

LEOLA H. ARMSTRONG
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
401 S. CARSON STREET
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89710



MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 510
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701

EXHIBIT "B"
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SENATE

Nevada Legislature

Carson City, Nevada 89710
April 11, 1977

Senator Eugene Echols
Chairman, Legislative Functions Comm.
Carson City, NV, 89710

Dear Senator Echols:

At a recent meeting you gave me permission to meet with the Chief Clerk of the Assembly and discuss salary increases for legislative attaches.

Maurine and I have met, and the attached are the figures we have come up with. These are based on between 12 and 13 percent increases, which is what the state employees will be receiving during the next biennium. If we are to continue to be able to recruit competent help, we must be able to pay competitive salaries.

It appears that the suggested salaries would keep us in the "ball game."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leola".

Leola H. Armstrong
Secretary of the Senate

LHA:gc
Encl.

One. I would like to discuss this with the Committee

SENATE

Assistant secretary	\$51
Assistant Sergeant at arms	32
Clerks	25
Committee stenographers	44
History Clerk	45
Journal Clerk	45
Minute Clerk	45
Page	24
Secretary	65
Sergeant at arms	42
Stenographers	38
Supervisor of clerks	36
Supervisor of Stenographers	45

ASSEMBLY

Assistant chief clerk\$ 51
Assistant sergeant at arms	32
Assistant supervisor of clerks	35
Chief clerk	65
Clerks	25
Committee stenographer	44
History clerk	45
Journal clerk	45
Minute clerk	45
Pages	24
Sergeant at arms	42
Stenographers	38
Supervisor	45
Supervisor of clerks	36
Supply Clerk	31
Typists	28

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EXHIBIT "C"
Page 1 of 7

SENATE

Nevada Legislature

Carson City, Nevada 89710
March 5, 1979

MEMORANDUM

TO : Legislative Functions Committee
Attention: Senator Gene Echols

FROM : Leola H. Armstrong
Secretary of the Senate


SUBJECT: Media Correspondents Regulation

At a recent meeting of the Legislative Functions Committee I recommended a change in the manner in which media correspondents are accredited to the Nevada Legislature.

Enclosed you will find copies of the Capitol Correspondents application for credentials, and the by-laws of the Capitol Correspondents Association, State Capital, Sacramento, California.

While this may be a little too formal for Nevada, a certain amount of "tightening up" will prevent some of the problems we are beginning to have.

As I indicated, the majority of the members of the press have no objections to some sort of regulation.


Leola H. Armstrong

LHA:gc
Encl.

925 L ST., SUITE 312
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

(916) 445-4212

APPLICATION FOR CREDENTIALS

In conformity with Rule 32 of the Joint Rules of the California Legislature, I hereby apply for the privileges of an accredited press representative at the 19__ Session of the Legislature.

In conformity with Rule 32 of the Joint Rules, I herewith list (1) all newspapers, news associations, radio and television stations by which I am employed as a fulltime or part time correspondent and (2) any other occupation or employment I may have. I understand that the Standing Committee of the Capitol Correspondents Association shall be notified of any change in my employment during the ensuing year.

Also in conformity with Rule 32, I hereby declare that I am not employed, directly or indirectly, to assist in the prosecution of the legislative business of any person, corporation or association and will not become so employed while retaining the privileges of an accredited press representative.

NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

FULLTIME EMPLOYER _____

DATE _____

ANY PART TIME EMPLOYERS:

BY-LAWS OF THE CAPITOL CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION

I. The Capitol Correspondents Association, hereinafter referred to as the Association, is organized by direction and under authority of Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2, filed with the Secretary of State, Chapter No. 2 (1943), and operates in the manner set forth in Rule 32 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly.

II. Membership in the Association shall be strictly limited to Capitol correspondents of reputable standing in their business who represent daily newspapers requiring a daily file of legislative news, news services requiring a daily file of legislative news, or radio and television stations requiring a daily file of legislative news.

III. There shall be seven officers of the Association who together shall form the Standing Committee, hereinafter called the committee. The officers shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, one representative from the daily, printed press, one representative from the news services, and one representative from a radio or television station.

IV. Officers shall be elected annually during an association meeting called by the president during the second week of each regular legislative session. Sixty per cent of the members shall constitute a quorum for the annual meeting. The officer elected

to each position shall be the nominee who receives the greatest number of votes.

V. The president, vice president, secretary and treasurer shall be elected by all members from among nominees offered by all members of the association. The representative of the daily, printed press shall be elected by members representing daily, printed newspapers from among nominees offered by members representing daily, printed newspapers. The elected representative shall be the nominee who receives the greatest number of votes. The representatives from the news services and from a radio or television station shall be elected in the same manner.

VI. The standing committee shall form, from within itself, a subcommittee on credentials which shall include a representative of the daily printed press, of the news services and of a radio or television station.

The subcommittee shall examine each application for accreditation and shall recommend to the full committee whether the application shall be approved. The committee shall approve or disapprove each application by majority vote and report its action to the Assembly Speaker or Senate Committee on Rules.

The standing committee shall form, from within itself, a subcommittee on housing to approve or disapprove requests from accredited members of the association for desks in the chambers, office space, equipment and repairs.

VII. Any decision of a subcommittee may be appealed to the full committee. Any decision of the full committee may be appealed to the full membership under the procedures in Article XIII.

VIII. The president or a majority of members of the standing committee may call an association meeting at anytime provided that notice is distributed at least 24 hours in advance to offices of association members. Sixty per cent of members shall constitute a quorum.

IX. The president shall preside at all association meetings. He shall also serve as chairman of the standing committee and as a member of all subcommittees of the standing committee.

The secretary shall keep a record of the members of the association, copies of which, together with the names of the officers, he shall file with the Chief Clerk of the Assembly and with the Secretary of the Senate. He shall also keep a record of the minutes of each meeting of the association.

The treasurer shall keep any funds the association may hold and shall maintain a record of association income and expenses.

X. In the event of a vacancy in any office, the duties of that office shall be filled by the officer named next in the order set forth in Article III. Vacancies shall be filled within 30 days of their occurrence under procedures set forth in Articles IV and V. The standing committee, by two-thirds vote, shall determine when a vacancy exists.

XI. In the event an officer is absent, the duties of his office shall be filled temporarily by the officer named next in the order set forth in Article III.

XII. An accredited member of the association who breaks Joint Rule 32A or 32F shall be subject to the following penalties:

a-- for the first offense, the standing committee shall send a letter of admonition to the offending member, his employer and the Joint Rules Committee of the Legislature. The letter shall state the nature of the member's rule violation and shall warn of an additional penalty for a second offense.

b-- for a second offense, the standing committee shall recommend to the Joint Rules Committee that the member's accreditation be suspended or revoked and that he lose all rights and privileges attached thereto. The standing committee shall also dismiss the member from the association.

XIII. Any member of the standing committee may propose that the committee make an inquiry to determine if an association member has broken Joint Rule 32A or 32F. Upon a majority vote of the committee, an inquiry shall be made.

Upon receipt of a signed, written notice from any association member of his belief that another association member may have broken Joint Rule 32A or 32F, the standing committee shall commence an inquiry into the possible violation.

If the standing committee determines by majority vote that an association member has broken an association rule, it shall inform the member of its finding. Within two weeks of notification, the

member may request a meeting of the membership. If the member makes such a request, the standing committee shall promptly schedule a meeting at the soonest possible time. After hearing the member and the committee review the circumstances of the alleged violation, the membership may, by majority vote, nullify the standing committee finding. If nullification does not occur, the standing committee shall enact immediately the appropriate penalty.