

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. Senator Glaser in the Chair.

PRESENT: Senator Glaser, Vice-Chairman
Senator Faiss
Senator Jacobsen
Senator Lamb
Senator Sloan

EXCUSED: Senator Neal

OTHERS

PRESENT: Mr. Roland Westergard, Director, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Senator Glaser asked that the record show that Senator Neal was testifying before the Commerce and Labor Committee and he requested that the meeting begin without him.

Senator Glaser announced that the committee would be hearing further testimony on S.B. 235, S.B. 119 and S.B. 195.

S.B. 235 - Removes limitation on assessments for certain expenses of water distribution.

Senator Glaser restated the thrust of the bill, as was discussed in the last meeting, which was to remove the cap on the limitation set on the amount of assessment. Senator Glaser felt this would be politically unpopular since the users on the Humboldt River system had been operating under a cap until now. He stated that in discussions he had with Mr. Roland Westergard, Mr. Westergard stated that he could operate at 16¢ per acre foot. The Department might not need that much, but it would provide enough flexibility.

Senator Glaser stated that he would entertain a motion to amend the bill to raise the present limit to 16¢.

Senator Sloan moved S.B. 235 be passed out of committee with the recommendation: Amend, and do pass as amended.

Seconded by Senator Faiss.

Motion carried.

S.B. 119 - Creates metric system advisory council.

Senator Jacobsen explained that when the bill and amendment were read the second time in the Senate, Senators Neal and Glaser were not present to explain the bill so he had it sent back to committee. He stated that there had been some testimony given in another committee meeting which confirmed his doubts as to the propriety of placing the Council under the Department of Agriculture. He is presently in the process of checking with the University of Nevada to see if there is a better "home" for the Council. He will report back at a later meeting.

S.B. 195 - Provides for financing of certain projects to develop water resources.

Senator Glaser explained that he introduced this bill because the State is in need of water related and water-based recreational opportunities. The State should also expand on economic opportunities in areas of recreation other than gambling, especially since other states are now legalizing gaming.

Senator Glaser stated that when the bill was originally drafted the State had a large surplus. The Governor has since committed that surplus to other programs. The Senate Finance Committee is presently looking over those programs, so there is a possibility that funds will be available.

Mr. Roland Westergard of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources reviewed the sections of the bill.

Senator Sloan asked why the member of the review board selected from the public must "own and control water rights for agricultural purposes." Senator Glaser replied that the stream system and agricultural users are zealously protective of their water and this provision would give them protection in this area.

Senator Lamb asked if the bill was a little premature. He felt it would be better to wait and see exactly how much money will be available to commit to this project before the bill is discussed. Senator Glaser remarked that the bill is being considered on the concept, not the fiscal possibility. He reminded Senator Lamb that the bill would be re-referred to Finance.

Senator Faiss moved that S.B. 195 be moved out of committee with the recommendation: Do pass, and re-refer to the committee on Finance.

Seconded by Senator Lamb.

Motion carried.

Senator Sloan requested committee introduction on BDR 48-1186*, which would provide that payments under Boulder Canyon Project Adjustment Act be paid to Clark County.

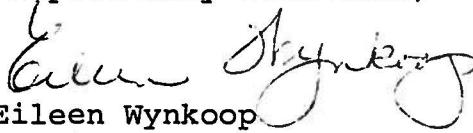
Senator Lamb moved that BDR 48-1186 be introduced by the Committee on Natural Resources.

Seconded by Senator Faiss.


Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Eileen Wynkoop
Committee Secretary

APPROVED:


Norman D. Glaser, Vice-Chairman

*SB 282



SENATE BILL NO. 235—SENATOR DODGE

FEBRUARY 14, 1979

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Removes limitation on assessments for certain expenses of water distribution. (BDR 48-455)

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 administration of stream systems; removing the limitation on assessments for certain expenses of water distribution; 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 533.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 533.280 1. The state engineer shall, between the 1st Monday of
3 October and the 1st Monday of December of each year, prepare a budget
4 of the amount of money estimated to be necessary to pay the expenses of
5 the stream system or each water district for the then current year.
6 2. The budget [shall] *must* show the following detail:
7 (a) The aggregate amount estimated to be necessary to pay the
8 expenses of the stream system or water district.
9 (b) The aggregate water rights in the stream system or water district
10 as determined by the state engineer or the court.
11 (c) The unit charge necessary to provide the [funds] *money* required.
12 (d) The charge against each water user, which [shall] *must* be based
13 upon the proportion which his water right bears to the aggregate water
14 rights in the stream system; but the minimum charge [shall be] *is* \$1.
15 3. When the stream system lies in more than one county, a separate
16 budget [shall] *must* be prepared for each county showing only the claim-
17 ants and charges assessable within the county.
18 [4. When the stream system irrigates more than 200,000 acres of
19 land, the assessment for water distribution expenses shall not exceed 8
20 cents per acre-foot of water decreed.]

S. B. 195

**SENATE BILL NO. 195—SENATORS GLASER, BLAKEMORE,
YOUNG AND KEITH ASHWORTH**

FEBRUARY 8, 1979

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

**SUMMARY—Provides for financing of certain projects to
develop water resources. (BDR 48-345)**

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

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

AN ACT relating to water resources; creating a review board for water recreation and resources and providing for its composition and duties; making an appropriation and creating a fund to finance certain projects; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

1 **WHEREAS, The State of Nevada is in need of additional facilities to**
2 **provide water-related recreational opportunities to its population; and**

3 **WHEREAS, The climate of Nevada is conducive to enjoyment of water-**
4 **related activities and sports throughout most of the year for both resi-**
5 **dents and the patrons of the state's great tourist industry; and**

6 **WHEREAS, Further development of Nevada's watercourses for recrea-**
7 **tional opportunities could benefit the state's basic industry of agriculture;**
8 **and**

9 **WHEREAS, There is presently a surplus in the state treasury that could**
10 **be used to develop water-related projects that would benefit recreation,**
11 **tourism and agriculture and thus broaden the economic base of this great**
12 **state; now, therefore.**

13 ***The People of the State of Nevada, represented in Senate and Assembly,***
14 ***do enact as follows:***
15

16
17 **Section 1. Chapter 540 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto**
18 **the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.**

19 **Sec. 2. 1. *There is hereby created a review board for water recre-***
20 ***ation and resources composed of:***

21 ***(a) The chief of the budget division of the department of administra-***
22 ***tion;***

23 ***(b) The director of the department of energy;***

24 ***(c) The director of the Nevada department of fish and game;***

Original bill is 4 pages long.
Contact the Research Library for
a copy of the complete bill.