

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m. Senator Neal in the chair.

PRESENT: Senator Neal, Chairman
Senator Glaser, Vice-Chairman
Senator Faiss
Senator Jacobsen

ABSENT: Senator Lamb
Senator Sloan

OTHERS

PRESENT: J. J. Jeremy, Nevada Metric Committee
Bruce Johnson, United States Metric Board
Hans Wolfe, Vice-President, First National Bank
Marcel Durant, Washoe County School District
Ron Gutzman, Nevada Metric Committee
Leon D. Cowan, Highway Department Training Officer
Fred Daniels, Nevada Metric Committee
Harry W. Swainston, Nevada Attorney General's Office
Tom Ballow, State Sealer, Weights and Measures
Knute Pennington, Weights and Measures
G. P. Etcheverry, Nevada League of Cities

Senator Neal announced that at this time the committee would take testimony on S.B. 119, S.J.R. 9 and S.C.R. 7.

S.B. 119 - Creates metric system advisory council. (Fiscal note included)

Mr. J. J. Jeremy of the Nevada Metric Committee read from a prepared statement on the history and need for the metric system advisory council. His statement is included in these minutes as Exhibit "A".

Senator Glaser asked if Mr. Jeremy felt that it was necessary to have 12 members on the council. He also remarked that the legislature is under pressure to cut government spending, as indicated by the vote on Question 6, and this bill has a fiscal note attached. Mr. Jeremy responded by saying that the mechanics of the bill is up to the legislature, perhaps 5 or 6 members would be enough. However, the metric committee would like the recognition of the legislature. They would not necessarily need an appropriation of funds right now.

Senator Jacobsen asked for an update of what is happening on the federal level. Mr. Jeremy indicated that Dr. Bruce Johnson, who was appointed by the President to represent the U.S. Metric Board, would be able to answer this question.

Dr. Johnson explained that he is the Chairman of the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Nevada at Reno. He provided the committee with a copy of the federal act entitled "Metric Conversion Act of 1975" in which he underlined some references to the interaction between the state governments and the United States Metric Board. A copy of that act is attached to these minutes as Exhibit "B".

Dr. Johnson stated that to answer Senator Jacobsen's question of what is happening on a national level, the United States Metric Board has financed a study of the statutes, regulations, and laws impacted by conversion to metric units. Also, the National Conference of Commissioners of Uniform State Laws is in the process of drafting a model statute for conversion to metric measurement. The United States Metric Board is establishing an interstate council, and Nevada is one of the states it is using as a sample. The purpose of the sampling is to look at the level of metric activity in varying states. For example, some states have laws written in such a way as not to allow the sale of certain items in any other unit of measure than the one presently being used.

Senator Neal questioned the term "conversion" in the bill since it does not state anywhere in the proposed law when the conversion will take place. Dr. Johnson answered that conversion is voluntary. Certain areas are changing quite rapidly, for example the automotive industry. Others, like the lumber industry, have not even begun.

Senator Jacobsen asked if there is a mandate for education to convert at any level. Dr. Johnson replied that 32 states have developed guidelines, but they are all converting at different levels. That is the main purpose for the council to be coordinating the conversion.

Senator Jacobsen then asked if Dr. Johnson anticipated any increase in the cost of products. Dr. Johnson answered that he felt there would be a balance of increases and decreases on both sides. He stated that General Motors found the greatest cost was keeping track of the conversion rather than the conversion itself.

Senator Glaser asked if General Motors had already converted to metric. Dr. Johnson replied that they are 70% to 80% converted.

Mr. Hans Wolfe, Vice President of First National Bank, spoke in favor of the bill. He stated that he is involved with this bill because he is the community affairs representative for the bank. He felt that in order for the council to accomplish effective conversion, they need legislative recognition. Conversely, establishing the council would allow the legislature supervision over the progress made, areas of difficulties, areas where changes have already been made, areas which are costly and areas which are not costly.

He remarked that the United States' balance of payments can only be favorable through exports, and in order to trade with other countries who are on a metric system, this country should also be on a metric system.

Mr. Ron Gutzman, representing the Nevada Metric Committee, spoke in favor of the bill. He stated that he has worked with the Department of Education in metric workshops for the general public and teachers in the state. He felt that if the council were sanctioned by the legislature, the council would be in a better position to obtain monies available that might not be available to a group of volunteers.

Mr. Gutzman explained that when the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 was passed by Congress, it stated that the change to metric was completely voluntary. The reason for this is because the weights and measures laws are the states' responsibility. State action is required for conversion because the federal laws are not going to mandate conversion.

Senator Neal remarked that the fiscal note attached to the bill requested an appropriation of \$40 per day for members to attend a board meeting. He asked Mr. Gutzman if the council could operate if the salary was eliminated. Mr. Gutzman replied that they could operate with travel and per diem, and would not need the salary requirement.

Mr. Marcel Durant, a teacher with the Washoe County School District and a Reno City Council member, spoke next. He spoke in favor of the bill stating that it is easier to teach and learn the metric system. He felt that the legislature should accept the change to metric and make the task easier for the people to accomplish by sanctioning the council.

The next speaker was Thomas W. Ballow, Executive Director of the Department of Agriculture and State Sealer, Weights and Measures. Mr. Ballow informed the committee that the proponents of the bill did not consult with him, so he did not know their objectives in requesting the bill. Then the Legislative Counsel Bureau asked Mr. Ballow to prepare a fiscal note to accompany the bill. Therefore, the fiscal note is probably different than the proponents intended it to be. He did not have the benefit of discussion with the proponents because the Legislative Counsel Bureau prohibited him from discussing the bill before it was introduced.

Senator Neal asked Mr. Ballow what considerations he based the fiscal note on. Mr. Ballow answered that he considered the research function, the 12 member board and their salary and travel costs, and one employee necessary to carry out the activities of the council.

Mr. Ballow then stated that from his analysis of the bill at this point, he would not support it. He recommended the following changes: The council should consist of only 5 or 7 members. The purpose of the council and the cost should be reduced. He suggested that members appointed from other state boards not receive salaries since it was explicit in the bill that the Executive Director of the Department of Agriculture not receive a salary. He would like the flexibility to appoint someone else from the Department to serve as secretary to the council. He suggested adding the wording "or his designee" to the reference of the Executive Director of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Ballow strongly objected to being singled out as the only member of the council not having the right to vote. He felt if it is important enough for him to attend the meeting, then he should also have a vote.

Mr. Knute Pennington, Supervisor of Weights and Measures, spoke next and concurred with the testimony given by Mr. Ballow. He suggested that the committee amend NRS 581.290 which allows for designation by weight and measure, but leaves out designation by length. He suggested inserting the wording: "and length shall be by the yard, foot or inches."

No final action was taken.

S.J.R. 9 - Requests Congress to enact legislation returning Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge to the State of Nevada.

Senator Glaser explained that the resolution would strengthen the hand of United States Senator Laxalt who is introducing a bill on the federal level which would do what is intended in the Resolution. The Ruby Lake Refuge once belonged to the state and counties. When they turned it over to federal jurisdiction and made it a national refuge, the provision that it be kept in multiple use for fishing, boating and hunting was put into the transfer conditions. The Fish and Wildlife Service is now in violation of that arrangement since there are restrictions on the size of boats allowed on Ruby Lake.

The next speaker was G. P Etcheverry of the Nevada League of Cities. He explained that he is in favor of the resolution. He felt the committee should be made aware of the tremendous amount of investment made by the people in Ely, Elko, Carlin, White Pine County, Elko County and Eureka County.

Mr. Harry Swainston of the Nevada Attorney General's office was the next speaker. He spoke in favor of the bill, stating that he participated in the lawsuits in Washington, D. C. concerning the use of the Refuge. In that lawsuit, the regulations, which everyone thought were reasonable, were struck down by the district court. The court was informed that there were issues that could not be resolved because of the nature of the forum and they reserved the opportunity to correct the issues in the state and federal courts of Nevada. Since then, there have been two lawsuits filed in the district court in Reno and the state court in Ely.

He felt this is a proper resolution to support the Attorney General's office and it's efforts to make some sense out of what appears as an overview of a federal grab of a very scarce resource. The resolution will apprise Congress of the fact that the legislature of the State of Nevada is wholeheartedly and unanimously behind the efforts of the state officials to return the marshes and Ruby Lake to a multiple use concept.

The committee had no questions on the resolution. Senator Neal called for final action.

Senator Glaser moved that S.J.R. 9 be passed out of committee with the recommendation "Do Pass."

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Motion carried.

S.C.R. 7 - Commends the attorney general of State of Nevada for bringing suit to enforce promises by United States Fish and Wildlife Service respecting management of Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge.

Senator Glaser explained that he introduced the resolution to bring attention to the new Attorney General, Richard Bryan, that the legislature feels this lawsuit is important. The intention was to strengthen his hand and reinforce him in pursuing the suit now pending.

Senator Neal asked for final action on this resolution.

Senator Faiss moved that S.C.R. 7 be passed out of committee with the recommendation "Be adopted."

Seconded by Senator Glaser.

Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Wynkoop
Eileen Wynkoop

APPROVED:

Joe Neal, Chairman

DISCUSSION PAPERS FOR INFORMATION TO SENATE HEARING

ON METRIC BILL - SB 119

February 5, 1979 - Monday - 2:00 p.m.

Legislative Building - Room 323
Carson City, Nevada

Senator Neal's Committee on Natural Resources

I METRIC HISTORY - UPDATE

1. In 1875 the U. S. joined with sixteen (16) other countries in signing the "Treaty of the Meter."
2. In 1893 the U. S. rescinded its national standards for weights and measures from the International Bureau of Weights and Measures located in Paris.
3. From the close of the 19th Century until 1968 there was no official action by the U. S. Government in metrics.
4. In 1968 Congress moved by enacting the Metric Study Act. It called on the Secretary of Commerce to "conduct a program of investigation, research, and survey to determine the impact of measuring worldwide use of the metric system on the U. S." Broadly the study found:
 1. The U. S. was the only industrial country in the world not yet committed to going metric.
 2. That the U. S. already had made substantial use of the metric system.
 3. That a broad consensus of the surveyed believed increased use of metric to be in the Nation's best interest.
 4. That if the use of metric was deemed desirable, the way to get there was by a national plan rather than by continual drift.
5. Forwarding this information to the Congress in the final report of the U. S. Metric Study, the Secretary of Commerce in July 1971 recommended: "That the U. S. change to the International Metric System deliberately and carefully--through a coordinated national program.
6. After debating these recommendations during the years of 1972, 1973, 1974, and 1975, the U. S. Congress passed the Metric Conversion Act of 1975. It was signed into law by the President on December 23, 1975. It established a national policy "to coordinate and plan the increasing use of the metric system in the U. S. and to establish a U. S. METRIC BOARD to coordinate the voluntary conversion to the metric system. The U. S. METRIC BOARD was finally established last year with the President sending seventeen (17) names to Congress for approval. We are fortunate to have a Nevada resident appointed by the President and approved by Congress. His name is Dr. Bruce Johnson, Professor of Engineering at the University of Nevada/Reno. (He is with us today and will say a few words later.)

After almost two hundred years, the U. S. is finally on the road to metric changeover. Hopefully, Nevada will be among the first states to provide the leadership to its residents.

February 5, 1979

It is important to understand that it is BUSINESS and not our government that is initiating increased metric use.

It is our desire that the Nevada Legislature do what it can to make the ultimate changeover as easy and as beneficial as possible for everyone in Nevada by passing effective legislation.

II STATEMENT TO SENATE HEARING COMMITTEE ON SB 119 - FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR U. S. METRIC BOARD - WASHINGTON, D.C.

The existence in any state as a constituted Metric Body is going to be extremely helpful, through the coming years and undoubtedly mutually so, because the U. S. Metric Board is now actively engaged in establishing a National Conference of States to coordinate involuntarily metrication and will draw principally on existing state organizations for assistance.

The U. S. Metric Board provides the following statistics:

1. 45 States have designed a state metric coordinator or contact source as a result of a directive from the National Governor's Conference.
2. Approximately 14 have a metric committee or advisory council, and a few states have both.
3. Ten (10) States have passed some kind of legislation legalizing metric centers.

III NEVADA METRIC COMMITTEE

A Nevada Metric Committee was formed three (3) years ago in 1975. Its officers are: President: Fred Daniels - President & Owner of Daniels Engineering; Vice Presidents: Ron Gutzman, Nev. Dept. of Education; Karl Havelik, Nev. State Highway Dept.; Walter Headrick, Nev. Dept. of Agriculture, Bureau of Weights and Measures; Jim Sale, Sierra Pacific Power Company & President of State PTA; Treasurer: Hans Wolfe, Vice President, F. N. B.; Executive Secretary: J. Jerry Jeremy, Director Reno District Office, Dept. of Commerce, ITA.

Its purpose--to establish a voluntary non-profit group, organized to help Nevada institutional activities, such as industry, education, and the government, cope with the problems of changing over to the use of the International System of Units (SI) as the predominant measurement system.

The aim is to lend support to conversion to our metric system, principally by coordinating, guiding, and informing the public and business of metric information.

List of Accomplishments:

1. Met with Superintendent of Public Schools to encourage metrics to be in all math textbooks.
2. Conducted fifty (50) or more Seminars on metrics for teachers training program in Las Vegas, Elko, Ely, and Winnemucca.
3. Designed Seminars for general business public.
4. Had Metric Board at the Nevada State Fair.
5. Had 5,000 specially designed metric-meter rulers to give to the general public.
6. Obtained eight (8) different 15,20,30-second metric film strips for viewing on T. V. as a public service.
7. Worked with training all Nevada Highway Dept. employees on Metric Training Program.

February 5, 1979

The Nevada Metric Committee has come to the Legislature for support and ideas on future activities. We aren't knowledgeable about writing bills. We don't need \$81,000 to start--all we need is official recognition.

If you are convinced of the need, it is up to you to write the bill to provide the guidelines. At present, we are not aware of any Legislature who will fight for Metrics--it is up to you to sell yourself and then proceed.



Public Law 94-168
94th Congress, H. R. 8674
December 23, 1975

An Act

To declare a national policy of coordinating the increasing use of the metric system in the United States, and to establish a United States Metric Board to coordinate the voluntary conversion to the metric system.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Metric Conversion Act of 1975".

Sec. 2. The Congress finds as follows:

(1) The United States was an original signatory party to the 1875 Treaty of the Meter (20 Stat. 709), which established the General Conference of Weights and Measures, the International Committee of Weights and Measures and the International Bureau of Weights and Measures.

(2) Although the use of metric measurement standards in the United States has been authorized by law since 1866 (Act of July 28, 1866; 14 Stat. 339), this Nation today is the only industrially developed nation which has not established a national policy of committing itself and taking steps to facilitate conversion to the metric system.

Sec. 3. It is therefore declared that the policy of the United States shall be to coordinate and plan the increasing use of the metric system in the United States and to establish a United States Metric Board to coordinate the voluntary conversion to the metric system.

Sec. 4. As used in this Act, the term—

(1) "Board" means the United States Metric Board, established under section 5 of this Act;

(2) "engineering standard" means a standard which prescribes (A) a concise set of conditions and requirements that must be satisfied by a material, product, process, procedure, convention, or test method; and (B) the physical, functional, performance and/or conformance characteristics thereof;

(3) "international standard or recommendation" means an engineering standard or recommendation which is (A) formulated and promulgated by an international organization and (B) recommended for adoption by individual nations as a national standard; and

(4) "metric system of measurement" means the International System of Units as established by the General Conference of Weights and Measures in 1960 and as interpreted or modified for the United States by the Secretary of Commerce.

Sec. 5. (a) There is established, in accordance with this section, an independent instrumentality to be known as a United States Metric Board.

(b) The Board shall consist of 17 individuals, as follows:

(1) the Chairman, a qualified individual who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;

(2) sixteen members who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, on the following basis—

Metric Conversion Act of 1975, 15 USC 205a note, 15 USC 205a.

15 USC 205b.

Definitions, 15 USC 205c.

United States Metric Board, Establishment, 15 USC 205d, Membership.

(A) one to be selected from lists of qualified individuals recommended by engineers and organizations representative of engineering interests;

(B) one to be selected from lists of qualified individuals recommended by scientists, the scientific and technical community, and organizations representative of scientists and technicians;

(C) one to be selected from a list of qualified individuals recommended by the National Association of Manufacturers or its successor;

(D) one to be selected from lists of qualified individuals recommended by the United States Chamber of Commerce, or its successor, retailers, and other commercial organizations;

(E) two to be selected from lists of qualified individuals recommended by the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations or its successor, who are representative of workers directly affected by metric conversion, and by other organizations representing labor;

(F) one to be selected from a list of qualified individuals recommended by the National Governors Conference, the National Council of State Legislatures, and organizations representative of State and local government;

(G) two to be selected from lists of qualified individuals recommended by organizations representative of small business;

(H) one to be selected from lists of qualified individuals representative of the construction industry;

(I) one to be selected from a list of qualified individuals recommended by the National Conference on Weights and Measures and standards making organizations;

(J) one to be selected from lists of qualified individuals recommended by educators, the educational community, and organizations representative of educational interests; and

(K) four at-large members to represent consumers and other interests deemed suitable by the President and who shall be qualified individuals.

Term of office.

As used in this subsection, each "list" shall include the names of at least three individuals for each applicable vacancy. The terms of office of the members of the Board first taking office shall expire as designated by the President at the time of nomination; five at the end of the 2d year; five at the end of the 4th year; and six at the end of the 6th year. The term of office of the Chairman of such Board shall be 6 years. Members, including the Chairman, may be appointed to an additional term of 6 years, in the same manner as the original appointment. Successors to members of such Board shall be appointed in the same manner as the original members and shall have terms of office expiring 6 years from the date of expiration of the terms for which their predecessors were appointed. Any individual appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of any term of office shall be appointed for the remainder of that term. Beginning 45 days after the date of incorporation of the Board, six members of such Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any function of the Board.

Quorum.

(c) Unless otherwise provided by the Congress, the Board shall have no compulsory powers.

(d) The Board shall cease to exist when the Congress, by law, determines that its mission has been accomplished.

Policy

implementation. Sec. 6. It shall be the function of the Board to devise and carry out a broad program of planning, coordination, and public education, con-
15 USC 205e.

December 23, 1975 - 3 - Pub. Law 94-168

sistent with other national policy and interests, with the aim of implementing the policy set forth in this Act. In carrying out this program, the Board shall—

(1) consult with and take into account the interests, views, and conversion costs of United States commerce and industry, including small business; science; engineering; labor; education; consumers; government agencies at the Federal, State, and local level; nationally recognized standards developing and coordinating organizations; metric conversion planning and coordinating groups; and such other individuals or groups as are considered appropriate by the Board to the carrying out of the purposes of this Act. The Board shall take into account activities underway in the private and public sectors, so as not to duplicate unnecessarily such activities;

(2) provide for appropriate procedures whereby various groups, under the auspices of the Board, may formulate, and recommend or suggest, to the Board specific programs for coordinating conversion in each industry and segment thereof and specific dimensions and configurations in the metric system and in other measurements for general use. Such programs, dimensions, and configurations shall be consistent with (A) the needs, interests, and capabilities of manufacturers (large and small), suppliers, labor, consumers, educators, and other interested groups, and (B) the national interest;

(3) publicize, in an appropriate manner, proposed programs and provide an opportunity for interested groups or individuals to submit comments on such programs. At the request of interested parties, the Board, in its discretion, may hold hearings with regard to such programs. Such comments and hearings may be considered by the Board;

Comments
and hearings.

(4) encourage activities of standardization organizations to develop or revise, as rapidly as practicable, engineering standards on a metric measurement basis, and to take advantage of opportunities to promote (A) rationalization or simplification of relationships, (B) improvements of design, (C) reduction of size variations, (D) increases in economy, and (E) where feasible, the efficient use of energy and the conservation of natural resources;

(5) encourage the retention, in new metric language standards, of those United States engineering designs, practices, and conventions that are internationally accepted or that embody superior technology;

(6) consult and cooperate with foreign governments, and inter-governmental organizations, in collaboration with the Department of State, and, through appropriate member bodies, with private international organizations, which are or become concerned with the encouragement and coordination of increased use of metric measurement units or engineering standards based on such units, or both. Such consultation shall include efforts, where appropriate, to gain international recognition for metric standards proposed by the United States, and, during the United States conversion, to encourage retention of equivalent customary units, usually by way of dual dimensions, in international standards or recommendations;

Consultation
and coop-
eration.

(7) assist the public through information and education programs, to become familiar with the meaning and applicability of metric terms and measures in daily life. Such programs shall include—

Public
information
and educa-
tion programs.

(A) public information programs conducted by the Board, through the use of newspapers, magazines, radio, television, and other media, and through talks before appropriate citizens' groups, and trade and public organizations;

(B) counseling and consultation by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare; the Secretary of Labor; the Administrator of the Small Business Administration; and the Director of the National Science Foundation, with educational associations, State and local educational agencies, labor education committees, apprentice training committees, and other interested groups, in order to assure (i) that the metric system of measurement is included in the curriculum of the Nation's educational institutions, and (ii) that teachers and other appropriate personnel are properly trained to teach the metric system of measurement;

(C) consultation by the Secretary of Commerce with the National Conference of Weights and Measures in order to assure that State and local weights and measures officials are (i) appropriately involved in metric conversion activities and (ii) assisted in their efforts to bring about timely amendments to weights and measures laws; and

(D) such other public information activities, by any Federal agency in support of this Act, as relate to the mission of such agency;

(8) collect, analyze, and publish information about the extent of usage of metric measurements; evaluate the costs and benefits of metric usage; and make efforts to minimize any adverse effects resulting from increasing metric usage;

Surveys.
Recommendations to
Congress and
President.

(9) conduct research, including appropriate surveys; publish the results of such research; and recommend to the Congress and to the President such action as may be appropriate to deal with any unresolved problems, issues, and questions associated with metric conversion, or usage, such problems, issues, and questions may include, but are not limited to, the impact on workers (such as costs of tools and training) and on different occupations and industries, possible increased costs to consumers, the impact on society and the economy, effects on small business, the impact on the international trade position of the United States, the appropriateness of and methods for using procurement by the Federal Government as a means to effect conversion to the metric system, the proper conversion or transition period in particular sectors of society, and consequences for national defense;

Report to
Congress and
President.

(10) submit annually to the Congress and to the President a report on its activities. Each such report shall include a status report on the conversion process as well as projections for the conversion process. Such report may include recommendations covering any legislation or executive action needed to implement the the programs of conversion accepted by the Board. The Board may also submit such other reports and recommendations as it deems necessary; and

Report to
Congress and
President.

(11) submit to the Congress and to the President, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Act making appropriations for carrying out this Act, a report on the need to provide an effective structural mechanism for converting customary units to metric units in statutes, regulations, and other laws at all levels of government, on a coordinated and timely basis, in response to voluntary conversion programs adopted and implemented by various sectors of society under the auspices and with the approval

of the Board. If the Board determines that such a need exists, such report shall include recommendations as to appropriate and effective means for establishing and implementing such a mechanism.

Sec. 7. In carrying out its duties under this Act, the Board may—

(1) establish an Executive Committee, and such other committees as it deems desirable;

(2) establish such committees and advisory panels as it deems necessary to work with the various sectors of the Nation's economy and with Federal and State governmental agencies in the development and implementation of detailed conversion plans for those sectors. The Board may reimburse, to the extent authorized by law, the members of such committees;

(3) conduct hearings at such times and places as it deems appropriate;

(4) enter into contracts, in accordance with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.), with Federal or State agencies, private firms, institutions, and individuals for the conduct of research or surveys, the preparation of reports, and other activities necessary to the discharge of its duties;

(5) delegate to the Executive Director such authority as it deems advisable; and

(6) perform such other acts as may be necessary to carry out the duties prescribed by this Act.

Sec. 8. (a) The Board may accept, hold, administer, and utilize gifts, donations, and bequests of property, both real and personal, and personal services, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Board. Gifts and bequests of money, and the proceeds from the sale of any other property received as gifts or bequests, shall be deposited in the Treasury in a separate fund and shall be disbursed upon order of the Board.

(b) For purpose of Federal income, estate, and gift taxation, property accepted under subsection (a) of this section shall be considered as a gift or bequest to or for the use of the United States.

(c) Upon the request of the Board, the Secretary of the Treasury may invest and reinvest, in securities of the United States, any moneys contained in the fund authorized in subsection (a) of this section. Income accruing from such securities, and from any other property accepted to the credit of such fund, shall be disbursed upon the order of the Board.

(d) Funds not expended by the Board as of the date when it ceases to exist, in accordance with section 5(d) of this Act, shall revert to the Treasury of the United States as of such date.

Sec. 9. Members of the Board who are not in the regular full-time employ of the United States shall, while attending meetings or conferences of the Board or while otherwise engaged in the business of the Board, be entitled to receive compensation at a rate not to exceed the daily rate currently being paid grade 18 of the General Schedule (under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code), including travel-time. While so serving, on the business of the Board away from their homes or regular places of business, members of the Board may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, for persons employed intermittently in the Government service. Payments under this section shall not render members of the Board employees or officials of the United States for any purpose. Members of the Board who are in the employ of the United States shall be entitled to travel expenses when traveling on the business of the Board.

Committees,
establishment.
15 USC 205f.

Hearings.

Contracts.

Gifts and
bequests.
15 USC 205g.

Unexpended
funds.

Compensation.
15 USC 205h.

5 USC 5332
note.
Travel
expenses.

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Executive
Director,
appointment,
15 USC 205L

SEC. 10. (a) The Board shall appoint a qualified individual to serve as the Executive Director of the Board at the pleasure of the Board. The Executive Director, subject to the direction of the Board, shall be responsible to the Board and shall carry out the metric conversion program, pursuant to the provisions of this Act and the policies established by the Board.

5 USC 5101
et seq.
5 USC 5331.

(b) The Executive Director of the Board shall serve full time and be subject to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code. The annual salary of the Executive Director shall not exceed level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of such title.

(c) The Board may appoint and fix the compensation of such staff personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code.

Experts and
consultants.

(d) The Board may (1) employ experts and consultants or organizations thereof, as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; (2) compensate individuals so employed at rates not in excess of the rate currently being paid grade 18 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of such title, including traveltime; and (3) may allow such individuals, while away from their homes or regular places of business, travel expenses (including per diem in lieu of subsistence) as authorized by section 5703 of such title 5 for persons in the Government service employed intermittently: *Provided, however,* That contracts for such temporary employment may be renewed annually.

Financial
and adminis-
trative
services.
15 USC 205J.

SEC. 11. Financial and administrative services, including those related to budgeting, accounting, financial reporting, personnel, and procurement, and such other staff services as may be needed by the Board, may be obtained by the Board from the Secretary of Commerce or other appropriate sources in the Federal Government. Payment for such services shall be made by the Board, in advance or by reimbursement, from funds of the Board in such amounts as may be agreed upon by the Chairman of the Board and by the source of the services being rendered.

Appropriation
authorization.
15 USC 205K.

SEC. 12. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. Appropriations to carry out the provisions of this Act may remain available for obligation and expenditure for such period or periods as may be specified in the Acts making such appropriations.

Approved December 23, 1975.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 94-369 (Comm. on Science and Technology).

SENATE REPORT No. 94-500 (Comm. on Commerce).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):

Sept. 5, considered and passed House.

Dec. 8, considered and passed Senate, amended, in lieu of S. 100.

Dec. 11, House concurred in Senate amendment.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 11, No. 52:

Dec. 23, Presidential statement.

89 STAT. 1012

GPO 57-139

USCOMM-NBS-DC

S. J. R. 9

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9—SENATORS GLASER
AND BLAKEMORE**

JANUARY 23, 1979

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

**SUMMARY—Requests Congress to enact legislation returning Ruby Lake
National Wildlife Refuge to the State of Nevada. (BDR 254)**

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

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Memorializing Congress to enact legislation
returning Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge to the State of Nevada.**

- 1 **WHEREAS, Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge is a scarce recreational**
- 2 **resource for boating and fishing in arid northeastern Nevada; and**
- 3 **WHEREAS, Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge has an important**
- 4 **relationship to the economy of the communities in northeastern Nevada;**
- 5 **and**
- 6 **WHEREAS, The status of Ruby Lake as a national wildlife refuge has**
- 7 **resulted in restrictions on boating which impair the use of the lake by**
- 8 **Nevada sportsmen; and**
- 9 **WHEREAS, Before acquisition of the remaining portion of Ruby Marsh**
- 10 **then in private hands, the Fish and Wildlife Service recognized its impor-**
- 11 **tance as a recreational resource in northeastern Nevada and promised in**
- 12 **writing that, after the additional land and lake bottom were acquired,**
- 13 **Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge would continue to be managed**
- 14 **and operated on a multiple-use basis as it had been in the past; and**
- 15 **WHEREAS, On the basis of this promise the local government of White**
- 16 **Pine County and the State of Nevada gave their consent to the acqui-**
- 17 **sition; and**
- 18 **WHEREAS, The Fish and Wildlife Service now undertakes to impose**
- 19 **its bureaucratic will not only upon those citizens whose consent is**
- 20 **required for it to govern, but upon the citizens whose consent was**
- 21 **required for it to enclose the whole of Ruby Marsh under its manage-**
- 22 **ment, the very citizens whose consent was given in good faith, based on**
- 23 **the Service's promise as to future management; and**
- 24 **WHEREAS, It now appears that the good faith and readiness to believe**
- 25 **in those promises by the citizens of White Pine County and the State of**
- 26 **Nevada were exceeded only by the mendacity of the Fish and Wildlife**
- 27 **Service; and**
- 28 **WHEREAS, It is past time to plead with these perfidious absentee land-**
- 29 **lords on the Potomac to live up to their promises; now, therefore, be it**

Original bill is 2 pages long.
Contact the Research Library for
a copy of the complete bill.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7—
SENATOR GLASER

JANUARY 23, 1979

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Commends attorney general of State of Nevada for bringing suit to enforce promises by United States Fish and Wildlife Service respecting management of Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge. (BDR 253)

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Commending the attorney general of the State of Nevada for bringing suit to enforce the promises made by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service respecting the management of the Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge.

- 1 WHEREAS, Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge is a scarce recreational resource
- 2 for boating and fishing in arid northeastern Nevada; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge has an important relationship
- 4 to the economy of the communities in northeastern Nevada; and
- 5 WHEREAS, The Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department
- 6 of the Interior now proposes to adopt stringent boating regulations
- 7 for Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge which will severely curtail the use of the
- 8 refuge by Nevada sportsmen; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Before acquisition of the remaining portion of Ruby Marsh
- 10 then in private hands, the Fish and Wildlife Service recognized the impor-
- 11 tance of Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge as a recreational resource in north-
- 12 eastern Nevada, and promised in writing that, after the additional land
- 13 and lake bottom were acquired, Ruby Lake Wildlife Refuge would contin-
- 14 ue to be managed and operated on a multiple-use basis as it had been
- 15 in the past; and
- 16 WHEREAS, On the basis of this promise the local government of White
- 17 Pine County and the State of Nevada gave their consent to the acquisi-
- 18 tion; and
- 19 WHEREAS, The Fish and Wildlife Service now undertakes to impose its
- 20 bureaucratic will not only upon those citizens whose consent is required
- 21 for it to govern, but upon the citizens whose consent was required for it
- 22 to enclose the whole of Ruby Marsh under its management, the very citi-
- 23 zens whose consent was given in good faith, based on the Service's prom-
- 24 ises as to future management; and
- 25 WHEREAS, It now appears that the good faith and readiness to believe

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