

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Jeffrey
Assemblyman Mello
Assemblyman Kovacs
Assemblyman Dini
Assemblyman Polish
Assemblyman DuBois
Assemblyman Rhoads

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vice Chairman Redelsperger (excused)
Assemblyman Schofield (excused)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark McGuire, Nevada Humane Society

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Chairman Jeffrey. The first order of business was testimony regarding ACR 31.

ACR 31

Supports development of recreational facilities based on water.

Assemblyman Dean Rhoads was the first to testify. He stated that the City of Elko and the County of Elko had asked him to introduce this legislation primarily for use on the Hilton Reservoir. He stated that Elko County and the City of Elko have generated close to one million dollars from the room tax which has been put into a fund for improving the recreational areas in the Rock Creek area. It is the hope of the city and county that this resolution will urge the Federal Government to continue with the study that has been taking place for the past ten years. There are several areas that are involved in the present studies.

There being no further testimony on ACR 31, the public hearing on this matter was closed.

The next item on the agenda to be considered was SB 405.

SB 405

Provides for seizure, care and disposition of animals being cruelly treated.

Mark McGuire, Nevada Humane Society. Mr. McGuire has worked with the Nevada Humane Society for about 10 years as an animal cruelty investigator. He stated this bill is something they have found to be necessary. They have had a lot of animals die because of the inability to seize the animals when they are being cruelly treated and not being provided with proper food and water. When the owners cannot be found, the only coverage they have is to enter the property and provide the proper food and water for them. This does not help the society with the

ability to provide veterinary treatment if the animals require it. This bill would make their jobs easier and more effective and would eliminate a considerable amount of animal suffering and deaths of animals that would otherwise be unnecessary.

Assemblyman Mello wondered what they would do if the owners don't give their written permission to find a home for the animal or destroy it humanely.

Mr. McGuire explained this bill would enable the officers to take the animal pursuant to any case the District Attorney may have pending. Final disposition would be a court determination. There would be a two week lien on the animal according to Section 3 of the bill. The main purpose from the Humane Society's view is to see that the animal would be provided with food and water and medical attention if necessary. The Humane Society tries to avoid court cases if and when necessary, but the welfare of the animal is necessary.

Mr. McGuire stated that Section 3, subsection 5 regarding the abandonment of a domestic animal also gives the Humane Society better coverage. At present the Humane Society can only cover disabled animals and attend to those that are left behind after people move and don't take the pets with them.

Assemblyman Mello wondered about animals being left in their cars.

Mr. McGuire stated that this is covered by local ordinance most of the time.

Assemblyman Kovacs wondered who introduced this bill.

Mr. McGuire said that Senator Wagner was the initial introducer of this bill; then it went to the Committee on Natural Resources in the Senate.

Assemblyman Kovacs then wondered how they were funded.

Mr. McGuire stated they are a non-profit organization.

Assemblyman Kovacs wondered if the Humane Society in Southern Nevada supported this bill.

Mr. McGuire stated that his information is that the Southern Nevada Humane Society does support passage of this bill.

There being no further testimony regarding SB 405, the public hearing on this matter was closed.

Chairman Jeffrey then referred to AB 383 which had previously been heard by the committee and explained the proposed amendment. The amendment would delete the language "this term would include any private contractor who is employed to perform any responsibility for a federal agency related project." The second amendment would be to delete Section 8 and 9, thus taking care of the constitutional problem.

Assemblyman Rhoads wondered about Page 2, line 44 and whether the word "water" should be taken out. Assemblyman Kovacs noted that his notes indicated that it should read "in compliance with state water law."

Chairman Jeffrey wondered about the constitutionality of any of it but will check with Frank Daykin before the final bill is drafted.

Assemblyman Kovacs moved to AMEND AND DO PASS AB 383; the motion was seconded by Assemblyman DuBois; the motion carried unanimously with Mr. Schofield and Mr. Redelsperger absent from the vote.

Assemblyman Polish moved for a DO PASS on ACR 31; the motion was seconded by Mr. DuBois; the motion carried unanimously with Mr. Schofield and Mr. Redlesperger absent from the vote.

Chairman Jeffrey called for action on SB 405 and Assemblyman Rhoads moved for a DO PASS. Mr. Kovacs stated that he would like to check with the people in Southern Nevada before taking action on this matter. Assemblyman Rhoads rescinded his motion for a DO PASS and the committee will hold action until their next meeting.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Judy E. Sappenfield
Committee Secretary

0503

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON.....
TUESDAY

Date May 5, 1981 Time 2:00 P.M. Room 222

Bills or Resolutions
to be considered

Subject

Counsel
requested*

ACR 31

Supports development of recreational
facilities based on water.

SB 405

Provides for seizure, care and disposition of
animals being crully treated.