Minutes of the Nevada State Legislature

Assembly Committee on ELECTIONS

Date: February 17, 1981

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Glover

Vice Chairman Chaney

Mr. Beyer
Mrs. Ham
Mrs. Hayes
Mr. Malone
Mr. Nicholas
Mr. Prengaman
Mr. Robinson
Mr. Sader

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Hickey

GUESTS PRESENT: David L. Howard, Chief Deputy Secretary of State

Chairman Glover called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in room 200. He directed the committee's attention to AB 96.

AB 96: Broadens definition of "independent candidate" and makes certain other changes to election laws.

Mr. David L. Howard, Deputy Secretary of State, said that AB 96 is a product of the Secretary of State's Office for house cleaning purposes only. He said that Section 1 deals with the current definition of independent candidate and that in the past an independent candidate was a person who qualified a petition to run simply as an independent candidate. He added that the definition now reads that a person who is registered as a democrat or a republican or any other party is excluded from running as an independent candidate which he felt was not the intent of the definition. He noted that AB 96 defines an independent candidate as one who has been nominated for a partisan office but who is not running as the candidate of any political party.

Mr. Howard explained that Section 2 of AB 96 replaced the archaic phrase "registration slip" with "affidavit of registration."

In explanation of Section 3, Mr. Howard indicated that last session a time frame of five days for withdrawal of candidacy after the last day of filing was established, but that this has proven to be a burden on the county clerks and registrars especially in the large counties. He noted that AB 96 would change this to two days after the last day for filing allowing the registrars more time to prepare for an election.

Mr. Howard stated that Section 4 requires county clerks to forward the statistics for their county's registered voters by party, by precinct before the primary as well as the

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general election. He noted that as the law exists now the county clerks have an option, and the secretary of state's office would like to have this information for both elections.

Section 5, Mr. Howard commented, was not requested by their office, but was a deletion of the definition of a punch card ballot which is repeated in the punch card laws. He felt that this deletion was most likely an economizing of the laws.

Mr. Sader pointed out by reading NRS 293.084, "Punchcard ballot" defined, and NRS 293.015, "Ballot card" defined, that the definitions were different and asked Mr. Howard if he thought it was wise to delete the definition as outlined in NRS 293.084. Mr. Howard answered that he did not see any problem with this one way or another. Mr. Sader suggested that Mr. Daykin be consulted on this matter.

The committee took a short break while Chairman Glover tried to locate Mr. Daykin.

When Mr. Glover returned, Mr. Sader asked if he could report on his subcommittee while they were waiting. He explained that he had been appointed chairman of a subcommittee to coordinate with a Senate subcommittee on reforms in the election laws as they pertain to contests. He reported that he had been asked to sit in on a meeting with Mr. Daykin, Mr. Howard, Mr. Swackhamer, Senator Ford, Senator Kosinski and Senator He added that Senator Ford had gone through the election laws one by one noting questions on the laws as they pertained to contests in elections and from this the committee had created a bill which was now in the bill drafter's office. He reported that the primary thrust of this bill is a change in the Standing Rules of both the Senate and Assembly to provide for a specific procedure if there is a contest and the remainder of the bill is mostly technical changes in the

Chairman Glover suggested that the committee consider action on a few of the bills previously discussed.

Repeals obsolete reference to certification of SB 90: nomination.

Mrs. Hayes moved DO PASS on SB 90, seconded by Mr. Malone and unanimously carried by the members present with Mr. Hickey absent. Mr. Glover asked Mrs. Hayes to speak for this bill on the floor of the Assembly.

SB 91: Changing distribution of candidates' filing fees.

Mr. Nicholas moved DO PASS on SB 91, seconded by Mrs. Hayes and unanimously carried by the members present with Mr. Hickey absent. Mr. Glover asked Mr. Nicholas to speak for this bill on the floor of the Assembly.

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SB 105: Creates new filing requirements for initiative and referendum petitions.

Dr. Robinson moved <u>DO PASS on SB 105</u>, seconded by Mr. Beyer and unanimously carried by the members present with Mr. Hickey absent. Mr. Glover asked Dr. Robinson to speak for this bill on the floor of the Assembly.

Chairman Glover informed the committee that Mr. Daykin was not available at the moment but suggested that when he did arrive, they ask him to explain SB 95 as well as AB 96.

SB 95: Removes conflicting statutory language respecting location of certain precinct meetings.

Mrs. Ham said that Greg Millspaugh of Clark County had requested an amendment to  $\underline{SB}$  95 which would on Page 2, line 2, change "shall" to "may" and change "a delegate" to "the entitled number of delegates." She explained that the way this bill reads now only one delegate can be appointed.

Mr. Glover pointed out that the use of "may" removes the requirement of any appointment, and Mr. Nicholas commented that the use of "may" gives the central committee an inordinate amount of power.

Mr. Prengaman noted that although he understood Mr. Millspaugh's point, if there were several precincts where no one showed up, the central committee could stack the convention if the actual number of delegates could be appointed.

Mr. Glover commented that all <u>SB 95</u> did was change "in" to "for" which allowed a precinct meeting to be held outside of the precinct.

Mrs. Hayes reported that the very reason for this bill last session was to require precinct meetings to be held within the precinct to solve the problems experienced in Clark County of meetings being moved from one place to another at the last minute, of meetings being held too far away from the actual district, and other major problems that kept the public from attending meetings.

Mr. Nicholas concurred with Mrs. Hayes and added that he felt having the meeting within the district was an incentive for more people to attend.

Mr. Sader noted that this change may have been recommended by Washoe County because they had found it difficult to find a public building located in each precinct and that combining precinct meetings within Assembly districts was both cost effective and allowed for better education of voters.

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Mr. Sader suggested that there might be some language that would allow "for" but further restrict the geographic area such as within an Assembly district.

Mr. Glover indicated that he would find out who had requested SB 95.

Chairman Glover said that rather than wait for Mr. Daykin, he would ask him to attend another meeting at which time he could give his opinion on several matters that had been questioned by the committee

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucia Hatch

Patricia Hatch Secretary

### 61st SESSION NEVADA LEGISLATURE

### ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

### LEGISLATION ACTION

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### 61st SESSION NEVADA LEGISLATURE

### ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

### LEGISLATION ACTION

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SUBJECT	SB	91:	Chan	ging	dis	tribu	tion	of ca	ndid	lates'	filing	fees.	<del>-</del>
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# 61st SESSION NEVADA LEGISLATURE

### ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

### LEGISLATION ACTION

DATE Feb	ruary 17, 1981	· •	
SUBJECT SB	105: Creates new	filing requirements for	or initiative
		dum petitions.	
MOTION: DO			
Do Pass	X Amend	Indefinitely Postpone	Reconsider
Moved By	Dr. Robinson	Seconded By	Mr. Beyer
AMENDMENT:			
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Moved By		Seconded By	
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	MOTION	AMEND	AMEND
<b>VOTE:</b>	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
BEYER CHANEY	<u>X</u>		
HAM HAYES	<u>X</u> X		
HICKEY	absent		
MALONE NICHOLAS	<u>x</u>		×
PRENGAMAN	X		
ROBINSON	X		
SADER GLOVER	<u>x</u>		
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Attached to	Minutes Febru	uary 17, 1981	69

#### **ASSEMBLY**

## AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Date TUESDAY, FEB. 17 Time 3:00 p.m. Room 200

Bills or Resolutions to be considered

Subject

Counsel requested\*

**AB 96** 

Broadens definition of "independent candidate" and makes certain other changes to election laws.