

The meeting of the Assembly Health and Welfare Committee was called to order at 5:00 pm, by Chairman Bennett. Members present were as follows:

PRESENT: Mr. Bennett, Chairman
Mr. Chaney, Vice Chairman
Mr. Bergevin
Mrs. Ham
Mr. Mello
Mr. Nicholas
Mr. Thompson

See guest list attached for guests present.

A.B. 107 - Revises provisions relating to state assistance in constructing health facilities.

Upon motion by Mr. Mello, seconded by Mr. Bergevin action on this bill was deferred for further consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

S. B 102 - Raises upper age limit of children for foster homes.

Present to testify in support of this measure was Mrs. Gloria Handley, Chief of Program Services for the Welfare Division. She explained that currently the law defines a foster home as a home in which children up to the age of 16 years of age are cared for. This bill would revise that definition to provide licensing of a home caring for children up to the age of 18.

She feels there isn't any justification for not licensing a home in which a child is placed when he is 16 or 17 years of age and currently there is that 2-year period where an individual would not be covered in a housing care facility under some form of licensing.

This should not have a tremendous impact as most of the individuals involved are presently under the care of the State in one facility or another. This measure would not be adding any additional homes, but it would give them authority to inspect, approve and license the homes that are presently being used for that purpose. She informed the committee that presently there are 544 licensed foster homes in the State and as of February, they were providing foster care services on behalf of 612 children. The average expenditures for each person is about \$250.00 per month in board, room and costs.

Mr. Mello asked what the advantages were to licensing these homes if they are presently being used for that purpose and was advised by Mrs. Handley that this bill would merely provide them the protection of licensing, that is through the investigation of the kind of home in which the children will be placed. She emphasized that it will not be bringing any additional children into the system, therefore, it should have no fiscal impact that isn't

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presently there.

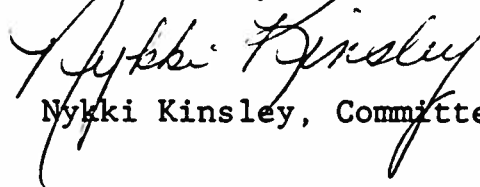
There was considerable discussion on the bill after which a motion was introduced by Mr. Mello, seconded by Mr. Thompson to pass the bill out of committee with a recommendation of "do pass". Motion carried unanimously.

S.B. 121- Removes inconsistent statutory provisions concerning registration of hospital pharmaceutical technicians and renewal of certain permits.

Action was deferred by general consent of the committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Nykki Kinsley, Committee Secretary

ASSEMBLY

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON Health and Welfare

Date Thurs., Feb. 12, 1981 Time 5:00 p.m. Room 316

Bills or Resolutions to be considered	Subject	Counsel requested*
A.B. 107 -	Revises provisions relating to state assistance in constructing health facilities. (BDR 40-253)	
S.B. 102 -	Raises upper age limit of children eligible for foster homes. (BDR 38-169)	
S.B. 121-	Removes inconsistent statutory provisions concerning registration of hospital pharmaceutical technicians and renewal of certain permits. (BDR 54-45)	

*Please do not ask for counsel unless necessary.

