Minutes of the Nevada State Legislature

Assembly Committee on LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS

Date: January 19, 1981

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Westall

Mr. Vergiels

Mr. Kovacs

Mr. Rhoads

Mr. May

Mr. Brady

Mr. Bremner

Mr. Stewart

WITNESSES AND PRINCIPALS PRESENT:

Mr. W. W. Galloway, Clark County Treasurer

Mr. George Ullom, Registrar of Voters, Clark County

Mr. Frank Daykin, Legislative Council Bureau

Mr. James W. Schofield, Defendant

Mr. Michael T. FitzPatrick, Claimant

Chairman Westall convened the Meeting at 1:50 P.M.

Chairman Westall stated this was an organizational meeting and a hearing for contested election results between Mr. FitzPatrick, Claimant, and Mr. Schofield, Defendant.

Mr. May moved that the meeting be conducted by parlimentary rules outlined in Mason's Manual.

Mr. Bremner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. George Ullom, Registrar of Voters, Clark County, presented information and outlined procedures pertaining to changes of residences, filing of written notices of change of address, and time elements. The voter has 30 days within which to file a change of address.

Included in the written documents presented by Mr. Ullom was an affidavit of Martin A. Trisham, Director of Data Processing for Clark County, outlining practices and procedures of his operation, his personal qualifications, and his opinion of accuracy of results. Also included in the presentation is the decision of the Election Recount Board and tally of votes cast. (EXHIBIT A)

Mr. Stewart asked if determination could be made as to candidate for whom the contested ballots were cast.

Mr. Ullom said such determination could not be made.

Mr. Rusk inquired if a person changed address less than 30 days prior to an election could the voter cast his ballot in the district of his old address.

Mr. Ullom said if a person moved after the voter registration "cut-off" date, he could vote in the district of his previous residence.

Mr. Daykin confirmed Mr. Ullom's statement, adding the intent of the law was not to disenfranchise persons who moved prior to an election.

Mr. FitzPatrick, Claimant, said he was concerned by persons who voted in District 12 who were not residents of the District. He had signed affidavits containing names of 145 persons who were not residents of District 12 at any time on or after October 1, 1980. These persons voted in the election although they were ineligible. He was concerned about the quality control of the ballot itself. Because of the ineligible voters and the potential for erroneously recording votes cast due to deficiences of the ballot, the outcome of the election in District 12 was clouded. He requested the Legislature call a special election to settle the matter; and also requested the Legislature address the matter of ineligible voters by requiring sufficient identification to prove their actual place residence was that listed on the voter registration. (EXHIBIT B and C)

Mr. FitzPatrick said he did not think it was the responsibility of the candidate to detect and challenge the ineligible voters at the poles. He thinks it should be the job of the State and particularly the Registrar of Voters.

Mr. James W. Schofield, Defendant, presented a written document, prepared by his attorney, detailing his defense. None of the voters were challenged at the poles and proper channels for protesting the election results had not been utilized. (EXHIBIT D)

Chairman Westall declared a five minute recess to allow the Committee to read the written testimony.

Mr. Bremner asked the length of time required to prepare for a special election.

Mr. Ullom said approximately 30 days. The cost would be about \$5000.

Mr. Daykin said 30 days to five weeks. He had conferred with Secretary of State, Mr. Swackhamer, on the matter. This five week period allowed for necessary action by the Legislature.

On rebuttal, Mr. FitzPatrick said he had conferred with his attorney and the only form of contest open to him was the one he had taken.

Mr. Daykin confirmed this statement.

Mr. May commented he had not received any communication of any type from anyone in the District. The concern within the District over the official outcome of the election was not apparent.

Mr. Bremner asked if there was any evidence District 12 had a more transient population than other Districts in Clark County.

Mr. Ullom answered "no". There was a considerable turnover of population throughout the County.

Assembly Committee on LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS

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Mr. Bremner stated he did not think it was fair to the people of District 12 to be without representation for the five weeks that would be required for a new election.

Mr. Rush was of the opinion that in this case, where the apparent victor had a 140 vote margin, a new election could not be justified.

Mr. Vergiels moved the Committee find the challenge brought against the seating of Mr. James W. Schofield be denied and this Committee do recommend to the entire body of the Assembly that Mr. James W. Schofield be officially seated and sworn as the Assemblyman from District 12, Clark County, State of Nevada.

Mr. May seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.

M Enlector

M. ROBERTSON

Committee Secretary

IN THE STATE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

MICHAEL T. FITZPATRICK,)	
Contestant,	e
vs.)	ELECTION CONTEST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 12
JAMES W. SCHOFIELD,	
Defendant.)	

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF GEORGE ULLOM, REGISTRAR OF VOTERS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Contestant has presented a number of affidavits which indicate that as many as 145 persons had moved from their address of record sometime prior to the General Election of 1980. Apparently these individuals did not file a change-of-address request with the Election Department, but then voted at their old precinct.

Your committee should be advised as to certain existing practices in the Election Department. Within the two weeks prior to an election day, this office will receive hundreds of calls from individuals asking where they are to vote; that they had not received their sample ballot. Questioning reveals that they have moved during the preceding year. They are advised that it is too late to complete a change-of-address form for this election. They then state that they want to vote and what should they do. Our office advises that they can return to their former voting precinct and try to vote, but that they are subject to challenge. (This office received no written challenges during the course of the November election, and no verbal challenges were made at the polling places.)

Attached is an affidavit signed by Don Bowman, Customer
Service Representative, U.S. Postal Service, advising that a number

of people still receive mail at the address of record. In the instance of Assembly District 12 we find that five persons still receive their mail at the address which affiants claim they no longer live. In addition, one such affidavit claims that Richard Brian Loden is no longer a resident of 1011 Norman Avenue, and is deceased. Our records indicate that Richard Brian Loden registered in 1966 while in the military. He has voted consistently since that time. Pursuant to his written request, a ballot was mailed Mr. Loden on October 14, 1980. Mr. Loden returned his voted ballot on October 22nd. His current address is 750-B Portola Street, Presidio of San Francisco, CA 94129.

For the information of your committee, the following is a party breakdown of the 145 persons:

Democrat	79
Republican	57
Non-Partisan	. 8
Libertarian	.1

TOTAL: 145

Contestant further alleges that "quality control in manufacturing the ballots" may have affected the outcome of his race. Attached is an affidavit signed by Martin Trishman, Director of Data Processing, Clark County, Nevada, regarding that subject.

EORGE VILLOM

Registrar of Voters Clark County, Nevada

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEVADA) SS: COUNTY OF CLARK)

My name is Don Bowman. I am Customer Service Representative for the U.S. Postal Service located at 1001 Circus Circus Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.

On January 7, 1981, I was requested by the Clark County Election Department to verify mail delivery to forty-two (42) different residents. I personally contacted each individual carrier who delivers to these forty-two (42) addresses and was assured that eleven (11) of the residents (see attachment) still receive mail at the address indicated.

DON BOWMAN

Customer Service Representative U.S. Postal Service

Subscribed and sworn to before me

day of January, 1981.

NOTARY PUBLIC in and

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County and State.

DEBORAH ANN WEST Notary Public-State of Nevada COUNTY OF CLARK Appointment Expires Aug. 26, 1983

According to the postal carrier the following persons are still receiving mail at the address indicated:

Carrier 224
Carlos E. Grill

106 W. St. Louis

Carrier 411
Donald E. Brookhyser

¥ 1900 Howard Avenue

Carrier 662
Donald L. Perry

6050 W. La Madre Avenue

Carrier 747
Barbara Couch Gilbert

136 Foxdale Way

Carrier 766
Mary S. Nolan

209 Canyon Drive

Carrier 809
Christine E. Hickman

6637 Painted Desert Drive

Carrier 2844
David L. Nygard

121 Redstone Street

Carrier 403
Robert B. Page

¥ 2109 Ballard Drive

Carrier 404
Dorothy Meriam Porter
Ronald J. Janesh
Roberto Richard Alvergue

\$ 1605 Euclid Avenue
\$ 2317 Wengert Avenue
\$ 2120 Wengert Avenue

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEVADA
COUNTY OF CLARK

I, MARTIN A. TRISHMAN, being first duly sworm, deposes and says that:
I reside at 2701 Colanthe Avenue in the City of Las Vegas, County of Clark, State of Nevada.

That acting in my capacity as Director of Data Processing for Clark
County, I was in attendance throughout the entire computer count of the
Federal, State and Local elections conducted on November 4, 1980. Again,
acting in my capacity as Director of Data Processing, I was also in attendance at the computer recount for that November 4th election conducted
December 4, 1980, at the request of Michael T. Fitzpatrick, Candidate for
Nevada State Assembly.

Having assumed my current position as Director of Data Processing of Clark County on June 9, 1980, I participated in one (1) prior election, the Primary Election of September 9, 1980, and one (1) prior recount held on September 20, 1980. That recount, although smaller than the one in question, resulted in complete verification of the original computer count held on election day. The computer programs have not been changed since the Primary Election.

Data Processing conducted in Clark County, Nevada, is comprised of a wide variety of business applications running on a digital computer. The applications are in support of the Metropolitan Police Department, the Fire Department, Assessments, Treasurer, Building/Zoning, Business License and other County Departments. Programs are run on the computer in both a batch and a teleprocessing communications environment. The Shared Computer Operations for Protection and Enforcement (SCOPE) system running under the Clark County teleprocessing network supports all of the major law enforcement agencies operating in the State of Nevada: the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Nevada Highway Patrol, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, the Reno City Police, and

others. The system also transmits information to and from these agencies through a state computer switch to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) in Washington, D.C., and the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS).

For the period of eight (8) years before joining Clark County, I held the position of Data Processing Division Manager for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), 4017 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville, Maryland, a public water and sewer utility providing service to approximately one million people in the Counties of Montgomery and Prince Georges adjacent to the District of Columbia in the State of Maryland.

While in that position I led the Division in the implementation of many on-line communications and batch programming systems: Utility Billing, Maintenance Work Order and Standard Time Reporting, Personnel/Payroll, Permit Processing, Assessment Billing, Network Flow Analysis and other computer applications. In addition, I was responsible for the installation of three (3) analog control computers. One of these systems was installed in a Break Point Clorination research application for tertiary wastewater treatment. Two other analog computers were used to fully automate a 60 MGD wastewater treatment plant.

Prior to my association with WSSC I was employed for approximately three (3) years by the Radio Corporation of America (RCA), an equipment manufacturer of medium and large scale digital computers used for batch, communications and time-shared Data Processing. During that period as a Senior Systems Specialist in government marketing I participated in many benchmarks and consulted in numerous computer marketing ventures. I led a twenty (20) member benchmark team in preparing a demonstration responding to the Air Force Logistics Request for Proposal. This represented the largest procurement of "off the shelf" computer hardware to that time. I also performed in the capacity of "trouble-shooter", visiting a number of Data Processing organizations, analyzing and correcting serious deficiencies such as excessive downtime, loss of software and inability of equipment to perform

as specified.

During the Vietnam War, I consulted with the U. S. Marine Corps designing and programming large computer models which projected the results of various troop movements and promotion policies. Prior to that I acquired six (6) years of programming experience in a large insurance environment and two (2) years of teaching analog computer circuitry on missile fire control systems in the U. S. Army. At the present time I have accumulated over twenty-one (21) years of experience in analog and digital computers in the field of Data Processing. I am currently a member of the Association for Computing Machinery and the Data Processing Management Association. I also hold the Certificate in Data Processing (CDP) co-sponsored by a large number of computer hardware and software societies, including the two previously stated.

Mr. Michael T. Fitzpatrick, Candidate for Assembly District 12, in support of this election contest, stated in his explanation of the reason for the one (1) additional vote being counted for his opponent was due to the die being utilized to prepunch the ballot cards was misaligned.

Based upon my experience and personal examination of the cards, it is my opinion that the one (1) vote difference between the original count and the recount probably occurred when a voter partially punched a ballot, punched it sufficiently to break only two or three points of the die cut. This partially punched ballot was handled and passed through the card reader causing the piece of chad to break loose causing the hole to be read as an additional vote. This is the most probable cause for the one (1) vote difference.

The cards are manufactured at a rate of 800 cards per minute. If the die cutting machine had been significantly out of tolerance it would have been out of tolerance for many cards and thus the woting discrepancy would have been much wider. It is also my experience that normal handling of ballots that are punched to specification and are not partially punched will not cause chad to break off the card.

That only one (1) vote difference occurred in the recount concerning the vote totals of Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Schofield in a race in which a total of 4,530 ballots were cast. Accordingly, it is my opinion that there is no significant difference between the computer count of the November 4th election and the recount held on December 4th. As a result of the fact that the election was held according to the statutes prescribed and that no significant discrepancies were found in the recount, it is my opinion that the result of the original summary of the November 4th election which was submitted to the Secretary of the State and approved by the State Supreme Court is the most accourate record available.

Martin a Trickman

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Subseribed and sworn to before

me this 169 day of January, 1981.

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for said County and State.

DEBORAH ANN WEST

Notary Public-State of Nevada
COUNTY OF CLARK
My Appointment Expires Aug. 26, 1983

BEFORE THE ELECTION RECOUNT BOARD CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE RECOUNT OF THE GENERAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 4, 1980 FOR THE CANDIDATES FOR STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 12.

DECISION

This matter having come before this Board on December 4, 1980, for consideration of the numerical accuracy of the result in the above entitled election; the candidates or their authorized representatives having had the opportunity to appear and observe the recount procedure; now, therefore, pursuant to NRS 293.403 et seq., the Election Recount Board hereby finds the following relevant facts and conclusions and enters the following order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. That the above entitled election was conducted utilizing a punchcard voting system.
- 2. That demand for a recount of the vote for the above entitled election result was filed by Mike T. Fitzpatrick in a proper and timely manner.
- 3. That pursuant to NRS 293.404(3), the following precincts were randomly chosen to be hand counted: Las Vegas 45, Las Vegas 70 and Absentee 30.
- 4. That the precincts listed above were chosen to be handcounted pursuant to NRS 293.404(3) after consultation with each candidate for the office who was present at this recount proceeding.
- 5. That this Election Recount Board performed a handcount of all the valid ballots cast in precincts set forth above during the above captioned election for the above captioned office.
 - 6. That the result of this handcount of the ballots cast in the above

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1	mentioned precincts r	esulted in the fol:	lowing tally:	u -				
2	Las Vegas 45:	Fitzpatrick	62 votes					
3		Malcolm	9					
4		Schofield	57					
5	Las Vegas 70:	Fitzpatrick	164 votes					
6		Malcolm	17					
7		Schofield	217					
8	Absentee 30:	Fitzpatrick	78 votes					
9		Malcolm	10					
10	::	Schofield	72					
11	Total wo	otes cast idate:						
12		Pitzpatrick	304 votes					
13		Malcolm	36					
14		Schofield	346					
15	7. That the tally	of the handcount	is identical in every	respect to the				
16	certified abstract of	votes.						
17	8. That pursuant to NRS 293.404(3) a computer recount of the punchcard							
18	ballots cast in the above mentioned precincts was performed.							
19	9. That the resul	t of this computer	recount of the ballot	s cast in the				
20	above mentioned precin	cts resulted in th	e following tally:					
21	Las Vegas 45:	Fitzpatrick	62 votes					
22		Malcolm	9					

Las Vegas 45:	Fitzpatrick	62 votes
	Malcolm	9
	Schofield	57
Las Vegas 70:	Fitzpatrick	164 votes
	Malcolm	17
	Schofield	217
Absentee 30:	Fitzpatrick	78 votes
	Malcolm	10
	Schofield	72

Total votes cast by candidate:

Fitzpatrick 304 votes Malcolm 36

Schofield

346

- 10. That the tally of the computer recount is identical in every respect to both the tally of the handcount and the certified abstract of votes.
- 11. That pursuant to NRS 293.404(3) the Election Recount Board performed a computer recount of all ballots cast for the above mentioned candidates in the above captioned election.
- 12. That the result of this computer recount of all the ballots cast resulted in the following tally:

Fitzpatrick 1,816 votes

Malcolm

173

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Schofield

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13. That the tally of the computer recount of all ballots cast is identical to the certified abstract of votes with the exception that Jim W. Schofield's recount total increased by one (1) vote as compared with his

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vote total contained in the certified abstract of votes.

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CONCLUSION

This Election Recount Board has jurisdiction over this matter to the extent that this Board may resolve the issue as to the numerical accuracy of the above entitled election results.

Therefore, pursuant to NRS 293.403 et seq., it is the conclusion of this Election Recount Board that the certified abstract of votes in the above entitled election for the above mentioned candidates is true and correct with the exception in the vote total for Jim W. Schofield set forth in paragraph 13, supra.

DATED this / Day of December, 1980.

ELECTION RECOUNT BOARD

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GENERAL ELECTIUNS CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA TUESDAY, NUVENBER 04, 1980

					59796VI		4 94 99	***
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT	NU. 12		1 L6 OF	-161	COUNTY CUMMISSION, DISTRI		1 74 OF	141
FITZPATRICK, M.T.	REP.	1,016	46.04		BRUADBENT, R.N.	REP. 14,385	80.08	
HALCULM. C.	LIBT	173	4.48		HAFEN, A.A.	DEM. 6,765	32.08	
SCHUFTELD. J.W.	UEM.	1.957	49.68			•		
30 12231 0141					COUNTY CUMMISSION, DISTRI		1 35 OF	35)
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT	NO. 11		1 52 OF	521	HALE, J.L.	REP. 2.590	26.28	
HARRIS. H.A.	LIBT	978	5.28		PETITII, J.R.	DEM. 7,313	73.6%	
HAYES K.W.	DEM.	11,603	62.74				•	
REAGAN. S.	REP.	6.029	32.18		COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTR	ICT C	1 67 OF	47)
KEMUANI 3.	NEV C	0,02,			MILLER. T.	DEM. 9,911	46.48	
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT	MO. 84		1 23 OF	231	RUNZONE, R.J.	REP. 11,462	53.68	
HUNDIE, G.	REP.	2.889	35.68					
SIEWARI. J.	DEM.	5.223	64.48		COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTR	ICT D	1 49 DF	491
SIEWARI, J.	UEH.	71463	07.74		BUWLER, S.	DEM. 4.153	40.58	
			1 16 OF	141	MCLAUGHLIN, K.	L187 724	7.18	
STATE ASSEMBLY. DISTRICT			25.68	101	HILSON. W.	REP. 5.385	52.58	
HISLLR, J.	REP.	1,455			MIC3041 M.	WC1.0 24202		
HURN, N.J.	DEM.	3,925	68.98		PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR		1391 OF	1011
PEERSON, B.	LIBT	314	5.58			L16T 15.709	14.18	
					HARRIS, M.I.	REP. 41,266	37.15	
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT			1 28 OF	581	POLLACK, J.	DEM. 54.169	40.78	
HAM, J.	REP.	5.744	52.68		SHAFER, J.	UEM. 34.849	70.70	
HARHUN, H.L.	DEM.	4,002	43.94				1297 OF	1011
KING, C.	LIBI	384	3.54		CUNSTABLE, LAS VEGAS TON	MSHIP		2711
					BUNAYENTURA, J.	DEM. 49,475	57.48	
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT	1 NO. 17		1 9 OF	91	JUNIKKA, E.	L187 3,666	4.38	
LULLINS, K.J.	REP.	802	46.38		SANDERS, M.L.	REP. 33.073	38.48	
KNAULL . H.W.	LIBT	55	3.28		V Company			
PRICE. J.	DEM.	876	50.58		JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT		1391 OF	3411
,					FLANGAS, P.L.	N.P. 20,880	17.48	
STATE ASSEMULY, DISTRIC	1 NO. 18		1 10 OF	101	MUHBRAY. J.	N.P. 84,860	71.78	
HILKET. T.	DEM.	1.522	16.28		NUNE OF THESE CANDIE	, 12,575	10.65	
WILSON, J.	REP.		23.06					
***************************************		***			JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT	, SEAT E	1391 OF	3911
STATE ASSLMBLY. DISTRIC	t MA. 19		1 10 OF	101	GULDMAN. P.S.	N.P. 69,603	58.08	
GRUBU. L.	DEM.	553	21.08		SPRINGER. C.E.	N.P. 43,006	36.68	
MAY. P.W.	DFW.	2.007	18.41		NUME OF THESE CAMOTE	. 6.500	5.48	
-10 4 0 A 0 M 0	oen.	2,00.				•		
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRIC	F Mu 20		I LO OF	101	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, DE	PARTMENT NO. 9	1391 OF	3911
	DEM.	1.354	36.84		HUFFAKER, S.L.	N.P. 66.891	56.48	
CAPU. P.			63.24		SHEARING, M.	N.P. 51.635	43.68	
CHAUDUCK. R.G.	DEM.	2,320	03.24		JUE ME SHOT IN			
			1 15 OF	161	REGENT, STATE UNIVERSITY	- SUB-DISTRICT A	1 42 OF	421
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRIC			46.38		WHITLEY, J.	N.P. 0,191	100.01	
SINA, H.H.	UEM.				whiteery 3.	140		
IMUMPSJ4. D.L.	DFW.	2,309	53.78		REGENT, STATE UNIVERSITY	. SUB-DISTRICE C	ILLO OF	1101
				244		N.P. 19.371	49.58	
STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRIC			1 34 OF	371	JUNES, J.A.	N.P. 19,727		
HAFEN, B.K.	REP.		30.84		KARAMANOS, C.	MOP	30.34 ···	
JEFFKEY, J.E.	DEM.	5,416	61.24			- con-negator A	(42 DF	421
					STATE BUARD OF EDUCATION			761
					HULMES, W.F.	N.P. 8,678	100.01	

RELUUNT SUMMARY



GEMERAL LLECTIONS LLAKK COUNTY, NEVADA TUESDAY, NOVEMBER D4, 1980

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Deember 4, 1980 11:50 pm.

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U.S. PRESIDENT & VICE-PRES	LUENT		1290 UF	1921	STATE ASSEMBLY. DISTRICT	Mu. 2		1 45 OF	15)
AMUERSUM & LULLY	INU.	1.103	1.28		CUSHAM, T.	DEM.	1.576	37-15	• • • •
LANTER & MUNUALE	DEA.	21,149	21.44		JUBUAS. J.	REP.	2,540	40.04	
LLAKA & RULH	1614	1.073	1.74		LIZZZO, S.	LIBI	121	2.94	
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more or these campies			1.24		BREMILE. R.	UEA.	2.500	61.54	
UNLIED STATES SENATOR			1290 OF 3	1021	ERHARIA JA	1101	- 171	4.26	
UUJALK. A.	DEM.	40.015	43.16		REED, M.	REP.	1.390	24.36	
HALRER, A.A.	1181	1.771	1.04				****	34434	
LAMALI. P.	REP.	55,284	50.24		STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT	Mar. A		t 16 OF	161
HUNG UF THESE LANDIE.		1.221	1.24		RISSAN, B.	DEM.	1.804	45.44	,
					MALUNE, M.	REP.	2.157	54.48	
REPRESENTATIVE IN LUNGRESS			1293 UF 1	1921			-,.,,	21114	
MAHULUH, H.J.	LIBI	4.004	3.04		STATE ASSEMBLY. DISTRICE	MO. 5		t to of	ias
SAMINI. J.		00.421	30.80		SHADT. B.U.	Rt.P.	4.600	74.16	
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Nuite UP THESE CANDIE.		3,823	3.94		TRINER, A.M.	Den.	1.417	21.91	
		3,00	3074	194	THENENY MONT	DE1110	24451	*****	
STATE SCHOOLS ULSTRICT NO.	2		l J UF	371	STATE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT	M) . A		I S OF	444
talou w.	ULM.	J	-04		DENNETT. A.U.	DEM.	263	59.06	
Accerty, He	LIBT	Ĵ	.04		KEICHUM. J.M.	LIST	61	13.74	
					MYERS. P.	REP.	122	21.44	
STATE SCHAIL, DISTRICT NO.	3		1290 UF 2	1901			•••		
Matheurith, K.	UEM.	20,164	16.76		STATE ASSEMBLY. DISTRICT	MU. T		I O OF	7.5
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RUYALS, E.	DEM.	1,945	50.94		BLACK, S.K.	LIDI	457	15.66	

GENERAL ELECTIONS LLARK COUNTY, NEVADA TULSUAY, MUYENBER U4, 1480

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FLIZPAIRICK, M.I.	REP.	1.610	46.08		BKGAUBENT, K.M.	REP. 3.069	43.54
MALLULM, C.	LIST	1/3	4-48		HAFEN, A.A.	DEM. 2.916	30.54
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400 Las Vegas Boulevard South . Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

October 22, 1980

We, the undersigned members of the Computer Program and Processing Accuracy Board, do hereby certify that the computer and the program to be used to count the official ballots for the 1980 General Election went through the following tests:

- To verify that any invalid prepunching of a ballot card will cause the card to be rejected;
- To verify that votes can be counted for each candidate and proposition;
- To verify that any overvote for an office or proposition will cause a rejection of the vote for that office or proposition;
- To verify that in a multiple vote selection the maximum number of votes permitted a voter cannot be exceeded without rejecting the vote for that selection, but any undervote will be counted;
- To verify that neither a voter's omission to vote nor his irregular vote on any particular office or proposition will prevent the counting of his vote as to any other office or proposition on the ballot.

We do hereby certify that the computer and the program to be used to count the official ballots for the 1980 General Election was tested in accordance with the above provisions and found to be in compliance with the laws of the State of Nevada, NRS 293B.130, 293B.155, and 293B.385, as well as the Rules and Regulations established by the Secretary of State.

TIM O'DONNELL, Representative Republican Central Committee

JOSEPH MORRIS, Representative Libertarian Central Committee

RQNALD E. WILHELM, Representative Démocratic Central Committee

CHUCK NEIRY, Administrative Asst. Clark County Election Department

400 Las Vegas Boulevard South

Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

November 4, 1980

The container with the Program that will be used to count the official ballots for the General Election, November 4th, 1980, was found to be in the identical condition as it was at the time that it was sealed on October 22nd, 1980. All seals and identifying marks were intact. The container was opened and the identifying marks placed upon the program deck were identical with the markings at the time the deck was placed under lock and seal.

We the undersigned members of the Computer Program and Processing Accuracy Board do hereby certify that all the foregoing is a true and correct statement.

TIM O'DONNELE, Representative Republican Central Committee

JOSEPH MORRIS, Representative Libertarian Central Committee Representative

LD E. WILHELM, Representative Democratic Central Committee

CHUCK NEIRY, Administrative Asst. Clark County Election Department

In compliance with the laws of the State of Nevada, NRS 293B.130, 293B.155, and 293B.385, as well as the Rules and Regulations established by the Secretary of State, the computer and program were retested under the same conditions as the test conducted October 22nd, 1980, and were found to comply with or exceed all the requirements necessary.

We the undersigned members of the Computer Program and Processing Accuracy Board do hereby certify the computer and program for the counting of the official ballots for the General Election.

TIM O'DONNELL, Representative

Republican Central Committee

RONALD E. WILHELM, Representative

Democratic Central Committee

JØSEPH MORRIS, Representative Libertarian Central Committee

CHUCK NEIRY, Administrative Asst. Clark County Election Department

While there were other avenues available to me in the courts, I preferred to bring this contest to the Assembly because I have faith in the integrity of this house to put partisan politics aside and determine this contest on the facts. The facts are that the law has been broke in every case to be presented. After you examine the facts, I hope you will come to the same conclusion I have, a revote for the assembly in district 12.

The republic form of government's foundation, both federal and state, is the elective process. We have carefully guarded this process by enacting laws to protect it. The states have been the primary protector by legislating voting laws.

In Nevada the Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 293 deals with voting procedures. The law clearly states that no one may vote who has moved from his residence more than 30 days prior to the election. The reason being that person may re-register at his new address.

The insight of this body in past sessions has much wisdom within. Nevada is the seventh largest state in area and therefore has differnt needs in each part of the state-MX and mining in rural areas, urban sprawl and crime in the south, and water and sewage in the north, to name but a few. To make sure each area had their interests represented, the legislature has created forty distinct assembly districts based primarily on population, but also determined by geo-political boundaries. In this way residents within a certain assembly district could choose the candidate they felt would best represent them and their needs in the legislature. For this is true representation.

But what happens when residents outside the district cast enough votes to determine the election's outcome-Is there still true representation? The answer is definitely NO! Not only has a specific law been broken, but paramount, the spirit of the law has been broken.

Before you are signed affadavits containing the names of 145 persons who were not residents of Assembly District 12 at any time on or after October 1, 1980. They were ineligible to vote in Assembly 12 on election day. Yet they did vote. As it is a secret ballot, we do not know for whom these ineligible voters cast their ballot.

I was able to determine this from my voting lists. I walked 13 of the 14 precients in Assembly 12 and found approximately two-thirds of the residents home. While there, I

After the election I compared my lists to the sign-in tally sheets and found the aforementioned names on the affadavits as voting. I then visited every residence to confirm that the voter had moved by having the current resident or apartment manager sign the affadavit. I should emphasize that with regards to apartment houses or condominiums, I not only checked with the on-premises manager but with the current resident of the unit.

I am also concerned about the quality control of the ballot itself. Mr. Ullom explained to me after the recount that the punches tend to fall out with handling. This could change the outcome of close elections.

The law states that each house shall determine its own contested election. That is why I am here today. The outcome of the election for Assemblyman in District 12 has been clouded. The confirmed illegal votes cast outnumber the plurality of my opponent. The members of this committee have two problems to solve, one immediate and one within this legislative session.

Wit regards to the immediate problem, you must resolve this contested election. I am not here today to ask you to seat me over my opponent. In good conscience I could not take the seat as I sincerely do not know the true outcome of the election. In order for all 15,000 residents of Assembly 12 to have their voices truly heard, I ask you to call a special election as soon as possible to settle this matter in the only fair way. It should allow only those who voted in the last election, less those named on the affadavits, to vote.

The second problem to address is how can we make sure this does not happen again.

My experience in the banking industry has given me some insight. When you go to a bank to either open an account or cash a check, you are asked for identification, the most common form being a driver's license. If the election law were updated to include showing a Nevada driver's license or DMV identification card, the deputy registrar would be able to confirm the person's identity and address both at time of registration and time of voting. While some people may be slow to update their address on their driver's license, most do it fairly quickly so their license will match their address on their check when writing ans

Additionally, when sample ballots are mailed, instructions should be given to the Post Office not to forward but return to the registrar. In turn the registrar could correct the tally sheets to prevent illegal voting.

With regard to the plugs in the ballots, there should be strict supervision and guidelines from the Secreatay of States's office to ensure quality control.

The above ideas will put teeth in to the law so all ineligible votes are prevented. We are not talking about one race, but all races for all offices in the future that could be challenged under the present lack of enforcement in the law.

Thank you for your time.

ISSUES PRESENTED BY THE ELECTION CONTEST FILED BY MICHAEL T. FITZPATRICK VS. JAMES W. SCHOFIELD

 Did the Election Board, in conducting the election and canvassing the returns make errors sufficient to change the result of the election as to the election of James W. Schofield as State Assemblyman in Assembly District 12?

V(3), N.R.S. 293.410(d)

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31 32 Were there illegal votes cast and counted which, if taken from defendant Schofield, would alter the election in favor of Fitzpatrick?

V(5), N.R.S. 293.410(3)

ISSUE 1 - ANALYSIS AND ARGUMENT

Contestant alleges errors by the election department which, if true, would change the result of the election of Mr. Schofield.

The Supreme Court of Nevada has addressed itself to the issue of irregularities and misconduct by election officials.

Concerning misconduct of officers and others in an election for the office of Attorney General, the court, in THE STATE OF NEVADA, ex rel. William McMillan, Realtor v. Reinhold Sadler, Respondent, 25 Nev. 131, decided July 1899, stated:

When a candidate for an office does not participate in, or have knowledge of, criminal violations of election statutes at a precinct, and when such acts do not make or lose votes for any candidate for such office, or destroy the secrecy of the ballot, or cast uncertainty on the results of the election, and no elector voting in such precinct participates in such acts, or is prevented from voting or properly marking his ballot, and no disqualified person is allowed to vote, the votes cast at such precinct for such office are valid.

ac 131.

Concerning irregularities of election officials in elections, the court, in Henry V. Nicholsen, Appellant v. H. A. Comins, Respondent, 33 Nev. 381, decided 1910, stated:

Mere irregularity of the election officers in canvassing the ballots at a place other than the polling place will be disregarded under primary election law (Stats. 1909, c.198), Section 1 providing that the law shall be liberally construed so that the will of the electors shall not be defeated by an informality or failure to comply with its provision in respect to conducting the election or certifying its results.

at 381.

Other state Supreme Courts have ruled similarly. Quoting from the Treatise on Elections, 26 Am.Jur.2d, 278:

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As a general rule, honest mistakes or mere omissions on the part of the election oficers, or irregularity in directory matters, even through gross, if not fraudulent, will not void an election unless they affect the result, or at least render it uncertain. And even if the acts of such officers are fraudulent, the votes of the electors should not be invalidated if it is possible to avoid doing so.

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at 278.

There is again, no showing of fact by the contestant that any of the alleged errors or irregularities would have changed the vote totals in favor of the contestant to the detriment Mr. Schofield. Even if such allegations of irregularities or errors were true, it cannot be concluded that the errors would have benefited the Contestant solely. Any votes that might be invalidated, and we are not advocating that any such vote should be invalidated, must necessarily be deducted from all of the candidates based on the same percentages that each candidate received of the remaining vote totals for the office of Assemblyman of District 12. Contestant's statement of contest is void of any fact which would mandate this body deducting any votes from Mr. Schofield's total, since each and every vote was, in fact, a secret vote and it has not been proven by Contestant that these votes were solely for Mr. Schofield. The logic of Contestant assertions, and certainly they are merely assertions, is falacious and any irregularities, if true, are at most minor irregularities

Again, all of these allegations by Contestant do not factually prove that they affect the election results or render it uncertain as to the Contestant and Mr. Schofield. Certainly, there is no showing that Mr. Schofield was a participant in any alleged irregularity and that therefore, his vote should be reduced accordingly. As stated before, any vote reduction would have to be based on the same percentage of votes received by all the candidates in this election.

Even if the Contestant had proven misconduct by any election officer, and indeed there is no misconduct proven by the Contestant in his proofs, there is no showing by the Contestant that Mr. Schofield participated in, or had knowledge of, such misconduct. The Nevada Supreme Court, in the McMillan case set forth the requirements sufficient to validate any votes where alleged misconduct took place by an officer of the election and Respondent's pecition is void of such proof.

Since this body is impowered by statute to hear and decide an election contest invovling an Assembly Seat, you shall decide if any allegation by the respondent is supported by facts and then what weight, if any, shall be given to such facts in accordance with your standing or special rules pertaining to election contests heard by this body.

ISSUE 3 - ANALYSIS AND ARGUMENT

Contestant alleges that many illegal votes were cast and counted, which, if taken from Mr. Schofield, would have altered the election results that resulted in his election.

-2-

Again, these allegations are mere conclusions, and again are not supported by facts. Contestant bases his allegations on attached affidavits which Contestant claims support the position that first, there were illegal votes cast and counted, and second that they could have altered the outcome of the election. (N.R.S. 293.410(2)(c) The Statute contains two (2) necessary elements.

1. Illegal votes cast and counted for the defendant, and

 If taken from him (winning candidate) will reduce his vote total below the number to elect him.

Pursuant to N.R.S.293.303, et seq., any alleged illegal voter could have been challenged by any registered voter at such time as such voter attempted to vote. The Election Board, at such time of challenge, shall, according to the Statute, proceed to decide the challenge in the manner provided therein. Absent such challenge at the polls, there is no Statutory relief open to any candidate after the vote has been cast and counted which could be applied. It can be concluded that failure to challenge a vote at the polls constitutes a vaiver of such challenge right.

The Nevada Supreme Court has not had the occasion to address itself to the issue of an allegation of illegally cast votes and what remedies, if any, they would order. However, the Illinois Supreme Court in the case of Boland v. LaSalle, 370 Ill. at 387, and the Supreme Courts of Kansas, Michigan, Montana, Oregon, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming have also addressed this question.

The view has been taken the entire vote of a precinct should not be cast out where election officers, acting honestly and in good faith, received illegal ballots less in number than the majority shown in favor of one of the candidates, and a proportionate deduction of illegal votes cast in the precinct, based on the number of votes received in the precinct by each candidate, has been resorted to or approved, directly or indirectly, in many jurisdictions. And some courts have adopted the view that, in the absence of proof of fraud or gross iregularities, the fact that some ballots were cast illegally should be disregarded.

Treatise on Elections, at 26 Am.Jur.2d, Section 292.

We would respectfully suggest that this ruling is the only fair and unprejudicial way to decide this particular issue.

In the instant case, there is no factual showing that there were, in fact, illegal votes cast. The Affidavits attached to the petition attempt to show that there were votes cast by persons who allegedly did not reside within the precinct where they voted. The Nevada Statutes concerning challenges to persons applying to vote are set forth at N.R.S. 293.303 et seq. (Paraphrasing). If the Contestant or any registered voter know of any person not eleigible to vote upon the ground that he or she is not

the person entitled to vote as claimed, or has voted before on the same day, or upon any other grounds provided for in the Title the person may be challenged orally. Whereupon the Election Board shall tender the person an oath as to whether or not the person is the person whose name appears upon the Affidavit of Registration in the precinct register. A refusal to take the oath, or a successful challenge, will render the person unable to vote. When a challenge is unsuccessful, the person shall be issued a ballot vote. The Affidavits attached to the Contestant's petition merely allege that the person who voted did not reside at the address listed in the Abstract of Registration after October 1, 1980. However, there are no allegations nor any showing of fact that the person has, in fact, abandoned that residence, thus making him ineligible to vote in that precinct.

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The Nevada Statutes pertaining to registration and qualification of voters, set forth in N.R.S. 293.485 et seq. provides that any citizen who has continuously resided in the state and in the county thirty (30) days and in the precinct ten (10) days next preceding the day of the next general election, and who has registered in the manner provided by Statute, shall be entitled to vote at such election. The statutes further provide that a person may move from one precinct to another within the same county after the close of registration for any election, and shall be deemed to retain his residence in the county or precinct he moved from for the purpose of that election. There is only a presumption created under N.R.S. 293.495 where a person, having a fixed and permanent home within a precinct removes himself to another precinct, the intent to abandon his former residence is presumed and the burden shall be upon the voter to prove the contrary. There is no showing of the fact that any person abandoned his or her residence within the precinct in which that person voted. Even assuming that such person voted illegally, Contestant's petition is entirely void of any facts which could possibly lead this body to the conclusion that such vote should be deducted from Mr. Schofield's total solely.

In conclusion, the Contestant has clearly failed to sustain his burden on any one of the three issues raised in Contestant's petition filed in this election contest and we would urge that this body decide the contest in favor of James W. Schofield; that upon communication of your decision to the Secretary of State. the Secretary of State shall execute and deliver a Certificate of Election to Mr. Schofield.

MOTION TO DISMISS THE CHALLENGE BY
MICHAEL T. FITZPATRICK TO THE SEATING OF JAMES W. SCHOFIELD
IN THE 1981 SESSION OF THE NEVADA STATE ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCTION

The challenge of Mr. Fitzpatrick should be dismissed because it contains within it four fatal errors: (1) he failed to present a challenge to the voters at the time of their voting as provided by Mavada statutes; (2) he failed to utilize the method of challenge to the district courts of the State of Nevada, the clearest and most appropriate remedy properly suited to handle this type of challenge provided by law; (3) the challenge papers on their face do not contain the proper allegations, if accepted, to sustain the seating of Mr. Fitzpatrick; (4) the requested result is contrary to the law of the State of Nevada, desirable public policy of the State of Nevada and to the general authority on this subject in the courts of the United States.

Nevada statutes at NRS 293.303 have an extremely clear and carefully worked out procedure for testing the bonifides of an intended voter. It is in conjunction with this procedure that the Nevada Revised Statutes on elections carefully allow for the attendance of observers upon the election from each of the political parties and for full access to the voting process by the public and carefully delineate that the election boards and the election personnel should be balanced politically. Very elaborate schemes have been drawn to safeguard the ballot. None of these schemes work properly unless someone is present to challenge in the case of irregularity.

The clear tenor of the Nevada Revised Statutes is that it is the duty of any person concerned with their own election and of their political party to provide proper and informed observers who must undertake the necessary steps to protect the purity of the ballot. Mr. Fitzpatrick failed in this duty. The Republican Party failed in this duty. They cannot now be heard to say that had they

EXHIBIT D

been there and done their duty the election would have been handled differently.

Nevada law does, of course, give Mr. Fitzpatrick another That chance is found at NRS 293.410. Such statute . chance. contains precisely the grounds upon which he now seeks to challenge in the Nevada Assembly. It, however, suggests that the challenge be brought in the District courts of the State of Nevada Now, there are a number of reasons of sound public policy for such a suggestion and procedure: (1) the matter could be disposed of before the convening of the legislature, a time at which a challenge is both inconvenient and extremely costly to the citizens of the State of Nevada; (2) the courts are the proper place to take care of allegations involving (a) technical matters, such as computer failure, as alleged; or (b) questions which involve the cross examination of witnesses, such as asking presumptively illegal voters as alleged by Mr. Fitzpatrick, whether or not they, in fact, voted for Mr. Schofield.

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Now, clearly there is no definitive and clear resolution of this matter that would satisfy the Fitzpatrick supporters but to take such testimony. They had time to do so, but they failed to do so. They failed in this despite the fact that NRS 293.415 expressly allows for a deposition procedure and one that is clearer, easier and swifter than normal courtroom procedure so that these matters could be settled in a timely fashion before the convening of the legislature.

Similarly, the legislature has spoken its desire as to how these matters should be handled by its discussion in NRS 293.413 which has extremely tight time limits and gives election contest precedence over all regular business of the court so that "... Results of election shall be determined as soon as practicable."

The failure of Mr. Fitzpatrick and his supporters and the

Republican party to take this clear, speedy, flexible and proper remedy demonstrates their insincerity, and if this challenge is taken for political purposes only, it should not be dignified by any sort of a hearing by this honorable body and the challenge should be dismissed forthwith.

Despite the elaborate challenge by Mr. Fitzpatrick and his careful efforts to supply expertise in computer statistical matters by his witnesses, he has one exceedingly strange omission in his allegations. Nowhere is it alleged that if the matters he complained of were rectified, that Mr. Fitzpatrick would be elected an Assemblyman in the State of Nevada for the 1981 session.

Not once, at any point, in any of his contest material does he, in fact, allege that any of the votes he discusses went to Assemblyman James Schofield. One could read Mr. Fitzpatrick's allegations forever and not ascertain who he thought won the election. Clearly, at most, if you accept fully his statements, Mr. Fitzpatrick is trying, however weakly, to furnish the grounds for a new election. He is positively not furnishing any grounds for himself to be seated in the place of Mr. Schofield.

Needless to say, the only purpose of your meeting today is to answer his request that he be seated in place of Mr. Schofield. His refusal to give you allegations, much less facts upon which they could be properly taken, is fatal to his cause and would cause you to appropriately dismiss this challenge without hearing any further presentation. He failed to challenge initially. He failed to utilize a clear and proper and perhaps effective procedure and having done that, he further insults the Assembly and the people of the State of Nevada by asking you to undertake an action without even giving you reasons to do so. One simply cannot ask to be seated as the winner of an election without in some way alleging that one won the election or would have won the election but for illegal or improper activity. Mr. Fitzpatrick has not done this.

1 He has simply said there were things about the election that in his opinion were not proper or would cause doubts to be cast. That is just not sufficient.

THIS CHALLENGE IS CONTRARY TO NEVADA LAW AND THE WEIGHT OF AUTHORITY IN THE UNITED STATES

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NRS 293,410 tells us what the law of the State of Nevada 7 is on this subject. Insofar as Mr. Fitzpatrick's challenge is concerned, he has to show, following NRS 293.410 (c), that illegal votes were cast and counted for the defendant which if taken from 10 him will reduce the number of his legal votes below the number necessary to elect him. Now clearly, as discussed above, 12 Mr. Fitzpatrick has not even alleged this. He does not say the 13 votes were cast for the defendant. He does not say they ought to 14 be taken from him. He just says that certain people ought not to have voted and since they ought not to have voted he should be an 16 Assemblyman. The weakness of this argument is apparent.

An examination of 26 AM JUR 2d, \$292 at page 116, shows 18 that the law of the United States in these matters is strongly in favor of the same position that anybody with a particle of common 20 sense would take on this subject.

> To warrant a court's taking cognizance of the matter, a charge that illegal votes were cast in favor of a candidate is necessary, and the party disputing an election on the basis that illegal votes were cast has the burden of proving for which candidate the illegal votes were cast. Where the record does not clearly show what the result of an election should be, the court will not substitute its judgment for that of the electorate as declared by the proper authorities.

The candidate receiving the greater number of votes should be not charged of course with excess ballots where it is not known for whom illegal ballots were cast. ...

Probably the leading case on this subject in the United States is Boland V. LaSalle, 19 N.E. 2d, 177, (Sup. Ct. III. 1939).

> The invalidation of what are otherwise good ballots, and consequent disen-

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franchisement of legal voters, should not rest upon vague surmise or assumptions not warranted by record.

Where votes cast exceeded by one the number of names on poll book, and excess ballots had not been withdrawn according to law, it could not be attributed to either side of proposition voted upon, and it should have been deducted from total votes cast on a pro rata basis, the fraction of vote to be deducted from total vote on each side of proposition being in the proportion votes on that side of proposition bore to total votes...

SUMMARY

Mr. Fitzpatrick has not followed the procedures. He has not made the proper allegations. He has not furnished you with any law as in his favor. An examination of the law shows that it is directly contrary to his position and yet he asks this body to declare him to be a state assemblyman.

Mr. Fitzpatrick was defeated in the election, has shown you no good reason to declare otherwise and should be defeated in his effort to seek a hearing on his challenge.

Respectfully submitted,

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