

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bremner  
Vice Chairman Hickey  
Mr. Bergevin  
Mr. Brady  
Mr. Coulter  
Mrs. Hayes  
Mr. Horn  
Mr. Marvel  
Mr. Rhoads  
Mr. Vergiels  
Mrs. Westall  
Mr. Glover  
Mr. Robinson (EXCUSED)

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Bible, Fiscal Analyst; Judy Matteucci, Deputy Fiscal Analyst; Mike Alastuey, Deputy Budget Director.

Chairman Bremner called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

SB 594 Increases amount of benefits for surviving spouses of justices and district judges.

Mr. Mike Brown, Court Administrator, stated that SB 594 increases the monthly retirement benefit for the surviving spouse of a retired Supreme Court Justice or District Court Judge from \$500 per month to \$600 per month. He said under current law, if a justice or a district judge had retired or had sufficient service for retirement at the time of his death, his surviving spouse is entitled to a monthly retirement benefit upon attaining the age of 60. He added that this bill increases that benefit \$100 per month for fiscal years 1981-82 and 1972-73. He said currently there are six widows receiving benefits and the annual cost of this bill is estimated to be \$7,200.

Mr. Rhoads asked why judges widows should receive any pension when other state employees widows do not. Mr. Brown stated that other state employees have the option to select different payment plans for their retirement so that surviving spouses can receive pension payments if they so desire. He added that judges do not have this option so the surviving spouses are left with no pension upon the death of the judge.

SB 675 Makes supplemental appropriation from state insurance fund to state industrial attorney.

Mr. Alastuey said that the State Industrial Attorney's office is funded by an appropriation from the State Insurance Fund and reimbursements from self-insured employers. He added that salary adjustment funds for Legislative pay raises were not built into this budget when it was approved by the 1979 Session of the Legislature. He pointed out to provide adequate funds to pay employees for raises and to establish a salary adjustment reserve for any raises that may be approved by the 1981 session, a \$14,000 appropriation from the State Insurance Fund is needed. He said because the Carson City Office of the Industrial Attorney had to move to a new location and the cost of obtaining medical reports has increased since this budget was approved, the Industrial Attorney is requesting an additional \$6,000 for operating expenses for the remainder of 1981.

Mr. Glover moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Bergevin. The motion carried, Westall, Coulter, Robinson and Horn absent.

SB 390 Provides for painting and display of protrait of governor during his term.

After discussion, the committee decided to hold the bill for further consideration.

SB 676 Makes appropriations from state general fund and state highway fund to buildings and grounds division of general services.

Mr. Alastuey stated that the amount requested from the General Fund is \$113,743 and reflects that portion of the increased utility costs attributable to agencies located in state buildings.

Mr. Alastuey pointed out that the \$46,600 appropriation from the Highway Fund is to pay the Department of Motor Vehicles' portion of the increase in utility costs.

He added that the Buildings and Grounds Division has projected that its budgeted electrical costs will be exceeded by \$244,828 for this fiscal year. He said a study of the electrical costs of seven buildings (four in Carson City and three in Las Vegas) has shown that while increases in rates and usage have both contributed to this 62 percent increase over last year's costs, rate increases have been the major factor.

Mr. Bergevin moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Glover. The motion carried, Robinson, Vergiels, Brady and Horn absent.

SB 342 Makes various amendments to law relating to state public works board.

Mr. Glover testified that this bill makes changes in legislation providing for the construction of new warehouses. He added that it allows the Public Works Commission to hire a contractor, state the specifications, and have it designed and built by the contractor.

Mr. Marvel moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Glover. The motion carried, Robinson, Vergiels, Brady and Horn absent.

SB 628 Makes supplemental appropriation to Labor Commissioner for travel expenses.

Mr. Alastuey stated that Senate Bill 628 makes a supplemental General Fund appropriation of \$3,390 to the State Labor Commissioner for paying increased travel expenses for this fiscal year. The primary reason for this supplemental need is due to increased aid fares and mileage costs for travel within the state. Also, the current Labor Commissioner is a new appointee and has inherited, according to testimony, a budget insufficient to carry out the duties of his office.

Mr. Glover moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. The motion carried, Robinson, Brady, Vergiels and Horn absent.

SB 630 Makes supplemental appropriation for Lake's Crossing facility for the mentally disordered offender.

Mr. Alastuey stated that SB 630 is a supplemental General Fund appropriation in the amount of \$24,100 for the Lake's Crossing facility for the mentally disordered offender.

Mr. Glover moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. The motion carried, Robinson, Brady, Vergiels and Horn absent.

SB 276 Makes appropriation and authorizes expenditures for capital improvements to state parks.

Mr. Glover moved that the bill be amended to incorporate the figures previously agreed upon by the committee, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

Mr. Glover moved DO PASS AS AMENDED, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. The motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

SB 338 Makes an appropriation for certain computer equipment for the University of Nevada.

Mr. Hickey moves DO PASS on SB 338, seconded by Mr. Glover. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

SB 692 Makes appropriation to legislative fund for expenses involved in hosting meeting of National Conference of State Legislatures.

Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Rhoads. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

SB 653 Increases fee for license issued by private investigator's licensing board.

Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Glover. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

SB 26 Revises provisions relating to distribution of official publications to libraries and governmental agencies.

Mr. Bergevin moved NO FURTHER CONSIDERATION, seconded by Mr. Glover. Motion carried and the bill was INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.

SB 38 Establishes annual salaries for members of Nevada Gaming Commission

Chairman Bremner stated that SB 38 results from the interim study on gaming and provides for an annual salary for the chairman of the Gaming Commission of \$15,000 and for each member an annual salary of \$12,500.

Mr. Glover moved that the bill be INDEFINITELY POSTPONED, seconded by Mr. Hickey. Motion did not carry, Bergevin, Coulter, Rhoads, Marvel, Westall, Bremner and Hayes voting no.

Mr. Coulter moved DO PASS, seconded by Mrs. Hayes. Motion carried, Mr. Glover voting no. Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

AB 676 Provides exception from limitation on salaries of employees of University of Nevada

Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Bergevin. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

AB 173 Augments means of repayment of stipends for study out-of-state.

Mr. Bible stated that the WICHE and the Western Regional Higher Education Compact Program allow Nevada students to take advantage of continued education in certain professional programs that are not offered within the state. In addition, all students participating are required to repay all state contributions for stipends unless they

practice their profession for 3 years in Nevada. He added that the WICHE Commissioners can reduce that 3-year period of required practice for persons who practice their professions in rural areas of the State and extend the time for completing the required practice beyond 5 years for certain persons. He said this would also allow the WICHE Commissioners to reduce the repayment of stipends if the students become employees of the state.

Mr. Bible added that passage of this measure will provide additional incentive to certain professionals to become state employees and provide the state with a more viable labor pool from which to recruit for positions that are difficult to hire and retain such as veterinarians and dentists.

Mr. Rhoads moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Hickey. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Alastuey stated that he had spoken to Mr. Roy Nixon regarding the cigarette stamps. The bill regarding this matter failed and the Ways and Means committee earlier reduced \$40,000 in the first year and \$71,000 in the second year under the supposition of SB 582 passing and that the dealers would bear the cost of the stamps. He pointed out that with the failure of SB 582, the Department once again has to bear the cost of securing the stamps. He suggested that under provision of existing law that the \$40,000 in the first year and the \$71,000 the second year be restored to the operating supplies line item because it says that on a monthly basis the Legislature shall specify a sum from the remittances made pursuant to subsection one during the preceding month, the treasurer shall deposit the same to the credit of the department. He pointed out that this arose after the budget was closed and needs to be addressed at this time.

Chairman Bremner stated that the Speaker of the Assembly has indicated that the Committee should vote to waive the normal 5 day posting of the 24 hour posting rules.

Mr. Glover moved that this be waived, seconded by Mr. Bergevin. Motion carried. Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

Mr. Bergevin commented that some attention needed to be given to the Taxation Department problem that had arisen after closure of the budget. He moved to reopen the Taxation budget, seconded by Mr. Coulter. The motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

Mr. Bergevin moved to adjust the budget to increase the cigarette tax by \$40,000 the first year and \$71,000 the second year, seconded by Mr. Coulter. The motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

Mr. Bergevin moved to close the budget as amended, seconded by Mr. Coulter. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

Mr. Alastuey addressed the committee as to SB 706, pointing out that the statutory claims fund is depleted and this bill requests and supplemental. Chairman Bremner indicated that upon receipt of the bill the committee will act upon it.

SB 594 Increases the amount of benefits for surviving spouses of justices and district judges.

Mr. Hickey moved DO PASS, seconded by Mr. Marvel. Motion carried, Vergiels, Brady, Robinson and Horn absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.