

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON FINANCE

SIXTY-FIRST SESSION
NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
May 26, 1981

The Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Chairman Floyd R. Lamb, at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 26, 1981, in Room 231 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. Exhibit A is the Meeting Agenda. Exhibit B is the Attendance Roster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman
Senator Euguen V. Echols
Senator Lawrence E. Jacobsen
Senator Norman D. Glaser
Senator Thomas R.C. Wilson
Senator Clifford E. McCorkle

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Senator James I. Gibson (excused)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald W. Sparks, Chief Fiscal Analyst
Dan Miles, Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Candace Chaney, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Please refer to Exhibit B.

PAY PACKAGE - CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

Senator Glaser moved to approve a pay package for State classified employees of 8% plus \$100 plus 8%.

Senator Jacobsen seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Barrett inquired if the pay package included the additional increases for correctional officers and factor ranking. Mr. Sparks indicated there was no factor ranking; it did include the additional increase for correctional officers and mental health technicians.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

Mr. Art Palmer, Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, addressed the budget of this agency. (A copy of the Legislative Counsel Bureau budget is on file in the Legislative Research Library.) Mr. Palmer indicated the total Legislative Counsel Bureau budget had increased 10%. This was broken down by division as follows:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|--|
| 1. Legislative Commission | - up 66.7% | |
| 2. General Services | - up 19.6% | |
| 3. Legal Division | - down 7.2% | (contingent on
<u>Assembly Bill No. 679</u>) |
| 4. Audit Division | - up 37.6% | |
| 5. Research Division | - up 16% | |
| 6. Fiscal Division | - up 16% | |

Senator McCorkle asked what the additional demand for auditors in the Audit Division were for. Mr. John Crossley, Director of the Audit Division, said in the budget request there was approval for five positions of which three was for additional auditors. The auditors were necessary to keep pace with the program and to move away from the automatic three year cycle and to move into the major agencies which would allow some of the smaller agencies go on a longer cycle.

Senate Committee on Finance
May 26, 1981

Senator McCorkle inquired if this would give the majority of the State agencies a two year cycle. Mr. Crossley indicated they wanted to get away from the cycle basis.

Senator Echols asked how the Legislative Counsel Bureau budgets compared percentage wise to the other State agencies. Mr. Palmer stated they did not try to project any trimming of operations as they assumed they would not be responsible to come forward with a budget other than what the operation of the legislature had been from 1979 to 1981.

Senator Lamb, referring to the Legislation Commission budget, inquired why there was \$100,000 budgeted for subcommittee studies. Mr. Palmer said the exact cost of the studies could only be determined in three or four days when they knew what statutory committees there would be. He noted, up to this point, there had been no concurrent resolution directing the commission to study any specific items. Senator Echols noted four studies had passed out of his committee, Legislative Affairs.

Senator Jacobsen asked Senator Echols how many studies would be a realistic number. Senator Echols felt there should be no more than ten studies. Senator Jacobsen commented that ten studies compared to the 23 undertaken last session was quite a reduction. Mr. Palmer said another thing to be considered, was not so much the number of studies done, but the impact behind the studies. Mr. Crossley, noted, presently, the studies included the statutory committees. He added that somewhere they had to have monies to fund those committees required by law from the legislative fund.

Senator Wilson suggested the committee process and approve this budget with reserving the line items for the total amount of the studies plus any contingency to plug it in.

Senator Jacobsen inquired where the MX came out of last session. Mr. Crossley stated the MX came out of the commission budget which was one of the reasons that budget was so low.

Senator Wilson inquired, referring to the General Services division, what the out-of-state travel, national and regional meetings, was for with respect to security and building maintenance. Mr. Palmer said those meetings involved some of the security force and Mr. Palmer, himself. He noted the increase in that item was \$1,000 more than last biennium.

Senator Glaser asked if Mr. Palmer's travel showed anywhere else in the budget. Mr. Palmer said it did not.

Senator Lamb asked if Mr. Palmer put in for a pay raise for his personnel. Mr. Palmer stated the budget figures before the committee did not include the pay raises. He noted the Legislative Commission endorsed the proposition that they would authorize whatever pay raises were given to the executive branch and retroactive for the classified personnel in the Counsel Bureau.

Senator Glaser asked if the security guard program was not going to entail 24 hour surveillance. Mr. Palmer said it would not; this budget would give the building security until approximately 1:00 a.m. in the morning depending on what time of the year it was. Senator Glaser inquired if the Groundskeeper would be coordinating the prisoners who worked outside in the yards. Mr. Palmer stated they were having difficulty operating the prison program as there was an objection in having the prisoners at the Legislative Building. Senator Wilson inquired as to how many prisoners were used presently. Mr. Palmer said there were two being utilized and added they could use four prisoners if there was a way of handling them without objections from the legislators.

Senate Committee on Finance
May 26, 1981

Senator Lamb, referring to the Legal Division under travel and operating expenditures, asked why the division needed so much training. Mr. Palmer said this expense would be principally involved with the technicians coming in connection with the new computer being installed. Senator Lamb inquired if new personnel were not hired with expertise in that area already. Mr. Palmer indicated it was hard to keep abreast of anything moving that rapidly. Senator Jacobsen remarked the training expense bothered him but felt it was one of those things when a new piece of equipment came in, it was necessary to be trained on it in some manner.

Senator Lamb asked why there were such excessive increases in office supply expenditures. Mr. Palmer indicated those expenses were also involved in the installation of the new computer system in the legal division.

Senator Jacobsen inquired, under equipment repair and maintenance in the Legal division, if those costs were for computer payments. Mr. Palmer said those costs were for the computer maintenance itself for the old system and the new system. Senator Jacobsen requested an explanation of the EDP services category where no expenses were shown. Mr. Palmer said that item was funded out of appropriated amounts.

Mr. John Crossley presented an explanation of the Audit division budget. He noted the Legislative Commission authorized the hiring of five new positions, but the division was recommending the hiring of only three positions.

Mr. Palmer addressed the Research division budget and noted the resignation of the present librarian and the division's desire to upgrade that position to attract a person who had the capability of serving in that capacity. Another reclassification in the Research division concerned the Administrative Secretary who had taken on a considerably greater workload since last session.

Mr. Sparks presented the Fiscal division budget. He noted they were not requesting any new positions. In the equipment rental category the division was requesting to upgrade their word processing system. He indicated the division was requesting to upgrade their word processing system. He indicated the division was requesting \$5,000 in data processing money for work on sales and use tax programs.

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 586

Mr. Sparks indicated there was a conflict notice on this bill.

Senator Wilson moved to amend Assembly Bill No. 586.

Senator Jacobsen seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Senator Wilson moved to approve Assembly Bill No. 586 as amended.

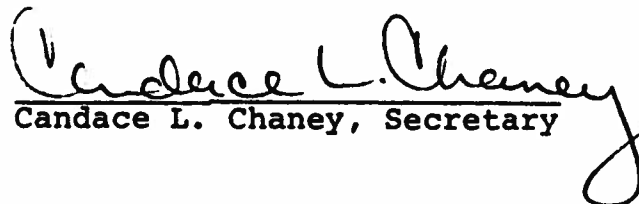
Senator Jacobsen seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.


Senate Committee on Finance
May 26, 1981

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Candace L. Chaney
Candace L. Chaney, Secretary

APPROVED BY:


Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman

DATED: _____

SENATE AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee on FINANCE, Room 231.

Day TUESDAY, Date May 26, 1981, Time 4:00 p.m.

1. Committee Work Session.

Exhibit B

**THIS EXHIBIT IS MISSING FROM BOTH THE ORIGINAL
MINUTES AND THE MICROFICHE.**