

MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON FINANCE

SIXTY-FIRST SESSION  
NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE  
May 27, 1981

The Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman, on Wednesday, May 27, 1981, at 8:00 a.m., in Room 231 of Nevada State 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 James I. Gibson, Vice Chairman  
Senator Eugene V. Echols  
Senator Norman D. Glaser  
Senator Lawrence E. Jacobsen  
Senator Thomas R.C. Wilson  
Senator Clifford E. McCorkle

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

(None)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald W. Sparks, Chief Fiscal Analyst  
Dan Miles, Deputy Fiscal Analyst  
Tracy L. Dukic, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENTS:

(Please see Exhibit B)

SENATE BILL NO. 631

Senator Lamb requested further testimony on this bill from Mr. Rick Kuhlmeiy, Volunteer Lobbyist, prior to the committee taking any action on this bill.

Mr. Kuhlmeiy stated through the passage of this legislation, the blind and deaf will obtain better services and will create a more responsivel administration.

Mr. Sparks asked if the present administration, i.e., Mr. Ace Martelle, Director of the Department of Human Resources, and Mr. Del Frost, Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, are still taking the position that it would be illegal to split the administration of this department according to federal statutes.

Mr. Kuhlmeiy said that they are taking the same position.

Senator Jacobsen asked what would happen if this bill is not passed.

Mr. Kuhlmeiy stated that he feels that Services to the Blind will greatly deteriorate.

Senate

Committee on Finance  
May 27, 1981

Senator Jacobsen asked how many states are providing this concept of services to the blind and deaf.

Mr. Kuhlmeier stated that Colorado and Alabama have this system on-line and Northern California has a pilot project going. He indicated that Alabama and California do not provide this service as part of their statutes but Colorado is.

Senator Echols stated that he feels this is a perfect place to utilize volunteerism from the community.

Mr. Kuhlmeier stated that they did keep this in mind when drafting this legislation; that volunteers would be able to provide some administrative assistance. He said that drafted into the body of the bill is a provision which would mandate that volunteers become subject to laws of confidentiality.

Senator Wilson asked what is wrong with the present services provided by the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Mr. Kuhlmeier stated that the deaf and blind are in great need of specialized and unique services that it is more costly and more time consuming to rehabilitate these individuals. He said that counselors in the Rehabilitation programs are frustrated in trying to rehabilitate these individuals because they are pressured to maintain a certain rate of rehabilitation success with each of their clients.

Senator Wilson asked why the Rehabilitation Division does not change their policy where these individuals are concerned.

Mr. Kuhlmeier stated that the Rehabilitation Division has organized their program in such a way that it does not allow for the needed changes that would be necessary to alter the picture for the deaf and the blind. He also said that the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation has been handling the rehabilitation of the blind and the deaf since 1973, and the consensus is that they are not receiving proper help.

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ASSEMBLY BILL 489

SENATOR JACOBSEN MOVED DO PASS.

SENATOR WILSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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ASSEMBLY BILL 677

Mr. Sparks told the Committee that this bill would provide for an increase in group insurance premiums from the current level -- \$67 dollars per month -- and over what the Governor has proposed as an increase -- \$74 dollars per month for the first year of the biennium and \$81 dollars per month for the second year of the biennium -- to

Senate Committee on Finance  
May 27, 1981

\$75 dollars per month for the first year of the biennium and \$90 dollars per month for the second year of the biennium. He said that this would amount to a total increase for both years of the biennium of \$800,000, which would be mostly effective in the second year of the biennium.

SENATOR JACOBSEN MOVED TO REMAIN WITH THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION.

SENATOR MCCORKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.

(THE COMMITTEE ELECTED TO HOLD THIS BILL FOR FINAL ACTION UNTIL ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE PRESENT TO ACT ON THIS BILL.)

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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 587

SENATOR JACOBSEN MOVED TO INDEFINITELY POSTPONE THIS BILL.

SENATOR MCCORKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 528

SENATOR ECHOLS MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS.

SENATOR MCCORKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATE BILL NO. 592

SENATOR GLASER MOVED TO INCREASE THE SALARY LEVEL TO \$61,500, EFFECTIVE AS OF THE FIRST MONDAY IN JANUARY 1983.

SENATOR JACOBSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATOR GIBSON MOVED TO REMOVE THE COST OF LIVING CLAUSE (PAGE 2, LINE 4) IN THE BILL.

SENATOR JACOBSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Senate

Committee on Finance  
May 27, 1981

SENATE BILL 442

SENATOR GIBSON MOVED TO INCREASE THE SALARY LEVEL TO \$56,000 DOLLARS PER YEAR, EFFECTIVE AS OF THE FIRST MONDAY IN JANUARY 1983, AND INCLUDED IN THIS MOTION, IS A PROVISION FOR DISTRICT JUDGES TO SERVE AS LIBRARY BOARD TRUSTEES FROM 1983 TO 1985 AT THE RATE OF \$13,000 DOLLARS PER YEAR.

SENATOR JACOBSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATOR GIBSON MOVED TO KEEP THE SALARY LEVEL AT \$56,000 DOLLARS PER YEAR, EFFECTIVE AS OF THE FIRST MONDAY IN JANUARY 1985.

SENATOR JACOBSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATE BILL 631

Mr. Sparks told the Committee that in the event that Senate Bill 575 failed, the Governor had requested that the District Manager positions in the Services to the Blind budget be reinstated in both the Carson City Office and the Las Vegas Office.

SENATOR GIBSON MOVED TO REINSTATE THE TWO POSITIONS.

SENATOR JACOBSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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SENATOR GIBSON MOVED TO INDEFINITELY POSTPONE SENATE BILL 631.

SENATOR JACOBSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED EXCEPT FOR THE DISSENTING VOTES OF SENATORS MCCORKLE AND ECHOLS.

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SENATOR WILSON MOVED TO SEND A LETTER OF INTENT TO MR. ACE MARTELLE, DEL FROST AND TO THE VOLUNTEERS TO THE BLIND TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

"Expressing the Finance Committee's interest in the problem giving rise to legislation such as Senate Bill 631; to express the Committee's desire to see greater efficiency in the services they are providing to the blind and deaf because the

Senate Committee on Finance  
May 25, 1981

Committee has received numerous complaints regarding the care being provided by the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation; to inform both of these gentlemen that they may be called before Interim Finance to answer any questions that may arise regarding this same matter; and to include copies of all correspondence regarding this matter to the Volunteers to the Blind."

SENATOR GLASER SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 677

Mr. Robert Gagnier, Executive Director of SNEA, came before the committee to more fully explain the fiscal impact of this proposed legislation. He informed the committee that this bill has passed the Assembly Ways and Means Committee just today, and he proceeded to give the committee a brief historical background on the bill.

Mr. Gagnier told the committee that the State employees could live with a 10% increase the first year of the biennium, but not for the second year, also. He stated that this legislation proposes an increase of 12% the first year and 20% the second year of the biennium. He further indicated that 12% is the minimum increase that is acceptable.

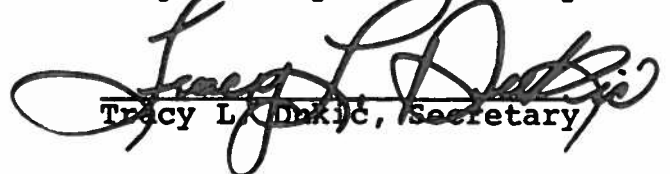
Senator Lamb asked for the total figure on this legislation.

Mr. Barrett replied that in the first year of the biennium, the cost of this legislation would be approximately \$200,000, with a \$100,000 share from the General Fund, and in the second year of the biennium, the total cost would be \$650,000, with a \$325,000 share from the General Fund. He said that the total figures quoted are figures that are computed above what the Governor has recommended.

(THE COMMITTEE ELECTED TO HOLD THIS BILL FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Tracy L. Dabovic, Secretary

APPROVED BY:

  
Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman

DATED: 

SENATE AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee on FINANCE, Room 231.

Day WEDNESDAY, Date MAY 27, 1981, Time 8:00 a.m.

1. Committee Work Session.

## Exhibit B

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