

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

SIXTY-FIRST SESSION
NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
February 2, 1981

The Senate Committee on Human Resources and Facilities was called to order by Vice Chairman James Kosinski, at 9:14 a.m., Monday, February 2, 1981, in Room 323 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. Exhibit A is the Meeting Agenda. Exhibit B is the Attendance Roster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Joe Neal, Chairman
Senator James N. Kosinski, Vice Chairman
Senator Richard E. Blakemore
Senator Wilbur Faiss
Senator Virgil M. Getto
Senator James H. Bilbray

GUEST LEGISLATORS:

Senator Jean Ford

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Connie Richards, Committee Secretary

Vice Chairman Kosinski asked for testimony and committee consideration for the following resolutions:

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NUMBER 2

Senator Faiss expressed a wish for the committee to support S. J. R. No. 2. He said that during the interim, he had heard from many senior citizens who reported that they had received raises in their Social Security checks due to cost of living increases. These raises affected the senior citizens' incomes to the point that they suffered losses to their food stamps as well as their S.S.I. payments. These losses outweighed the increase and the final outcome to the senior citizens in actual dollars is a loss, rather than the gain originally intended. Senator Faiss asked that in the future

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when cost of living increases are made, Congress also raise the amount considered poverty level at the same time, so that the senior citizens are not adversely affected.

Senator Kosinski replied that he felt that the resolution contains an internal inconsistency. He said that asking Congress to eliminate inflation, while at the same time suggesting that Congress take action which contributes to inflation, are two items contradictory to one another.

Senator Faiss said that he could not see this inconsistency, but simply a way to be fair to the people.

Senator Kosinski said that he understands and agrees with the intent of the legislation, but maybe the two problems should be worded into two separate resolutions.

At this point in the meeting, Vice Chairman Kosinski turned the meeting over to Chairman Neal.

Senator Getto stated that he agrees with Senator Kosinski, that there is an inner conflict in the resolution.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NUMBER 5

Mrs. Anne Langevin, extension administrator for Clark County Library District gave testimony on S. J. R. No. 5 (see Exhibit C).

Senator Getto asked Mrs. Langevin how the monies are allocated.

Mrs. Langevin responded that a study had been made and long-range goals had been set as to allocation of this money, both to smaller areas such as Pioche, Tonopah, and Goldfield, (to provide these libraries with computer terminals) as well as to upgrade larger facilities.

Ms. Maryanne Royale, representative, Washoe County Law Library, said that the law libraries in the state have recently received a heavy and growing demand for services which they are presently unable to meet adequately. The law enforcement assistant administration was previously the only source for discretionary funds for law libraries in the country. Since this source of funds is no longer available the possibilities for technological improvements in law libraries among districts in

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the State of Nevada and throughout the country have also diminished. The local funds are sufficient only for supporting the development of the library collection itself. She said that with inflation running about 20 percent per year for law books, it has made the possibility for advancement extremely low.

Senator Kosinski asked Ms. Royale whether the demand on the use of the law libraries would be increased if technological advances were extended or improved within the law libraries.

Ms. Royale said that it would improve channels of communication among libraries within the state, but not necessarily show an immediate affect on the amount of use to the library.

Senator Kosinski asked how the library presently engages in interlibrary loan without the technological equipment.

Ms. Royale responded that the interlibrary loan is strictly through telephone communication.

Ms. Jeanne Goodrich of the Nevada State Library read testimony for Hailie Gunn, Director, Elko, Lander, Eureka Library System. This testimony is Exhibit D.

Senator Getto asked what libraries are doing for funding now that the Fleischmann Fund is depleted.

Ms. Goodrich said that the Fleischmann Fund was used primarily for construction of new buildings. She said that there are two bills that will be coming up before the Senate; one asks that library districts be given the power to bond for construction. The second bill calls for a statewide bond issue that would provide a fund of money from which local libraries could obtain grants and loans to build libraries.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 2

Ms. Nancy Cummings, Administrator of Headquarters Library, Clark County Library District read testimony for Del Betterton, President of the Nevada Association of School Librarians. This testimony is Exhibit E. (Testimony for S. C. R. No. 5 is also included in Exhibit E.)

Mr. Ted Sanders, Superintendent of Public Instruction said

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that many school districts do presently provide some kind of training to people employed as librarians and/or aids. He said that in most school districts where aids are employed they are working under the supervision of someone who is proficient in the library sciences and serves as a resource to that individual. Many small districts do not have a professionally trained librarian available, however. Fe said that in these cases library instruction would be very important if it were provided from the state level. The financial impact would be minimal to the state, he said; the significant financial impact would be felt by the schools that would have to release the individual from his duties, find a substitute for that day, and provide transportation to the location where the training would be made available. Mr. Sanders said that the decision be a district-level decision as to whether or not the schools participate in the program.

Senator Kosinski asked Mr. Sanders if he thinks the resolution itself and the goal that the resolution is attempting to achieve are laudable.

Mr. Sanders replied that he thinks the goal of the resolution is good.

Senator Blakemore asked what is done with the \$8,600 allotment received now.

Mr. Sanders responded that the money is generally made available to districts to provide institute days or training to their staffs, based upon assessment of their needs.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 3

Mrs. Ann Langevin testifying for Karen Blackwell, librarian at the Northside Elementary School in Elko, read testimony in support of S. C. R. No. 2, S. C. R. No. 3, and S. C. R. No. 5. (Exhibit F).

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 4

Ms. Jeanne Goodrich, Director, Library Development Division, Nevada State Library provided testimony in support of S. C. R. No. 4, (Exhibit G).

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Senator Kosinski asked Ms. Goodrich whether the Nevada Council on Libraries is state or federally mandated.

Ms. Goodrich responded that it is a combination of a state mandated board and a federally mandated board, with the members being appointed by the governor.

There being no further questions for Ms. Goodrich, Chairman Neal asked Mr. Ted Sanders if there is presently a system to certify librarians.

Mr. Sanders responded that there is presently a system to certify librarians.

The Chairman asked Mr. Sanders how this certification system works.

Mr. Sanders said that there are three different levels of certification. The first level is labeled a teacher-library media specialist endorsement, which refers to a classroom teacher who is certified either as a secondary or elementary teacher who has twenty semester hours in specific areas of library science. The middle level is called a library-media specialist endorsement, either an elementary or secondary school teacher. This level requires a bachelor's degree in library science or twenty-eight semester hours of specified course work in library science. The highest level of certification is known as professional library-media specialist endorsement. This person must have a master's degree in library science with at least thirty semester hours of preparation in library science as well as three years successful experience working as a librarian-media specialist or a librarian in a public school.

Senator Getto asked whether there is comparable recognition for librarians working in county libraries.

Ms. Joan Kirshner, Nevada State Library stated that school librarians feel satisfied with this certification process, through the schools, but there is nothing comparable to this for public librarians. The only recognition for these librarians is a master's degree in library science which leaves many people who have been working in the profession for a number of years without that credential unrecognized.

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Senator Getto asked Ms. Kirshner whether a person who had worked in a public library for fifteen years, but had not obtained a bachelor's or master's degree could be certified by the school district.

Ms. Kirshner responded that an individual in this position could not be certified by the school district.

Mr. Frank Holzhauer, Chief of Planning, Department of Human Resources expressed a concern as to whether this proposal would affect library personnel at the Nevada Boys Training Center at Elko, and the Girls Training Center, Caliente.

Senator Neal said that this resolution is not a mandate; it is simply a request to have a detailed proposal developed for submission to the legislature in 1985.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 5

Mr. Ted Sanders said that he does not disagree with the intent of this legislation, however to keep the resolution consistent with the authority of the board of education, authority must be explicitly given to the state board of education.

Senator Kosinski asked whether the distributive school fund provides any recognition to library needs of districts.

Mr. Sanders said that the fund does not respond to library needs specifically. He explained, that there is federal funding that does, however, and all districts participate in that program.

Senator Getto asked Mr. Sanders whether there are any guidelines that the districts must follow to receive these federal funds.

Mr. Sanders replied that the only restriction placed upon the districts is that they must use the funds for library and learning resources.

Mr. John Hawkins, Representative, Nevada State School Boards Association said that in many cases when a new school is built, there are not adequate funds for the immediate establishment of a library, in which case mobile libraries are set up or materials are provided for each classroom teacher. This is generally just a temporary situation.

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Senator Getto asked where libraries stand on the list of priorities as far as school districts are concerned.

Mr. Hawkins replied that they are probably second or third after establishment of an acceptable class size.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 6

Mr. Harold Morehouse, Director of Libraries at the University of Nevada, Reno; representing Ms. Ruth Donovan said that there is some demand for a graduate program for library science, however the university already has more professional schools than they can comfortably support. He said that if people want a career in librarianship currently, they must go to school out of state, at great expense to the student, in a program that takes from one and one half to two years. Mr. Morehouse said that it seems somewhat unfair to those students that they are unable to take advantage of the WICHE Program. He explained that under the WICHE Program, students can attend graduate schools in other states where they have most or all of their tuition paid for by the state. This is much more economical for states without a great demand for the graduate schools, to send those students interested to other states than to provide the schools at the university.

Mr. Morehouse explained that it is difficult for smaller school districts throughout the state to attract librarians to those areas. He said that if the students come from Nevada to begin with, maybe they would be able to appreciate what life in Nevada is like and return to be librarians in those districts.

Senator Blakemore asked if this is the problem or the solution. He said that once a person receives a master's degree, he or she would naturally prefer to work where the salary will be the greatest, and that place generally isn't in Nevada.

Mr. Morehouse said that this is the case in many smaller libraries, however larger libraries can afford to hire people with this qualification, and a first preference is to hire people from the State of Nevada.

Senator Faiss asked why community colleges don't provide courses in library science.

Mr. Morehouse responded that they do provide some courses,

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though not a complete program.

Senator Bilbray asked how many students would take advantage of the WICHE Program for library sciences if it is provided.

Mr. Morehouse said that it is estimated that there are about 24 students in the state who would be interested in the program; realistically he would expect about 4 students to apply the first year. He said this would entail a cost to the state of about \$12,000 the first year.

Senator Getto asked if a bachelor's degree in library science can be obtained at the University of Nevada.

Mr. Morehouse responded that there is no degree as such, but an individual can earn certification.

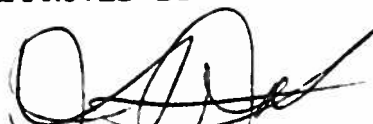
Members of the Nevada Library Association were unable to attend this meeting. Their testimony in favor of the above library legislation is Exhibit H.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Connie S. Richards, Secretary

APPROVED BY:


Senator Joe Neal, Chairman

DATE: February 6, 1981

SENATE AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee on Human Resources and Facilities, Room 323.

Day Monday, Date February 2, Time 9:00 a.m.

S. J. R. No. 2—Calls upon Congress to alleviate hardships of inflation.

S. J. R. No. 5—Memorialized Congress to continue federal aid for libraries and to include law libraries in the federal law on public library services and construction.

S. C. R. No. 2—Requests that state board of education sponsor workshops or other training for school librarians who are not professionally trained in library science.

S. C. R. No. 3—Directs Nevada state library and department of education to study possibilities of joint or shared use of facilities, staffs or other resources of school and public libraries.

S. C. R. No. 4—Requests representatives of Nevada state library, Nevada council on libraries and Nevada Library Association to develop detailed proposal for state certification of libraries.

S. C. R. No. 5—Requests state board of education to develop statement of policy which recognizes that school libraries are integral part of the public educational system.

S. C. R. No. 6—Requests inclusion of library science in program of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

ATTENDANCE ROSTER FORM

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON Human Resources and FacilitiesDATE: February 2, 1981

| PLEASE PRINT | PLEASE PRINT | PLEASE PRINT | PLEASE PRINT |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| NAME | ORGANIZATION & ADDRESS | TELEPHONE | |
| Jeanne Goolrick | Nevada Library Association - NSL | 885-5145 | |
| JOHN HAWKINS | Priv. School Boards Assoc | | |
| Joseph Cochran | State Librarian | 885-5130 | |
| Ann Langwin | Clark Co Library District | 733-7110 | |
| Charles P. Cummings | Clark Co. Library Dist Las Vegas | 733-7110 | |
| NATHANIEL BENTWIFE | CARSON CITY - PRIVATE CITIZEN | 882-4935 | |
| Walter K. Neumann | Dept of Ed | 885-5700 | |
| Dr. Cochran | City of North Las Vegas | 882-2121 | |
| MIKE COOL | Clark Co. Lib. Dist | | |
| TOLINE BENTWIFE | | | |
| HAROLD MOREHOUSE | University of Nevada, Reno | 784-6533 | |
| TED SANDERS | STATE DEPT OF EDUC | 885-5700 | |
| Richard Brown | Nev. Assoc. School Adm | | |
| Debra Hunt | Nevada Library Association | 885-5160 | |
| Pamela P. Petersen | Nevada State Librarian | 885-5165 | |
| Shirley G. Gentry | Nevada State Library | 885-5165 | |
| Joan Kerschner | Nevada State Library | 885-5165 | |
| JAN BOOTHMAN | NEVADA STATE LIBRARY | 885-5165 | |
| DICK WRIGHT | WCSIS | 322-7041 | |
| OU Brinton | WCSIS | 322-7041 | |
| A.J. Cruikshank | Common Cause | 882-6572 | |
| | | | |
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SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES & FACILITIES

February 2, 1981

Senator Neal and Members of the Committee:

I am Ann Langevin, Extension Administrator for Clark County Library District. I wish to speak to Senate Joint Resolution 5, which asks the Nevada State Legislature to memorialize the United States Congress to continue federal aid for libraries.

Federal aid in the form of Library Services and Construction Act funds has been extremely important to library development in our state. Federal funds have been used to support programs and services which cross local political boundaries. Throughout Nevada, libraries serve patrons who do not live within their political boundaries. Although libraries are supported locally, library users do not recognize political jurisdictions. They cross streets or county lines to get the information or services they need.

Federal funds have been used to support these services: Nevada Media Co-operative loans 16mm films to residents throughout our state.

Interlibrary Loan allows residents, no matter where they live, to borrow books, no matter where the books are.

Services to the Blind and Physically Handicapped provides talking books on cassette tapes and records for handicapped persons.

Technological advances have also been possible for libraries throughout our state. The most notable is the automated circulation system, CLSI. In the South, the Clark County Library District, North Las Vegas, the Clark County Community College and UNLV share one data base. In the North, Washoe County Library and UNR share another. A library staff member in any of these libraries can tell at a glance in which library a book can be located. If the book is not in the library, the librarian can put a reserve on it, and the book will be mailed to the patron no matter where he lives. The computer even prints a mailing label.

Local library development has also been encouraged through federal funds. In the southern region, for example, federal funds have

paid for training workshops for the librarians in Nye, Lincoln and Esmeralda Counties. The Tonopah Public Library was cataloged with federal funds. In addition, each library in the three county area receives a supplement to its book budget from federal funds.

Patrons in Nye, Esmeralda and Lincoln Counties also request Clark County Library District books which are mailed to them with the return postage included. Local librarians may telephone Clark County Library District toll-free to forward patron requests. A professional librarian provides reference assistance, and assistance in library practices and procedures.

Federal aid to libraries is a small amount. In 1980, it was \$398,630; in 1981, it will be \$425,492 at maximum. This represents about seven per cent of the expenditure for libraries statewide.

Federal funds have allowed Nevada's libraries to do some of their most important work, though: to share their slender resources with a statewide clientele.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you; all of us in libraries throughout Nevada appreciate your continued interest.

TO: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES
FROM: HAILIE GUNN, DIRECTOR OF THE ELKO LANDER EUREKA LIBRARY SYSTEM
SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SJR-5

CHAIRMAN NEAL, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The librarians and patrons of libraries in the State of Nevada would like to express appreciation to the dedicated legislators of the Interim Study Committee that studied the state of libraries in Nevada the past months. They have presented a report to be proud of that will be a foundation for libraries and information sciences during the coming years.

Today I would like to ask you to approve SJR-5 from that report. This bill memorializes the Congress of the United States to continue federal aid for libraries.

I could write a book on the services and facilities that the Library Services and Construction Act has helped build during the twenty years that I have served as librarian in three states. And no state has made better use of the funds than the librarians in Nevada.

Nearly every public library in the state built since 1960 has been funded by 49% federal funds and the balance with Max C. Fleischmann Foundation funds. Not one county or city today has a bonded indebtedness from building the fine library structures around the state.

There is an automation system in Clark County, film circuits throughout the state, an Interlibrary Loan system to borrow much needed materials between libraries, and for the past four years three bookmobiles have traveled over 500,000 miles bringing service to outlying communities in remote areas, all partially or totally funded with federal funds. This is only a broad view of the many library activities being carried out today with federal funds. These programs are all working for the citizens of Nevada.

I ask you to look favorably on SJR-5 and to give full support for the continuing of the federal funds for construction and other programs around the state of Nevada.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Hailie T. Gunn

NEVADA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

TO: Senate Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

FROM: Del Betterton, President, Nevada Association of School Librarians

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of S.C.R. 2 and S.C.R. 5

As president, it is my responsibility to speak on behalf of the Nevada Association of School Librarians and to represent the more than two hundred school librarians in the state of Nevada.

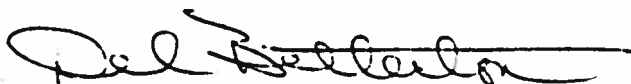
Presently, the state of Nevada does not formally recognize the school libraries as an important and integral part of the educational process. The subject resolutions address this situation.

S.C.R. 2 requests that the state board of education sponsor workshops for the school librarians who are not professionally trained in library science. It is important that Nevada's children are taught how to effectively utilize library resources and how to easily access information. Because enrollments are too small to warrant such a staff, many of the State's school libraries do not employ professionally trained librarians. Therefore, it is necessary for the state department of education to provide basic library training and workshops for these nonprofessionals so they can more effectively teach children not only how to use the library, but also to have an appreciation of reading good literature and a quest for lifelong learning.

S.C.R. 5 requests the state board of education to develop a policy statement recognizing that school libraries are an integral part of the educational system. Currently, school libraries do not enjoy the support they should receive in every school district and in every school in the state of Nevada. A positive policy statement recognizing the importance of school libraries in the total educational process would do much to encourage local school boards and administrators to give school libraries the kind of support necessary to have functional libraries with adequate resources and quality library programs.

It should be emphasized that the essence of these two resolutions was the result of both the Governor's Conference on Library and Information Needs and the Interim Subcommittee for the Study of Nevada's Library and Information Needs.

School librarians hope that this committee will take positive action on these resolutions. Thank you for your consideration.



January 30, 1981

TO: Senate Committee on Human Resources and Facilities
FROM: Karen Blackwell, Librarian, Northside Elementary School, Elko
SUBJECT: Testimony in support of S.C.R.2, S.C.R.3, and S.C.R.5

Education is the process of imparting to a child the knowledge, skills, and competence necessary to that child's survival and success in the world. Our world is changing so rapidly that new scientific advances are made before books about the older ones are printed; so quickly that governmental changes anywhere have immediate and far-reaching effects; so fast that communication with others halfway across the world is nearly as simple as communication halfway across town.

In such a world, the necessity for libraries, and especially school libraries, has sometimes been questioned on the basis that if the information is outdated so quickly, there is no point in teaching children how to use the library. The question should be, instead, can we deny our children the knowledge, skills, and competence necessary for them to gain access to the information of their rapidly-changing world? They will need to know how to gain knowledge quickly and easily, because there is no way that any one person will be able to possess all the necessary information, and libraries are the places where information is stored. School libraries are the training grounds where our children develop the skills they will use for the rest of their lives.

S.C.R.2 requests that the state board of education sponsor workshops or other training for school librarians who are not professionally trained in library science. We would complain if our children were taught arithmetic by someone who could not add; why then should we not complain if our children's libraries are not staffed by qualified personnel? When finances or enrollment do not allow hiring professionally trained librarians, then we should be bound by our concern

for our children to provide training for those who do staff their school libraries.

S.C.R.3 directs the Nevada State Library and the Department of Education to study the possibilities of joint or shared use of facilities, staffs, or other resources of school and public libraries. It is a matter of economic reality that we cannot continue to duplicate services and resources to any great extent; our finances are being spread too thin to result in quality. Especially in rural areas where resources must cover wide geographical areas, cooperation is of absolute necessity. Libraries, whether public or school, are places for learning, and sharing our resources, facilities, and staffs may be one way of improving our quality. Furthermore, children learn by example, and seeing cooperation at work does more for their education in this area than any other method.

S.C.R.5 requests the State Board of Education to develop a statement of policy recognizing that school libraries are an integral part of the educational system. Without such a statement of policy, we who are school librarians are operating at a disadvantage. If there is nothing in state policy which recognizes our educational efforts, we have no support system on which to fall back should we need it. Without such a policy, we have no basis for cooperation with other types of libraries, because we have no authority. Without such a policy, in fact, the other bills which the Committee is considering this morning have far less impact, because until school libraries have the recognition of the State Department of Education, we do not officially exist outside of our own districts.

I believe that each of these bills can help to improve the quality of education in Nevada. For the sake of the young people of this state, I ask the Committee to regard these bills with favor. Thank you.

TO: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES
FROM: JEANNE GOODRICH, DIRECTOR, LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, NEVADA STATE LIBRARY
RE: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SCR-4

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

I'm Jeanne Goodrich, speaking on behalf of the Nevada Library Association, in favor of SCR-4, which calls for a study and a detailed proposal for a system of state certification for librarians.

The issues of experience, training, education and qualification have long been of concern to Nevada's librarians and library users. These issues have been expressly addressed at the Governor's Conference on Nevada's Library and Information Needs, at the regional and statewide meetings which resulted in the Nevada Library Association document, A Statewide Master Plan for Nevada Libraries, and by the Interim Study Committee which studied libraries and engendered this resolution.

The entire question of certification is clouded by a pronounced lack of uniformity as to the utility of programs of certification, as well as to definitions, standards, procedures, and qualifications. As the Study Committee found, the issue of certification is a complex one, with numerous subissues. While the Master of Library Science degree is recognized as the professional credential in the field, there is no established mechanism for recognizing the years of experience many library employees possess or the lesser amounts of formal and informal training they may have acquired.

Numerous states have some sort of certification system. It will take time to study these plans in detail and to gain an understanding of the issues, successes and failures of these various systems. Such a background is essential before we can intelligently address the development of a system for Nevada, including the question of whether or not such a system should be developed here.

A certification system would identify those qualities fundamental to the practice of librarianship as well as the acceptance of criteria to be used to certify that an individual has obtained sufficient proficiency to practice. Such a system could be used by individuals to develop themselves, by library boards to evaluate candidates for positions, and by governing authorities to assess potential library directors.

It is in the public interests that the many activities of libraries--selecting, ordering, and arranging materials, administering a public facility and public funds, answering information and reference questions, teaching people how to use the library, presenting programs, supervising staff, and so on--be conducted by qualified, competent people. It is the belief of the library workers in the Nevada Library Association that a thorough study be undertaken by all segments of the library community to determine whether or not a certification system should be developed and if so, what competencies, experience and education are necessary to provide quality library services in the various kinds and sizes of libraries throughout the state.

Respectfully submitted,



NEVADA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES & FACILITIES
FROM: THE NEVADA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF LIBRARY LEGISLATION

The Library Legislation before this committee today, is the result of several years of hard work by Legislators and citizens, as well as Librarians. The bills are the end result of the study LIBRARIES AND OTHER SYSTEMS FOR STORING INFORMATION LCB Bulletin #81-15. The bills to be heard today address concerns voiced by citizen delegates to the Governor's Conference on Nevada's Library and Information Needs, and further studied by the Legislative Sub-Committee provided for in the 1979 Legislature.

SJR 5: Memorializes Congress to continue Library Service and Construction Act funding, and to include law libraries as eligible for federal aid. The Library Association supports SJR 5. The state-wide information and interlibrary loan network, and the rural library services are funded by a combination of state and federal funds. A cutback in the federal aid would effectively destroy these services.

SCR 2: This is a resolution asking that the State Department of Education sponsor workshops or other training for school librarians who are not professionally trained. This resolution is a direct answer to the voiced concerns of all school librarians, who feel that such professional in-service training has not consistently been offered them in the past, and that, they should have available to them the same quality of in-service training as is provided teachers and school administrative staff. Reading is basic, and school librarians play a vital part in the process of turning children on to books and reading. This in turn enhances the achieving of writing skills by children. I would remind this Committee of the concerns voiced by educators on the

Testimony in Support of Library Legislation
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lack of reading skills in students today, from elementary school to college.

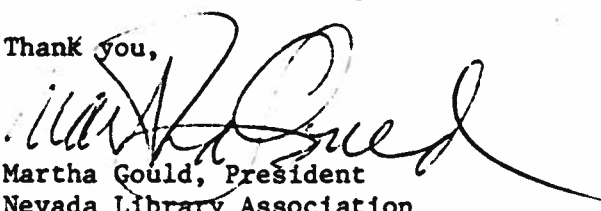
SCR 3: In view of the fiscal constraints facing many public services and school districts, it seems only practical to study the possibility of shared resources. School and public libraries complement each other, and while the Association sees some philosophical problems in defining service needs in shared facilities, we also feel it is a pragmatic approach and should be carefully studied and evaluated.

SCR 4: Certification of public librarians is part of the Nevada Library Association's State-wide Master Plan and the Library Association will start work on this during 1981. We will need the help and consultation of the State Library and the end result will be legislation for the 1985 Legislature.

SCR 5: This goes along with the philosophy and concept of SCR 2 in that it asks that school libraries be recognized as an integral part of the public education system. I again must remind this Committee that food for the mind is as important as food for the body. If we are to prepare our children for the future, then it is important that they know how to read, how to access information and that they know their heritage. Without easy access to books it is somewhat difficult to achieve these goals.

SCR 6: There is no in-state access to graduate library science courses, and thus it is difficult for Nevadans to go on for graduate work in this field. We strongly support the addition of Library Science in the WICHE program, to give Nevadans the opportunity of availing themselves of graduate study in this field.

Thank you,


Martha Gould, President
Nevada Library Association