

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON JUDICIARY

SIXTY-FIRST SESSION
NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
March 6, 1981

The Senate Committee on Judiciary was called to order by Chairman Melvin D. Close, at 8:00 a.m., Friday, March 6, 1981, in Room 213 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. Exhibit A is the Meeting Agenda. Exhibit B is the Attendance Roster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Senator Melvin D. Close, Chairman
- Senator Keith Ashworth, Vice Chairman
- Senator Don W. Ashworth
- Senator Jean E. Ford
- Senator William J. Raggio
- Senator William H. Hernstadt
- Senator Sue Wagner

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Iris Parraguirre, Committee Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 279:

Repeals statutory provisions for use of grand juries.

Mr. Kent Robison, on behalf of the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association, urged the committee to pass S. B. No. 279 to eliminate grand juries in criminal prosecution. He stated they do not feel the use of grand juries in Nevada criminal proceedings is a fair or just proceeding. If someone is accused of wrongdoing, he should be able to defend himself. The grand jury system does not allow for that. The difference between a grand jury proceeding and proceeding by criminal complaint and information is simply a list of procedural rights an individual has through a criminal complaint that are not available with a grand jury proceeding, including the right to confront the accuser, present evidence, object to illegal evidence, present testimony if so desired, and an independent magistrate to make rulings on questions of law and questions of fundamental fairness and decency. The grand jury proceeding is closed and secret and many times an individual does not know he is the subject of a grand jury investigation or proceeding and has no rights to defend himself at that stage. One of the reasons in defense of grand juries

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that has been used is that it is a secret proceeding and the victim does not have to be exposed to cross examination, media coverage and so forth, as in crimes dealing with children. Mr. Robison did not agree with the argument that grand juries save money or time. In many instances, motions have to be filed and more court time is used as a result of the grand jury system.

Senator Raggio stated the Nevada grand jury system used to parallel the federal grand jury system; however, the legislature has changed that in recent years to the point where only admissible evidence is utilized, hearsay evidence is not admissible and all the rules of admissible evidence must be followed. Attorneys still are not allowed during the proceeding but anyone who has a question may ask to go out and consult with his attorney. A full transcript is now permitted to be given the defendant upon indictment and that gives the District Court the opportunity to entertain a motion if there is not probable cause for the charge. Mr. Robison did not agree that the motion for lack of probable cause would take the place of a preliminary examination because the transcript is totally controlled by a prosecutor and all evidentiary decisions were made by the prosecutor.

Senator Raggio stated that the grand juries in Nevada also have an investigative and reporting function. He asked Mr. Robison whether it would be his position that the grand jury system should be abolished with respect to all these functions. Mr. Robison replied that he believed when the grand jury system was originally devised that was its intention; however, he has seen problems with that investigative use.

Senator Raggio stated he would question the removal of the grand jury from an investigative standpoint since in some instances it is the only effective means of investigating certain agencies. He said the Supreme Court has held a grand jury cannot accuse someone of a crime without bringing a charge. They do have a right otherwise to report upon their investigation, which in many cases has been very helpful and effective. He felt even the existence of a grand jury is sufficient to serve as an incentive for people in public office to do a good job.

Mr. Robison stated he is more concerned about the accusation of indictments and the adversary proceedings where one party has the right to call the shots.

Senator Raggio asked if the problem would be improved if the defendant or person being investigated could have the opportunity of having counsel present during his testimony. Mr. Robison

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replied that it would be of value because the individual would be afforded the basic right of confrontation. He stated that California's grand jury system was similar to what Nevada has at the time it was declared unconstitutional.

Senator Hernstadt asked how there can be a fair trial for public officials and possibly other individuals where there is prejudice, witnesses cannot be found and so forth, if there is not a grand jury system.

Mr. Robison stated in his opinion the victim's rights and the people's rights to apprehend, prosecute and bring to justice criminals would not be affected by limiting the grand juries. If witnesses do not show up for a preliminary examination, all the prosecutor has to do is show good cause for a continuance. He stated there is a difference in a trial where there is an indictment. Only the names of witnesses who testified at the grand jury are given, nothing else. Except for Clark County, there is not an open file policy. Once the indictment is out, the accusation has been made, the individual has been accused of some wrongdoing, and there has been a finding of probable cause, even if the defense finds something which dissuades the prosecutor from further prosecution and he agrees to dismiss, that individual has that on his record indefinitely.

Senator Wagner asked Mr. Robison if he could give her some explanation why an individual cannot have representation before grand juries. He replied the tradition has been that there are the grand jurors, the prosecutors, the witnesses and that is all because it is a secret proceeding but he did not know the reason for that concept.

Senator Raggio felt the grand juries work both ways. There are instances where an individual has been investigated, the matter is brought before the grand jury and they return a "no true bill" thereby saving the accused person from the embarrassment of having the situation made public in a preliminary hearing. Mr. Robison stated he knew of only one case where a grand jury returned a "no true bill" in Washoe County since he started practicing in 1972. He felt a prosecutor could indict just about anyone for anything anytime he wanted. Senator Raggio did not agree.

Mr. Mike Melner, attorney at law, on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union, agreed with the testimony presented by Mr. Robison. It is their position that the process as it exists now is totally controlled by the prosecutor and the grand jury is the captive of the prosecutor. He felt the investigative

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problem is also a serious issue and a dangerous process. He stated it is subject to abuse, captive, lends itself to political use and is totally controlled by the prosecutor. They support both S. B. No. 279 and S. J. R. No. 25 but perhaps there are other ways to protect the system.

Senator Raggio stated he does not feel prosecutors want to convict innocent people. He felt there would be more abuse if an accused individual had to be immediately charged, arrested and confronted by witnesses to see if the charge would stand up in court.

Senator Joe Neal stated he believes the grand jury system as it is operated in the state of Nevada is subject to many abuses. If an individual is brought before a grand jury, the only thing he has at his disposal is to take the Fifth Amendment. If he does that he is probably going to be indicted because the prosecuting attorney can encourage an indictment from the grand jury. Once this occurs, an individual defendant is very hard pressed to try to overcome that indictment. Mr. Neal stated Nevada is way behind in terms of its own reform in this particular system. Just about every state in the union has in some way tried to inject some justice into the operation of the grand jury system, either by permitting standard rules of evidence to be followed or by allowing defense attorneys into the grand jury room. Senator Neal provided the committee with statistics concerning grand juries, which is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

Senator Wagner asked Senator Neal whether he would support making changes to make the grand jury a more satisfactory judicial process rather than abolishing the grand jury system altogether.

Senator Neal replied he would be supportive of a measure that would provide justice to the individual who had to appear before the grand jury, but he still would take the position that it should be abolished.

Mr. Cal Dunlap, Washoe County District Attorney, stated he wanted to make a couple of comments in defense of prosecutors. He agreed with Senator Raggio that it is never the goal of any prosecutor that he knows to abuse the rights of any defendant. He felt the criminal defendant in the American judicial system has an abundance of rights and an abundance of protection. He stated the grand jury function is not a trial, is not a place where anything is done other than determine the very basic question of whether or not there is probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed and whether or not there is

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probable cause to believe that the person accused committed it. It is a screening process to decide whether or not an individual should go to trial, at which time he will have all of his rights as usual. With regard to comments of misconduct on the part of the prosecuting attorney, Mr. Dunlap stated he is not clever enough to fool the grand jurors and he firmly believes that the first time he is dishonest with a grand jury or the first time they catch him not presenting a fair case, the first time they think he has done anything along the lines of what has been stated in testimony on S. B. No. 279, his credibility would go down and he would not be able to do anything in the grand jury. If something is done improperly in a grand jury hearing, there is a transcript of everything that goes on and a judge later reviews that and can throw the case out. They do not publicize hearings that result in a "no true bill" because it could do harm to the individual's reputation. Many times, no one knows a party is being investigated or considered for indictment. Mr. Dunlap stated he is very selective as to what cases go before the grand jury and who he allows from his office to present cases to the grand jury. The main reason they use the grand jury is due to the complexity of certain cases. He would have to hire additional staff if the grand jury is eliminated. He stated he felt the reason the grand jury is looked down upon by the defense counsel is because in Washoe County they do not give an open file like in Clark County. They prefer not to give an accused individual an opportunity to fabricate a story after seeing the prosecutor's file. They would have no objection to opening their file if the defendant first reduced his story of what happened down to great detail on paper to be put in an envelope, sealed and put in the court file. They will open their file on occasion if the defense attorney waives a preliminary hearing. Mr. Dunlap stated he has to police himself before a grand jury as far as evidence is concerned because the judge reviews the transcript and the case can be thrown out. He stated there is a great deal of benefit to victims of crimes, especially women and children, in the use of a grand jury because they are not required to go through the humiliation of appearing publicly. Nevada is one of the best systems in the country in reform. The minute defense counsel is brought into the case, it becomes an adversary proceeding before the grand jury and the advantages of expediting the matter are lost. If someone is suspected of corruption in an official capacity, embezzlement, rape, murder and so forth, there is no way that an individual can be forced to come forward to give any testimony or in anyway cooperate other than through the grand jury.

Senator Wagner requested that Mr. Dunlap set forth the kinds of cases that have been presented to the grand jury since his term as District Attorney and how many "no true bills" !

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have been returned. She also asked what the philosophical reason was for not allowing defense attorneys to be present at grand jury hearings.

Mr. Dunlap replied they do not want the proceeding to develop into an adversary proceeding. They do advise witnesses they can consult with their attorneys outside of the grand jury room at any time and then come back in to testify. Mr. Dunlap stated they have just about every kind of case but 95 percent are either rapes, sexual offenses, crimes against women, crimes against children, child abuse, murders and major drug cases. They also present the important larceny and embezzlement cases that involve a lot of complicated documentation and testimony. He said since he has been District Attorney, they have presented approximately 30 cases to the grand jury each year. Of those 30 cases, there have been between one and four cases that have been "no true bills." Speedy justice is also important and with the grand jury system, a matter can be taken directly to District Court and defendants do not remain in jail as long.

Chairman Close asked Mr. Dunlap what his opinion would be with regard to changing the grand jury system to allow the defendant to appear before the grand jury upon the termination of the prosecutor's presentation to make his own statement, not subject to cross examination.

Mr. Dunlap stated they have done that in many instances where the defendant has already been arrested and retains counsel. Defense counsel then may write a letter to the grand jury stating what they want to present. In the investigative cases, anyone who is in anyway the subject of any examination or investigation by the grand jury is given an opportunity to be heard.

Senator Hernstadt asked what the fiscal impact will be if S. B. No. 279 is processed. Mr. Dunlap replied that, for instance, any murder case that could be presented in a half day to a day with a grand jury, depending upon the defense attorney, could possibly continue for weeks. It would definitely have an impact upon the District Attorney's office because they would need 10 to 15 percent more staff. In addition, it involves the Public Defender's time, the time of the Justice of Peace and police officers. He felt there would also be an impact on the increased crime rate. Mr. Dunlap repeated that he is not interested in indicting an individual if he does not have a good case against him but there are some cases that have to go even though the evidence is not strong, as in the case of a rapist.

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Mr. Bill Curran of the Clark County District Attorney's Office reiterated their belief that the grand jury is a very necessary and very effective tool. The grand jury as utilized in Nevada is quite different from other areas in that they have to have a transcript which is provided to the defendant, only the best evidence can be utilized and there are a number of procedural safeguards. Grand juries are also important in cases where expert testimony is required, for example, where testimony of doctors is necessary or in drug cases where one expert can testify on a number of similar cases.

SENATE BILL NO. 282:

Establishes immunity from liability for certain persons and authorizes creation of centers for collection and distribution of donated food.

Senator Jean Ford stated she was asked to get S. B. No. 282 prepared by people with the Community Food Bank in Las Vegas. The information provided by Senator Ford is attached hereto as Exhibit D. Community food banks have become a reality in many parts of the country, including three in Nevada. S. B. No. 282 would assist them with the problem of liability for those who might choose to donate food. The second part of the bill relates to county involvement in an administrative kind of way. She would recommend a minimum amount of county involvement be included in the law since the programs are run by non-profit organizations and do not need a whole system of county food bank agencies.

Ms. Marilyn Nichols, Director of the Community Food Bank of Las Vegas, provided the committee with a list of program descriptions, attached hereto as Exhibit E. She stated currently they have four programs which deal with food in one way or another. The salvage program is the oldest program in the food bank and is the one that needs the good samaritan bill passed. It started in 1976 for the purpose of aiding culinary union workers who were on strike at that time with food supplements. The program now has expanded to alleviate agencies of the food burden and allows them to hire a counselor or teacher or buy equipment with the money they would ordinarily have to use to purchase food. The program is not funded by the government or private donations. They receive the surplus food from wholesalers and retailers. They do have funding from Community Service Administration in the food and nutrition category, from United Way in the emergency food box program and from agencies and churches. They requested S. B. No. 282 to alleviate the liability and also to encourage donors to donate food.

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Ms. Nichols stated six million dollars annually is wasted on food. Last year they received 588,000 pounds of food, which would have been wasted had it not been distributed to the food bank. They fed 53 agencies, totalling 2,000 people a month. The emergency food box program is funded by the United Way and they received \$16,000 in 1981. Due to the liability, food donated from the salvage program cannot be used in the emergency food box program. They have never had anyone become ill from any of the food because they have a nutritionist on staff, have a full-time warehouse manager, rotate their stock and have the health department come in whenever they feel the need to do so to check them.

Senator Don Ashworth asked Ms. Nichols who would determine whether the food could be used. She replied they inspect it and decide whether to use it. The food being discussed is shelf-dated food.

Chairman Close asked whether the community food bank is sponsored by the county. She replied it is private and non-profit. It was started by concerned citizens who saw all the food being wasted.

Senator Hernstadt asked how many stores are not donating food because of the liability. Ms. Nichols stated the large chain stores are hesitant. Also, the airport has a catering service and even though the left-over food is frozen in small trays, they sell it to a pig farm.

Ms. Sheila Leslie, coordinator of the Food and Nutrition Program in Reno, through the Community Services Agency, stated they also have a food bank. Theirs is very different from the Las Vegas operation and it just opened on January 22, 1981. The prepared statement of the Community Services Agency of Washoe County is attached hereto as Exhibit F. Between January 22 and February 28, they served over 307 people and their main program is an emergency food box. All the food they have has been purchased through funds made available by the Community Services Administration. They estimate they will be serving between 200 and 300 people a month, which could go up if food stamps are cut back. They have been unable to get donations at this point because the retailers feel they may be held liable. Ms. Leslie stated the community food bank concept is very important for public assistance programs also and they hope to develop programs like the ones in Las Vegas.

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Ms. Kerry Seymour, nutritionist with the Inter-tribal Council of Nevada, quoted from a letter from Efraim Estrada, Program Director of the Inter-tribal council, which is attached hereto as Exhibit G. She stated she works with the community food and nutrition program, which oversees and administrates special supplementary food programs for women and children to the Indian population in the state of Nevada. They also give technical assistance in the area of nutrition to all the reservations and colonies. As an example, she stated if a woman who is pregnant does not receive adequate food during the course of pregnancy, she may give birth to a premature baby. If the infant has to go to the intensive care nursery, it costs \$5,000 per pound to bring the infant up to a weight where it can be released. It may cost the taxpayers \$15,000 to \$20,000 per infant.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:


Iris B. Parraguirre, Secretary

APPROVED BY:


Senator Melvin D. Close, Chairman

DATED: March 11, 1981

SENATE AGENDA

EXHIBIT A

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee on JUDICIARY, Room 213.

Day Friday, Date 3-6-81, Time 8:00 a.m.

S. B. NO. 279 --Repeals statutory provisions for use of grand juries.

S. B. NO. 282 --Establishes immunity from liability for certain persons and authorizes creation of centers for collection and distribution of donated food.

S. J. R. 25 --Proposes constitutional amendment to abolish grand juries.

ATTENDANCE ROSTER FORM

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

EXHIBIT B

DATE: 3-6-81



PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

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NAME

ORGANIZATION & ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

KERRY SEYMOUR

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF NEVADA
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MIKE MELNER

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WASHOE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTNY

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Kellogg McInerney

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
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Marilyn Nichols

Community Food Bank
Las Vegas Nevada

648-7618

Heidi Leslie

Community Food Bank
Community Services Agency Reno NV

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Kent Robinson

NEV. TRIAL LAWYERS ASSN

Carol Hurd

Community Services Agency

786-5829

Dennis King

Children's Rights Corp.

4151 495-7223

J.M. Vance

WEEKS ACCUMULATION OF
SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE

Good
648

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February 27, 1981

EXHIBIT C

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Senator Joe Neal
FROM: Donald A. Rhodes, *Chief Deputy Research Director*
SUBJECT: Grand Juries

This is in response to your inquiry about states which have abolished grand juries or which have "curtailed" their powers.

States Reforming Grand Juries

I communicated with several organizations* and found one Abt Associates--a social science research firm which is in the process of completing a study on grand jury reform for the National Institute of Justice. The title of the study is "The Role of the Grand Jury" and I have asked to be sent a copy of the final report. According to Nancy Ames, project coordinator (phone: 617-492-7100), no state has abolished its grand jury system. Several states** use them on an infrequent basis and most states have instituted reforms.

*The National Center for State Courts, the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, the National Information Center of the U.S. Department of Justice's National Institute of Corrections, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and Abt Associates.

**California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

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Thirteen states*** provide for defense counsels to be in the grand jury room. Only three of these states (Arizona, Illinois and New Mexico) use their grand juries with any degree of frequency.

According to the Pennsylvania Administrative Office of the Courts, most counties in Pennsylvania use grand juries for investigations only. They do not indict. Copies of the pertinent sections of the Pennsylvania statutes relating to investigating grand juries are enclosed. (See 19 P.S. § 265, et seq.)

Attachment A is a chart we put together from a phone conversation with Abt Associates which shows the status of grand jury reform and use in the states. Attachment B is a transcript of a telephone conversation I had on February 25, 1981, with Nancy Ames of Abt Associates.

The Criminal Justice Committee of the American Bar Association recommended certain principles for grand jury reform in 1977. A copy of those principles are enclosed. We will also be getting an updated version from the American Bar Association and I will forward it to you as soon as it arrives.

Enclosures

Also enclosed are several articles relating to this topic which, I believe reflect your point of view on this matter. Included are:

1. "The Criminal Case: Representing a Witness Before a Grand Jury" from the October 1979 Trial.
2. "The Presence of Counsel in the Grand Jury Room" from the May 1979 Fordham Law Review.

***Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

3. "The Indicting Grand Jury: A Critical Stage?" from the Summer 1972 American Criminal Law Review.
4. "The American Bar Association's Grand Jury Principles: A Critique From a Federal Criminal Justice Perspective" from the Idaho Law Review.
5. "The Connecticut Grand Jury on Trial: Three Views" from the February 1980 Connecticut Bar Journal.
6. "The Inquisition Revisited: A study fo the Abuses of the Grand Jury System" from the Winter 1980 Barrister.
7. "Protective Warnings for Grand Jury Witnesses: Facing Historic and Legal Realities" from the Spring 1979 The American University Law Review.
8. "Grand Jury System Modified: Hawkings v. Superior Court" from the Spring 1979 Western State University Law Review.
9. "Association Proposes Grand Jury Reforms" from the American Bar Journal.
10. An editorial by George Franklin entitled "Change Needed?" from the December 6, 1977, issue of the Las Vegas Sun.
11. "Evidence--Hearsay--Applicability of Federal Rule of Evidence 804 (b) (5) to Grand Jury Testimony--United States v. Garner" from the Wake Forest Law Review.

Also enclosed is a copy of a November 9, 1978, California Supreme Court Case dealing with grand juries. (See Hawkins v. Superior Court 22 Cal.3d 584; 150 Cal. Rptr. 435, 586 P.2d 916.) The headnotes to the case say, among other things, that:

The rights of an accused to counsel, to personally appear and confront witnesses, to a hearing before a judicial officer, and to be free of unwarranted prosecution are fundamental rights, and a discriminatory legislative

classification depriving an accused of these rights will be subjected to strict scrutiny under the equal protection clauses of the state and federal Constitutions.

The tactical advantage gained by a prosecutor who chooses to proceed against a defendant by indictment rather than by information does not amount to a compelling state interest, under the equal protection clause, that justifies depriving an indicted defendant of fundamental rights guaranteed in a preliminary hearing.

A discriminatory legislative classification that impairs fundamental rights will be subjected to strict scrutiny by the courts, and the state will be required to bear the heavy burden of proving not only that it has a compelling interest which justifies the classification but also that the discrimination is necessary to promote that interest.

Upon a timely request by an indicted defendant for a postindictment preliminary hearing, the prosecutor, at the direction of the court, should refile the indictment as a complaint, activating the procedures set forth * * * in the law. Thus, following their indictment by the grand jury for conspiracy and grand theft, defendants were entitled, on their motion, to a postindictment preliminary hearing prior to or at the time of entering a plea.

Under Cal. Const., art. I. § 14, directing that felonies shall be prosecuted "as provided by law," the task of developing procedures for indictment and information consistent with other state constitutional procedures is left to both the Legislature and the courts.

In discussing the Hawkins case, the conclusion to "Grand Jury System Modified: Hawkins v. Superior Court" says, in part:

The Hawkins decision effectively created a new criminal procedure in which a defendant, accused by a grand jury, can contest the existence of probable cause to support a

formal accusation. This new procedure was created to rectify what the court felt was a disparity in procedural rights of a defendant charged by indictment rather than by information. It would appear that the court recognized that the district attorney's use of the former procedure denies the accused the right to counsel, the right to confrontation, and the right to present exculpatory evidence. The legislature, despite opportunities to do so in the past, has not provided protection for these fundamental rights. However, the district attorney should not be allowed to take advantage of the accused at a critical stage of the criminal justice proceedings simply because the legislature has failed to act.

* * * It is coincidental that the reason for the abolition of the grand jury system in the country in which it was founded, [is] due to economic reasons. It is important to note that the grand jury system, which originated in England, was abolished in that country in 1933. It can be assumed that Hawkins may be the first step toward the total abolition of the grand jury indictment procedure in California as an anachronism of our common law past. Furthermore, the added complexity of requiring an additional preliminary hearing and the economics of having two evidentiary hearings, especially in light of growing fiscal conscientiousness will deter prosecutors from using the grand jury system. Many public prosecutors will no longer be able to justify the time and manpower that will be necessary to prosecute by way of indictment under the procedural requirements established by the Hawkins decision.

This conclusion seems reasonable in light of statistics now available showing a severe decrease in the use of the grand jury system since Hawkins was handed down.

The decision in Hawkins v. Superior Court was proper and correct. The state failed to meet its burden, in that no compelling state interest was shown to justify the discriminatory nature of the grand jury indictment system.

Indeed, it is bewildering to imagine, in this era of judicial protections of the criminally accused, that such a modification of the arbitrary methods of prosecuting suspects by grand jury indictment has not come sooner.

Grand Jury Operations in Nevada

Nevada law does not provide for a preliminary hearing after a grand jury indictment. Nor does it provide for a defense attorney to be available during grand jury proceedings.

It would be incorrect to assume, of course, that the Nevada courts would come to the same decision as in the Hawkins case if a similar case were to come before the Nevada judicial system.

An option in Nevada to abolishing the grand jury system could be to give the defendants or witnesses similar rights to those available for preliminary hearings.

DAR/jld
Encl.

Mississippi - grand jury required on all offenses and no reform.
Missouri - non-reform, discretionary as to grand jury, usage - 2.
Montana - non-reform, discretionary as to grand jury.
Nebraska - non-reform, discretionary as to grand jury.
Nevada - reform 2 and 3, usage 3.
New Hampshire - grand jury for all offenses required and no reforms.
New Jersey - record keeping required, reform 2 and grand jury required for all offenses.
New Mexico - reforms 1, 2 and 3, right to counsel only for suspected defendants, usage 2, discretionary grand jury.
New York - reform 1, 2 and 3, grand jury required for all offenses.
North Carolina - no reform, grand jury required for all offenses.
North Dakota - reforms 2 and 3, usage 3.
Ohio - no reform, grand jury required for all offenses.
Oklahoma - reforms 1, 2 and 3, usage 3.
Oregon - reform 3, usage 2.
Pennsylvania - reform 1 and 3, only use grand jury for investigative purposes.
Rhode Island - reform 2, grand jury required for capital felonies, usage 2-3.
South Carolina - no reform, grand jury required for all offenses.
South Dakota - reform 1 and 3, usage unknown, grand jury discretionary.
Tennessee - no reform, grand jury for all offenses.
Texas - no reform, grand jury for all offenses.
Utah - reform 2 and 3, usage 3.
Vermont - reform 2, usage 3.
Virginia - reform 1 and 2, grand jury required for all offenses.
Washington - reform 1 and 2, usage 3.
West Virginia - no reform, grand jury required for all offenses.
Wisconsin - reform 1, usage 3.
Wyoming - no reform, usage 3.

Speaker recommended Mr. Rhodes read the Hawkins case because there are times when it is a good idea to have a grand jury such as for cases of criminal prosecution. Someone who has written extensively on this subject, essentially in a reform minded vein, is Sam Dash in "Preliminary Hearing vs. Grand Jury" (equal protection). He also has a 1972 article that very good in discussion of equal protection issues. The reform issues are taken from an analysis of state laws, the frequency of usage was from a telephone survey of states. The frequency of usage number is a rough one that they used for trying to find states they want to look at in depth.

Don asked what her organization was. She said Abt Associates is a man's name. The address is 55 Wheeler St., Cambridge, MA 02138. They are a social science research firm and one of their areas of specialization is criminal justice work. The initial reform issue was looked at by a grant with NIJ. It will be written up as a grand jury program monograph. The study they are currently conducting is a study of the role of the grand jury under another grant.

ATTACHMENT B

Recorded Telephone Conversation - Don Rhodes - 2/25/81

Reform Issues

1. Defense counsel is allowed in the grand jury room.
2. Record keeping of the grand jury proceedings is required.
3. There are trial rules of evidence.

Mandatory Grand Jury

- A. All offenses
- B. Capital felonies

Frequency of Usage (1 = high, 2 = mixed, 3 = low)

- Alabama - no reform, grand jury required for all.
Alaska - no reform, grand jury required for all.
Arizona - reform issue 1, and 2, medium level of usage (50 percent or higher).
Arkansas - no information, except it is not a reform state.
California - reform 2 and 3, but low usage. (Must have post indictment preliminary hearing for all cases for due process reasons so they've essentially wiped out the grand jury except in a very small number of cases, such as possibly sensitive political cases. The case is Hawkins vs. Superior Court 586 P2nd 916, 1978.
Colorado - reform 1, and 2, usage - 3.
Connecticut - reform 2, grand jury required for capital felonies only, frequency usage for general offenses - 3.
Delaware - non-reform and grand jury required for all offenses.
District of Columbia - non-reform and grand jury required for all offenses.
Florida - non-reform, grand jury required for capital felonies only.
Georgia - non-reform, grand jury required for all offenses.
Hawaii - non-reform, grand jury required for all offenses.
Idaho - reform 3, usage - 3.
Illinois - reform 1 and 2, usage - 2.
Iowa - non-reform, usage - 3.
Kansas - reform 1 and 2, usage - 3.
Kentucky - no reform, grand jury mandatory
Louisiana - grand jury required for capital felonies, usage - 3.
Maine - non-reform, all offenses required grand jury.
Maryland - non-reform, usage - 2.
Massachusetts - reform 1 and 2, grand jury required for capital felonies, usage 1.
Michigan - reform 1 and usage - 3. (1 man grand jury)
Minnesota - reform 1 and 2, grand jury required for capital felonies, usage - 3.

Note: Of all states only 13 have implemented right to counsel legislation for witnesses. The amazing thing is that very few of them use a grand jury with any frequency, so the high reform states are non-users. Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. Arizona, Illinois and New Mexico use this with frequency. Pennsylvania, since it uses grand juries only for investigative purposes has, in effect, come the closest to abolishing them for screening purposes.

ATTACHMENT A

GRAND JURY REFORM ACTIVITY IN THE STATES

State	Reform Issue			Mandatory Grand Jury		Frequency of Usage		
	1	2	3	A	B	1	2	3
Alabama				X		X		
Alaska				X		X		
Arizona	X	X					X	
Arkansas								
California		X	X					X
Colorado	X	X						X
Connecticut		X						X
Delaware				X	X			
Dist. Columbia				X		X		
Florida					X			
Georgia				X		X		
Hawaii				X		X		
Idaho			X					X
Illinois	X	X					X	
Iowa								X
Kansas	X	X						X
Kentucky				X		X		X
Louisiana					X			X
Maine				X		X		
Maryland							X	
Massachusetts	X	X			X	X		
Michigan	X				X			X
Minnesota	X	X			X			X
Mississippi				X		X		
Missouri							X	
Montana								
Nebraska								
Nevada		X	X					X
New Hampshire				X		X		
New Jersey		X		X		X		
New Mexico	X	X	X				X	
New York	X	X	X	X		X		
North Carolina				X		X		
North Dakota		X	X					X
Ohio				X		X		
Oklahoma	X	X	X					X
Oregon			X					
Pennsylvania*	X		X				X	
Rhode Island		X			X		X	
South Carolina				X		X		
South Dakota	X		X					
Tennessee				X		X		
Texas				X		X		
Utah		X	X					X
Vermont		X						X
Virginia	X	X		X		X		
Washington	X	X						X
West Virginia				X		X		
Wisconsin	X							X
Wyoming								X

* Use of Grand Jury for investigative purposes only.

Terms Defined:

Reform Issues:

1. Defense Counsel is allowed in grand jury room.
2. Record keeping of grand jury proceedings required.
3. There are trial rules of evidence.

Mandatory Grand Jury:

- A. For all offenses.
- B. For capital felonies only.

Frequency of Usage

- 1 = High usage
- 2 = Moderate usage
- 3 = Low usage

LEE CORMACK
...some food served at St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room is
provided by the Community Food Bank.

COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
...salvaged food is donated by area supermarkets

EXHIBIT D

Community Food Bank needs donations

By Debbie Borntal
H-1 Living Editor
If the donation-supported
Community Food Bank 500 W.
Bonanza Road, doesn't soon re-
ceive more items there will be
no Thanksgiving or Christmas
food boxes for needy families in
Las Vegas.

According to Marilyn Ni-
chols, director, "There will not
be any turkey for Thanksgiving
boxes in the emergency food
box program and that is a tradi-
tion. We do not have any money
for Christmas boxes. By Decem-
ber, there will be no program —
it is in trouble because the de-
mand has exceeded the funds."

This year, food for the pro-
gram had been purchased
through a \$14,000 grant from
United Way of Southern Ne-
vada and "we are using the last
of it now," the worried director
said.

Since last year there has been
a sharp increase in the number
of recipient families who are
screened and referred by the
food stamp office, welfare de-
partment, Voluntary Action
Center and other agencies.

By September of this year,
2,132 boxes had been given to
6,809 persons, more persons
than were fed in all of 1979
through the program in which a
three-day supply of canned and
dehydrated food staples is pro-
vided three times over a six-
month period. Compounding
the problem is that the families
being served are getting larger,
according to Nichols.

Started in March 1976 by a
group of concerned citizens dur-
ing the Culinary union strike,
the food bank now has a 3,000-
foot warehouse, although it is
quite barren. The expansive
storage area is divided into several
sections to separate items
for bank's three programs.

Staffing the bank are four sal-
aried persons, who along with
many volunteers and senior citi-
zens (in a senior employment
program) work with 30 to 50
agencies, from day care centers
to crisis centers to senior citizen
centers.

Funding is derived from sev-
eral sources, the largest of
which is the federal govern-
ment's Community Services
Administration, which provides
\$40,000 for salaries. Nichols ex-
plained, "Next year, our funding
depends on availability and
with the new administration
that will be in I don't think
funds will be as abundant as in
the past."

There are four of us staffed
by CSA: 160 drivers, one full
time and one who works 60 per-
cent of the time (due to fund-
ing); an assistant director; and
myself. We all do everything we
can around this office," Nichols,
who has a background in behav-
ior modification, has been the
director since March.

Funding also has come from
the Clark County Commission and
church grants. Cash dona-
tions given by individuals
amount to \$200-\$300 a month,
she said.

The food bank pays \$550 rent
monthly to the Moulin Rouge
Motel, behind which it is locat-
ed, and Nichols said, "We need
a building. I don't think they
want to renew our lease. I'm not
sure."

There are three programs op-
erated by the food bank — the
salvage program for which food
is donated by supermarkets and
wholesalers and given to vari-
ous agencies; the emergency
food box program for needy
residents and transients; and
the brown bag program,
through which food suppli-
ments are given to low-income
senior citizens, including those
living in housing projects.

Food with expired shelf dates
is donated by five area super-
markets and wholesalers for the
salvage program (the longest-
running). The food may be kept
at the bank for five days, yet
rarely does any last that long.

The food that is left beyond
five days is "given to the ani-
mals. We don't throw anything
out. Very rarely, is there any
spillage," Nichols said.

In the salvage program, the
service agencies obtain food

from the bank two or three
times a week, depending on
needs and clientele being
served.

To qualify for service, an
agency must have a nutritional
or staff, have tax-exempt and
non-profit status, and donate
1/10th of the total cost of the
food they obtain. The bank
computes the food's value at 45
cents per pound, so if 10 pounds
are taken (\$4.50 worth) 45 cents
must be donated.

In the brown bag program,
senior citizens each week get a
grocery bag filled with five stu-
ple food items. "That also is
going to end because the last
money that we received was
\$5,000 from the Clark County
Commission and when that fin-
ishes the program will end," Ni-
chols noted.

Project Life is slated for Jan-
uary. In the program a mobile
van will sell food once weekly at
wholesale prices to save con-
sumers "at least 50 percent,"
Nichols said. "We asked for
\$88,000 for Project Life (from
the Community Services Ad-
ministration) and we received
\$71,000. We were out of the for-
tunate agencies."

The amount of food that is
salvaged each month is surpris-
ing — between 40,000 and
50,000 pounds. And a proposed
Nevada "Good Samaritan Act"
would take away the liability
from the donor, Nichols said.

"Let's say I give you five
pounds of macaroni salad and
you, as a concerned citizen, give
it to someone else who is
hungry, and they get sick from
that food," she explained. "I am
not liable for giving you that
food and I will be more apt to
give more (good) food."

Asked if anyone has ever got-
ten ill from food bank items,
Nichols said, "We have been
here four years and never. We
check our food thoroughly be-
fore giving it away. That sal-
vage food that we check is not
given to any other programs be-
cause there is no Good Sam act.
So that food could really be
used to feed a lot more people if

we had a Good Sam act."
Such laws exist in California,
Washington and New York,
among other states and state
Sen. Jean Ford plans to intro-
duce such a bill in the next Ne-
vada Legislature, she said.

Translating the weight of sal-
vaged food into monetary value,
Nichols used as an example
45,000 pounds of food at 45
cents a pound to arrive at
\$20,250. However, it costs the
food bank 45 cents a pound to
pick up the salvaged food which
is used by various local agen-
cies, she added.

Last year, 576,000 pounds of
salvaged food was donated at a
value of 40 cents a pound to
equal \$192,000. Through Sep-
tember 1980, 440,165 pounds of
food had come through the sal-
vaging operation, totalling
\$180,074.

Donations of food and money
are always accepted and the
bank staff helps interested per-
sons get involved with its pro-
grams. "We can help them
sponsor a food drive," Nichols
said. "Also, just going through
shelves and seeing something
their families don't like and
bringing it to the food bank —
every little bit helps. If there is
a lot we can send down our driv-
er to pick it up."

Besides canned, dried and
packaged foods the bank also
needs non-perishable items.
"People need toothpaste, Pain-
perol soap, you know," Nichols
said.

For a clearly increasing num-
ber of persons here, the need for
food can be a tragic experience,
and Nichols explained one rea-
son why. "The main thing is
unemployment and people com-
ing here (thinking the pot of gold
is here when it isn't). Of the peo-
ple who come into town, a lot of
them are unskilled, and it is
very hard to find a job without
an education.

"On the whole, it is just the
economy and inflation."



MARILYN NICHOLS
...director of Community Food Bank

Nichols said there is no gen-
eral profile of food bank recipi-
ents. "We get them from all
walks of life. From the food
stamp office, we get mothers
with children. Off the street we
get families who have come into
Nevada who are stranded and
don't have a place to sleep who
are just applying for food
stamps or welfare.

"We do get some senior citi-
zens, but the senior citizens
have programs going for them.
They (seniors) are very proud
people; they would only come
here if they were down and
out."

People who arrive in Las Ve-
gas without money or jobs can
qualify for emergency food
stamps, she said. "It is the law
that they must give you those
within three working days of
the day you applied. But some-
times you come in on a Friday
and you may not get your food
stamps until Tuesday or
Wednesday."

Other low-income persons
resort to the food bank if there
is a family medical emergency

and they just can't afford food.
"We give them nutrition infor-
mation and send them to other
agencies that we think might
help," Nichols said. "It's not
just a band-aid approach; we try
to follow up."

"The food stamp people say
there are about 30,000 people
who qualify for food stamps.
And yet federal statistics say
there are 40,000 to 50,000 people
below poverty level in Clark
County — so there is a gap
there."

"And the problem is that
these people don't know these
programs are available or if they
do know they don't have a way
to get there, or they are too
embarrassed. There is a stigma
that goes with applying for food
stamps or just being poor; peo-
ple automatically think it
means 'I'm no good. I'm a bum.'
And it isn't so; it could happen
to anyone."

"We try to make it as simple
as possible. They can get food
the same day they come in.
When they come their food
box is ready."

COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

900 West Bonanza Road, Suite G
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
(702) 648-7618

EXHIBIT E

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS — COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Salvage Program

This program is designed to utilize shelf-dated foods received from several Clark County retailers and wholesalers. Only non-profit agencies who operate feeding programs for needy persons are eligible to receive this food.

The food is picked up five days a week in two Food Bank vans and brought to the Food Bank, where it is stored under the proper conditions. By order of the Health Dept., the food can only be kept for five days past the shelf date. After this time, the food cannot be used for human consumption and is given to Betty Hohn's Animal Shelter.

All participating agencies must sign a disclaimer form releasing the Food Bank and the original donor from any liability resulting from the food. As of 1980, agencies will also be requested to pledge monthly donations, based on the amount of food received by them, at the rate of 4¢ per pound.

EMERGENCY FOOD BOX PROGRAM

The Food Box Program was established as a means of aiding individuals and families having emergency food needs. The food used must be wholesome and non-perishable, (except for breads and pastries).

Clients for this program must have a referral from another designated social service agency. This referral should come as, first, a phone call from a referral agency worker. This allows the Food Box worker to check the files for any previous record of the client. The referring worker should then fill out the standard Food Box Referral form with the client and give this form to the client to bring to the Food Bank when the box is picked up.

A family can receive up to two food boxes in a six-month period. All clients are encouraged to apply for Food Stamps and any other long-term assistance for which they might be eligible.

PROJECT L.I.F.E.

Project L.I.F.E. will bring mobile van stocked with fresh produce, fruits, dried beans of many varieties, rice, dried peas, lentils, eggs and other nutritious food items to three low income housing projects in West Las Vegas. All food stuffs will be sold at wholesale. This program will enable persons living where no supermarket exists to purchase food at lower cost.

LIST OF AGENCIES THAT DRAW FOOD FROM THE FOOD BANKS SALVAGE PROGRAM DURING 1981.

Day Care

Goodwill Child Care
E O B Day Care
Operation Life Day Care
Calvary Lutheran Day Care

Churches

Theophilus Ministries
New Bethel
Church of Sons of God
Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
Pilgram Rest Church of Holiness
St. Clara's Spiritual Temple

Rehabilitation Centers

Fitzsimmons House
Starting Point
Samaritan House
Vegas House
We Care
Reality House
Opportunity Village Group Homes

Crisis Centers

Rescue Mission Family Shelter
Temporary Assistance To Women
Las Vegas Family Abuse Shelter
Vietnam Veteran Outreach
Focus
Focus West
Clark County Optimists
Anglic Outreach

Senior Centers

Over 50 Club
Senior Center
Golden Age Group
E O B Seniors

Youth Services

Gerson Park
Family Teaching Homes
A. D. Guy Rec. Center
E O B Youth Program
Lorenzi Park Rec. Center

SALVAGE PROGRAM

TOTAL PER MONTH IN 1980

January	53,000	pounds
February	82,000	"
March	51,000	"
April	45,600	"
May	44,000	"
June	38,000	"
July	44,000	"
August	42,000	"
September	40,600	"
October	38,545	"
November	46,722	"
December	<u>63,498</u>	"
TOTAL	<u>588,965</u>	"

Estimated cost per pound to pick up in 1981 is 45¢

Formula

Pounds divided into value of food at 45¢ pound equals cost of program.

**LIST OF AGENCIES THAT HAVE REFERRED CLIENTS TO THE EMERGENCY
FOOD BOX PROGRAM DURING 1981.**

**Clark County Health and Social Service
Cancer Society
American Red Cross
Salvation Army
Jewish Family Services
Nevada State Welfare
Food Stamps Office
Catholic and St. Vincent
AARP- Companion- Senior Citizens
Voluntary Action
Operation Life
CETA
Nevada Association of Latin Americans
EOB Supportive Services
• West Side Counseling
Poor People Pulling Together
Veterans Administration Services
Indian Center
Clark County School District
Rescue Mission
Suicide Prevention**

EMERGENCY FOOD BOXES DISTRIBUTED FROM JANUARY 1979 TO DECEMBER 31, 1979

Totaled boxes 2,158
Totaled feeding individuals 6,156

EMERGENCY FOOD BOXES DISTRIBUTED FROM JANUARY 1980 TO DECEMBER 31, 1980

Jan.	250	boxes	feeding	700	individuals
Feb.	204	"	"	678	"
March	171	"	"	526	"
April	116	"	"	368	"
May	177	"	"	466	"
June	260	"	"	791	"
July	285	"	"	979	"
Aug.	339	"	"	1,176	"
Sept.	330	"	"	1,125	"
Oct.	342	"	"	1,156	"
Nov.	381	"	"	922	"
*Dec.	<u>1,810</u>	"	"	<u>6,742</u>	"
TOTAL	<u>4,665</u>	"	TOTAL	<u>15,629</u>	"

* Increase due to M.G.M. fire



Community Services Agency Of Washoe County

EXHIBIT F

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO:
Post Office Box 10167
Reno, Nevada 89510
(702) 972-1601

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cloyd Phillips

OFFICERS

Jerry Holloway
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Leo Hettich
1st Vice Chairman

Delores Feemster
Secretary

Julia Carlos
Treasurer

ADMINISTRATION and EDUCATION

5045 Alpha Avenue
Stead, Nevada
972-1601

OPERATIONS CENTER I

575 East Fourth Street
Reno, Nevada
786-5829

OPERATIONS CENTER II

785 Sutro Street
Reno, Nevada
786-6023

HEAD START FOOD CENTER

14325 Mt. Vida
Stead, Nevada
972-1601

The Community Services Agency of Washoe County is currently operating a Community Food Bank to meet the emergency food needs of Washoe County residents. The food bank opened on January 22, 1981, as part of CSA/WC's Community Food and Nutrition Program. Between that date and February 28, 1981, a total of 113 families representing 307 people were given emergency food aid. The program operates on a referral basis, with local social service agencies certifying that clients require emergency aid and cannot receive such aid from existing agencies. In this way we assist those who truly are in need.

The families we have served were referred to the food bank from a wide variety of agencies including Nevada State Welfare, Community Welfare, County Welfare, Catholic Welfare Bureau, Veteran's Administration, Red Cross, Vocational Rehabilitation, Washoe Association for Retarded Citizens, Salvation Army, Senior Citizens Center, Committee to Aid Abused Women, El Centro and various Indian organizations. We have met the food needs of people experiencing various types of emergencies. Unfortunately, our limited resources only allow us to assist people one time; therefore, we emphasize referring clients to programs which can provide long-term assistance.

The need to expand emergency food assistance to Washoe County residents is evident. During the past three years, public and non-profit providers have been hard pressed to keep up with demand. For example, during 1980 the Food Stamp caseload in Washoe County increased by 32% while the WIC (Women, Infants and Children) commodities program is currently operating at near capacity. Other non-profit providers are considering cutbacks as they are not in a position to continue to finance this escalating demand.

We estimate a caseload of 200-300 individuals referred to our food bank every month. However, if proposed food stamp and school lunch cutbacks take place, the number of people finding themselves in need of emergency food assistance will increase accordingly.

Although our food bank is funded through a grant from the Community Services Administration, these funds are extremely limited and will not support the food bank indefinitely. We are in the process of soliciting donations from local retailers, distributors and warehouses in an attempt to create an effective food salvage network. Eventually we hope to receive enough donations to supply our needs as well as to redistribute surplus



"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

"IGUALDAD DE OPORTUNIDAD EN EL EMPLEO"

food to other agencies with food programs. We have yet to receive anything from such sources, partially due to the fact that Nevada does not have a law protecting donors from liability for injuries. Potential donors are naturally hesitant to assist us until legislation is enacted shielding them from responsibility for injury.

Senate Bill 282 will encourage individuals, groups and local businesses to donate their surplus food to the hungry people of our community. We can effectively mobilize needed resources from the private sector by assuring potential donors that they will not be held liable except in cases of gross negligence. By increasing the capacity of local non-profit agencies to serve the needy, a substantial burden will be removed from publicly-financed food programs.

A valuable source of surplus food was brought to our attention last week when a local farmer donated more than 3200 pounds of acorn squash which he was unable to sell and was ready to destroy. The food bank was able to redistribute the squash to many agencies including the Salvation Army, Reno/Sparks Gospel Mission, Gemini House, Senior Citizens Center, Lakes Crossing, Voluntary Action Center, Washoe Association for Retarded Citizens, Community Welfare and Head Start as well as to our own clients. The farmer indicated he has been unable to sell large amounts of produce in the past and this food was subsequently wasted for lack of an agency willing to accept and redistribute such a large donation of perishable items. There are many hungry people in Washoe County who could have benefited from this food.

The passage of this bill will substantially increase our capacity to deliver food to the needy people of Washoe County. It will assist us in collecting food for direct distribution and, in cases of large donations of perishable items, in centralizing redistribution to other charitable providers.

Providing a mechanism to increase the amount of food for hungry Nevadans will help the entire Human Service system become more responsive. Many individuals experience short-term financial problems resulting from temporary unemployment or disability. In such circumstances a little help at the right time can prevent future dependence upon public assistance programs.

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES
650 SOUTH ROCK BOULEVARD • RENO, NEVADA 89502

TELEPHONE (702) 786-3128

March 5, 1981

Ms. Kerry Seymore
Community Food & Nutrition Program
650 S. Rock Blvd., Bldg. 11
Reno, Nevada 89502

Dear Ms. Seymore:

I am pleased to hear about your advocacy for legislation which could enable the development of food banks statewide providing an emergency food resource to needy individuals in emergency situations.

There are literally dozens of instances where we have become involved with individuals or families who were completely without financial resources and we were unable to locate food for them.

Quite often the problem involves elderly persons who have been exploited by family members or by acquaintances of their money or food or food stamps, or where Social Security or SSI checks have been stolen from the mail box.

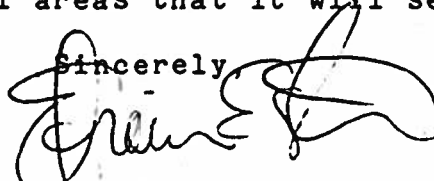
Another situation which is quite common is an intact family who is not eligible for assistance from any source and the application for food stamps is pending. The parents are unemployed and no other income is available. A food bank could enable this family to meet their food needs until employment is obtained or until food stamps are available for the family.

Still another situation which we encounter frequently is the family who is stranded in the State and is without funds for travel or food. Usually in these situations the family is not eligible for financial assistance and the food bank would meet an important need.

One final situation which we encounter frequently is the family whose income is minimal and Thanksgiving, Christmas, or other holidays are a financial stress which the family cannot meet. The food bank can provide that extra support to family, thus encouraging family togetherness.

If I can provide more specific information to you, please let me know. The program which could be developed is more than needed and will be of great benefit to all areas that it will serve.

Sincerely,



Efraim Estrada
Program Director