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June 22, '03

To: Lee Han Keevel

From: M.J. Harvey
Chairman Paradise Town Board

Attached is my testimony before
the Senate Gov't Affairs Committee on
April 23 — as you requested —
Please call me if there is anything
further you need —

M.J. Harvey (702-451-9918)

P.S. Forgive this terrible pen!

April 23, 2003

(At Gov't Affairs Committee Hearing)

Madam Chair and Members:

      In Clark County Town Boards and Citizens' Advisory Committees are voluntary appointments, made by the Board of County Commissioners. We serve strictly to help the County Commission in zoning matters of various kinds. We are the grass roots level, a recommending body, and, as such, are close to people in local areas and throughout the Township. We are appointed by the County Commission and can be removed by them at any time in our term, at their request. We are individually reappointed only if they want us to continue on the Town Board.

      As a longtime member of the Paradise Town Board I know it is a big responsibility to serve, it means an obligation to be present at bi-weekly meetings, doing homework on the agenda items and allowing judgment on matters to be formed from information gathered, and from experience of being on the Board for sometime.

      It goes without saying there is a commitment to be current on what trends are happening in land use, as well as knowing county code rules, zoning regulations, and the like. We receive training annually in parliamentary proceedure, county systems changes, etc. We gladly participate in any training the county assigns.

      Because of the commitment that goes with the appointment it is not easy to fill vacant spots on the Town Board. We have seen instances where the volunteer does not understand what the work of and responsibility to the Town Board is. A person may resign before his term is over. Many find they don't have the time to do the job. Recently, the Winchester Town Board Chairman told me they have had 3 people on their board for the better part of a year. It was only a couple of weeks ago that the Board of 5 has been accomplished. They couldn't find people to fill the vacancies.

      4-year terms as in the current version of AB84 make it extremely difficult to fill--it is a struggle to fill 2-year terms and 4-year terms would be even harder. We are appreciative of having no term limits in the recent version but respectfully request in Line 10, page 2, the Town Board terms be for 2 years. A person can be reappointed by the County Commission. It usually takes about 2 years for a new member to be comfortable in full participation.

      We ask to DELETE Lines 15 through 20, page 2, which is the provision for Rotating Chairman. This was not in the earlier version of AB84. If the Town Board wants to change Chairman they may. It's up to them. But they do it voluntarily and not as a mandate. This is a local Board of volunteers, strictly a recommending Board, and the Town Board elects its own Chairman. We respectfully ask you to DELETE Lines 15 through 20.

      We also ask you to DELETE Lines 40 through 44 which specifies the Rotation of Chairman start on October 1, 2003 -- this Fall.

      We are volunteers and serve at the pleasure of the Board of County Commissioners.

      We are appointed/reappointed by only the County Commissioners.

      We can be removed by the County Commission at any time.

      We ask to be able to continue to elect our own Chairman.

      Again - we ask to change:

      Line 10   to 2-year terms.

<u>Rotation for Town Board Chairman.</u>

<u>Lines 40-44</u>   <u>DELETE</u> "Would <u>take effect Oct. 1, 2003</u>"

regarding Rotation of Chairman.

Thank you, Madam Chairman and Members.

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