

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MEETING MARCH 18, 1969,
55TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Present: Lingenfelter, Prince, Webb, Foote, Wilson, and Swallow.
Absent: Tyson.

Chairman Lingenfelter announced to the committee that the purpose of this meeting was to hear comments on AJR 41 which proposes a constitutional amendment providing that the University Board of Regents be appointed by the Governor. He turned the floor over to Assemblyman Norman Glaser who sponsored the resolution.

Mr. Glaser told the committee that he had availed himself of the legislative intern program and had had assigned to him from the University, Mr. Bob Gilbert, who has been assisting him in his research program. He said that Mr. Gilbert had prepared a presentation for the committee and introduced him.

Mr. Gilbert presented copies to the members of a research paper he had prepared with regard to AJR 41. He said the reasons for this bill are that the position of Regent is a non-paying one. Campaigning for the elective job is an expensive process which could prevent many highly qualified people from seeking the position. Also, voters often do not have the time or take the time to evaluate the qualifications of candidates especially when they are charged with the type of responsibilities that a Regent is.

Mr. Gilbert stated that only four states presently elect their trustees or regents. He then outlined for the committee the mechanics of the bill and urged the committee consider a change in this area.

Mr. Proctor Hug, Jr. of the Board of Regents told the committee that he has always favored the elective system as making those subject to it more responsive. He told the committee that the apparent divisiveness of the Board is due to pressures that will pass with a growing stability in those areas that have been newly established and are undergoing heavy population increases.

Mr. Al Seeliger told the committee that he did not have a formal position of the State Board of Trustees on this bill but that he personally favored it.

Chairman Lingenfelter read into the record letters or telegrams from present members of the Board of Regents each of whom favored support of ACR 41.

Dr. Driggs, Professor of Political Science at the University of Nevada, said that in professional meetings he has attended the groups feel that the appointive process is best for this type of position.

The committee agreed to some amendments to the resolution.

Prince moved ACR 41 Do Pass as amended.

Wilson seconded.

Motion passed over the objection of Webb.

Meeting adjourned.