

Present: Swallow, Frazzini, Foote, Hilbrecht. Homer, Reid and Schouweiler were unable to attend the full meeting.

Guests: Rennie Ashleman of Clark County, Alex Coon of the Washoe County Clerk's Office, and William Goni, County Clerk of Ormsby County.

SB-69 -- Changes date of primary election (BDR 24-69).

Goni: Our time period at this time is such that we certainly don't want to move it back. SB-69 would move it to the last Monday of August. Primarily, the reason is for small counties; it is really a madhouse and creates a lot of confusion. Some people are registering children for school. When we have something like this lottery question, we just barely make it. I received absentee ballots three or four days after the election. I mailed those the day I got them back from the printer. Mr. Mulroy has set out things that could happen. By the time the ballots are completed, it gives us a date of the 13th, recount takes us until the 18th, complete recount until the 21st. Then they can file a contest in court. After that it is September 26 before we could resolve the primary--by the time the figures are compiled and we could get them back.

Question: All you are talking about is the first day of school interfering and coming off a three-day holiday?

Answer: By moving it back we felt it would help a great deal.

Comment: Our main interest is in getting people to vote.

Question: How about another day, but not the first day of school?

Goni: That would be better.

Coon: We talked about this for maybe 10 years--this point of the holiday and the schools opening. Many people take a four-day holiday just because of the election day. I doubt that moving the day is going to attract many more voters. It will help to simplify the procedure. We have a 30-day period around October 31 for vacancies in the office, that can change the ballot.

Comment: You don't like the amendments. We are asking for a "do pass" on SB-69.

The committee decided to hold up making a decision until all members were present.

Question: Would you be in favor of leaving the amendments off and passing it as it comes from the Senate?

Coon: Leave it the way SB-69 is without the proposed amendments.

Question: Is there some way the election laws could be changed to ease the mechanics?

Answer: Actually something could; a group of commissioners could have a special meeting--it would be kind of hard. After elections there is a lot to do. When returns are fouled up we have to go over and examine the machines.

Frazzini: Am I correct that these men have received copies of bills? They can feel free to call on us at any time.

Goni: I have similar information I would like to give on property and non-property owners. Everyone is getting to be a property owner. I have material I would like to present.

Question: Is it true that a property owner has to pay a fee to vote?

Goni: You have to have a notarized statement which costs \$1.00 to have it notarized. There is a bill in now on this.

Rennie Ashleman: Two things bother me about the early vote. In Clark County we have two seasonal groups of workers. They come in and getting them registered is a job anyway; if you move it another week it is going to be more difficult. In July and August, we have a great influx, most of them are residents. We have found that registration is very heavy at the end of August. And certainly the campaigning for primaries is expensive. It costs \$78,000 to \$80,000 a week in the general and if you add a week, this is quite a price tag.

Goni: I would certainly agree with you on the expense of campaigning, but as far as registration goes, I think people always wait until the last week to register regardless of the closing date.

Member's question: What would you recommend?

Ashleman: I would like to see it the first Wednesday, because it does have the advantage of getting you off the first of school and somewhat off the long holiday.

AB-88 -- Allows absentee registration and voting to persons temporarily residing outside state. (BDR 24-68)

Koontz: It was submitted by somebody else, but there should be a correction. This allows absentee registration for voting by person temporarily out of state. If they lower the voting age, this might open up for students to vote by absentee ballot.

Correct Page 2, line 5 to read: "may at any time, until registration closes,...."

This would be a big help to numerous people, construction workers, aviators, servicemen, etc.

Koontz: The key to this is if we have an affidavit we can find out if the person is attempting to abandon residence.

Cannon may have to sponsor this thing to assist workers in Mercury.

Migration workers move in and out on construction jobs.

Goni: I am leaving information on AB-89 on property and nonproperty owners. Property owners are so much in majority there is no sense in going to additional expense.

Koontz: SB 67-- provides flexibility for designating candidates, by party or otherwise on ballot labels. (BDR 24-269)
It has nothing to do with the candidates, it is the party. Although

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it is impossible to put the party by the candidate's name on the ballot -- there is not enough room. The law reads we have to. It is the same thing on the voting machines. We are asking for permission to put the party under the candidate's name instead of on the same line. It also states that we put "incumbent."

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AB-342--permits candidates for reelection as supreme or district court judge to use word "incumbent" on ballot.

All AB-342 does is compound the confusion and SB-67 gives us latitude in this small area that we have. It is a physical impossibility to put it by the name and therefore we would like to put it under the name.

Comment: There was some confusion so I took it off the General File. I wanted to talk to you again.

Comment: It is just a matter of where the wording is put?

Koontz: On AB 342 - if you eliminate these names such as "Dr." "M.D." or etc., you don't want to clutter it up again by putting "incumbent."

SB-68--(provides for posting of voting results) instead of having to post voting results in the precinct, we could post at the Court House.

Koontz: This has not come from the Senate yet. Second reprint has passed the Senate.

Goni: This covers our problems now.

Koontz: A lot of Mulroy's problems are related only to Clark County. He has a different type of voting machine. He has in the neighborhood of 400 precincts, it imposes almost an impossible burden on him.

Meeting adjourned until 10 Friday in Room 32.