

Minutes of Meeting of Committee on Health and Welfare. Woodrow Wilson, Chairman-55th Nevada Assembly Session, January 22, 1969

Present: Wilson, Homer, Swallow, Frazzini, Hafen, Brookman, Espinosa, May and Foote.

Absent: None

Chairman Wilson convened the meeting in Room 39 at 3:00 P.M. He introduced Luna Hayes, Executive Director, Clark County Mental Health Association, 1928 E. Charleston, Las Vegas, Nevada, and Rosemary Clark, Chairman, Legislative Committee, Mental Health Association, Las Vegas, Nevada. They discussed legislative proposals, copies of which were provided, to amend Senate Bill 44, passed in the 1965 legislature, community mental health service act. NRS 436.100 to NRS 436.370.

They stated it is obvious that the present mental health services in the Clark County and Las Vegas areas are inadequate, and that little distinction is being made in Las Vegas as well as all other districts throughout the State between mentally ill children and mentally retarded children. They stated that the few programs they have had in these areas have gone down hill. They suggested child development centers throughout the State, as well as in Clark County.

Assemblywoman Foote asked Mrs. Clarke if their plan was funding in order to build buildings, and Mrs. Clarke stated it was not, and that they planned no buildings, just that they were asking for operating expenses - 80% Federal and 20% State.

Dr. Homer stated he felt the Committee could not make recommendations until the proposed bill had been read.

Assemblyman May asked what qualifications they were proposing the Directors of the Advisory Board should have, and Mrs. Clarke replied that 3 would be physicians, one at least would be a psychiatrist, and possibly a District Judge or other member of the Judiciary.

Chairman Wilson invited the ladies to return at a later date, and assured them that all possible means would be taken to see that the suggested bills were favorably acted upon by his committee. He told them he would appreciate getting their names and information how they could be contacted, and assured them that as soon as the bills came up, they would be notified.

Mrs. Clarke stated there would be a representative from the schools in Clark County from the mental health department to sit in on some of the committee meetings, but she did not know who at this time.

Chairman Wilson passed out copies of pending bills to be read and returned to him from the Legislative Counsel Bureau regarding mental health. They were: BDR 29-124; BDR 38-237; BDR 428.090, BDR 16-212; BDR 16-251; BDR 54-247; BDR 32-252; BDR 54-94.

Assemblywoman Frazzini moved that these bills be introduced by the committee. Assemblywoman Brookman seconded. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Espinosa suggested someone come in with technical knowledge of the bills in question. He said the bills were of a highly technical nature and he felt the committee would need their assistance in interpreting them.

M. Foote stated that the bills were brought by a group from the Legislative Counsel. May said the Legislative Counsel had put a lot of time and research into these bills. Dr. Homer said that because the committee introduced them did not necessarily imply that the committee wanted these bills passed.

Chairman Wilson then stated all of the bills would be referred back to Health and Welfare.

BDR 29-124-Frazzini moved the summary be read and introduced. May seconded. Unanimously carried.

BDR 38-237. Frazzini moved, May seconded, it was unanimously carried it be read and introduced.

BDR 428.090; BDR 16-212; BDR 16-251. All three motions made by Foote, seconded by May, unanimously carried that the summary be read and introduced at a later date, for committee approval.

BDR 54-247. Motion made by Brookman, seconded by Frazzini, unanimously carried that copies be made available to committee members and it be held over for further study and introduced.

BDR 32-252 - Motion made by Espinosa, seconded by May, unanimously carried it be introduced to committee after reading and further study.

BDR 54-94* - Was introduced by Doctor Homer. Dr. Homer stated there are two NRS's to be amended. He said these bills were for the purpose of tightening the narcotics laws as far as chiropractors prescribing drugs, making it illegal for chiropractors to write prescriptions, and more specifically, the type of prescription that would involve the dispensing of narcotics. He stated that in order for a chiropractor to be qualified to prescribe drugs, he would have to be a qualified pharmacist, which would involve at least two years study.

Espinosa stated that this bill would be a highly controversial bill and should be tabled until the committee had an opportunity to go into it more thoroughly. He made a motion to that effect, that the bill should be tabled until the committee had an opportunity to go into it more thoroughly. It was seconded by May.

Assemblywoman Foote then requested the motion be reworded and made the motion as follows: "I move that we as a committee introduce BDR 54-94 Monday, January 27th by request." It was seconded by Frazzini and Chairman Wilson put it to a vote. There were 6 votes for and 3 against.

Miss Foote then introduced a proposal that would allow children drawing ADC to use their monies for education, and stated she feared there would be problems with Federal funding. She stated the bill would be introduced in Committee January 23rd, and there would be experts present to explain this proposal.

Mrs. Frazzini said she felt this proposal was greatly needed, as it should be the right of children drawing ADC money to save their money to further their education, if they so desired.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Wilson.