

55th NEVADA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE,
CHAIRMAN WOODROW WILSON PRESIDING March 3, 1969

Members Present: Wilson, Foote, Hafen, May, Frazzini and Swallow.

Absent: Homer, Brookman, Espinoza

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 2:30 P.M. He announced that the purpose of the meeting was a preliminary meeting of the committee on A.B. 259 - which permits licensed physicians to perform abortions, before the public hearing scheduled for March 5th at 2:30 P.M. in the Nye Building, jointly with the Committee on Judiciary.

However, Mrs. Brookman, drafter of the bill, A.B. 259, sent her regrets that she could not attend the meeting, as she was in the Governor's Office.

Mr. Wilson therefore turned to other matters. He briefly introduced A.B. 353, his Open housing law, which he said would be heard Tuesday, March 4th at an open hearing in the Nye Building, Room 324.

He then introduced or re-introduced several BDR's.

They were: BDR 38-289^{*} - Unemployed Father eligible for aid to Depent children benefits.

Frazzini moved it be introduced, and request the people who asked for this bill to come and explain it to the committee.

Wilson seconded.

Foote: "Isn't there another bill of this type in the Senate?"

Hafen: Moved to introduce by request. Unanimously carried.

BDR 38-1430^{**} - Authorizing State Welfare to hear appeal from applicants for aid to the blind.

Foote: "Before we send any of these up to the Chief Clerk's desk, let's check and make sure the same thing isn't being introduced in the Senate."

Hafen: Introduce by request. Foote seconded. Unanimously carried.

BDR 39-516⁺ - Authorizes statutes to reflect practice and care

Foote - Introduce by request. Frazzini seconded. Unanimously carried.

BDR 39-332⁺⁺ - Extend due process requirement to commitment proceedings to alcoholics, drug addicts, mentally ill, etc.

Swallow: "What is the purpose?"

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Wilson: "The Judge can retain counsel for persons sent to alcoholic institutions, set up procedures and requirements. "

Hafen: "Introduce by request." Frazzini seconded. Carried. (4-2).

BDR S-309^{*} - Directs transfer of certain State lands. (*AB 585)

Wilson: "I understand this was some land down in Las Vegas."

May: "Was this the land for the mental cottages? 70.58 acres located on Jones Street near West Charleston, transferred from the City of Las Vegas to the Department of Health, Education & Welfare."

Swallow moved for committee introduction. May seconded. Carried.

BDR 38-292^{**} - Authorizes social services on the basis of children placed in Nevada State children's home. (**AB 586)

Frazzini: "What kind of social services do they want to give? Social service means any service? " She suggested perhaps someone should come and talk to the committee about this one. She moved to introduce. May seconded. Carried.

BDR 38-297⁺ - Authorizes Welfare Division to disregard certain certain income - in regard to old age assistance. (†AB 590)

Foote: "There is one in the Senate that has to do with considering the home as income."

May moved to introduce by request. Frazzini seconded. Carried.

A.B. 382 - Empowers counties to deal with civil and equal rights.

Wilson: "In Las Vegas, we have the County Commission on equal rights, funded by the county. What they are trying to do in this bill is to get the county and city authorization to participate in the financing and sponsoring of this type of organization. It has been set up for many years. I think they have done a fairly good job. They have been able to help solve some of the problems that have come before them. It has nothing to do with fair housing, but is a civil rights bill."

No action was taken.

Mr. Wilson asked if the committee wanted to discuss, A.B. 155, A.B. 229, and A.B. 259, the abortion bills, before the hearing on Wednesday, March 5th, which is a joint hearing with the Judiciary on this bills. He said he had received mail from every part of the state, and has invited many here who want to be heard. He said his mail has run about 50% for and 50% against.

Mr. May asked Mr. Wilson how A.B. 353 differs from the Federal Housing Act.

Mr. Wilson said the F.H.A. has the exceptions, which come in at the year's end. For instance, in December 1969, persons owning 4 and 5 dwelling units will be effected. Another group wouldn't be effective until December 1970.

He made reference to Sec. 7, Par 2. of A.B. 353, "Any person violating the provisions of subsection 1 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500." He said that wasn't in the Federal Act. He mentioned the first Fair Housing Bill, which was passed June 9, 1866, and mentioned that the new bill passed just last year. He said there was a case in the courts last year, Jones v. Mayer, which literally set aside all of the provisions of the Federal bill. "If we passed a bill that coincides with that bill, "Everybody who wants to buy a house would be able to buy".

May: There are many interpretations of corporations in Clark and Washoe Counties."

Wilson: "I asked the bill drafter. I asked him to make it as simple as he possibly could. It means corporation, organization, or anything of this nature."

Chairman Wilson introduced Mrs. Rosemary Clark, Las Vegas, Nevada, who requested to be heard regarding A.B. 470, which improves mental health services program.

Mrs. Clark said there was one more amendment to this bill. She referred to Sec. 2, NRS 436.160, Line 17, "The governing body may appoint a local director of mental health services". Sec. 3, Par. 2. "If a local director of mental health services is not appointed, these duties shall be administered by the local mental health advisory board". She said, "There may be a mental health board of 7 to 10 members" but it doesn't state thus or so. We can only hope the county commissioners will get good people."

"If there is a local director" "any fees received from patients or private donations" could be put towards the 20% the county comes up with, such as a special teacher.

She said she thought the allotment of 50-50 should be changed to 20-80.

She said they are basically concerned with facilities for the mentally ill child. Rose de Lima presently takes children from 16 years up. Last year there were 15 mentally children up there, but it is a far distance from their parents and everyone.

Mr. Wilson assured her the bill would receive the attention of the committee when the aforementioned amendment was received by them. Mrs. Wilson said she planned to return with other people from the mental health department of the Health & Welfare Division in Las Vegas who wished to speak on this bill.

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Chairman Wilson then called for adjournment, with a reminder to the committee of the Fair Housing open hearing March 4th at 2:30 P.M. in the Nye Building.