Minutes of the Nevada State Legislature

Senate Committee on Government Affairs

Date: May 16, 1979

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Present:

Chairman Gibson Vice Chairman Keith Ashworth Senator Dodge Senator Ford Senator Kosinski Senator Raggio

Also Present:

See Attached Guest Register

Chairman Gibson called the forty-eighth meeting of the Government Affairs Committee to order at 3:30 p.m.

SB-583 Conforms various provisions of bills of 60th session with Senate Bill 72 of that session.

Frank Daykin, Legislative Counsel, stated that this bill will conform and eliminate conflicts with <u>SB-72</u>. NRS 373.140, Section 7 is the rerealer with regard to the language on population classification. The first five sections amend various other bills that also contained language on population classifications. A definition of population is not necessary and can be deleted.

Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass" on <u>SB-583</u> Seconded by Senator Ford Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Gibson asked Mr. Daykin to look at the substitute language for <u>SJR-1 of the 59th Session</u>. (See <u>Attachment #1</u>) Mr. Daykin suggested that the language in Article 4, Section 25 be amended to delete "as may be necessary" in the meeting on May 14, 1979.

Senator Ford stated that the intent was to further clarify the classification of township governments. The Senator, therefore, suggested that the deleted portion of the proposed amendment would back up and read as follows [of counties as may be necessary]. This would then include both the township government and the county governments in the resolution and alleviate the confusion that <u>SJR-1 of the 59th session</u> created.

Senator Ford moved that preparation of a Joint Resolution with the amendments as noted above and using the language in Attachment #1 for SJR-1 of the 59th Session Senator Dodge seconded the motion Motion carried unanimously.

SB-557

Revises certain procedures and criteria for review of projects to be financed by economic development revenue bonds of local governments.

John Buchannan, Director of the Department of Economic Development, testified that <u>SB-468</u> addressed the same areas as <u>SB-557</u> and <u>SB-468</u> has been signed by the Governor.

Mr. Buchannan stated that the transfer of review to the Department of Economic Development is appropriate and this review does not belong with the State Board of Finance.

Senator Ford felt that the State Board of Finance could consult with the Department of Economic Development but concurred with the appropriatness of having the review in the Department of Economic Development.

Senator Jacobsen testified that he could see no need for this bill now that <u>SB-468</u> has been signed by the Governor. Requested that it be postponed.

Senator Dodge moved "Indefinite Postponement" on <u>SB-557</u> Seconded by Senator Keith Ashworth Motion carried unanimously.

AB-795 Adds to permitted enterprises under City Economic Development Revenue Bond Law.

Helen Pavoda, Administrative Assistant to the City of North Las Vegas, testified in support of the bill and added that allowing for transportation, wholesale and retail establishments would increase the revenues for the city. Ms. Pavoda stated that the city officials were aware of the bill and supported the concept.

Senator Echols stated that he was at a Chamber of Commerce meeting a few weeks ago and this concept to generate more revenues was supported by those people at the meeting.

Senator Kosinski did not know whether or not this was good public policy. Allowing local governments to lend money to private enterprise did not seem to be a good policy as far as the Senator was concerned.

Senator Ford stated that she did not have any problems with the bill if transportation were clearly defined. The kinds of transportation that will be allowed by the city should definitely be spelled out.

Senator Dodge felt that the tax exempts have been used freely by the local entities and there needs to be a line drawn between the local government functions and the federal functions.

Chairman Gibson asked Ms. Pavoda to get some definitions on these specific areas concerning transportation.

Russ McDonald, Washoe County, stated that he was contacted by a chain of restaurants about using this type of financing and agreed with Senator Dodge's concern that this type of financing can be ruined by overuse and abuse. Mr. McDonald did a study on possible financial approaches that could be used by the cities and counties. Feels that this bill can be used as a vehicle to incorporate these amendments to provide the financing for the depressing of the railroad tracks for Washoe County and includes definitions of underpass and overpass projects within the economic

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development bond law in AB-795. The cost of the project to depress the tracks was estimated by Mr. McDonald at approximately \$40 million.

Chairman Gibson stated that he would hold the bill until Ms. Pavoda could return with the requested language.

AB-726 Revises procedures for cancellation of certain affidavits of registration to vote.

Sam Mamet, Clark County, testified that under the current statutes this bill was to expand the statutes to further clarify the clerks responsibility in sending postcards out to find out if any registered voters have changed their address. This does have a fiscal impact and this impact was estimated at \$12,500 per year. Mr. Mamet was requested to suggest that the committee amend the date on page 2, line 8 to be March 15th. The February 1st date would be difficult to comply with.

Russ McDonald concurred with Mr. Mamet's testimony and noted that Mrs. Rollins (Washoe County Registrar of Voters) questioned the reason for deleting the language pertaining to the official registration list. Mrs. Rollins would like to see that language be retained.

The committee concurred with the amendment suggestions as proposed by Mr. Mamet and by Mrs. Rollins. The amendments to the bill are as follows: Delete brackets on Line 2 and 3 - leaving in the language regarding the official registration list. The date on page 2 would be changed to March 15.

Senator Dodge moved "Amend and Do Pass" on <u>AB-726</u> Seconded by Senator Ford Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Gibson assigned the amendments to Senator Ford.

AB-749 Authorizes boards of county commissioners to establish fire departments.

Pat Gallagher, Clark County, requested that Clark County that this bill will only affect their county and Douglas County. Douglas County doesn't have the authority at the present time to run a fire department. Ms. Gallagher went over the bill for the committee noting Section 1 and Section 2 were the important sections in the bill.

Senator Ford asked if Douglas County intended to affect the status of the 318 districts in this bill.

Ms. Gallagher responded that they did intend to affect the 318 districts and were most supportive of the bill.

Julie Canegliaro, representing the Fire Fighters Association, testified that he supported the bill and felt that the authority to create fire districts would be more clearly understood with the passage of AB-749.

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Senator Ford supported the bill but felt that there were urban areas outside the town that will not be covered by this bill. They should be brought under this fire department and pay for the services.

Paul Deloy, Associated Fire Department Manager in Douglas County, testified that it was their intention to make sure that the smaller entities could be allowed to form fire departments so the county is covered by one fire protection district. Under 474 of NRS if you want to merge two 474 districts it can be accomplished by a 50% vote of the people in that district. The county commissioners in Douglas county have no problem with this bill.

Senator Dodge moved "Do Pass" on AB-749 Seconded by Senator Raggio Motion carried unanimously

Chairman Gibson asked Russ McDonald to prepare a statement substantiating the fact that this is not special legislation in case the question comes up on the Senate floor. Mr. McDonald indicated that he could have it prepared the next day.

AB-783 Authorizes two justices of the peace for Carson City.

Chairman Gibson stated that since Clark and Washoe county have the authority to appoint a Justice of the Peace then this should also be allowed in the Carson City charter.

Russ McDonald, speaking on behalf of the charter committee for Carson City, stated that he felt that they do not need an additional J.P. this year but could very well need one in 1980 and this bill allows the flexibility to appoint as necessary.

Senator Echols was concerned about the lack of specifying a term for the J.P. Russ McDonald concurred with this and felt that the bill drafter had not gone far enough. The amendment could easily be written to include the term.

Provides for termination of certain boards, commissions and similar bodies in executive department of state government.

Senator Kosinski had some amendments made on this bill to eliminate the Taxi Cab Authority and insert the Bureau of Health Facilities. This required a change of criteria. This is what the amendments resolve and it also takes care of some conflicts with other bills that have already been passed. Language on joint rule should be deleted and the committee on May 10th suggested leaving it up to the Legislative Commission or assign an interim sub-committee for review.

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Senator Kosinski agreed that there were alternate ways to handle the study but since it is a new procedure possibly one committee could handle all three in a more effective way.

Chairman Gibson suggested that due to the time, the committee should provide amendments that are consistent with the bill that is already drawn and has already been approved by the committee.

Senator Dodge suggested that the authority should come through the Legislative Commission.

Senator Ford suggested that the bill could be amended in a few places in order to comply with the change to the Bureau of Health Facilities.

Senator Raggio suggested that the legislative auditors have staff employees working with the legislators on reviewing these agencies.

Chairman Gibson asked if the committee to allow Senator Kosinski to prepare the amendments that the committee agreed upon and take action now so that it can be heard on the floor as soon as possible.

Senator Dodge moved "Amend and Do Pass" on <u>AB-523</u> Seconded by Senator Raggio Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Gibson also requested Senator Kosinski to handle the conflict notices that have been received on this bill.

AB-816 Reapportions costs and directs further study of certain metropolitan police departments.

Chairman Gibson stated in the last meeting the committee voted upon several motions to amend the bill and all the motions did not carry a majority vote. (See Meeting #47) Chairman stated that he has been notified by both the city and the county that they are unable to come to a compromise on the percentages that should be allocated for the metro police services.

Senator Dodge stated that he believed the 53% for the county and the 47% for the city, becoming effective July 1st is the most equitable proposal.

Chairman Gibson indicated that in meeting with the bill drafter he found that the resolution is being prepared, also the language regarding the commitment of the city and county must be placed in the preamble. If it is determined that another basis is fair, it will be retroactively applied.

The committee concurred with the percentages as noted by Senator Dodge and the following motion was made:

Senator Dodge moved "Amend and Do Pass" on AB-816 Seconded by Senator Ford - Motion carried unanimously.

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The amendments will be to change the percentages as noted by Senator Dodge, delete Section 2 and use that section for a concurrent resolution.

Senator Ford wished to go on record as stating that she hoped that the tax payers who initiated this legislation will understand the full impact of such a study and the possible increases in taxes due to the reapportioning costs for services from the metro police department.

AB-358 Removes authority of board of county commissioners of certain counties to abolish office of constable.

Chairman Gibson stated that Senator Raggio was asked to check with Washoe county about their being excluded from the bill. Senator Raggio reported that Washoe County felt that it was not necessary in the county but that the bill should be amended so it can be apply to all counties.

Senator Raggio moved "Amend and Do Pass" on AB-358 Seconded by Senator Keith Ashworth Motion carried unanimously.

The following bills need to be processed. Many have been replaced by other bills and are no longer necessary.

SB-254 Provides for payments in lieu of taxes on certain power projects.

Senator Dodge moved "Indefinite Postponement" on <u>SB-254</u> Seconded by Senator Keith Ashworth Motion carried unanimously.

SB-322 Revises certain laws governing salary levels of state employees.

Chairman noted that these provisions were addressed in <u>SB-51</u>

Senator Kosinski moved "Indefinite Postponement" on <u>SB-322</u> Seconded by Senator Keith Ashworth Motion carried unanimously.

Removes limit on salaries of auditors and engineers of public service commission of Nevada.

Senator Dodge moved "Indefinite Postponement" on <u>SB-417</u> Seconded by Senator Keith Ashworth Motion carried unanimously.

SJR-14 Proposes amendment to article 4 of the constitution

Senator Raggio moved "Indefinite Postponement" to <u>SJR-14</u> Seconded by Senator Keith Ashworth - Motion carried with two no votes cast by Senators Kosinski and Dodge. Minutes of the Nevada State Legislature
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SB-261 Creates commission for economic development.

Senator Kosinski felt that the department of Economic Development is understaffed and it should be given this responsibility.

Senator Raggio stated that in talking with the Governor he has some plan to utilize the existing boards and would not like to have this new commission at this time.

Senator Kosinski suggested that the commission be expanded to include tourism. The advisory boards that do not meet should be amended out of the bill.

> Senator Kosinski moved "Amend and Do Pass" on <u>SB-261</u> There was no second Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Senator Raggio moved "Indefinite Postponement" on SB-261 Seconded by Senator Echols Motion carried with two no votes cast by Senators Gibson and Kosinski.

The committee discussed having the Chairman write a letter to the Governor about the existing boards and ask that they be reviewed so that a more meaningful commission will exist.

Senator Kosinski presented the committee with some information on the J.P.'s prepared by the Research Department. (See Attachment #2) Senator Kosinski stated the study was done in an effort to determine the impact of the fees and the increased expenditures if AB-277 is passed. The Research Department indicated that they had some difficulty in determining the existing income and what could be expected if the bill passes.

The committee was not prepared to take action on the bill at this time and with no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice M. Peck

Committee Secretary

Approved:

Chairman

Senator James I. Gibson

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REPLACE S.J.R. 1 OF THE 59TH SESSION

## Intent

The intent of the proposal is to provide extra flexibility in dealing with the problems of vastly different counties without at the same time endangering basic constitutional protections that local governments now enjoy. The proposal is for two approaches to be allowed in the constitution; one the classification device and the other the optional forms approach. Counties could thereby be classified and the provision would also allow for the legislature to provide for optional forms of county government which could be chosen by the voters of a county. The prohibition on special acts affecting county or township business would remain so that the legislature still could not single out a county for special treatment.

Suggested language to accomplish this intent is as follows:

Article 4, Section 25

The Legislature shall establish a system of County and Township Government which [shall be uniform throughout the state.] may include classification of counties as may be necessary on the basis of population or any other reasonable basis related to the purpose of the classification. Such system may also include optional forms of county government which may be adopted or abandoned by a majority vote of the qualified voters voting thereon in a manner provided by law.

## STATE OF NEVADA

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

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May 4, 1979

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TO:

Senator Jim Kosinski

FROM:

J. Kenneth Creighton, Research Analyst

SUBJECT:

Constables

This is in response to your request regarding constables in Nevada.

The following table lists those counties which have constables together with the amount of revenue raised from constable fees and their expenditures.

	-	
•		Expenditures
	D	(Annual
	Revenues	Unless
County / Mormahin	(Fiscal Year	Otherwise
County/Township	1977-1978)	Specified)
Clark/Bunkerville	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
Goodsprings	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
Henderson	\$ 3,597	\$ 1,843
Las Vegas	\$102,501	93,000
Logan	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
Mesquite	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
Moapa	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
Nelson	\$ 249	\$ 11.50
No. Las Vegas	\$ 29,533	\$ 9,255 (Deputies)
Overton	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
Searchlight	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
Douglas/East Fork		1
& Tahoe	None	\$ 150 Mo.(Each)
*Elko/Jarbridge	\$ 10	None
*Esmeralda/Esmeralda	None	None
*Eureka/Beowawe	None	\$ 287
*Humboldt/Paradise Valley	None	\$ 83 Mo.
Lander/Argenta & Austin	\$ 289.50	\$ 600
Lincoln/Meadow Valley &		
Pahranagat Valley	\$ 251.50**	\$ 1,076.90
Washoe/Reno	\$ 18,780	\$ 12,152 (Deputy Salary)
Sparks	\$ 2,700	\$ 5,597
Verdi	\$ 45	None
Wadsworth	Not Available	Not Available
Gerlach	Not Available	Not Available
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\* For all intents and purposes these counties have constables in name only. The sheriff's office serves all legal papers. In fact, nobody ran for the office of constable in the preceding election in Esmeralda.

\*\* Meadow Valley only.

EXHIBIT 2-

Those counties that do not have constables use the sheriff's office to serve legal papers.

Finally, a specific breakdown of the figures that constitute the source of revenue is unavailable.

If I can be of any further assistance to you on this matter, please let me know.

JKC/llp

SENATE Don't. Olive COMMITTED

GUEST LIST

	DATE: 5-16-7-7
NAME	AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION
John Buchanan	Dept. of Econ. Development
JA Carter	Unsay Morton Assafr Mc Clipat Unroh's TURE FARM
PAUL LINRUH	LARCH'S TURFFARM
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