

DISCLAIMER

Electronic versions of the exhibits in these minutes may not be complete.

This information is supplied as an informational service only and should not be relied upon as an official record.

Original exhibits are on file at the Legislative Counsel Bureau Research Library in Carson City.

Contact the Library at (775) 684-6827 or library@lcb.state.nv.us.

Sease, Sheila

From: Mortenson, Harry Assemblyman
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2003 11:26 AM
To: Sease, Sheila
Subject: FW: AJR 7 and AJR 13

Will you print this out and include it with my information for the meeting.

-----Original Message-----

From: Lucille Lusk [mailto:llusk@earthlink.net]

Sent: Friday, April 04, 2003 1:29 AM

To: Assm. Harry Mortenson; Assm. Don Gustavson; Assm. William Horne; Assm. Bob McCleary; Assm. Rod Sherer

Cc: Assm. Chris Giunchigliani

Subject: AJR 7 and AJR 13

April 4, 2003

Chairman Harry Mortenson and Members
 Assembly Committee on Constitutional Amendments

RE: AJR 7 and AJR 13

Dear Mr. Mortenson and Members of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments:

I regret that I cannot attend the committee meeting where these two proposals for amending the Nevada Constitution will be discussed. Please accept this as my testimony and include it with the discussion on the issues. Thank you.

AJR 7: Oppose part, support part, amend

Annual Sessions: We continue to *oppose* annual sessions of the legislature. Such a session is not truly limited in any sense except for the number of days. There is no limit on the number or scope of the measures that can be introduced, and it seems likely that another 600 to 1300 bills would be introduced for the additional session. This would not ease the extreme time demand placed on legislators and citizens alike, but would simply duplicate it every year. In addition, the character of our citizen legislature would be at risk because in order to serve, a legislator would have to be able to take that time off work every year. That would be impossible for many, especially those who work in the private sector.

Special session convened at call of Legislature (p. 2, l. 34 - p. 3, l. 19) We *support* the Legislature having authority to call a special session through a petition signed by 2/3 of the members stating the reason for the call. However, please consider an *amendment to limit the topics to those set forth in the call for the special session*. The ability to add topics sets up a potential "mini-session" of unlimited scope. (Under this bill, only the Governor has power to add to the topics even when the Legislature calls the special session. We understand the Governor currently has this power under the existing language of the Constitution, so the amendment would be needed both in the new language of the bill and the existing language found on p. 4, l. 5-7.)

Require executive budget 30 days before a session (p. 3, line 9): The events of this session proves that you need access to the executive budget earlier than you currently receive it, in order that the LCB and legislative experts can analyze it and be on an equal footing with the Governor in evaluating the decisions for which you are responsible to the people you serve.

Members of legislature compensated for each day of service (p. 3, lines 23-26): We support for obvious reasons of fairness.

\$500 dollar "stamp" budget (p. 3, l. 31-34): Again, it is obvious that \$60 is insufficient for the correspondence

4/4/2003

ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
 DATE: 4/4/03 ROOM: 3141 EXHIBIT F 1/2
 SUBMITTED BY: LUCILLE LUSK

required.

Limit special session to 20 days (p. 3, l. 44 - page 4, l. 1; also p. 2 l. 1-3): This limit is necessary so that special sessions do not become additional sessions of unlimited duration.

AJR 13: Support, amend

Special session convened at call of Legislature (p. 2, l. 9-35) We support the Legislature having authority to call a special session through a petition signed by 2/3 of the members stating the reason for the call. However, please consider an amendment to limit the topics to those set forth in the call for the special session. The ability to add topics sets up a potential "mini-session" of unlimited scope. (This bill grants authority to add topics for a legislator-called special session to the Legislature, while the Governor under the existing language of the Constitution has power to add topics to a Governor-called special session.) In addition, this bill needs an amendment to limit the special sessions to 20 days, require adjournment at midnight, and declare any action taken after that time to be void.

In summary, we urge that each issue be in separate bills so they are easily understood when they appear on the ballot. AJR 13 could be easily amended and would be a clean bill for the purpose of a legislator-called special session. AJR 7 could be the vehicle to extend legislators pay to each calendar day of service and increase the "stamp" allowance. If they are kept to those limited topics they will have the best chance of success.

Thank you,

Lucille Lusk
Nevada Concerned Citizens