

February 5, 1977

A meeting of the Local Government Committee for the purpose of an executive session was called to order by Chairman Robbins at 8:06 AM in Room 225. The secretary called roll; Representative Palmer was absent. All other members were present.

Chairman Robbins called on Larry Weinberg to give the procedure that will be followed in executive sessions on House Bill 122.

The following procedure shall be adopted for executive sessions on House Bill 122. The procedure has been approved by the House leadership and will insure that the final decision on House Bill 122 is that of the committee while at the same time providing the committee with the assistance of the staff of the Commission on Local Government.

Generally, as questions arise during committee discussions the chairman will direct the commission staff to formulate a response. At the close of discussion on a subject area (such as services, annexation, bonds, etc.) the chairman will request the commission staff to reply. Following the response, the committee will either continue the discussion or take appropriate action.

This general procedure, namely that the staff will reply at the close of committee discussion, is subject to two exceptions:

(1) If it appears to the chairman that the answer to a particular question is essential to the continued discussion of the committee, the chairman will request an immediate response to the question. The key to this exception is the "essentiality" of having an answer immediately.

(2) If the committee is involved in a prolonged discussion on a particular matter and a member of the commission staff believes this situation is brought about because of a misunderstanding of the code or an error of fact, the staff member may approach the chairman and request permission to speak. The chairman will determine whether such an offer should be accepted. The key to this exception is a "prolonged" discussion due to an error of fact or interpretation of the code. A debate on questions of policy are not subject to staff input.

As stated above, the procedure should permit the committee to take advantage of the knowledge and experience of the commission staff while insuring that all the policy decisions are committee decisions. In all response the commission staff shall try to be brief and to the point.

HOUSE BILL 122: Chairman Robbins called on Representative Gerke to begin the proceedings. Representative Gerke moved that when this committee does arise it recommends a DO PASS on House Bill 122.

The committee was asked to turn to page 340, part 6 (Emergency Services), subpart 1, of House Bill 122. Each member of the committee received a copy of amendments for fire and police services. Larry Weinberg explained what was handed out he had gone through committee hearings and extracted what pertained to police and firemen. Some are specific suggestions and some not very specific.

AREAS OF AMENDMENTS FOR FIRE AND POLICE SERVICES - exhibit 1.

The first amendment to be acted on is on page 342, line 13, 47A-6-6203. It is a provision to bring the fire protection services somewhat in line with police service where they cannot go to private vendor and provides that towns of 5,000 or more shall have a paid fire service. Representative Waldron moved that the first amendment BE ADOPTED. After discussion Representative Bertelsen moved to amend the amendment by striking: "(a) municipal fire services may not be provided by a private vendor; and". Question, roll call vote was taken: 13 voted YES and 3 voted NO. Motion carried. Representatives Pistoria, Waldron, and O'Connell voted NO. Representatives Palmer and Roth were not present. Back to original motion. Representative Gould made a substitute motion to not except the amendment. Question was called and roll call vote was taken: 7 voted YES and 9 voted NO. Motion failed. Representatives Bertelsen, Colburn, Gould, Jensen, South, Stobie, and Vinger voted YES. Representative Waldron moved that the first amendment DO PASS AS AMENDED. Question, roll call vote was taken: 10 voted YES and 6 voted NO. Motion carried. Those voting NO were: Representatives Colburn, Gould, Jensen, South, Stobie, and Vinger. (SCR 149)

Second amendment for page 345, line 6, 47A-6-6233. Representative Waldron moved that the second amendment for page 345 DO PASS. Question, roll call vote was taken: 9 voted Yes and 7 voted NO. Motion carried. Those voting NO were: Representatives Colburn, Gould, Jensen, South, Stobie, Vinger, and Robbins. (SCR 150)

Third amendment for page 682, line 16, 47A-6-6233. Representative Halvorson moved for a DO PASS on the third amendment.

Representative Roth came in.

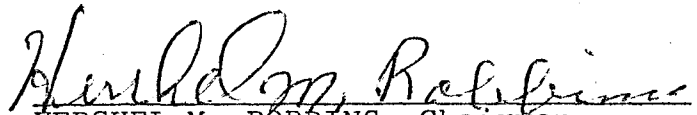
After discussion by committee, Representative Ramirez made a substitute motion that the third amendments DO NOT PASS. Roll call vote was taken: 13 voted YES and 4 voted NO. Motion carried. Those voting NO were: Representatives Colburn, Halvorson, Waldron, and O'Connell. Representative Palmer is absent.

The fourth amendment for page 177, line 13. Representative Halvorson made a motion that the fourth amendment DO PASS. Ramirez - a couple things have been voted for as a matter of compromise and this is one of the most important amendments and he is against the motion. Bertelsen - is against the motion and said we continue to come back every session to raise and here is chance to get it back to people. Representative Waldron made a substitute motion to request the attorney to research and to protect the salary rights of employees as they stand and provide us with possible amendments that will require local government to not lower salaries and benefits with the passage of this code. Motion failed. Dale - on page 4 employees do not lose any existing rights. Question was called on Representative Halvorson's motion the the fourth amendment DO PASS. Roll call vote was taken: 9 voted YES and 8 voted NO. Motion carried. Those voting NO were: Representatives Bertelsen, Gould, Pistoria, Ramirez, Roth, Stobie, Vinger and Robbins. Representative Palmer was absent. (SCR 120)

(SCR - Standing Committee Report Amendments)

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted


HERSHEL M. ROBBINS, Chairman

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