

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
AGENCIES II SUBCOMMITTEE

February 13, 1979  
9:00 A.M.  
Room 343  
State Capitol Building

Orientation: Department of  
Professional & Occupational  
Licensing

Tape 4: Side 2, Track 2 (390)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rex Manuel with all members present. Also present were Bob Robinson, LFA and Carolyn Doering, OBPP.

PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING (395)

Bob Robinson handed out worksheets showing a comparison by program of total expenses only. This was done because the dollar amounts are not substantial.

The Executive has recommended 31.03 FTE for 1980 and 1981. The LFA has recommended 33.32 FTE for 1980 and 23.49 for 1981. The differences are related to 1.6 FTE recommended by the LFA to expand the centralized service program, this was not recommended by the Executive. The Executive stated that this position was not included due to an oversight, and saw no problem with the LFA recommendation. This position is a central cashier function that was recommended by the legislative auditor.

The remaining difference is due to 9 boards scheduled to be sunsetted by the end of fiscal 1980. The Executive recommends appropriation for these boards.

Senator Smith stated that he did not feel that it was the responsibility of the legislature to be saying whether these boards should continue or not.

With regard to the abstract program, it was explained that most people are now turning to title insurance, and this may be one reason this program has been recommended to be sunsetted. It was explained that most banks will not finance without title insurance.

This department consists of thirty-two separate licensing boards that are delegated the responsibility of licensing practitioners and monitoring performance of more than thirty occupations. Each board is under the department's direction for administrative purposes only, that is for budgetary matters and day-to-day administration. The boards are independent of department authority

for policy, licensing, quasi judicial and legislative functions.

The only money coming into these boards comes from examination and license fees. Appropriations budget a certain amount to be spent. If more money is needed the various boards must ask for a budget amendment as an emergency situation.

Operations for each of the boards will continue at current or requested level (if the request was lower than current level) in fiscal 1980 under the LFA recommendations. In 1981, nine boards received no recommendation by the LFA as they will terminate operations June 30, 1981. If the legislature acts to continue the functions of all or some of the boards scheduled for elimination, current level budgets are available to be added by the legislature. If the legislature desires to modify the services of these boards, appropriate budgets can be developed at that time.

Carolyn Doering explained that Senator Himsl has introduced a bill which would create three super-boards: public safety, public health and professional occupation. Boards that are sunsetted would be transferred to these three super-boards. These boards will be made up of consumers. They will probably contract to develop rules and license fees for the profession.

The LFA stated that this is not a very efficiently run department and suggested that maybe it was time to abolish the present department and consolidate with another in order to take advantage of economies that would allow reduced central service overhead for the boards.

The Executive has recommended that all FTE be put in centralized services, but the department has opposed this move.

The Medical Examiners Board has been recommended at current level by the LFA. The Executive recommendation has included a modification request by the program for \$21,000 to cover additional legal expenses anticipated to take care of three cases currently pending.

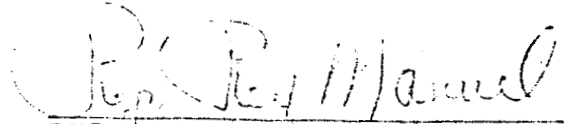
It was explained that when these programs are sunsetted, the balance left in the program account goes to the general fund. The subcommittee asked that figures of the balance in these accounts be made available for examination. These figures could be determined as of the end of January.

The legislative auditor conducted a financial audit of the department a year ago. Outside of this, there is a program audit of about 9 programs each year.

Ms. Doering stated that the realtors have stated that they are not happy with the Board of Real Estate, and would like to have the

Most boards are appointed by the Governor or the Senate.

There was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M. The next meeting will be February 14, 1979 at 8:15 A.M.

  
REP. REX MANUEL, Chairman

Secretary