

MEETING MINUTES  
HUMAN SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 10, 1987

The meeting of the human services subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Cal Winslow at 7:30 p.m. in the state capitol building, room 108, on February 10, 1987.

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES (SRS)

(37a:000) Peter Blouke, LFA, discussed the line items where the subcommittee had previously taken action, and the areas that still needed consideration.

Discussion followed on the reduction of LIEAP contributions (\$65,000 per year) to the Developmental Disabilities Division, and clarification of the subcommittee's intent on how this shortfall was to be rectified. Mr Blouke stated the department would prefer to take the reduction out of the 2% rate increase that was applied to benefits rather than out of the current level base. He stated that the committee needed to be aware that if the 2% modified increase is not funded, then the \$65,000 would have to be reduced from the current level base.

Dave Lewis, DSRS, stated he would prefer a motion stating that if there is a shortfall in either LIEAP or the Social Services Block Grant, that the shortfall would be taken out of the 2% increase, and cut back to 1.7%, 1.5%, etc.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

Developmental Disabilities Division

Rep Connelly made a motion to deduct the reduction in the LIEAP contribution of \$65,000 per year of the biennium, and any shortfall in the Social Services Block Grant, from the 2% increase for benefits instead of the current level funds. Should the 2% rate increase not be accepted as recommended, both the LIEAP shortfall and any shortfall in the social Services Block Grant will be reduced from current level.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED unanimously.

(37a:115) Peter Blouke, LFA, in clarification of the subcommittee's intent, stated that the computation of funds would be as follows: The 2% increase added to benefits, minus the \$65,000 shortfall, and in the future, if there is an

additional shortfall of funds, the reduction will be covered from the 2% rate increase.

Mr Blouke then addressed the funding of the Social Security Block Grants (SSBG). The amount of funds reflected in exhibit 1 are those considered available by the executive and LFA. If the committee agrees with these figures, then if additional funds become available, they can be budget amended.

Dave Lewis, DSRS, stated another option would be to have any increase in additional funds be used to offset the general fund. If there is a shortfall, it will come from the 2% increase, but if there was an increase a like amount could be reverted back.

Sen Manning made a motion to accept the SSBG grant level of \$799,136 for administration, and \$8,490,584 for grants for each year of the biennium, and if there are any additional SSBG funds, they are to revert to the general fund.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED unanimously.

#### EXECUTIVE ACTION

##### Developmental Disabilities Division (DD)

(37a:220) Sen Manning made a motion to accept subcommittee action on the Developmental Disabilities Division totalling \$18,468,722 for 1988 and \$18,461,879 for 1989, with revisions as necessary.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED unanimously.

##### DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES (DFS)

##### Social Services

Sen Manning made a motion to accept the subcommittee action on the Social Services Program in the amount of \$23,460,401 for 1988 and \$23,459,387 for 1989.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED unanimously.

##### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES (DSRS)

Discussion then followed on the revenues collected from marriage license fees (exhibit 4), and a proposed increase of \$5.00 to offset general funds and fund the Domestic Violence Program at the executive level. The total marriage license fee would then be \$35.00.

(37a:443) Sen Manning made a motion that the committee adopt a committee bill to increase the marriage license fee by \$5.00, with the additional revenue to offset the increase in the Domestic Violence Program.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED, with Rep Switzer voting no.

Sen Manning made a motion to increase funding to the Domestic Violence Program an additional \$35,700 per year of the biennium, and that the increase would be considered part of the current level funding for this program.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED, with Rep Switzer voting no.

Rep Connelly made a motion to add an additional \$5.00 to the marriage license fee, and the additional \$35,700 per year of the biennium be earmarked for the Parents Anonymous Program.

A voice vote was taken and the motion FAILED, with Rep Bradley and Rep Connelly voting yes, and Sen Manning, Sen Harding, Sen Himsl, Rep Switzer and Rep Winslow voting no.

Mr Blouke then described the fiscal impact of a percentage increase for foster care (exhibit 5) and prior subcommittee action.

(37a:617) Rep Bradley stated she felt there was a desperate need in this area akin to the one seen in the Developmentally Disabled Program. She stated insufficient funding could result in a lack of services provided, and that a 2% increase was the only responsible action to take.

In response from Rep Bradley to comment on this area, Dave Lewis, DSRS, stated he agreed that this was a desperate situation, and that there needs to be a major change made in the rate structure, and the only way to effectively do that is to put more money into the program. More funding could result in a more reasonable and objective rate structure.

(37b:000) Dave Lewis further commented that the current rate structure originated 12 to 15 years ago, and were roughly cost based at that time. Since then the programs offered by the various providers have changed and only incremental increases have been approved. There has not been a reflection in the rates to consider program changes. Current rates are irrelevant to the types of services now being provided. The providers felt that two (2) million dollars was needed to bring the rates into balance to reflect the changes in services over the biennium.

(37b:073) Rep Bradley made a motion to accept a 1.5% increase for foster care providers, \$112,919 for 1988, \$227,532 for 1989, totalling \$340,452 for the biennium.

A voice vote was taken and the motion FAILED, with Sen Manning and Rep Bradley voting yes, Rep Winslow, Sen Himsl, Sen Harding, Rep Connelly, and Rep Switzer voting no.

#### Administration and Support

Sen Manning made a motion to accept subcommittee action on Administration and Support of \$3,001,429 for 1988 and \$2,872,320 for 1989.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED unanimously.

#### Audit and Program Compliance

(37b:165) Sen Himsl made a motion to accept subcommittee action on the Audit and Program Compliance Program totalling \$1,280,182 for 1988 and \$1,281,352 for 1989.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED unanimously.

#### IV-E Eligibility

Rep Connelly made a motion that it was the intent of the committee that the department of SRS should continue with the policy of using the IV-E criterion for subsidized adoption.

A voice vote was taken and the motion PASSED unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. (37b:179)



Cal Winslow, Chairman

