

STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 15, 1965

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, and Mr. Marshall suggested amendments to H.B. 519, stating that the amendments meet with the approval of the sponsors; that the suggested amendments more nearly meet the intended purpose. Thereupon, Mr. Marshall moved the adoption of the amendments. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ford and carried unanimously. Mr. Ford then moved that H.B. 519, as amended, be recommended favorably. Upon second by Mr. Marshall, motion carried without dissent. The Chairman stated that Mr. Noe who appeared before the Committee on behalf of the bill had asked that it be made clear he was appearing as an individual and not as a member of the Board of Agriculture.

Sponsors of H.B. 561 appeared before the Committee, and Mr. Myers stated this was a self-explanatory bill; that it seeks to make the terms for County Commissioners six years instead of four, with staggered terms. This, he states, would assure that experienced members are on the Board at all times. Mr. Watkins reiterated these statements and urged favorable consideration.

Sponsors of H.B. 583 were present to discuss this proposal. Mr. Davis stated that the bill would give statutory blessing to the deduction of funds from salaries of employees (with the permission of the employees) by the County Commissioners, in order to take care of such things as health insurance; that group insurance gives a better rate than individual plans. Mr. VanCleave stated that several counties had been doing this and that the Auditor said it wasn't proper; that this is merely permissive legislation and is not going to attempt to force anyone to participate in anything they don't wish to.

Mr. Turner felt that perhaps the point should be pinned down more specifically and the sponsors stated that they would have no objection to this. The Chairman appointed Mr. Turner, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Mikesic as a sub-committee to study the matter and present any amendments desired.

The Chairman called for further discussion on either of the proposals, and Mr. Marshall asked the feeling of the Committee concerning payroll deductions for non-profit organizations, i.e. United Fund, stating that he supposed this was a little off the subject from 583. Several members expressed opposition to this, with Mr. Griffith stating that it would probably open everything up for deductions, and it would become embarrassing to certain employees.

Mr. Turner stated that the bookkeeping would become quite a large thing. Mr. Harlow Brown stated that he understood the question was not to open it up, but to limit it to United Fund, and avoid all these other drives. Mr. Unruh felt that it should be done on an individual basis and that it could be done without violating the law.

Mr. Doyen stated with regard to H.B. 561, that he didn't think they should extend the County Commissioners' terms to 6 years; that they could still keep experienced people on the Board with four year terms. Mr. Jelinek stated that he believed it would be helpful only in isolated cases.

The meeting was adjourned.