

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTES OF THE House COMMITTEE ON Labor and Industry

The meeting was called to order by Representative Arthur Douville at \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

11:50 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on April 29, 1988 in room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representatives Frank Buehler, Herman Dillon, R.D. Miller, Kerry Patrick,  
Burr Sifers and Donna Whiteman - Excused

Committee staff present:

Juel Bennewitz, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Norman Justice  
Wayne Maichel, Executive Vice-President AFL-CIO

After calling the meeting to order and noting the regular procedure for meeting notification, the chairman cited the difference between a bill and a resolution and stated the meeting would proceed. House Resolution 6120 was assigned to the committee yesterday.

Representative Justice presented the resolution referring the International Teamsters Union, H.R. 6120, which requests the U.S. Justice Department not put the union in federal trusteeship.

Committee discussion followed and covered the following concerns: why, if the union has its financial house in order, the action is being taken now rather than earlier; whether the previous president of the union has current input regarding financial affairs while he is under indictment; what kind of precedent would be set by a state legislature sending such a message to an agency of the federal government and whether the Justice Department would be taking such action if it were not necessary.

Some history of the union was given. Following hearings by the McClellan Committee in the 1950's, the AFL-CIO established a code of ethics. Those unions wishing to be under the AFL-CIO umbrella had to have on file an agreement to abide by that code of ethics. The Teamsters had not done so until recently. A well known banker from Kansas City had been appointed to correct financial incongruities within the union, this having been done, the union applied for and received readmittance to the AFL-CIO.

A point of clarification was that federal laws are adequate to address any problems resulting under the RICO provisions as opposed to a federal trusteeship which is perceived as a "drastic action".

Wayne Maichel spoke in favor of the resolution stating support for prosecution of any union officials guilty of corruption. He contended control of an entire union by the government was misplaced in a democratic society.

The hearing on H.R. 6120 was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.