



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
**CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE**

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**JOINT RULES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**October 28, 2013**

**California State Capitol Room 4203**

Chair: Senior Assembly Member Don MacAllister

Vice Chair: Senior Senator Alice Loh

Vice Chair: Senior Assembly Member Evelyn Tom

**I. Call To Order**

The Joint Rules Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair, Don MacAllister at 12:10 p.m.

Invocation by Senior Senator Marti Overfield

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Senior Senator Mickey Peabody

**II. Roll Call**

**Present:** **Senior Senators:** Marti Overfield, Bruce Steir, Al Blum, Mickey Peabody

**Senior Assembly Members:** Don MacAllister, Herbert Schwartz, Bernie Weintraub, Eleanor Bloch, Evelyn Tom, Julia Rosenberg

**Staff:** Clare Smith, Consultant

**Absent:** Senior Senator Alice Loh, Senior Assembly Member Rick Dahlgren

A quorum was established.

**III. Introductions**

No guest introductions.

**IV. Public Comments**

No public comments.

**Discussion/Action Items**

**V. Approve Agenda of October 28, 2013 JRC Meeting**

Senior Assembly Member Tom made motion to approve the agenda.

Senior Assembly Member Bloch seconded the motion. Agenda approved as presented.

**VI. Approve Minutes of September 16-17, 2013 JRC Meeting**

Senior Assembly Member Bloch made motion to approve the minutes.

Senior Assembly Member Weintraub seconded the motion. Minutes approved as presented.

**Mission: To Improve the Quality of Life for Aging Californians**

Funded by the California Fund for Senior Citizens – FTB Code 402

## **VII. Correspondence**

Chair MacAllister reported on receiving an e-mail from the California Collaborative requesting that the California Senior Legislature (CSL) sign on to a letter of support, along with several other statewide organizations, to be sent to the SCAN Foundation. The letter supports the continued funding the California Collaborative to continue their work on improving the long-term care service and supports system in California. The CSL agreed to add their organization to the list of supporters on the letter.

## **VIII. Sub-Committee Year-End Reports**

### **A. Bylaws**

Senior Assembly Member Schwartz, Chair of the Bylaws Sub-Committee, requested that the report be moved to later in the agenda, and instead to report on the Sub-Committee on Budget and Finance. Chair MacAllister approved the re-arrangement in the order of the sub-committee reports.

### **B. Budget and Finance**

Senior Assembly Member Schwartz distributed his Year-End and reviewed the sections addressing current financial status of the CSL. The report is included as part of these minutes and was distributed to all members.

Schwartz fielded a question regarding how the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) determines whether or a not a fund will continue to be on the Voluntary Contributions Fund (VCF) list. Chair MacAllister also provided more information about how the FTB looks at trends and bases their projections on past performance during the same time frame, looking to the end of December.

Individuals may contribute to the Fund until the end of the calendar year. The CSL Fund is still approximately \$30,000 short of reaching the \$250,000 minimum threshold as of September 2013.

Senior Assembly Member Bloch moved to approve the Budget and Finance Sub-Committee report. Senior Senator Peabody seconded the motion. Report approved as presented.

### **B. Bylaws**

Senior Assembly Member Schwartz distributed described the bylaws sub-committee membership and meeting process over the past several months. He introduced the members of the Bylaws Sub-Committee: Senior Assembly Members Anne Warren, Charles Mitchell, and Senior Senators Jim Levy and Michael LePeilbet. Lorenzo Cuesta, the Professional Registered Parliamentarian retained to provide assistance during the amendment process was also introduced and thanked for his guidance.

During the August 29, 2013 meeting, Senior Assembly Members Zelda Hutcherson, John Pointer and Don MacAllister were in attendance as guests. The report of the Bylaws Committee is included as part of these minutes, and was distributed to all members. The Bylaws Amendment Packet will be reviewed and used during the Bylaws Amendment session scheduled immediately after the JRC meeting.

Senior Assembly Member Bloch moved to approve the Bylaws Sub-Committee report. Senior Senator Tom seconded the motion. Report approved as presented.

**C. Public Relations**

Senior Senator Steir reviewed the past year of activities and submitted his report which is attached as part of these minutes. Steir recommended that each caucus assign a member to promote the CSL and address public relations within each group.

Senior Assembly Member Weintraub moved to approve the Public Relations Sub-Committee report. Senior Senator Marti Overfield seconded the motion. Report approved as presented.

**D. Policies and Procedures**

Senior Assembly Members Bloch and Weintraub recognized Janice Bailey, CSL Staff for her assistance and attention to the process of updating and revising the Resource Manual, including Policies and Procedures.

The sub-committee also handled the development and recommendation to add a conduct policy to the Resource Manual. The new conduct policy was distributed to all member of the JRC and members in attendance. Bloch reviewed the additional section which described the state employee's right to request assistance from his/her bargaining unit of the State Employees International Union (SEIU) in filing a grievance. The revised policy also highlighted the role of the JRC Chair as being primarily responsible for handling and resolving conflict. The conduct policy is included as part of these minutes. Senior Senator Blum identified some typos in the updated policy which were noted by Smith for correction.

Senior Assembly Member Rosenberg asked, "Haven't employees always had this right?" Bloch responded that yes, they did, but that the CSL did not have a specific policy addressing conduct and a process for resolution, and was recently required by the State to establish a specific process.

Senior Assembly Member Michael Haas requested the opportunity to comment. Chair MacAllister invited Haas to share his comments. Haas reviewed several reasons for his opposition to the policy, including that the proposed policy unclear, the terms were undefined and that the

policy was in validation of the U.S Constitution. Haas further stated that the proposed policy provided “dictatorial powers” to the JRC Chair. Chair MacAllister thanked him for sharing his comments. Senior Assembly Member Lola Young requested an opportunity to comment. Chair MacAllister invited her to share her comments. Young noted that she opposed the first version of the policy, but in reviewing the updated policy, she was decided to support. Chair MacAllister thanked her for her comments. Senior Assembly Member Schwartz asked if the policy were retroactive. Chair MacAllister answered, no, the policy will not be applied retroactively.

Chair MacAllister called for the JRC to approve the revised policy as part of the report presented by the Sub-Committee, Senior Assembly Member Tom moved to approve the Report, Senior Senator Marti Overfield seconded the motion. Report approved as presented with Senior Assembly Member Rosenberg opposed.

#### **E. Session Planning**

Senior Assembly Member Tom thanked members of the sub-committee and distributed her report which is included as part of these minutes and was distributed to all members. Senior Senator Marti Overfield thanked Senior Assembly Member Tom for her hard work and dedication. Senior Assembly Member Bloch moved to approve the Report, Senior Senator Steir seconded the motion. Report approved as presented.

### **IX. Legislative Committee Report**

A. Senior Assembly Member Julia Rosenberg reviewed the past year and recognized the Legislative Committee members for their efforts. Rosenberg also highlighted the CSL proposals that were passed as legislative bills this year, and also recognized the role of the CSL in supporting the passage of several bills that were sponsored by an array of organizations this year. Senior Assembly Member Rosenberg underscored the importance of outreach and relationship building with legislative staffers and the Office of Legislative Counsel. Rosenberg thanked them for their help. Additionally, Rosenberg noted that the “Meet and Greet” event was an excellent way to establish a relationship between the CSL members and legislative staff, and also encouraged the JRC to continue the event in 2014. Senior Assembly Member Bloch noted that the “Meet and Greet” was funded by outside donors to the California Foundation on Aging fund and that donations were welcome from members and others throughout the week.

Senior Assembly Member Schwartz moved to approve the Report, Senior Assembly Member Weintraub seconded the motion. Report approved as presented.

### **X. Chair’s Report**

- A. Session planning and preparation activities dominated the staff work since the September JRC meeting report.
- B. Reported on a very productive year, including the creation of

several new caucuses, and a newly designed website. A more detailed report will be provided during the general session.

**Meeting was recessed until Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 2:15pm.**

**Meeting reconvened at 2:15 p.m., October 31, 2013.**

**XI. Election of Officers**

- A.** Senior Senator Al Blum nominated Senior Senator Alice Loh as Chair of the Joint Rules Committee. Senior Assembly Member Ellie Bloch seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- B.** Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn nominated Assembly Member Ellie Bloch as Vice Chair of the Assembly. Senior Assembly Member Roger Ginsburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- C.** Senior Assembly Member Eleanor Bloch nominated Senior Senator Al Blum as Vice Chair of the Senate. Senior Senator Marti Overfield seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**XIV. Announcements**

- A.** Chair Loh announced that a tentative schedule of meetings will be determined in the near future.
- B.** Chair Loh and Past Chair MacAllister announced that they will meet and discuss the transition, most importantly outline immediate steps to fill the current vacancy in the CSL office.
- C.** Legislative Committee Chair Assembly Member Warren announced the intent to organize an early December 2013 “Walk the Halls” meeting, and requested that the 2014 Proposal Books and summary sheets are ready by the first week in December.
- D.** The January 2014 “Meet and Greet” was discussed. Senior Assembly Member Lauren Rolfe volunteered to serve as the coordinator for the Capitol Building event.

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.**