



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
**CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE**

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**JOINT RULES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

State Capitol, Room 2040, Sacramento, CA 95814

January 12-13, 2005

Senior Senator Joe Murphy, Chair of Joint Rules Committee, read the Agenda Statement.

**I. Call to Order, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

The California Senior Legislature (CSL) Joint Rules Committee (JRC) was called to order by Senior Senator Joe Murphy, Chair, on January 12, 2005, at the Capitol, Room 2040, Sacramento, CA. The invocation was given by Senior Senator Joe Cox and Senior Assembly Member Helen Karr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Roll Call**

Present: Senior Senators Joe Cox, Erwin Fromm, Jim Levy and Joe Murphy. Senior Assembly Members Zelda Hutcherson, Helen Karr, and Sally Wieck, and Alternate Senior Assembly Member Vince Agor.

Excused: Senior Senators Mary Dennison and Jerry Smith. Senior Assembly Members June Glasmeier and Ed Woods. A quorum was established.

**III. Introductions**

Senior Assembly Member Martin Tucker, Senior Senators Connie Eaton, Lenwood Long and Robert Gallimore.

**IV. Approve Agenda**

Agenda was approved with the following changes:

Item 13: 9:15am Session Planning and Public Relations meet

9:45am Finance and Insurance and Policy and Procedures meet

Item VII, Number 7 to New Business Item 16, number C

Item VII Add Number 11: L.A City/County Caucus Social Security Forum

Item XVI: Add D: Bagley-Keene Changes and E: Resolutions Discussion

M/S/P

Chair declared a moment of silence in memory of Senior Assembly Member Richard Edgar.

**V. Approve Minutes of November 9-10, 2004**

Minutes approved as written.

M/S/P

**VI. Public Comment**

Hearing none, Chair declared public comment closed.

**VII. Chair Senior Senator Joe Murphy's Report**

**1. Calendar – Status of Activities**

The Chair reviewed year's calendar

The Chair will be meeting today with Senator Don Perata, Senate President pro Tem

We have begun looking for proposal authors

Policy & Procedures Committee will begin reviewing election process

Session planning has begun

**2. Line 54 – Issues and Letters**

The Chair has sent communications to several tax preparer organizations and administrators in the state outlining problems encountered by individuals when attempting to electronically contribute to Line 54 and requesting action to alleviate the problem. The Chair met with a representative of the AARP volunteer tax preparer program who will be helping to inform other preparers of this issue. The Chair asked the Public Relations Sub-Committee to discuss preparing another letter to explain the concern. Hearing no objections, the Chair approved \$16 that Senior Senator Jim Levy can declare on his Travel Expense Claim covering copies made concerning Line 54 information.

**3. Letter to Governor**

The L.A. Caucus suggested writing a letter to the Governor stating their concern that he did not appear at our Session. The Chair notified the Caucus that we are inviting him to our next Session. The Chair also informed the Caucus that the JRC is the representing body to directly contact the Governor. Recommendations should be sent to the JRC for action.

**4. Letter to Gale**

The Chair reported a former CSL member sent him a letter reporting that a current CSL member had their picture in the newspaper while attending a Democratic party fundraiser and that this is against CSL ethics. The Chair read his response stating that a person can participate as an individual in a political event as long as there is no display of CSL material in any way. The Chair reported that the JRC can take no action in this matter.

**5. Little Hoover Commission Hearings**

During the 3<sup>rd</sup> Little Hoover Commission Hearing regarding the California Performance Review (CPR), the Commission stressed the need to be able to accomplish what the CPR is proposing. The Little Hoover Commission Report can be found on the website [www.LHC.ca.gov](http://www.LHC.ca.gov). The Chair reported that the CCoA was not one of the Commissions that was cut in the current State budget.

**6. JRC Alternates**

Due to two alternate position vacancies on the JRC, the Chair appointed Senior Assembly Member Martin Tucker to be the alternate for Senior Assembly Member Helen Karr, and Senior Assembly Member Marcia Gould to be the alternate for Senior Assembly Member Sally Wieck.

**7. Proposal Documentation (moved to Item XVI, C)**

**8. JRC Topic Forms—Senior Assembly Members Edward Gonzales & Joanna Kim-Selby**

The Chair referred topic forms received from Senior Assembly Member Edward Gonzales and Senior Assembly Member Joanna Kim-Selby to the Policy and Procedures Committee to review and bring back to the next JRC meeting.

**9. Senior Assembly Member Edgar Condolence**

The Chair read a letter of condolence from the CSL to the Edgar family and thanked Senior Assembly Member June Glasmeier, Chair of the JRC Communications Committee, for composing it. After discussion by the JRC, the Chair recommended that a uniform letter of condolence be prepared and put in the Resource Manual. Each letter will be personalized as appropriate upon mailing.

**10. Health and Wellness Resolution**

The Chair read a letter of support from the CSL for Senator Tom Torlakson's Health and Wellness Resolution. The Chair attended the Senator's press conference on January 3, participated on the podium, and was recognized as being present.

**11. L.A. City/County Caucus Social Security Forum**

The Chair declared CSL support for the L.A. City/County Caucus Social Security Forum.

Senior Senator Jim Levy discussed Social Security forum he had attended along with many senior organizations represented. He asked that CSL prepare a position paper concerning issues of Social Security reform. Asking for objections and hearing none, the JRC Chair appointed an ad hoc committee to review a CSL position regarding Social Security to present to the membership for a vote. Members of the committee are Senior Senator Jim Levy, Chair, and members Senior Senators Lenwood Long and Connie Eaton, and Senior Assembly Member Zelda Hutcherson.

**VIII. California Commission on Aging Executive Director's Report**

**Sandra Fitzpatrick, Executive Director**

- The Commission is looking into hiring a retired annuitant to help with the preparations for the White House Conference on Aging. This expense would be the responsibility of the Commission.
- Ms. Fitzpatrick discussed California Department of Aging concerns regarding the 2005 Session contracts for Bill Hollabaugh and Karen

Morris-Cole—concerns address the requirement to use state staff rather than consultants, if duties can be accomplished by them.

- The Hyatt contracts were signed for the 2005 Session this week. Contracts cover use of the site and reserve a block of sleeping rooms.
- The CCoA was not one of the Boards or Commissions cut by the Governor in the 2005-06 Budget Proposal . The Commission is now recruiting to fill several vacancies. There are a total of 11 vacancies.
- The Commission will be coordinating a three-day series of concurrent events from March 7-9, 2005, in Sacramento. Topics include a Mobility Summit, SB 910 Invitational Forum Planning for an Aging California, and a White House Conference on Aging Solutions Session.
- The Commission will be meeting with Assembly Member Patty Berg to discuss the Master Plan on Aging.
- The January CCoA meeting was held in Chico.

**IX. Briefing by Legislative Analysts for JRC and Legislative Committee**

There was a discussion panel to brief the JRC members and the members of the Legislative Committee on protocol when visiting legislators. Members of the panel were:

Aaron Bone, Chief of Staff for Assembly Member Sharon Runner  
Sarah Steenhausen, Consultant for the Senate Subcommittee on Aging and Long Term Care  
Allison Ruff, Consultant for the Assembly Aging and Long Term Care Committee  
Barbara Rhinehart, Legislative Assistant to Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez

**X. Legislative members, alternates and JRC members visit Legislators at their offices**

**JRC meeting recessed until Thursday, January 13, 2005 at 9:00am.**

**Thursday, January 13, 2005**

The JRC Chair reconvened the Joint Rules Committee meeting at 9:00am.

**XI. Roll Call – Determine excused/unexcused absences, establish quorum**

Present: Senior Senators Joe Cox, Erwin Fromm, Jim Levy and Joe Murphy. Senior Assembly Members Zelda Hutcherson, Helen Karr, and Sally Wieck, and Alternate Senior Assembly Member Vince Agor.

Excused: Senior Senators Mary Dennison and Jerry Smith. Senior Assembly Members June Glasmeier and Ed Woods. A quorum was established.

**XII. Committee Meetings**

**XIII Committee Reports**

**Session Planning Committee, Senior Assembly Member Sally Wieck, Chair**

Reviewed 2004 Session

Assigned committee members to Session planning preferred area of interest

Reviewed tasklist

Discussed seeking donors and inviting legislators

**Public Relations Committee, Senior Senator Jim Levy, Chair**

Suggested expanding website to promote PR

Motion to send letter to members including website address and information.

M/S/P

Committee to review cost and distribution of a CSL newsletter.

Will discuss with Arts & Humanities Committee its input to PR Committee.

Motion to send letter honoring U.S. Rep. Robert Matsui.

M/S/P

Motion to invite Matsui family members to next Session to receive an award of recognition honoring the Congressman.

M/S/P

Motion to authorize chairs of JRC and Legislative Committee to create a special "Meet & Greet" the new members of the State Legislature and new Legislative Committee Chairs. Motion was amended by JRC Chair to include those Legislators who have moved from Assembly to Senate as well.

M/S/P

Due to Line 54 donations dropping 10% this year, a motion to mail a letter to CSL members encouraging them to contact their senior centers with newly designed information outlining the purpose and function of CSL.

M/S/P

The JRC Chair stated that tax preparers cannot single out one line to promote when preparing taxes, but if asked by a taxpayer to make a donation to a certain line, it is the duty of the preparer to make that donation.

**Due to airline scheduling involving Chair of the Transition Team, the Transition Team Report was moved to this time.**

**XIV. Report of Transition Team, Senior Assembly Member Martin Tucker**

The Chair discussed office space lease. There will be no rent or maintenance fees for this space, which is in the Legislative Building on N Street. It was stated that June 2006, is the last date the CCoA Executive Director can sign a contract for CSL. The lease agreement runs from 2-1-05 through 6-30-06. A motion was made authorizing be given to the Executive Director to sign the lease that had been reviewed and finalized by the Transition Team.

M/S/P

The CCoA Executive Director announced that two members of the CCoA have been appointed to represent the CCoA should negotiations be required between CCoA and CSL regarding transition issues. The appointed Commission members are Nancy Dolton and Brenda Ross.

The Transition Team Chair announced that furnishings not currently being utilized by the Commission are being reviewed for possible use in the new

location. Computers exist now and are being used by CSL staff. In the future, their compatibility will be assessed with service offered in the new building.

**Hiring statement by the CA Department of Personnel Administration:**

The Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) has made a determination that the CSL has the authority to hire exempt employees under Article VII, Section 4 (d) of the State Constitution. Budgetary authority for any such positions will have to be granted by the Department of Finance. Classifications and salary rates will be set by the DPA consistent with the assignment of duties.

The next step for the Team will be to discuss with the CCoA Executive Director the existing job description of her position. First hiring should be the Administrative position. Physically occupying the office should take place after February 1, 2005.

**Finance & Insurance Committee, Senior Senator Erwin Fromm, Chair**

A motion to recommend the JRC Chair be authorized to send CSL representatives to the three-day Transportation and Aging Forums to be held March 7, 8 and 9, 2005 at the Sacramento Convention Center. M/S/P

The December 31, 2004 budget results will be mailed to the CSL membership. Since we use the fiscal year, this represents six months figures.

The expenses of the Legislative Committee are now being tracked. A process for tracking Transition costs associated with the separation of CSL from CCoA has been established.

**Policy & Procedures Committee, Senior Assembly Member Helen Karr**

The members will be informed of the updating of the Resource Manual. A motion was made to mail to members Part I update along with copies of AB1994. M/S/P

The Committee is now working on updating Part II of the Resource Manual and will bring a working copy to the next JRC meeting.

Part III covering By-Laws will be mailed to the members after the next Session when the By-Laws revisions/submissions will be voted on.

A motion was made that manual updates will be given at the beginning of each future Session.

M/S/P

A motion was made that website be updated as revisions are made. M/S/P

The Committee Chair requested each Committee Chair report any Committee revisions to appear in the Manual.

**By-Laws Committee, Senior Assembly Member Zelda Hutcherson**

The Committee will be using the same process and forms as the last By-Laws year. The Committee Chair will recommend to the JRC Chair the names of five CSL members, not currently on the JRC, for consideration for appointment to the By-Laws Committee as required by the By-Laws.

**XIV. Legislative Committee Report, Senior Senator Jerry Smith, Chair**

In the absence of the Committee Chair, Senior Senator Ann Mack, Vice-Chair, gave the Committee report.

A motion to recognize Senior Senator Ann Gehrig and her husband Ted, Senior Senator Robert Gallimore, and June Hamilton for their preparation for the visits to the legislators and to the entire Legislative Committee for their dedicated hard work.

M/S/P

There was a motion and a second to not send proposal books out in November, but rather a summary page of proposals with a note that books would be delivered in January. A question came up that the legislators would be receiving the books too late. The JRC Chair stated many legislators want the books early to begin working on their schedules. In a non-election year, December would be the best time. Discussion ended with a motion being deferred for further discussion to the PR Committee to bring back to the next JRC meeting.

**XV. Report of Transition Team**

(Reported earlier)

**XVI. New Business**

**A. California Alliance for Retired Americans CID Efforts**

Marjorie Murray, Legislative Committee of the Congress of California Seniors, gave a presentation of the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA), which is a coalition of senior groups representing homeowner interests. Marjorie asked that the CSL join CARA in this campaign and to support AB 2598, which is a homeowner protection bill. The JRC Chair asked names of organization now in the coalition. Such names were Gray Panthers, OWL, Congress of California Seniors, et al. The JRC Chair asked Legislative Committee to come back to the next JRC meeting with information concerning the bill.

**B. Subcommittee Meeting Schedules**

The JRC Chair feels subcommittee meetings are too limited in time. The Chair recommended one-hour meetings, which will be tried for a while.

**C. Proposal Documentation**

There was a question as to where the background material for proposals goes after it is used in Committee hearings. The Chair directed Policy and Procedures Committee to look into this and bring back to the JRC. Documentation should be shared with the JRC.

**D. Bagley-Keene Changes**

The Chair recommended Senior Assembly Member Helen Karr review the Bagley-Keene changes and bring back to the JRC. Senior Assembly Member Zelda Hutcherson offered to assist.

**E. Resolutions Discussion**

(This item pulled by request of Senior Senator Jim Levy)

## **XVII. Old Business**

### **A. Certificate for Krikorian**

Recognition to John Krikorian for his contributions to seniors and the CSL in L.A. County.

### **B. Subcommittee Hand Over Binders**

Subcommittee Chairs are to maintain a committee binder to be handed over to the new JRC Chair each year.

### **C. Legislative Committee Elections – Senior Senator Jerry Smith**

Legislative Committee recommends the by-laws be changed to allow Legislative Committee members to be elected every 2 years to coincide with the JRC elections. JRC Chair directed the Legislative Committee Chair to prepare a by-laws request for a change.

Senior Senator Jim Levy asked that an item be added to Old Business describing the method Triple-As have of replacing members who have passed away. JRC Chair stated that Triple A's have total control over which of the three potential choices stated in the By-Laws.

## **XVIII. Correspondence**

- Note received from Mark Kyle, Undersecretary of State, thanking CSL for the certificate of appreciation and for the honor of administering the CSL oath.
- Correspondence announcing Sharon Thrall as new Advocacy Council Chair of Area 3 Agency on Aging.
- Email from Senior Assembly Member Jim Garvey sharing his concerns about companies not having to pay taxes.
- Correspondence from San Bernardino County Department of Aging to former CSL member Junell Weber regarding validity of CSL election in San Bernardino. It was determined that the election was valid.
- Senator Tom Torlakson sent correspondence saying he was honored and pleased to have been asked to preside in the Senate Floor Session.
- Correspondence from Senior Assembly Member Gail Stevens regarding discrepancies to proposal AP2 and AP11 in the proposal book. The AP2 failed but in error was not noted as such in material dispersed to the members. A review of AP11 input material did not indicate Stevens as co-author.
- Email received from Senior Senator Dee Erman informing JRC of the death of Senior Assembly Member Richard Edgar.
- Correspondence received from Senior Assembly Member Judith O'Neil regarding Line 54 concerns.
- Letters will be sent by JRC Chair and June Hamilton to newly elected State legislators, State legislators who have changed houses, and to selected staff members of State legislators congratulating them on their elections or appointments.

## **XIX. Announcements**

Coordinated Leadership Conference will be held 4/26-28 at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario.



**XX. Set Next Meeting Date**

February 8-9, 2005, Commission Office, 1600 K Street, Sacramento.  
There will be no JRC meeting in March.

**XXI. Public Comment**

None

**XXII. Executive Committee Meeting (if necessary)**

None

**Meeting Adjourned**

Prepared and submitted by  
Senior Assembly Member Sally Wiecek  
Vice-Chair, Communications Committee