THE LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATOR
President’s Message

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

What an interesting year it has been for all of us - long sessions, budget crises, special sessions, trauma, demographics, elections, retirements and successions. Arkansas has been enveloped in many of these clouds, and due to these phenomena, I have not been able to spend the time on my presidential duties that I wished.

As this year comes to a close, I realize more and more how fortunate I have been to be a part of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries. It has been an honor and privilege for me to serve as your President. It has been a very rewarding year and I want to thank each of you for all your time and commitment to our organization. I am extremely proud to be a part of such a prestigious society with so many talented and committed professionals. I certainly would not have made it without all of you, especially the executive committee and committee chairs, who have done such a wonderful job.

As always, we have received excellent support from our NCSL liaison, Joan Barilla. You are an integral part of our society and I greatly appreciate your friendship.

The Society was well represented at the NCSL annual meeting in San Francisco. ASLCS jointly sponsored outstanding concurrent sessions. Denise Weeks, Clerk of the North Carolina House, and Gwen Bailey, Assistant Clerk of the Virginia Senate, were honored by their peers as the ASLCS recipients of the Legislative Staff Achievement Award. It was a pleasure to present the awards to Denise and Gwen at our staff luncheon. Susan Schaar, Chief Clerk of the Virginia Senate, was also a recipient of the Legislative Staff Achievement Award as Vice Chair of NCSL Standing Committees. They all are more than deserving of these honors. Thank you again to the Legislative Staff Achievement Award Committee: Janet Jones, JoAnn Hedrick and Pat Saville.

Mason’s Manual Committee elected John Phelps to serve as Chair and Butch Speer as Vice Chair of the committee. It is going to be very busy for the next several years and I appreciate everyone on the committee for committing to take the time required to work on this very intense committee.

The Executive Committee unanimously awarded the Betty King Scholarship for the Legislative Staff Management Institute to John Garrett and Penny Cabaniss. John and Penny are both very deserving of these scholarships and what they learn at LSMI can be shared with other ASLCS members in a variety of ways.

Thanks again to the Executive Committee, the Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs for all the work done this year. I was always kept well informed on work being done by the committees. There are more people in each state who worked behind the scenes, and they deserve our deep appreciation as well.

Norman Moore, Charmion Billington, the Arizona staff and the 60th Diamond Jubilee Committee, chaired by Denise Weeks, have all worked hard on the Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. Cheryl Laube and Norma Chastain have finished the new attendee pamphlet and the final plans for the new attendee meeting. Everyone should have a great time.

Jeannine Wood and Pamm Juker have worked very hard on the Roster this year. Everyone should have received a copy of the Roster in August. The committee will present recommendations to the Executive Committee at the Annual Seminar in Scottsdale, AZ on how to reduce expenses in publishing the Roster. Hopefully the changes will make it easier for smaller states to chair and publish the Roster.

Annette Moore and her committee have continued their very hard work to produce the Professional Journal and have made recommendations to the Executive Committee on how to reduce publishing expenses.

George Bishop and his committee have been extremely busy. We hope that revisions of the Bylaws and Standing orders along with new indexing will make the documents more user friendly. Also all the work in updating Publication Standards and Voting by Proxies was very time consuming but well worth it. These Bylaws changes will be presented to the membership in Scottsdale, AZ during our business luncheon.

Millie MacFarland continued this year as Chair of Inside the Legislative Process. The committee is ending its two year commitment and the publication is at completion. Thank you so much for keeping this on track.
Patsy Spaw and her committee updated and published the International Directory. Work on an internship program with the Mexican Clerks Association (ANOMAC) has been completed. Special thanks to Carmela Bills for her wonderful communication skills and continuing to keep us in contact with ANOMAC.

Burney Durham and the Site Selection Committee surveyed the membership to find out if anyone was interested in hosting the 2005 ASLCS Annual Meeting. Right now it looks like the 2005 Annual Meeting will be a no-host meeting.

I can’t thank Diane Bell, Chair of the Program Development Committee; Tara Perkinson, Chair of Support Staff Committee; and Scott Maddrea, Chair of Technology and Innovation Committee and their committee members enough for all the work done to make the program for our Annual Seminar fantastic. I don’t know many people as organized and focused as Diane, Tara and Scott.

This is the last Legislative Administrator Joe Blough, Mike Fina and Larry Cottingham will publish. I really appreciate the time commitment you made in doing the Legislative Administrator this year. I believe the new Publication Standards that the committee recommended and were approved by the Executive Committee will save the Society money and make it easier for smaller states to consider chairing and publishing the Legislative Administrator.

A special thanks to Denise Weeks, Jeff Finch, Susan Schaar, Pat Saville, and J. R. Rodrigue who chaired special committees and too their committee members as well. A lot of work was done by the committees including formulating a budget and revenue resource committee, planning an ASLCS/International Concurrent Session held at the NCSL Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, planning our 60th Diamond Jubilee and our no-host meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, 2004.

With all the new ideas and work that Bill Addison and Mary Monahan have been developing to make our 2004 Annual Seminar a success, the meeting has really become a Maryland Annual Seminar Meeting instead of a no-host meeting. ASLCS can not thank you enough for all you have done. The plans so far sound fantastic. Keep up the good work.

In August, along with Patsy Spaw and Carmela Bills, I attended the Seventh National Meeting of the Association of Chief Clerks of Mexico’s State Legislatures and the Federal District of Mexico (ANOMAC) in Cuernavaca Morelos, Mexico. I was able to present to ANOMAC the ASLCS/ANOMAC Working Together 2003 Internship Program for them to approve. This program will enhance the relationship between ASLCS and ANOMAC and provide an opportunity to exchange knowledge of the legislative process to the benefit of our respective chambers.

Also in August, along with J. R. Rodrigue and JoAnn Hedrick, I attended the Canadian Clerks at the Table for their annual meeting in Quebec City, Canada. I am happy to report our long-standing relations with the Canadian Clerks is still thriving. The meetings were most informative. It also was a wonderful opportunity for J. R. and JoAnn to visit with the Canadian Clerks and complete plans for the Joint Canadian/American Meeting being held October 11-12, 2003, in Wilmington, Delaware.

What stands out most in my mind about the meetings with other countries is that even though our governments are different, we still have many of the same problems. We are expecting representatives from ANOMAC, ALTELCA, ANZACATT, SALSA and Canadian Clerks at the Table to attend the ASLCS Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona in September.

I am honored that you had the faith and confidence in me to allow me the extraordinary opportunity to lead and represent you this year. It is a year I will always remember and an experience I will cherish.

Thanks to all of you for making my term as President so special. I look forward to celebrating the 60th Diamond Jubilee with all of you in Scottsdale, Arizona. I love you all!

Ann Cornwell, President
American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries
Secretary of the Senate/Senate Fiscal Officer
Arkansas
Donald J. Schneider  
Wisconsin Senate Chief Clerk Retires

Donald J. Schneider retired as Chief Clerk of the Wisconsin Senate on July 4, 2003. Don served as Chief Clerk since 1977, having been unanimously elected by both Democrat and Republican majorities in the Senate. Senate Majority Leader Mary Panzer, in announcing Don’s retirement, called him “the heart and history of the Senate.”

Don served the Wisconsin Senate longer than any other Chief Clerk in the history of the state. In 26.5 years he served with 109 Senators. “The length of Don Schneider’s tenure is a testament to the even-handed, non-partisan way he managed the Senate,” said Panzer. “Trying times would have been much more difficult without the continuity and professionalism he brought to the office.”

Don was a driving force in the modernization and automation of the Wisconsin Legislature, developing the use of technology in the legislative process and automating legislative offices. He modernized business practices to increase efficiency and accessibility to the public. These innovations increased the capacity of the Senate to deal with the complexity of the issues of today’s society.

Schneider is nationally recognized as a Parliamentarian and a leader in legislative organization and is internationally recognized as an expert on legislative institution building. Don has traveled to Central America, the Middle East, Africa, and Europe to aid developing democracies.

“We are proud that, through the finest Chief Clerk in the nation, Wisconsin has aided the transition to democracy for people around the world,” said Panzer.

National recognition for Don’s commitment, innovation and service include his 1998 receipt of the Joseph A. Beek Distinguished Service Award from the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries. Don served as President of ASLCS in 1983-84 and Staff Chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures in 1992-93.

In 1995, Don took a leadership role in hosting the National Conference of State Legislatures Annual Meeting in Milwaukee and twice hosted the Professional Development Seminar for the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries in Madison.

Prior to his election as Senate Chief Clerk, Don was employed by the Wisconsin State Assembly, where he served as Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms from 1973-1976.
In August 2003, we had the honor to attend the 14th edition of the Legislative Staff Management Institute, also known as “LSMI”. Each year, LSMI is held at the University of Minnesota’s Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs located on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Fourteen years ago, in response to a competition held by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the Humphrey Institute earned the duty of hosting LSMI, which is the capstone of legislative staff training. In 2001, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the Humphrey Institute among the top public affairs schools at public universities. NCSL also supports LSMI by supplying faculty to the program. The only difference in this year’s edition was LSMI was only eight days rather than the twelve-day schedule for previous sessions.

The American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries had 3 members attending; Penny Cabaniss, Journal Clerk of the Virginia House of Delegates, Paul Campos, Deputy Clerk of the Washington State Senate, and John McE. Garrett, Deputy Clerk of the Virginia Senate. Other NCSL staff sections represented in the class were the Leadership Staff, the National Association of Legislative Information Technology, the National Legislative Program Evaluation Society, and the Research and Committee Staff Section.

The program began on Saturday with an urban planner’s tour of Minneapolis, which received good reviews from the students, and presented another way of looking at how cities develop and use their resources. The evening ended with a dinner, followed by a talk by Alan Rosenthal entitled “The Damn Thing Works”. Rosenthal’s point was clear: in spite of the different procedures and different barriers that state legislatures face; they do work.

Classes began on Sunday, August 2 and continued through midmorning Saturday, August 9. Classroom activity started at 8:30 and ended around 4:30 each day. In addition to faculty from the Humphrey Institute, Karl Kurtz from NCSL led sessions on the negative public perceptions faced by legislatures and various measures to counter them and on the legislatures of the future. Other LSMI courses included: ethics, managing conflict, self-renewal, elements of negotiation, management principles, and alternative ways to view organizational structures. The method of instruction included readings from the U. S. Constitution, chapters from books on organization principles, articles on state legislatures, and noted political addresses.

LSMI ended on Saturday with an overview of the week, and we all agreed that we had learned concepts and ideas from the Institute that will apply in both our professional and personal lives. We have also gained a new set of comrades from Alaska to Hawaii. As this article is written, we are already exchanging e-mails about our experiences and our futures.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the Society for reimbursing our chambers for one-half of the tuition costs. In these times of budget constraints, it was an asset to have this participation by the Society.
Two ASLCS Members Recognized In San Francisco

By Scott Hancock/Oklahoma House of Reps. Media Staff

Staff clerks from two eastern states were presented with an annual 2003 Legislative Staff Achievement Award for demonstrating excellence in supporting the work of a state legislature and strengthening the legislative institution.

Denise G. Weeks, principal clerk of the North Carolina House of Representatives, and Gwen Bailey, assistant clerk of the Virginia state Senate, were recognized by the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries for outstanding contributions to their respective state legislatures and distinguished service to the ASLCS.

Weeks, a former ASLCS president in 1998-99, has been employed in the Legislature for 20 years and as principal clerk of the North Carolina House of Representative for the last 10 years.

Bailey started her legislative career 20 years ago. She was appointed assistant clerk of the Virginia Senate in 1990 and is responsible for the highly respected Senate page program.

Both award winners have shown devotion to improving the effectiveness and maintaining the integrity of the legislative institution.
Schedule for ASLCS Meeting in Phoenix

**Saturday, September 6**
Pre-Registration 3:00pm-7:00pm

**Sunday, September 7**
Registration 8:00am-4:00pm
Coffee Service 8:00am-9:30am
Nominating Committee 9:30am-11:30am
2003 Executive Committee Meeting 11:30am - 1:30pm
Opening Plenary 2:00pm – 4:00 pm (Amy Whitten)
New Attendee Orientation 4:30pm-6:00pm
Dessert Reception 8:30pm-11:00pm

**Monday, September 8**
Registration 8:00am-4:00pm
Continental Breakfast 8:00am-9:30am
Staff Group Breakouts (Eleven Sessions) 9:00am – 11:00am
Lunch on your own 11:00am-1:00pm
Concurrent Sessions 1:15pm-2:45pm 3 Sessions
Concurrent Sessions 3:00pm – 4:30pm 3 Sessions
State Event Pinnacle Peak 5:45pm-9:15pm

**Tuesday, September 9**
Registration 8:00am-4:00pm
Tour of the Arizona Capitol 8:30am –12pm (Breakfast on your own)
Mason’s Manual Commission Meeting 2:00pm-4:00pm
Dinner on your own

**Wednesday, September 10**
Registration 8:00am-4:00pm
Continental Breakfast 8:00am-9:30am
Plenary Session 9:30am-12:00pm (Randy Lowry)
Business Meeting/Awards Luncheon 12:15pm-2:30pm
Concurrent Sessions 2:45pm-4:00pm 3 Sessions
Volleyball Game 4:15pm-5:30pm
Dinner on your own

**Thursday, September 11**
Registration 8:00am-4:00pm
Continental Breakfast 8:00am-9:30am
Committee Chair Transition Meeting 8:30am-9:00am
Plenary Session 9:15am-12:15pm (Devon Hansen)
Lunch on your own 12:15pm-1:30pm
2003-04 Committee Meetings 1:45pm-4:00pm
State Dinner Dance 6:30pm-11:00pm

**Friday, September 12**
Information Desk 8:00am-10:00am
Breakfast- Business Meeting 8:30am-10:00am
2003-04 Executive Committee Meeting 10:00am-12:00pm
Meeting Adjourned 12:00pm
Executive Committee Minutes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
July 24, 2003 – San Francisco, California

Call to Order

President Ann Cornwell called the meeting of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries Executive Committee to order.

Quorum

Members present:

Ann Cornwell, President
Norman Moore, President-Elect
Bruce Jamerson, Secretary-Treasurer
Donna Doyle, Associate Vice-President
J. R. Rodrigue, Elected Principal
Carmela Bills, Elected Associate
Laura Clemens, Appointed Principal
Annette Moore, Appointed Principal
Marilyn Eddins, Appointed Associate
Dowe Littleton, Appointed Associate

A quorum was present.

NCSL Staff present:
Joan Barilla

Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, held March 15, 2003 in Columbus, Ohio. Carmela Bills moved that the minutes from this meeting be approved. Laura Clemens seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Treasurer’s Report

Bruce Jamerson presented the Treasurer’s Report for the period of November 16, 2002 through July 24, 2003. He reported that since March 15, 2003, dues payments totaling $7,450.00 had been received. No disbursements were made for the period March 15-July 24, 2003. J. R. Rodrigue moved that the Treasurer’s Report be adopted. Annette Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.
Executive Committee Minutes

Treasure’s Report
ASLCS Dues Account as of July 24, 2003
2003 NCSL\ASLCS Meeting - San Francisco

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance as of March 15, 2003</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Deposits</td>
<td>$7,450.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Disbursements</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BALANCE as of March 15, 2003</strong></td>
<td><strong>$55,117.36</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**Deposits for 2003 Dues**

- 3/21/2003 $3,000.00
- 4/10/2003 $550.00
- 4/29/2003 $2,050.00
- 5/15/2003 $850.00
- 5/30/2003 $450.00
- 6/11/2003 $500.00
- 7/01/2003 $50.00

**Total Deposits for Dues since March 15, 2003** $7,450.00

**Disbursements**

**Total Disbursements since November 16, 2003** $0.00

**Balance as of July 24, 2003** $55,117.36

Old Business

**ASLCS Financial Report**

Joan Barilla, NCSL staff liaison to ASLCS, reported that the balance in the ASLCS **Shared Profits Account** as of July 24, 2003, was $5,718.45. A deposit of $47.00, reflecting FY 2003 interest is included in this balance. Future expenditures from this account would include printing costs for *Inside the Legislative Process* and the awarding of the Betty King Scholarship for attendance at LSMI. Ms. Barilla reminded the Committee that the splitting of the profits from the Annual Professional Development Seminar with NCSL funds this account. As a result, the balance of this account will be small by November 2003.

New Business

Update on 2003 Annual Meeting by Host Committee
Norman Moore reported on the successful fundraising efforts for the 2003 Annual Meeting by the Arizona Host Committee. He recognized and expressed appreciation to Susan Clarke Schaar for her fundraising efforts on the Virginia front, as well as the fundraising efforts, on behalf of the Society by Ann Cornwell and Denise Weeks.

2004 No-Host Committee Presentation
J. R. Rodrigue, Chair of the 2004 No-Host Committee introduced Mary Monahan, Clerk of the Maryland House of Delegates. Mary previewed with the Committee “A Come to Maryland” CD that Maryland plans to show at the September Professional Development Seminar. Mary also reported on fund raising efforts and planned activities for the 2004 meeting.

Membership and Communications Committee
Cheryl Laube briefed the Committee on her Committee’s plans for New Attendees at the Scottsdale meeting. Activities include a license plate game, as well as a member game. The member game will require new attendees to identify current Society members from clues that will be given to them. Cheryl requested that her committee be given two Society clocks for use as prizes, as well as a supply of Society pins (non-member pins) to be given to new attendees. Carmela Bills moved that these requests be approved. Dowe Littleton seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Bylaws Committee
George Bishop, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, presented the following proposal (#1) from the Bylaws Committee to amend Articles I and VIII of the Bylaws so as to clarify Associates voting at the Annual Business Meeting.

Proposal #1: Amend the Bylaws of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries as follows:

BYLAWS
of the
American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries

ARTICLE I

NAME—The name of the organization shall be “The American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries”.

PURPOSE—The purpose of the Society shall be to improve the administrative and parliamentary effectiveness of State Legislatures and to develop better procedures for enhancing the lawmaking function.

ASLCS SEAL—The Seal of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries shall be a circle with a white center section and an outer band of dark blue.
Within the white center section shall be a gavel and quill device outlined in gold and filled with dark blue. A dark blue horizontal line across the center section shall appear directly under the gavel and quill. The phrase “founded 1943” shall appear beneath the horizontal line.

Across the top third of the outer band of dark blue shall be the words “American Society” in gold bordered on each side by gold stars. On the bottom two-thirds of the outer band shall be the words “Legislative Clerks and Secretaries” in gold.

MEMBERS—The membership shall be composed of the duly elected or appointed legislative Clerks and Secretaries of the fifty states and the insular possessions and territories of the United States of America.

Legislative employees designated by the Clerks and Secretaries may be associate members. The names of associate members shall be submitted in writing by the appropriate appointing authority to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society and shall be officially recorded. An associate member shall remain a member until such time as the appointing authority or a successor shall order in writing that the name of the associate member be removed from the record. Any former member of the Society may maintain an associate membership by notifying the Secretary-Treasurer and paying yearly dues at the associate level. Associate members shall be non-voting members except as provided in (b) and (c) below.

A voting member shall be one of the following:

(a) the duly elected or appointed Clerk and Secretary of each legislative body of the fifty states and the insular possessions and territories of the United States of America; and

(b) the Chief, Assistant or Deputy Clerk or Secretary, or a person in an equivalent position as determined by the appropriate legislative body, and

(b) one associate member of each legislative body of the fifty states and the insular possessions and territories of the United States of America, determined by using the following criteria, in the order listed:

(c) a voting (1) an associate member of the Executive Committee not otherwise qualified

Secretary, or

(2) an associate member as designated by the appropriate Clerk or Secretary.

VOTING—Each legislative body of the fifty states, the insular possessions and the territories shall have two votes, which shall be cast by the voting members of that body, or an appointed proxy from that body. A proxy appointed from that body by the Chief Clerk or Secretary. The Executive Committee shall determine the appropriate method by which proxies are appointed.

DUES—Dues shall be annually assessed of all principal and associate members in an amount to be determined by the Executive Committee.
Associate member of the Executive Committee. The name of the President-elect shall be recommended by the Nominating Committee for the office of President provided the President-elect is qualified and willing to be recommended.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS**—The Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting of the Society. If a copy of proposed amendments is mailed to the membership with the official notice of the meeting, a majority vote of the members present and voting shall be required for passage. If prior notice is not given, a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting shall be required.

as of 9/17/01

9/10/03

George also presented the following proposal (#2) from his Committee for changes to the Standing Orders by adding a new Section XXIII related to Voting By Proxy at the Annual Business Meeting.

**Proposal #2**

Amend the Standing Orders of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries by adding the following Section:

**Section XXIII: VOTING BY PROXY**

A Chief Clerk or Secretary may designate a proxy to vote at the Annual Business Meeting in his or her absence. To properly designate a proxy, a Chief Clerk or Secretary shall complete the ASLCS Proxy Form and submit it to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LEGISLATIVE CLERKS AND SECRETARIES**

**VOTING PROXY**

PRINCIPAL MEMBER

__________________________

Principal signature

__________________________

Date

Return the completed proxy to the Secretary/Treasurer prior to the business meeting.
Executive Committee Minutes

After much discussion regarding these two proposals Dowe Littleton moved acceptance of these changes to the Bylaws and to the Standing Orders. Laura Clemens seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Norman Moore moved that the following amendment be made to Article I of the Bylaws:

MEMBERS—The membership shall be composed of the duly elected or appointed legislative Clerks and Secretaries of the fifty states and the insular possessions and territories of the United States of America.

Legislative employees designated by the Clerks and Secretaries may be associate members upon payment of dues. The names of associate members shall be submitted in writing by the appropriate appointing authority to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society and shall be officially recorded. An associate member shall remain a member until such time as the appointing authority or a successor shall order in writing that the name of the associate member be removed from the record. Any former member of the Society may maintain an associate membership by notifying the Secretary-Treasurer and paying yearly dues at the associate level. Associate members shall be non-voting members except as provided in (b) and (c) below.

Laura Clemens seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

On behalf of the Bylaws Committee, Joe Blough presented the following changes to the Publication Standards of the Legislative Administrator.

THE LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATOR

Section 1. The newsletter of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries shall be known as The Legislative Administrator.

Section 2. The newsletter shall be produced published on three (3) occasions annually.

A. The first issue shall be produced published as soon as practical following the Professional Development Seminar for the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, but before the spring meeting. This issue shall be styled the “winter” edition and shall be made available on the ASLCS web site.

1. The content of this issue shall include, but is not limited to: a review of the Professional Development Seminar; reports of the several committees which met during the meeting; membership rosters of the several committees for the new year; a president’s report; any pertinent news about members of the Society and the profession of legislative staff; and information about the spring meeting of the Society.

2. At the discretion of the Legislative Administrator Committee chairperson, the committee meeting minutes from the winter meeting may shall be included in either the winter or spring edition

B. The second issue shall be produced published as soon as practical following the spring meeting of the Society, but before the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting. This issue shall be styled the “spring” edition and shall be made available on the ASLCS web site.

1. The content of this issue shall include, but is not limited to: a review of the spring meeting; reports of the several committees which met during the spring meeting; membership rosters of the several committees; a president’s report; any pertinent news about members of the Society and the profession of legislative staff; and information about Society activities scheduled for the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting.

C. The third, and final, issue of the year shall be produced and published as soon as possible after the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting, but before the Society’s Professional Development Seminar. This issue shall be styled as the “summer” issue and shall be made available both in print and on the ASLCS web site.

1. The content of this issue shall include, but is not limited to, a review of Society activities during the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting; reports of the several committees which met during the meeting; membership rosters of the several committees; a president’s report; any pertinent news about members of the Society and the profession of legislative staff; and information, including a tentative schedule, about the Society’s Professional Development Seminar; and a review of the “winter” and “spring” meetings.
Section 3.   A. Society members are encouraged to submit articles and information to the editor of *The Legislative Administrator* that would be of a personal or professional interest to other Society members.

B. The editor of the newsletter shall have the final authority, pursuant to these standards, as to the content of each edition of the newsletter.

Section 4.   A. The paper on which the newsletter is to be published shall be of a high grade bond quality, with a card stock to be used for the cover.

B. The newsletter is to be printed so that each page is eight and one-half by eleven (8½ x 11) inches, portrait formatting.

Section 5.   A. A copy of each *the “summer”* edition of the newsletter shall be mailed to each dues-paying Principal member of the Society and to each dues-paying Associate member of the Society. Other interested parties may receive the newsletter. A complimentary copy of the newsletter shall be mailed to contributors and sponsors of the Professional Development Seminar and other interested parties as directed by the Executive Committee.

B. A limited version of each edition of the newsletter shall be placed on that area of the National Conference of State Legislatures’ site on the World Wide Web allocated for use by the Society. It is the intent of the Society that *The Legislative Administrator* Internet Edition be available only to those lawmakers and staff granted access to the private side of the NCSL web site.

1. The components of *The Legislative Administrator* that should be placed on the NCSL Internet site are: reviews of recent meetings of the Society, the president’s report, information about upcoming meetings of the Society, including—but not limited to—tentative schedules for the meeting; pertinent features on retiring Society members; editor’s notes; other appropriate items as determined by the editor of the newsletter; and photographs accompanying such articles.

2. All components of the Internet editions of the newsletter shall be formatted in a manner to allow quick and complete loading of the pages.

3. The Internet version of *The Legislative Administrator* is not intended to be a replacement for the published version distributed to Society members and patrons; instead, it is a complement to the published version designed to augment the Society’s presence on the World Wide Web.

Section 6. *The Legislative Administrator* will be produced within the budget authorized by the Executive Committee. Any costs in excess of the approved budget must be authorized in advance by the Executive Committee.

Section 7. The standards set forth in Sections One (1) through Seven (7) shall be in effect until the ASLCS Professional Development Seminar in 2006. At the first meeting of the newly-formed Executive Committee, the Legislative Administrator Committee shall propose publication standards for the newsletter, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

In addition, Joe Blough also presented the following change to the Publication Standards for the ASLCS Web Site, and changes to Section VIII of the Standing Orders.

**ASLCS WEB SITE**

Section 2.

The maintenance of the web site is an ongoing affair. Updates to the site should occur on the following schedule:

Legislative Administrator – within *two (2) working days of receipt*, three weeks of publication of print version.
Section VIII: DUES

Mailings of the Administrator. Each All dues-paying principal and every dues-paying associate shall be mailed, in their name, a copy of the "summer" edition of the Administrator.

Discussion followed after Mr. Blough’s presentation. Laura Clemens moved to strike “two” and insert “five” in Section 2 of the Publication Standards for the ASLCS Web Site. Dowe Littleton seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Laura Clemens moved that the changes be adopted as amended. Dowe Littleton seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

George Bishop made the final recommendation from the Bylaws Committee that the following, written by John Phelps, Clerk of the Florida House of Representatives be made the Preface for the Society’s Standing Orders:

Preface to the Standing Orders

Upon becoming President of ASLCS in 1992, I learned that many of the business practices and policies of prior Executive Committees had been passed along from year to year only by word of mouth. In most situations, word of mouth would suffice but in hard or ambiguous cases it did not. Faced with a difficult issue, Presidents and Executive Committees often spent valuable time finding someone who remembered how a question had been previously addressed and why. The system of Standing Orders was conceived to solve this problem.

The Bylaws are the Society’s constitution. Standing Orders bear the same relationship to our Bylaws as statutory law does to a constitution, i.e. they are a written body of policy continuing in force unless amended or repealed by act of a present or future Executive Committee.

The Standing Orders have the added benefit of fostering a more open and transparent relationship between the Executive Committee and the membership.

John Phelps
Clerk, Florida House of Representatives

J. R. Rodrigue moved that this text become the Preface for the Standing Orders. Norman Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Professional Journal Committee

Annette Moore, Chair of the Professional Journal Committee, recommended that future editions of the Professional Journal be made available on line, with one copy being provided to each Principal, Legislative libraries and the Society’s archives. She advised that the results from a recent survey indicated that 162 favored receiving the Journal on line, while 34 respondents preferred a hard copy. Dowe Littleton moved that a request for changes to the Bylaws be made at the Scottsdale meeting. Laura Clemens seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Annette Moore also requested that the Utah Senate be reimbursed $1,511.39 from the Dues Account for the cost for supplies (mailing envelopes), printing and postage for the Spring Edition of the Professional Journal. Carmela Bills moved that the Utah Senate be reimbursed $1,511.39 for costs related to the production and distribution of the Spring Edition of the Professional Journal. Donna Doyle seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.
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International Communication & Development Committee
No report was received from this Committee.

LSMI-Betty King Scholarship Award Candidates
Penny Cabaniss of the Virginia House of Delegates and John Garrett of the Virginia Senate have applied and been accepted to this year’s LSMI program. Laura Clemens moved that 50% of each of their tuition be covered through a Betty King Scholarship. Marilyn Eddins seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

Site Selection 2005
Burney Durham, Chair of the Site Selection Committee, advised of his Committee’s efforts to obtain a location for the 2005 Annual Professional Development Seminar. He reported that his committee reviewed the reports of the three surveys previously sent out dealing with site selection issues, and noted that, at this time, no state had expressed an interest in hosting the 2005 annual meeting. Site Selection discussed potential No-Host Sites, and decided to research airfares to and from various cities, as well as hotel rates for various cities. This information could be helpful to the committee if choosing a No-Host Site became the only viable option.

Technology and Innovation Committee
Scott Maddrea, Chair of the Technology and Innovation Committee recommended on behalf of his committee that the following text be sent in a letter to Sharon Crouch Steidel, Chair, LSCC Technology Task Force:

“The National Bill Status and Tracking System is an invaluable tool that will streamline the legislative research process immensely by greatly reducing the amount of time it takes to compare notes with other states. The American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries strongly supports the NCSL’s National Bill Status and Tracking System and encourages every state legislature to provide the necessary information in order for this service to be available to all legislators and staff, and covering all 50 state legislatures.”

Carmela Bills moved that the text be accepted and that a letter containing such language be sent to Sharon Crouch Steidel, Chair, LSCC Technology Task Force. Donna Doyle seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote. President Cornwell will send the letter to Ms. Crouch Steidel.

Update on Scottsdale Meeting
Norm Moore advised the Committee that Arizona is looking forward to hosting the Society’s Professional Development Seminar in Scottsdale in September. He encouraged everyone that could to be in attendance.

Other Business

Requests for Reimbursements
Bruce Jamerson reported that he had received a request from Ann Cornwell for reimbursement in the amount of $973.90 for her attendance at the LSCC meeting in Quebec, Canada, May 1-4, 2003. Bruce moved that Ann be reimbursed this amount. Norman Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Bruce Jamerson also reported that he had received a request from Gwen Bailey that the Virginia Senate Clerk’s Office (Treasurer of Virginia) be reimbursed for expenses she incurred as a result of her participation in the Associate Exchange Program, April 28-May 1, 2003 with the Oklahoma Senate. Bruce made a motion that the Virginia Senate Clerk’s Office be reimbursed the maximum amount of $250.00. Laura Clemens seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.

Revenue Resource Committee
Susan Clarke Schaar presented on behalf of this committee presented the following report:

• Eliminate either Winter or Spring Meeting (up to the President as to which one to eliminate)
Executive Committee Minutes

- Increase Dues (not increased since 1996)
  $75.00-Associates
  $150.00-Principals

- Recommends that a Finance Committee be established composed of at least five members who can raise funds for ASLCS and including the Secretary-Treasurer. This committee would compile a database of lobbyists nationally to be contacted annually for fundraising by the President and Joan Barilla. The Finance Committee would be responsible for maintaining and updating the database including the contact names.

- Registration fee for the Annual Professional Development Seminar to be kept at $325 for the next couple of years
- Evaluate length and location of future meetings

Pat Saville also advised that this committee offers for consideration the combining of the Special Budget and Finance Committees and make such a standing committee.

Adjournment
Norman Moore moved that the Executive Committee be adjourned. Carmela Bills seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous consent on voice vote.
Technology and innovation

The Technology and Innovation Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003 in San Francisco, California. The Chair, Scott Maddrea, called the meeting to order. Members present were:

Judy Barrows, ME  Bruce Jamerson, VA  Mitchell Bailey, WV
Dave Gibson, VT  Steve Marshall, VT  Ron Smith, LA
Jay Hartz, KY

Judy Barrows moved that the minutes of the March 15, 2003, meeting held in Columbus, Ohio be approved. The motion was seconded by Bruce Jamerson and unanimously agreed to.

The Committee also discussed the status of panels for the concurrent session for the 2003 Annual Professional Development Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona.

a. Managing Legislative Websites and How to Improve Them - what criteria are used in compiling the annual rankings of legislative websites and what legislatures can do to improve their scores;

b. Wireless Technologies - getting away from computers and laptops, trying to focus on the “other” wireless technologies. ... the new wave of Palm Pilots, Blackberrys, etc.; and

c. The Evolution of Technology - keeping with the anniversary theme, looking at the historical evolution of legislative technologies.

The chair appealed to committee members who were interested in volunteering to serve as panelists or moderators.

The committee re-examined the NCSL Bill Status Project and the statements of support that have been submitted from other staff sections. The committee had previously discussed submitting a statement of support to the Executive Committee for its approval and submission to NCSL at the March meeting but delayed that decision until the meeting in San Francisco in order to give members of the committee an opportunity to evaluate the Bill Status Project and submit feedback to the full committee. Proposed language was circulated by the chair, and briefly debated. The committee then unanimously recommended that the following statement be recommended to the ASLCS Executive Committee at its business meeting on Thursday, “The National Bill Status and Tracking System is an invaluable tool that will streamline the legislative research process immensely by greatly reducing the amount of time it takes to compare notes will other states. The American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries strongly supports the NCSL’s National Bill Status and Tracking System and encourages every state legislature to provide the necessary information in order for this service to be available to all legislators and staff, and covering all 50 state legislatures.”

The chair reminded members that at 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday, a concurrent session was being held to update meeting attendees of the status and look of the new NCSL website and the National Bill Status and Tracking System. Committee members were urged to attend if at all possible.

The next meeting of the committee was set for the ASLCS Annual Professional Development Seminar in Scottsdale, Arizona in September.

There being no further business before the committee, a motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn the meeting.
The ASLCS Committee on Bylaws and Standing Orders met at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, California, on July 21, 2003. The chairman, George Bishop, called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

- Bo Hoover, WV
- Joe Blough, OK
- Yvette Ballantyne, WV
- Greg Grey, WV
- Susan Schaar, VA
- Carmela Bills, WV
- Cheryl Laube, AZ
- Norm Moore, AR
- Karl Lilly, WV
- Diane Bell, FL
- Ann Cornwell, AR
- Denise Weeks, NC
- Carole Peterson, UT
- Karen Wadsworth, NH
- Dowe Littleton, AL

The minutes from the committee meeting in Columbus, Ohio, were distributed. Carmela Bills moved that the minutes be approved. Diane Bell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Carole Peterson began a discussion by asking questions about the proposals that were agreed to at the Columbus meeting regarding proxy voting and the designation of associates as voting members. After a lengthy discussion, Susan Schaar moved that the committee reconsider the vote by which the two proposals were passed in Columbus. Diane Bell seconded the motion. The motion carried. After further discussion on the proposals, Susan Schaar moved that the proposals be adopted without amendment. Denise Weeks seconded the motion. The motion passed with one dissenting vote. (See Minutes from March 15 meeting for complete language of the proposals as passed.)

The committee received a report from Joe Blough, Co-Chair of the Legislative Administrator Committee, outlining a proposal to modify the Standing Orders and Publication Standards regarding the publication of the Society’s newsletter. The Executive Committee had passed a motion in New Orleans that asked the Bylaws and Standing Orders Committee to:

“study, in conjunction with the Legislative Administrator Committee, possible changes to the Standing Orders and Publications Standards to allow for the publication/printing of a single ‘yearly issue’ of The Legislative Administrator. The study should include, but not be limited to the following issues:

1. Moving from three (3) published/printed issues to a single ‘yearly issue’ printed following the NCSL Annual Meeting;
2. Using the Internet as the sole distribution method for the winter and spring issues;
3. Changes to language requiring that every dues-paying member be mailed a copy of The Legislative Administrator, i.e. make receiving a copy an option upon request; and

That the Bylaws Committee shall report its findings not later than the Executive Committee Meeting to be held in San Francisco.”

Joe Blough had presented a working draft to the committee at the Columbus meeting, and it was decided at that time that he and the Chair of the Bylaws Committee should work together to draft a proposal for the committee to consider in San Francisco. Joe Blough distributed this new proposal to the committee and explained its contents. A lively discussion ensued. The major topic of the debate was the section of the new draft that allowed the Executive Committee to determine each year, based on the recommendation of the Legislative Administrator Committee, how many issues to print and how many issues to post only on-line. It was the consensus of the committee that the Publication Standards should specify a publication schedule that is consistent from year to year. However, some on the committee were of the opinion that we
should not entirely eliminate the possibility of returning to three printed editions of the Administrator in the future if it was the desire of the Society to do so. Susan Schaar offered a compromise in which the language regarding publication schedules would return to the form found in the original draft. In addition, a “sunset clause” would be added as Section 7 to the Publication Standards for the Legislative Administrator so that the new publication schedule would be in effect until 2006, at which time the Administrator Committee would propose Publication Standards, subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

Karen Wadsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed. Karen Wadsworth then moved that the proposal as amended be agreed to and presented to the Executive Committee. Carole Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The language as agreed to by the committee is as follows:

THE LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATOR

Section 1. The newsletter of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries shall be known as The Legislative Administrator.

Section 2. The newsletter shall be **produced** published on three (3) occasions annually.
A. The first issue shall be **produced** published as soon as practical following the Professional Development Seminar for the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, but before the spring meeting. This issue shall be styled the “winter” edition **and shall be made available on the ASLCS web site**.
   1. The content of this issue shall include, but is not limited to: a review of the Professional Development Seminar; reports of the several committees which met during the meeting; membership rosters of the several committees for the new year; a president’s report; any pertinent news about members of the Society and the profession of legislative staff; and information about the spring meeting of the Society.
B. The second issue shall be **produced** published as soon as practical following the spring meeting of the Society, but before the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting. This issue shall be styled the “spring” edition **and shall be made available on the ASLCS web site**.
   1. The content of this issue shall include, but is not limited to: a review of the spring meeting; reports of the several committees which met during the meeting; membership rosters of the several committees; a president’s report; any pertinent news about members of the Society and the profession of legislative staff; and information about Society activities scheduled for the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting.
C. The third, and final, issue of the year shall be **produced and published** as soon as possible after the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting, but before the Society’s Professional Development Seminar. This issue shall be styled as the “summer” issue **and shall be made available both in print and on the ASLCS web site**.
   1. The content of this issue shall include, but is not limited to, a review of Society activities during the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Meeting; reports of the several committees which met during the meeting; membership rosters of the several committees; a president’s report; any pertinent news about members of the Society and the profession of legislative staff; and information, including a tentative schedule, about the Society’s Professional Development Seminar; **and a review of the “winter” and “spring” meetings**.

Section 3. A. Society members are encouraged to submit articles and information to the editor of The Legislative Administrator that would be of a personal or professional interest to other Society members.
   B. The editor of the newsletter shall have the final authority, pursuant to these standards, as to the content of each edition of the newsletter.

Section 4. A. The paper on which the newsletter is to be published shall be of a high grade bond quality, with a card stock to be used for the cover.
   B. The newsletter is to be printed so that each page is eight and one-half by eleven (8½ x 11) inches, portrait formatting.
Section 5.   A. A copy of each the “summer” edition of the newsletter shall be mailed to each dues-paying Principal member of the Society and to each dues-paying Associate member of the Society. Other interested parties may receive the newsletter. A complimentary copy of the newsletter shall be mailed to contributors and sponsors of the Professional Development Seminar and other interested parties as directed by the Executive Committee.

B. A limited version of each edition of the newsletter shall be placed on that area of the National Conference of State Legislatures’ site on the World Wide Web allocated for use by the Society. It is the intent of the Society that The Legislative Administrator-Internet Edition be available only to those lawmakers and staff granted access to the private side of the NCSL Web site.

1. The components of The Legislative Administrator that should be placed on the NCSL Internet site are: reviews of recent meetings of the Society; the president’s report; information about upcoming meetings of the Society, including but not limited to - tentative schedules for the meeting; pertinent features on retiring Society members; editor’s notes; other appropriate items as determined by the editor of the newsletter; and photographs accompanying such articles.

2. All components of the Internet editions of the newsletter shall be formatted in a manner to allow quick and complete loading of the pages.

3. The Internet version of The Legislative Administrator is not intended to be a replacement for the published version distributed to Society members and patrons; instead, it is a complement to the published version designed to augment the Society’s presence on the World Wide Web.

Section 6. The Legislative Administrator will be produced within the budget authorized by the Executive Committee. Any costs in excess of the approved budget must be authorized in advance by the Executive Committee.

Section 7. The standards set forth in Sections One (1) through Seven (7) shall be in effect until the ASLCS Professional Development Seminar in 2006. At the first meeting of the newly-formed Executive Committee, the Legislative Administrator Committee shall propose publication standards for the newsletter, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

Next, the chair submitted language that had been proposed in Columbus as a Preface to the official Standing Orders document. John Phelps, Chief Clerk of the Florida House, authored the text, the purpose of which is to explain the importance of the Standing Orders and draw a distinction between that document and the Bylaws. This was a recommendation from the previous committee that had been brought before the current committee by Susan Schaar, who was on hand to explain her proposal to the committee. Susan Schaar moved that the Committee recommend to the Executive Committee that the Preface to the Standing Orders be adopted. Denise Weeks seconded the motion. The motion passed. The language for the Preface to the Standing Orders, as passed by the committee, is as follows:

Preface to the Standing Orders
Upon becoming President of ASLCS in 1992, I learned that many of the business practices and policies of prior Executive Committees had been passed along from year to year only by word of mouth. In most situations, word of mouth would suffice but in hard or ambiguous cases it did not. Faced with a difficult issue, Presidents and Executive Committees often spent valuable time finding someone who remembered how a question had been previously addressed and why. The system of Standing Orders was conceived to solve this problem.

The Bylaws are the Society’s constitution. Standing Orders bear the same relationship to our Bylaws as statutory law does to a constitution, i.e. they are a written body of policy continuing in force unless amended or repealed by act of a present or future Executive Committee.

The Standing Orders have the added benefit of fostering a more open and transparent relationship between the Executive Committee and the membership.

- John Phelps  
Clerk, Florida House of Representatives

There being no more allotted meeting time remaining, the chair entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Diane Bell, and seconded by Denise Weeks. The motion carried. The committee adjourned at 3:05 pm.
The International Communication and Development Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003 in San Francisco, California. Carmela Bills, sitting in for Patsy Spaw, Chair, who was unable to attend the meeting due to Special Session in her state, called the meeting to order. The following members were present:

- Robert Altman, WV
- Dowe Littleton, AL
- Diane Bell, FL
- Carole Peterson, UT
- Deborah Davis, WV
- Denise Weeks, NC
- Bo Hoover, WV
- Yvette Ballantine, WV
- Annette Moore, UT
- Ann Cornwell, AR
- Susan Schaar, VA
- Dave Avant, AL
- Steve Marshall, VT
- Tom Bennett, WV
- J.R. Rodrigue, CO
- Greg Gray, WV

Dowe Littleton moved that the minutes of the Columbus, Ohio Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 15, 2003 be approved. Diane Bell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A copy of a memo and survey regarding the ASLCS/ANOMAC Working Together Program was distributed to the members at the meeting. Carmela Bills reported that this memo and survey, if approved by the committee, would be sent to all the Principals and Secretaries to inform them about the program and also find out who would be hosting an ANOMAC Clerk. After a brief discussion, Denise Weeks moved that the memo and survey be approved. Annette Moore seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Susan Schaar inquired whether ANOMAC had been contacted by SUNY regarding funding for the Mexicans to attend meetings in the United States. Carmela Bills reported that ANOMAC had not related any information regarding SUNY at this time.

It was also reported that ANOMAC will be having their 7th Annual Meeting in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico on August 20-24, 2003. Members from ASLCS that will be attending this meeting are Ann Cornwell, Patsy Spaw and Carmela Bills. It was also reported that Craig James and Charles MacKay will be representing the Canadians at this meeting.

Mary Jo Mongeli asked Carmela to report that the Scrapbook Committee had not finished their project and requested that this project be carried over to next year.

Carole Peterson inquired whether an original document regarding the creation of ANOMAC that was signed between ANOMAC and ALSCS in 1997 had been sent to the Archives. Carmela replied that this particular document had been sent to Archives several years ago.

With no further business before the Committee, Susan Schaar moved that the meeting adjourn; Carole Peterson seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.
The Legislative Administrator Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003 in San Francisco, CA. Mike Fina, sitting in for Joe Blough and Larry Cottingham, Co-Chairs, who were unable to attend the meeting, called the meeting to order. The following members were present:

   Bruce Jamerson, VA      Russell Humphrey, TN      Eleanor Ringel, WV
   Joan Barilla, NCSL Staff

Bruce Jamerson moved that the minutes of the Columbus, Ohio Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 15, 2003 be approved. Russell Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The committee discussed proposed changes to the Administrator distribution process.

1. Moving from three (3) published/printed issues to a single ‘yearly issue’ printed following the NCSL Annual Meeting;
2. Using the Internet as the sole distribution method for the winter and spring issues;
3. Changes to language requiring that every dues-paying member be mailed a copy of The Legislative Administrator, i.e. make receiving a copy an option upon request.

Those changes were approved by the By Laws Committee and ultimately passed by the Executive Committee in San Francisco.
The Canadian/American Relations Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003, in San Francisco, California. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, J. R. Rodrigue. In attendance were:

- Carole Peterson, UT
- Denise Weeks, NC
- Greg Grey, WV
- Deborah Davis, WV
- Dave Avant, AL.
- Deborah Deller, Ontario
- Norm Moore, AZ
- Bo Hoover, WV
- Tom Bennett, WV
- Yvette Ballantyne, WV
- Steve Marshall, VT
- Ann Cornwell, AR
- Robert Altmann, WV

The minutes from the meeting in Columbus, Ohio, were approved.

The agenda for the Joint Meeting scheduled for Oct 9-12 in Wilmington, Delaware, was discussed. The registration packets have been mailed to American and Canadian houses. With the registration fee and the money raised by Delaware it is expected that costs will be covered for this meeting. The opening ice-breaker session of compare and contrast has Canadian and American volunteers, Deb Deller and Claude DesRosiers vs Denise Weeks and Greg Gray. We have every hope that these teams will uphold and honor their traditions. NOT! What remains to be done is to select our session topics. We have suggestions that have been with us all year, and will be firmed up when your president Ann Cornwell and I attend the CATS meeting in Quebec August 11. There are no volunteers to either host or exchange staff. The time line for this exchange notification is the CATS meeting in August and the ASLCS meeting in Sept. Members were urged to let the chair know of interested persons by the tenth of August.

There being no other business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.
Support Staff

The Support Staff Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003, during the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California. The meeting was called to order with Chair Tara Perkinson, VA, presiding. Those in attendance:

Judy Barrows, ME    Donna Doyle, WI    Marilyn Eddins, CO
Jeff Finch, VA      Nathan Hatfield, VA  Scott Maddrea, VA

Minutes
A motion to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2003, Spring Meeting held in Columbus, Ohio, was made by Scott Maddrea (VA), and seconded by Judy Barrows (ME). The motion carried.

Associate Exchange Program
The Committee approved the revisions of the application form for the Associate Exchange Program in order to encourage more members to apply. (Applicants now will list their achievements instead of checking them off of a list.) The Chair will check with states that may host for the 2004 exchange. The Chair will prepare a handout for distribution to associates at the Fall Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Chair will also email members of ASLCS and encourage applications. Facilitators at the breakouts at the Fall Meeting will be asked to encourage associates to apply.

Position Description Database
The Chair thanked the subcommittee that solicited position description information: Gwen Bailey (VA), Judy Barrows (ME), Donna Doyle (WI), Marilyn Eddins (CO), Brad Hendrickson (WA), Maryann Horch (VA), Mike Linn (MN), and Scott Maddrea (VA). 46 chambers have replied, 11 for the first time. 64 chambers now have information in the database, with several more expected by the end of August. The Chair projected that roughly two-thirds of the chambers will have information in the database by the completion of the update.

Breakout and Concurrent Sessions
The Committee will offer three concurrent sessions for the 2003 Annual meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona: civic education (national programs), civic education (in-house programs and publications), and proofreading. The Chair will contact panelists and breakout moderators once a schedule is finalized and registrations are submitted.

Next Meeting
Chair Tara Perkinson noted that the next meeting of the Support Staff Committee will be held at the ASLCS Annual Meeting, September 7-12, 2003, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Adjournment
With no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned.
The meeting of the Professional Journal Committee was called to order by the Chair, Annette Moore, at 3:15 p.m. on Monday, July 21, 2003, in San Francisco, California. Members present at the meeting:

Judy Barrows, ME
Dave Gibson, VT
Scott Maddrea, VA
Sandy Tenney, UT

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 15 meeting in Columbus, Ohio, passed unanimously.

It was reported by the chair that to date five intern papers have been submitted—four from Arizona and one from Utah. Scott reported that at least two more papers can be expected from Virginia; and there may be one more from Utah. A final reminder was sent to intern coordinators reminding them of the August 1 deadline which may generate some new interest. Scott suggested that an announcement be made at a meeting of intern coordinators scheduled for Thursday, July 24, from 3 -5 p.m. to remind them again of the August 1 deadline. Sandy volunteered to take care of this.

There was a discussion about whether the current editorial board should decide which papers will be printed in the fall edition or leave that decision to the incoming board. It was determined that the current board would select several articles and recommend them to the new board.

Scott suggested that a “foreword” be added to the Journal which includes an explanation about the articles—the contest, comments from members of the editorial board as to what they found interesting about the papers, how they were selected, etc. Comments could even be obtained from the intern coordinators who submitted the papers indicating what they particularly liked about the articles chosen for publication.

Annette reported on the results of the survey sent out with the spring edition of the Journal asking respondents to (a) indicate their willingness to access the Journal online as a cost-saving measure or (b) indicate if they needed a hard copy. There were approximately 750 - 800 survey letters sent out. Of those, 162 said they would be willing to access it online and 34 said they needed a hard copy. These results will be reported to the Executive Committee.

Annette reported that Millie MacFarland had given her a copy of an article written by a house member from Maine regarding term limits. It will be passed on to next year’s Professional Journal Committee chair for possible publication in a future edition of the Journal.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.
Membership and Communication

The Membership and Communication Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003, in San Francisco, California. At 2:45 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Norma Chastain, Co-Chair, Arizona, presiding. The following members were present:

Cheryl Laube, AZ  Millie McFarland, ME  Burney Durham, TN  Karen Wadsworth, NH

Also in attendance:

Joan Barilla, NCSL Liaison to ASLCS

Minutes
Burney Durham, TN, moved that the minutes of the November 16, 2002, Winter Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana and the minutes from the March 15, 2003, Spring Meeting in Columbus, Ohio, be adopted. Motion carried.

New Attendee Orientation Theme and Activity
Plans were finalized for the New Attendee Orientation Activity for the Annual meeting to be held in Scottsdale. A discussion ensued on possible items to be awarded for the New Attendee icebreaker game and the “Locate a Member” activity.

Locate a Member Activity
The Locate a Member activity was discussed. Co-Chair Norma Chastain informed the committee that several changes were made to the game at the request of the members of the committee. No further changes were suggested by the committee. Co-Chair Cheryl Laube stated that New Attendees would turn in the “Lasso a Member Activity” at the “New Attendee Wrap-Up.” The New Attendee wrap-up session will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2003, at 4 p.m.

Sponsor Check List and Sponsor/Attendee Sign-in Sheet
A discussion was held regarding the Sponsor Check List and the Sponsor/Attendee Sign-in Sheet and the committee decided unanimously to keep them both. The Sponsor List will be sent out to each sponsor of a new attendee prior to the meeting in Scottsdale. The Sponsor/Attendee Sign-in Sheet will be at the registration table.

New Attendee Evaluations
Copies of the evaluations from the Annual meeting in Portland were handed out to the members of the committee for their review. It was determined that the New Attendee evaluations should continue. These evaluations should be completed as soon as possible after the Annual Meeting.

ASLCS Orientation Pamphlet
Co-Chair Norma Chastain, AZ, informed the Committee members that Co-Chair Cheryl Laube, AZ, was working very hard on getting the Orientation Pamphlet updated for the Annual Meeting.

Next Meeting
The Annual Meeting will be held September 7-12, 2003, in Scottsdale, AZ.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Millie McFarland, ME, moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.
The Program Development Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003, in San Francisco, California. The meeting was called to order by Diane Bell, Chair. Also in attendance:

Karl Lilly, WV
Jeff Finch, VA
Nathan Hatfield, VA
Karen Kuhlman, CO
Cheryl Laube, AZ
Carmela Bills, VA.

Dowell Littleton, AL
Bruce Jamerson, VA
Tara Perkins, VA
Karen Wadsworth, NH
Donna Doyle, WI

Burney Durham, TN
Susan Schaar, VA
Marilyn Eddins, CO
Norma Chastain, AZ
Millie MacFarland, ME

The meeting began with approval of the minutes from the Spring Meeting, March 15, 2003, in Columbus, OH.

The Chair handed out copies of the meeting schedule for Scottsdale and discussed the plenary speakers, the concurrent sessions and the breakout sessions on the program with the committee and explained that the finishing touches were being put in place. The Chair explained that registration is down this year due to travel restrictions and budget constraints. The prediction is that attendance in Scottsdale will probably be lower than normal. In that vein, and with the inability to get enough panelists for three concurrent sessions at one time, the decision was made to cut down to two concurrents within a time slot on some concurrents. The Chair also asked for volunteers from the committee for openings in some concurrents. Millie MacFarland, Clerk of the Maine House, agreed to moderate the Performance Evaluation concurrent.

Karl Lilly, Associate Vice Chair, commented on how well things worked at the annual meeting in Bloomington, MN which took place within a few days of September 11, 2001, when cuts had to be made to accommodate low attendance. The Chair reiterated that JoAnn Hedrick, as Program Development Chair that year, had done an excellent job of moving schedules around, doubling up on breakout sessions, working around plenary speaker’s schedules and that this is why the Society is so strong…because we do whatever is necessary to make things work.

There was discussion about concurrents on technology. Jeff Finch, Deputy Clerk of the Virginia House, commented that members should be aware that a session on Technology does not necessarily mean that the concurrent is on the mechanics of technology, or that you have to be a computer guru to attend, but our focus should be on how technology impacts our jobs.

There being no further business, there was a motion, a second and the motion agreed to for the meeting to adjourn.
Site Selection

The Site Selection Committee met on Monday, July 21, 2003, in San Francisco, California, at the annual meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures. The meeting was called to order by Burney T. Durham, Chair of the Committee. The following ASLCS members were present:

Dave Avant, AL
Norma Chastain, AZ
Nathan Hatfield, VA
Nancy Reynolds, WV
Eleanor Ringel, WV
Sandy Tenney, UT

The committee approved the minutes for the committee meeting held on Saturday, March 15, 2003 in Columbus, Ohio.

The committee reviewed the reports of the three surveys previously sent out dealing with site selection issues.

The committee noted that at this time no state has expressed an interest in hosting the 2005 annual meeting.

The committee discussed potential No-Host Sites.

The committee decided to research airfares to and from various cities. The committee also discussed researching hotel rates at various cities. This information could be helpful to the committee if choosing a No-Host site became the only viable option.

The substance of the committee meeting was to be reported to the Executive Committee to see if that committee had any guidance to provide.

Upon motion the Committee adjourned.
Inside the Legislative Process

Minutes from the Inside the Legislative Process Committee were not available at the time of printing.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held in Scottsdale, AZ.

Roster

The Roster Committee did not hold a formal meeting in San Francisco. Jeannine Wood, committee chair, was unable to attend the annual meeting. ASLCS President, Ann Cornwell met with the committee to give them an update on the roster. Ann told the committee the new Roster should be distributed to the membership at the end of August.

The next meeting of the committee will be held in Scottsdale, AZ.
Committee Members

BYLAWS AND STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

Diane Bell, FL  Carmela Bills, VA  Joe Blough, OK  Ed Burdick, MN
John Garrett, VA  Linda Hawker, IL  Jeannine Wood, ID  Denise Weeks, NC
Janet Jones, KS  Alice Ann Joseph, CT  Sven Lindquist, MN  Michael Linn, MN
Suzi Lowell, AK  Norman Moore, AZ  Patrick O’Donnell, NE  Carole Peterson, UT
Pat Saville, KS  Susan Schaar, VA  Butch Speer, LA  Karen Wadsworth, NH
Larry Warden, OK

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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Claire Clift, NV  Ann Cornwell, AR  Patrice Dworak, MN  Jeannine Wood, ID
Londi Ensor, AK  Patrick Fuller, WI  Jhonnie Gillispie, FL  Linda Hawker, IL
JoAnn Hedrick, DE  Mary Ann Horch, VA  Alice Ann Joseph, CT  Pamm Juker, ID
Tim Kehoe, CT  Joe Koval, WV  Sven Lindquist, MN  Steve Marshall, VT
Mary Mendel, IN  Jose Nazario, PR  Carole Peterson, UT  John Phelps, FL
Barbara Regen, VA  Pat Saville, KS  Don Schneider, WI  Alice Shafer, WV
Jacqueline Sneddon, NV  Kirsten Waid, NC

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Judy Barrows, ME  Tom Bennett, WV  George Bishop, VA  Bradley Bolin, IL
Penny Cabaniss, VA  Claire Clift, NV  Tony Cook, WA  Donna Doyle, WI
Patrick Flahaven, MN  Vita Hardy, CT  Jlynn Hartman, OK  Sonja Herd, OH
Mary Ann Horch, VA  Bruce Jamerson, VA  Steven James, MA  Carol Morey Viventi, MI
Greg Kenworth, IL  Joe Koval, WV  Dave Larson, KS  Jeannine Layell, VA
Steve Marshall, VT  Suzan McClelland, AL  Sandi Morris, KY  Connie Peltier, MN
John Phelps, FL  Rose Ramsey, VA  Anthony Rossi, IL  Don Schneider, WI
Patsy Spaw, TX  Patricia Vaughan, VA

THE LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATOR COMMITTEE

Matthew Baker, NV  C.J. Beaty, FL  Ed Burdick, MN  Larry Warden, OK
Laura Clemens, OH  David Gibson, VT  Jan Harrison, OK  Deborah Hull, WV
Russell Humphrey, TN  Bruce Jamerson, VA  Steven James, MA  Dave Larison, KS
Suzi Lowell, AK  Teresa Maroney, OK  Annette Moore, UT  Eleanor Ringel, WV
Vicki Scheer, OK  Carol Viventi, MI

ROSTER COMMITTEE

Jane Atkinson, VA  Gwen Bailey, VA  Karen Brown, UT  Cathy Day, OR
Marguerite Duda, WV  Londi Ensor, AK  Jlynn Hartman, OK  Maureen Wilson, UT
Cyndy Johnston, OR  Todd Kenady, OR  Jeannine Layell, VA  Mary Jo Mongelli, NV
Sam Moody, OR  Patrick O’Donnell, NE  Rose Ramsey, VA  Pat Rodgers, TX
Jacqueline Scott, VA  Suellen Scott, OR  Tina Scott, AZ  Dawn B. Smith, VA
Sandy Tenney, UT  Linda Tubbs, TX
## CANADIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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<th>Member</th>
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Committee Members

SUPPORT STAFF COMMITTEE

Jane Atkinson, VA
George Bishop, VA
Karen Brown, UT
Donna Doyle, WI
Betty Kay Francis, TN
Bo Hoover, WV
Michael Linn, MN
Suzan McClelland, AL
Lora Phillips, WV
Shelia Ryan, IL
Lori Summers, WV
Margaret Watts, KY
Gwen Bailey, VA
Joe Blough, OK
Penny Cabaniss, VA
Marguerite Duda, WV
John Garrett, VA
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Mary Jo Mongelli, NV
Rose Ramsey, VA
Judith Schultz, WV
David Surdez, MN
Matt Baker, NV
Bradley Bolin, IL
Carmen Cauthen, NC
Molly Durham, IL
Harle Glover, NV
Todd Kenady, OR
Scott Maddrea, VA
Sam Moody, OR
Pat Rodgers, TX
Suellen Scott, OR
Linda Tubbs, TX
Judy Barrows, ME
Jay Braxton, VA
Cathy Day, OR
JeFF Finch, VA
Sonja Herd, OH
Greg Kenworth, IL
Al Mathiowetz, MN
Tara Perkinsion, VA
Gail Romanowski, MN
Tina Scott, AZ
Patricia Vaughan, VA

SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

Dave Avant, AL
Kristin Canterbury, WV
Marguerite Duda, WV
Jane Gill, NV
Deborah Hull, WV
Todd Kenady, OR
Pat Mau-Shimizu, HI
Lora Phillips, WV
Pat Rodgers, TX
Alice Shafer, WV
Lori Summers, WV
Faye Blanton, FL
Ann Cornwell, AR
Patrice Dworak, MN
Harle Glover, NV
Cyndy Johnston, OR
Cheryl Laube, AZ
Mary Jo Mongelli, NV
Janet Pruitt, NC
Judith Schultz, WV
Jacqueline Shettle, CT
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Tim Kehoe, CT
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Lois Pulliam, KY
Suellen Scott, OR
Dawn Smith, VA
Linda Tubbs, UT
Karen Brown, UT
Cathy Day, OR
Betty Kay Francis, TN
Bo Hoover, WV
Maureen Wilson, UT
Albin Mathiowetz, MN
Annette Moore, UT
Eleanor Ringel, WV
Tina Scott, AZ
Terry Spieler, MO
Margaret Watts, KY
Arizona
The First Regular Session of the 46th Arizona Legislature adjourned sine die on June 19, 2003, which was the 158th day of the regular session. The session was the 7th longest in state history and the longest in 11 years. The budget package was the primary focus of the session. As in most states, the budget had to take significant cuts - approximately one and one-half $billion for the next fiscal year. The governor did sign the budget package but used 35 line-item vetoes in the process. The governor's authority to make some of the line items are now a subject of a lawsuit filed by members of the Legislature against the Governor. We hope that there will be a resolution to the case before the next regular session.
Within the next couple of months, there may be a special session dealing with prison funding and the possible impeachment of one of the Corporation Commissioners. A special investigation is now being conducted into the activities of the commissioner and a special report including the findings of the investigation is supposed to be made available to the membership by the end of September.

California
Jim Driscoll, former Chief Clerk of the California Assembly passed away August 18, 2003. Jim was Chief Clerk of the California Assembly from October 5, 1963 to December 30, 1986.
Mr. Driscoll was born in Glendale, California on April 5 (year unknown). He was a graduate of Fresno State University where he received his B.A. He also received a M.A. from Claremont College and his J.D. from McGeorge School of Law. He resided in the Fresno area after retiring from the Assembly in 1986. He is survived by his wife Beverly and four children: Lawrence, Donald, Daniel and Elizabeth.

Louisiana
The work of the 2003 Regular Session of the Louisiana State Legislature is now complete. Over the past three months with over 3100 bills filed for consideration at the session, state senators focused their energies on taking the next steps to improve the state’s education system and to capitalize on the economic development opportunities at our colleges and universities. Senators also tackled the tough problem of dealing with coastal erosion which constantly threatens our state.
“We were able to approve a balanced budget that maintains our efforts in education, economic development and health care while at the same time reducing state debt by $95 million over the next three years. I think it is important that we invest tax dollars in areas that will make a difference in Louisiana, investments that are already paying off,” Senate President John Hainkel said.
Legislators continued the state’s commitment to capitalize on the economic development opportunities connected to research at our colleges and universities by investing over $72.7 million in research relating to information technology, biotechnology, cancer treatment and prevention, and gene therapy. Just one day after the session ended, state investments in such research over the past few years paid off when the National Center for Research Resources, a part of the National Institutes of Health, awarded Tulane University, a part of the state-funded Gene Therapy Research Consortium, a five year $4.3 million grant to establish a center for the preparation, quality testing and distribution to researchers of adult stem cells.
The Senate sought to secure some $14 billion in federal assistance over the next twenty years to restore Louisiana’s valuable coast and wetlands. This fall voters will have a chance to approve a constitutional amendment to dedicate the first $35 million of non-recurring money each year from mineral dispute settlements to the Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Fund. One time funds from other sources could be placed in the fund as well. The state’s financial commitment to the coastal restoration program is vital to securing the federal funds.
Another change in the constitution up for public vote this fall will also assist the coastal restoration effort. It would authorize the Legislature to limit damage awards connected to coastal restoration projects so that any award is limited to the “fair market value” of the property as is the case in most other states. Without this limit, there can be no real coastal restoration in Louisiana.
Legislators also decided to move the state’s accountability program to a new level in an effort to rescue children from schools that despite efforts at the local level continue to fail. Lawmakers approved a constitutional amendment to allow the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to take over management, supervision and operation of failing schools. Schools that are labeled as failing for four consecutive years under Louisiana’s school accountability program or do not submit an acceptable plan to address problems at the school could be placed in a school recovery district under BESE control.

In an effort to give teachers more options to deal with discipline problems in the classroom, students who are disciplined in connection with the possession of drugs or alcohol, the possession of a firearm or assault or battery on a teacher or staff member will lose their driving licenses for one year. The new law takes effect in January 2004.

And in one of the most aggressive public safety moves in the United States, Louisiana will soon begin taking DNA samples from everyone arrested for a felony crime and certain sex-related misdemeanor crimes such as a “peeping Tom”. The samples will be placed in a crime search data base for use in criminal investigations. The Senate placed an additional $4 million in the state budget to get the new program started. The new law also makes Louisiana eligible for federal funds to tackle the backlog of DNA samples from state inmates.

If you need additional information about any of these important measures or other issues addressed by legislators at the recently completed 2003 Regular Session, you can access the details on the Louisiana State Legislative website at www.legis.state.la.us.

Minnesota

The state of Minnesota has resumed talks with unions representing approximately 30,000 workers as part of ongoing negotiations dating back to last February.

According to Hubbard Broadcasting, the Minnesota Department of Employee Relations has made some progress with the unions, but no agreement has been reached yet on benefits and wages.

The state’s collective bargaining contacts with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, which represents approximately 19,000 workers, and the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees, which represents about 10,500 employees, expired June 30. Employee provisions have remained in force throughout the negotiations. In October 2001, workers held a two-week strike.

The state, grappling with a $4.2 billion budget deficit, has proposed tripling family health insurance costs, freezing annual pay increases that are normally granted based on performance and tenure, and cutting wages across the board by 1.5 percent on January 1, 2004.

About 900 workers have already been laid off this year, and according to Hubbard Broadcasting, state officials predict the number could grow to 1200.

Minnesota legislative employees are not members of the unions, but wages and benefits for union employees frequently serve as guidelines for legislative staff.
Nevada

The Nevada Legislature, finally, adjourned the 20th Special Session (SS) at 1:32 a.m., July 22. This last SS took some of the most interesting turns along its winding path to sine die. To recap: the Governor called the Legislature back into session in order to consider the Distributive School Account (DSA) budget and a revenue package sufficient to fund the already passed General Fund budget as well as the DSA. The sticking point, both during the regular session and the 19th SS, was that budget bills need only a constitutional majority to gain passage while revenue generating bills need a super majority (two-thirds of those elected) to pass.

We convened the 20th SS on June 25. The Senate passed a tax bill (SB 6) the following day by achieving a two-thirds favorable vote on the bill. The ball, so to speak, was now in the Assembly’s court. They struggled with the tax issue for the next four days. The Assembly (42 members) needed 28 favorable votes to pass the bill. A contingent of 15 Assembly members successfully blocked passage of any revenue package during those four days. Governor Guinn threatened he would ask the Nevada Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus to force the Legislature to pass a tax bill if one did not pass by the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1.

As the clock turned to July 1, no bill was passed, and the Governor did, indeed, file a petition for a writ of mandamus with the Supreme Court immediately after the midnight hour. The Governor’s petition requested the Court to direct the Senate and Assembly to fulfill certain constitutional obligations. Basically, the major issues discussed in the petition were the Legislature’s constitutional duties to provide for the support and maintenance of schools, to provide a balanced budget as well as to provide an annual tax sufficient to pay the estimated expenses of the State for each fiscal year.

Upon receiving the request, the Court stated it would accept briefs suggesting resolutions to the impasse from all interested parties until 5 p.m., July 7. Of the briefs accepted during that period, the state’s two largest school districts filed an amicus brief challenging the two-thirds vote requirement needed to pass a tax bill. Some briefs, submitted, took the position that the Court had no authority to act on a legislative issue. If the Court did so, it would violate the separation of powers doctrine.

The Court convened Thursday, July 10, 2003, to issue its opinion. During the Court’s session, Chief Justice Deborah Agosti issued a brief, general statement without discussing the Court’s ruling. The Court’s staff then handed a copy of the opinion to the Governor’s and Legislature’s counsels. The Chief Justice adjourned the Court stating there would be no public discussion by the Court on its ruling and that additional copies of the opinion would be available outside the Chamber.

The general speculation, prior to Tuesday’s ruling, was that the Court would order the Legislature to return to work on the DSA and tax package but issue a deadline by which to do so. Failure to do so would leave the Legislature in contempt of a court order, and the Court could then take further action against the Legislature.

As people quickly thumbed through the opinion, it was revealed that the Nevada Supreme Court opined, in summary, that the right to an education in the State of Nevada and the funding of such supercedes the constitutional process of requiring a two-thirds super-majority vote on the passage of a tax bill needed to fund the educational right. Under this specific circumstance, passage of a tax bill need receive, only, a simple (constitutional) majority.

There was a moment of stunned silence. Then, as the incredulous buzz increased, the hallways became electric—audible disbelief, shock, cheering—reactions ran the gamut.

It was back to work for the Legislature. The Assembly reconvened into a Committee of the Whole on Sunday, July 13, to, again, consider SB 6. Late that afternoon, the Assembly amended and passed SB 6 with only a constitutional majority vote. Assemblyman Hettrick, Minority Leader, rose to a point of order regarding the constitutionality of the passage of the bill. Speaker Perkins ruled against the point of order. Mr. Hettrick appealed the Speaker’s decision and requested a roll call vote on the decision. The Speaker called for a recess. After a ten-minute recess, the Assembly reconvened. The Speaker announced Mr. Hettrick’s motion for a roll call vote was not sustained. He then, immediately, recognized Assemblywoman Buckley, Majority Leader, who moved for adjournment. The Assembly was adjourned and sent SB 6 to the Senate as amended.
The following day the Senate reconvened into a Committee of the Whole to consider the amendments to SB 6. While doing so, it was learned that, at the request of several legislators and others, a complaint for injunctive, declaratory and legal relief was filed with the U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, as well as an emergency application for a temporary restraining order. The District Court issued and served the Legislature with a temporary restraining order just after the Senate had passed a motion in the Committee of the Whole to not concur with the Assembly’s amendments to SB 6. The restraining order prohibited the Legislature from taking any further action on SB 6 until the federal court’s seven justices met “en banc” to consider the petitioners’ complaint that SB 6 had been passed in violation of Article IV the U.S. Constitution, the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and Title 42, U.S. Code, Sections 1983, 1988. However, the restraining order did not prohibit the Legislature from working on another tax bill provided it receive a two-thirds majority vote.

The District Court Justices met, “en banc”, on July 16. They adjourned after hearing three hours of oral arguments. Stating they would review the case expeditiously, we waited with uncertain anticipation of their decision. Finally, on Friday, July 18, the District Court ruled that the temporary restraining order was dissolved and the plaintiffs’ action was dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

At that time, and even though we were working under the Nevada Supreme Court’s opinion that a two-thirds majority vote was not needed, leadership stated they were confident they could pass a tax bill with a 2/3 vote. In the late night hours on July 21, 2003, the Senate and Assembly did pass SB 8, a newly introduced tax bill, by a two-thirds majority vote of the elected members. The 20th SS of the Nevada Legislature ended, thankfully, at 1:32 a.m. on July 22, 2003.

It is interesting to note, the legislators and others who filed the complaint with the District Court, filed similar paperwork with the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on July 18, 2003. The Ninth Circuit Court denied the motion for a preliminary injunction and scheduled the case for an expedited briefing. The opening brief and records are due August 29 and the answering brief is due September 29, 2003. The case will be calendared as soon as possible following receipt of the answering brief.

Also, a Petition for Rehearing was filed with the Nevada Supreme Court on July 21, 2003, to reconsider and clarify its decision. The counter-respondents requested that the Court recall its writ of mandamus directing the Legislature to conduct the business of the 20th SS “under simple majority rule.” At this time, the Court has not scheduled the rehearing petition.

For those of you interested in reading the actual documents associated with this issue, they may be accessed via our legislative web site at: www.leg.state.nv.us. Select the Session Info option on the left, then the 20th SS, then Guinn vs. Nevada Legislature Documents. The Angel vs. Nevada Legislature Documents relate to the federal court actions.

So, how was your summer?!

Utah

On August 11, 2003, President George Bush announced his nomination of Utah’s Governor, Michael O. Leavitt, to head the Environmental Protection Agency. If Governor Leavitt’s nomination is confirmed by the United States Senate, which could take weeks or months, Lt. Governor Olene Walker will become Utah’s first woman governor.

When he ran for re-election in 2000, Governor Leavitt promised the people of Utah he would serve four years. When he mentioned this promise to President Bush, the President then asked Senate President Al Mansell and House Speaker Martin Stephens to accompany Governor Leavitt to Denver where he asked them, as representatives of Utah’s population, to release the governor from his service. Governor Leavitt leaves Utah after more than a decade as its governor.
Virginia

Legislative Staff Recognized

On July 23, 2003, at the NCSL Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, three employees of the Virginia General Assembly received Legislative Staff Achievement Awards. Gwen Bailey, Assistant Clerk of the Virginia Senate, received one of the two ASLCS Legislative Staff Achievement Awards, and Senate Clerk, Susan Clarke Schaar, received the NCSL Standing Committees Staff Chair’s Award. In addition, George B. Mason, Jr., Chief of Virginia’s Capitol Police, received a Legislative Staff Achievement Award from the National Legislative Services and Security Association.

Virginia was also well represented at this year’s Legislative Staff Management Institute (LSMI). John McE. Garrett, Deputy Clerk of the Virginia Senate; Penny Cabaniss, Journal Clerk of the House of Delegates; and Nancy Roberts, Section Manager in the Division of Legislative Services attended LSMI August 2-9, at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota. Penny and John both received Betty King Scholarships from ASLCS to assist with the tuition costs.

November Elections

All 140 seats in the Virginia General Assembly will be on the ballot when Virginia voters go to the polls this November. Although the number of contested races in Virginia is down significantly over previous years, plenty of new faces are anticipated when the Legislature convenes in January 2004. The House of Delegates will have at least 11 new members, as 10 incumbents have elected to retire and one was defeated in a June primary. In addition, there will be at least four new members of the Virginia Senate. No major changes are expected in the leadership of either body, as Republicans are expected to retain the majority in both chambers.
ASLCS Meeting Schedule

Joint Canadian-American Meeting
Wyndham Hotel
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
December 5 - 7, 2003

Winter Business Meeting
Westin Hotel
Wilmington, Delaware
October 9 - 13, 2003

NCSL Annual Meeting
Salt Lake City, Utah
July 19 - 23, 2004

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Chamber: ___________________________ Mailing Address: __________________________

Please Email or Mail to:
Joan Barilla, NCSL
7700 East First Place
Denver, CO  80230

Phone: (303) 856-1349
Fax: (303) 364-7800
Email: joan.barilla@ncsl.org
Jeff Finch Turns 40 at Pac/Bell