

New School Property Law Cited

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District

The elected and appointed officials of the Palos Verdes Unified School District asked me to introduce my Assembly Bill No. 2422 which would make it possible for them to park their school buses outside of their own district.

There are two reasons why this bill, now a law, was requested. First, prior to the enactment of the new law, the governing board of a school district could not legally park school buses outside of the district. Second, in an area which is almost entirely residential, it is extremely difficult to find a place to park school buses, especially those powered by diesel engines, which will not annoy the neighbors.

THE PALOS VERDES Unified School District includes the incorporated cities of Palos Verdes Estates, Rolling Hills, and Rolling Hills Estates. It also includes a vast amount of unincorporated, county territory, including Portuguese Bend and several other communities. Other school districts in California were faced with the same school bus parking problem prior to enactment of my bill into law, hence there was no strong opposition to the passage of the bill.

The bill first passed through the Assembly Education Committee and the Assembly. It then went to the Senate Education Committee where it was amended slightly to clarify the language. It passed the Senate June 15, 1963, and on June 17, the Assembly unanimously accepted the Senate amendment. The bill then went to the Governor who signed it.

THE NEW LAW reads as follows:

"An act to add Section 16003 to the Education Code, relating to school district property.

"The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 16003 is added to the Education Code, to read: "16003. The governing board of a school district may acquire property in an adjoining school district by lease, by purchase and dispose of such property in the same manner as property within the boundary of the district is purchased and disposed of, where the acquisition of such property is deemed necessary by the governing board for use as garages, warehouse, or other utility purposes.

The power of eminent domain shall not be applicable and such acquisitions by purchase shall be subject to the approval of the governing board of school district in which the property is located."

THE NEW LAW applies to any school district, whether it is a unified school district or not. The phrase "for use as garages, warehouse, or other utility purposes" does not mention parking lots specifically because parking lots are clearly interpreted to be within the meaning of "other utility purposes." The last paragraph of the new law amply protects a school district adjoining the one seeking a place to park its buses because the law clearly specifies that the power of eminent domain shall not apply and requires the approval of the governing board of the school district where parking space is desired.

James E. Crockett, business manager, Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District, appeared with me while we explained my Assembly Bill No. 2422 to the Assembly and Senate Committees on Education. In accordance with the rules of the Legislature, each committee member had a copy of the bill before him; I briefly explained the necessity for the enactment of the bill into law; and then I answered questions. When the questions were detailed and factual, Crockett answered them. Members of both the Assembly and the Senate Committees on Education publicly thanked us for our presentations.

IT MAY BE interesting to report that members of both committees who are lawyers later told me that Crockett obviously was an experienced trial lawyer. Those who are teachers in private life told me that it was evident that Crockett is an able educator. When I patiently explained to the lawyers and teachers that

Crockett is a business manager, as I had introduced him at the committee hearings, they agreed that he was introduced as the business manager of the Palos Verdes Unified School District but nevertheless they thought that he was a member of their own professions.

These comments on Crockett illuminate the human side of legislation. Fortunately, he is only one of the many able people from the 46th Assembly District who came to Sacramento and testified in favor of my several bills which were enacted into law.

New Eligibilities Noted For Korean Vets' Widows

Widows of World War II and Korean Conflict veterans who previously did not meet requirements for pensions may be eligible under a change in Congressional legislation concerning death pensions, Loren Heft, Service Officer at the Inglewood and Torrance branches of the Los Angeles County Veterans Service Office has announced.

Prior to the enactment of Public Law 86-211, July 1, 1960, World War II and Korean

Conflict widows and children were eligible for pension only if the veteran had a service-connected disability at the time of his death.

HEFT NOTED that a widow who was found not to meet the requirements for a pension at the time of her husband's death and who now finds herself in need, may be eligible at the present time and is advised to check at either the Inglewood or Torrance branch of the Los

Angeles County Veterans Office to determine her status.

The requirements are:

1. The deceased veteran must have been credited with 90 days or more of active service, part of which was during World War II or the Korean Conflict.

2. The income of a widow without a child must not exceed \$1,800 annually. A widow with one or more children has a maximum income limit of \$3,000. If she exceeds that

limit and is not eligible, it is possible that the minor children may still be eligible and an inquiry is advised, Heft stated.

THE PENSION requirements for widows of World War II and Korean Conflict veterans are now the same as those for a World War I veteran's widow.

The Inglewood branch office is located at 330 Centinela Ave., telephone OR 7-2161, Sta-

Society Elects Board for Year

Four area men will serve as officers of the South Bay Harbor section of the newly established Los Angeles district of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, according to Dr. B. Richard Teare Jr.

Teare, 251, and is open Monday through Wednesday. The Torrance branch, located at 3231 Torrance Blvd., Room 202, telephone FA 8-3310, Station 53, is open Thursdays and Fridays.

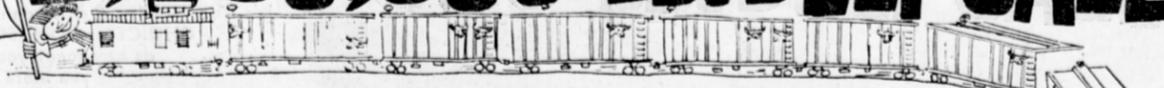
vice president of the association.

Elected board members are: Rodney C. Lewis, chairman, Long Beach State College, engineering division; Dr. Ragnar Thorenson, vice chairman, Magnavox Research Labs, Torrance; R. A. Keppel, secretary, Nortronics, Hawthorne, and F. Wilbert Parrish, treasurer, International Rectifier Corp., El Segundo.

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