

Director of the Conference had been extremely active in the search for funds with which to pursue the purposes of the Conference, acting through the Special Committee, with strong prospect for success; that the Special Committee in the interim be allowed initial funds to cover current expenses and the employment of a research director or reporter.

January 5, 1967 Grant of \$60,000.00 to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, made by the Ford Foundation for research upon and drafting of a proposed Uniform Act on Marriage and Divorce.

February 2, 1967 A grant of \$25,000.00 by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare to the Conference for the same purpose.

February 5, 1967 Professor Robert J. Levy, University of Minnesota Law School appointed a Reporter by Executive Director with approval of Chairmen of Special Committee.

February , 1967 Conference, through Executive Director Allison Dunham wrote to Chairman of ABA Section of Family Law a letter "designed to provoke at the earliest possible time consideration on their part of an effective liaison with our committee and the Conference as a whole.

May 12, 1967 Executive Director Dunham reported that he had from Chairman only the response that he was "referring the matter to appropriate people in the Section," indicating the Executive Director's guess as to who these might be, and calling attention to an item in the April, 1967 issue of "The Family Lawyer, reporting the grant of Ford Foundation to the Conference, and stating that the "closest liaison between" the Conference "and the Section of Family Law is being planned" and that it "is contemplated that, at the Hawaii meeting, the Section's Council will establish a formal liaison with the Uniform Commissioners (sic)."

This clearly called to the attention of all concerned that the Liaison Committee, together with all other advisory or counseling groups, while participating in debate and advice at all drafting sessions, would have no vote upon decisions, since the Act, in form and in substance, was the specific responsibility of the Special Committee, and, ultimately of the Conference. This notice went to all members of the Special Committee and of the Liaison Committee. Replies were received from members of the Committee, indicating that they had received and read the agenda.

February 12, 1968 HEW made additional grant to the Conference to carry this project through the year, starting April 1, 1968.

February 16, 1968 Pursuant to the notice and agenda of February 6, there occurred the meeting of the Special Committee, at Chicago, Illinois, together with Liaison Committee appointed by ABA Family Law Section, Chicago. After full discussion, made tentative decisions:

- (1) to discard fault doctrines as ground for divorce, substituting breakdown of marriage concept;
- (2) to abolish annulment and to draw a comprehensive regulation of marriage statute;
- (3) to include in divorce section specific bases for determining marriage breakdown, including 90-180 days of separation if both parties agree to divorce and the marriage is childless;
- (4) not to include in draft provisions for conciliation service attached to court, i.e., not to attempt uniform treatment of the "family court" concept.

At this meeting, procedure followed the rule laid down in the agenda, Item IX. Chairman Zukerman of the Section, Messrs. Hartman, Munter, Kolwyck, Foster, in attendance from time to time.