

# What about Grant Sawyer?

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## NATIONAL STATURE INCREASES

### Sawyer in Impressive Los Angeles Showing

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LOS ANGELES — Gov. Grant Sawyer of Nevada made an impressive showing at a national gathering of political leaders.

Clearly his national stature is increasing and he is becoming increasingly influential in the Democratic Party.

BUT WHAT does this mean to his political fortunes in Nevada? And is his rising stock benefiting the state in any way?

These questions were still being argued by Nevadans as the

58th annual National Governors Conference closed up shop and went home.

In the richly carpeted corridors and meeting rooms of the Governors Conference at the glittering Century - Plaza Hotel, Sawyer often was the focus of attention by out-of-staters.

OFTEN a small army of newsmen, television and newsreel cameramen, and assorted hangers - on trailed Sawyer seeking bits of news in what was a rather dull conference.

Big-name writers and commentators sought him out, as did "leg men" for many publications.

Sagely, the youthful Nevada governor took time to reply to their queries. He was never too busy to chat. He was articulate, responsive, expressive. In short, Sawyer communicated.

SAWYER was probably the only governor to hold two news conferences. His first when he arrived, was on conference plans. The second, on the Viet Nam resolution, was to back President Johnson. The effect of these meetings to news-hungry reporters was to carry Sawyer's name all over the nation - in newspapers and TV and radio.

At National Governors Conferences, Sawyer is either extremely lucky in picking issues to ride, or he is extremely perceptive in sensing the mood

of the governors ahead of time.

At this conference he was chosen chairman of a six man drafting committee to write a resolution backing Johnson on Viet Nam.

FOR SOME reason the governors again turned to him with a sticky assignment. It was reminiscent of the scrap several years ago when he lead a fight on civil rights at Miami, and again at Cleveland.

Two years ago, Sawyer was picked, chairman of the National Governors Conference from among 10 Democratic candidates. It was a boost for Sawyer nationally, but probably with little concrete advantage for Nevada.

The governors conference centered its attention this year on Viet Nam. It was Sawyer who wrote the guidelines.

HE SKILLFULLY handled another hot potato - definite plus for Nevada - the federal - state income tax hassle. A resolution put forward by Michigan Gov. George Romney on sharing of federal - state revenues would have put Nevada in position of having to accept a state income tax. Few governors are aware of this, but Sawyer sniffed it out. He fought Romney on the conference floor - and Romney backed away. Later, numerous governors told Sawyer they were not aware of the implications until his tilt with Romney.

Sawyer was in the thick of another vital issue - a uniform voting law for the nation. This has drawn Sawyer into a controversy all over the country - and called him to the attention of national TV and radio networks and others who would be directly affected by a law to close polling places at the same time.

### Nevada State

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**He FIGHTS for Nevada!**