

HOUSE BILL NO. 21
2nd Special Session

Introduced and Referred to Committee on State Administration:
6/23/82

Special Session # 11

House BILL NO. *21*

1 INTRODUCTION BY *Stephens, Skutumpah, Jacobson, Cee*
2 *McInt*
3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CREATE A SELECT
5 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS CONDITIONS AND PROBLEMS
6 WITHIN THE STATE'S ADULT CORRECTIONS PROGRAMS FOR FURTHER
7 CONSIDERATION BY THE 48TH LEGISLATURE; APPROPRIATING FUNDS
8 FOR THE COMMITTEE; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE
9 DATE."

10 WHEREAS, the people of the state of Montana deserve an
11 effective and efficient adult corrections system; and

12 WHEREAS, inmate population at Montana State Prison is
13 in excess of levels determined to be commensurate with sound
14 prison policy; and

15 WHEREAS, overcrowding was a factor in the March 24,
16 1982, disturbance at Montana State Prison; and

17 WHEREAS, several proposals have been developed by the
18 Executive Branch to reduce inmate population at Montana
19 State Prison and enhance security at that institution; and

20 WHEREAS, it is necessary that a decision be made by the
21 Legislature as to the most appropriate proposal; and

22 WHEREAS, these proposals require the expenditure of
23 general fund money; and

24 WHEREAS, a special session of the Legislature was
25 called to consider these matters but because of time

1 constraints was limited in its ability to fully address
2 corrections conditions.

3
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

5 Section 1. Select committee on corrections --
6 establishment -- organization. (1) There is established an
7 8-member select committee on corrections.

8 (2) The committee shall be appointed in the following
9 manner:

10 (a) The speaker of the house, after consultation with
11 the house majority and minority leaders, shall appoint four
12 members to serve on the committee. No more than two house
13 members of the committee may be from the same party.

14 (b) The committee on committees of the senate, after
15 consultation with senate majority and minority leaders,
16 shall appoint four members to serve on the committee. No
17 more than two senate members of the committee may be from
18 the same party.

19 (3) Committee members shall elect a chairman and
20 vice-chairman.

21 (4) Committee members are entitled to compensation and
22 expenses as provided in 5-2-302.

23 Section 2. Select committee function. (1) The select
24 committee on corrections shall develop a plan of action and
25 recommend policies for consideration by the 48th legislature

1 in order that a comprehensive and coherent correctional
2 policy may be developed for Montana.

3 (2) In its review the committee shall:

4 (a) explore the conditions and problems existing at
5 Montana state prison and within the state's adult
6 corrections programs and the resolution thereof;

7 (b) suggest appropriation levels for state agencies
8 and programs necessary to alleviate and adequately address
9 the problems and conditions existing in Montana state prison
10 and within the state's adult corrections programs;

11 (c) monitor the implementation and results of the
12 actions taken by the second special session, including the
13 prison vocational industries program established in [Senate
14 Bill 1].

15 Section 3. Committee staff. The legislative council,
16 legislative fiscal analyst, and legislative auditor shall
17 provide staffing and assistance to the committee as the
18 committee requires. The legislative council shall assist the
19 committee in preparing its reports and recommendations as
20 provided in Title 5, MCA.

21 Section 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated
22 \$17,500 from the general fund to the legislative council for
23 the purposes of assisting the select committee on
24 corrections as provided in sections 3 and 4. Any funds not
25 used for the purposes of this act shall revert to the

1 general fund.

2 Section 5. Effective date. This act is effective on
3 passage and approval.

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