

IN THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 12, 1991 RECEIVED FROM SENATE.
FEBRUARY 21, 1991 SENT TO ENROLLING.
FEBRUARY 23, 1991 REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.
FEBRUARY 25, 1991 SIGNED BY SPEAKER.
FEBRUARY 25, 1991 SIGNED BY PRESIDENT.
FEBRUARY 25, 1991 TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR.
FEBRUARY 27, 1991 RETURNED FROM GOVERNOR WITH
AMENDATORY VETO.
MARCH 9, 1991 SECOND READING, GOVERNOR'S
AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.
MARCH 11, 1991 THIRD READING, GOVERNOR'S
AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.

IN THE SENATE

MARCH 23, 1991 SECOND READING, GOVERNOR'S
AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.
MARCH 25, 1991 THIRD READING, GOVERNOR'S
AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.

IN THE HOUSE

MARCH 25, 1991 SENT TO ENROLLING.
REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 175
2 INTRODUCED BY David Brown

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE
5 TRUSTEES OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL ESTABLISH OR
6 MAKE AVAILABLE A KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM IN THE DISTRICT; AND
7 AMENDING SECTION 20-7-117, MCA."

8
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 **Section 1.** Section 20-7-117, MCA, is amended to read:

11 "20-7-117. Five-year-old schooling and preschool
12 programs. (1) The trustees of an elementary district may
13 shall establish or make available a program capable of
14 accommodating, at a minimum, all the children in the
15 district who will be 5 years old on or before September 10
16 of the school year for which the program is to be conducted
17 or who have been enrolled by special permission of the board
18 of trustees. The program ~~shall~~ must be an integral part of
19 the elementary school and ~~shall~~ must be financed and
20 governed accordingly, provided that to be eligible for
21 inclusion in the calculation of ANB pursuant to 20-9-311, a
22 child must have reached the age of 5 on or before September
23 10 of the school year covered by the calculation or have
24 been enrolled by special permission of the board of
25 trustees.

1 (2) The trustees of an elementary school district may
2 establish and operate a free preschool program for children
3 between the ages of 3 and 5 years. When ~~such~~ preschool
4 programs are established, they ~~shall~~ must be an integral
5 part of the elementary school and ~~shall~~ must be governed
6 accordingly. Financing of preschool programs ~~shall~~ may not
7 be supported by ~~moneys~~ money available from state
8 equalization aid."

-End-



STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE
Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB0175, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act to provide that the trustees of an elementary school district shall establish or make available a kindergarten program in the district; and amending section 20-7-117, MCA.


ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Current legislation allowing districts to offer kindergarten creates a current state liability to fund all kindergarten programs. This bill does not increase the current liability. Parents will still have the option of sending or not sending their children to kindergarten. However the school district will be required to provide a kindergarten under this proposed bill.
2. Districts which offer kindergarten have approximately 94% ratio of K to 1st grade due to a declining entering population and the non-enrollment of some students.
3. 20-9-161, MCA. through 20-9-167, MCA., allows for emergency budgeting procedures for impacted school districts having unanticipated increases in enrollment causing shortfalls in their current fiscal year adopted operating budgets.
4. Approximately 30 districts (8%) of the elementary districts do not offer kindergarten programs. In the past 2 years seven districts received approval to begin operating a kindergarten program. An additional 30 districts do not currently have kindergarten, but offer it when parents have students of kindergarten age. These districts are very small.
5. Based on first grade enrollment, those 30 districts with no kindergarten programs would enroll approximately 80 students. Of those 30 districts, 7 would not have enrollment, even with kindergarten, that would exceed the base level funding ANB of 9, so no additional foundation program costs are involved for approximately 8 of the 80 students.
6. 94 percent of 72 students, counted as 0.50 FTE each, would require approximately \$70,000 in foundation program payments to districts, using an average of current foundation program schedules. This liability currently exists.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Under current law, the financial obligation exists to provide foundation funding for all kindergarten students. However, passage would increase foundation program expenditures by approximately \$70,000 each fiscal year. Under current law this would increase the general fund appropriation to the foundation program by a like amount.


ROD SUNDESTED, BUDGET DIRECTOR 1-21-91
Office of Budget and Program Planning DATE


DAVE BROWN, PRIMARY SPONSOR 1/21/91
DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0175, as introduced.

HB 175

Fiscal Note Request, HB0175, as introduced.

Form BD-15

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EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

1. Some small districts or districts without the facility for kindergarten may cooperate with a nearby district to serve students.

LONG-RANGE EFFECTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

The liability for the costs of kindergarten currently exists. This proposal adds no increased financial liability for the state.

HB 175

APPROVED BY COMM. ON EDUCATION
AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

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INTRODUCED BY House BILL NO. 175
David Brown

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE TRUSTEES OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL ESTABLISH OR MAKE AVAILABLE A KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM IN THE DISTRICT; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-7-117, MCA."

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(2) The trustees of an elementary school district may establish and operate a free preschool program for children between the ages of 3 and 5 years. When such preschool programs are established, they shall must be an integral part of the elementary school and shall must be governed accordingly. Financing of preschool programs shall may not be supported by moneys money available from state equalization aid."

-End-

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 175
2 INTRODUCED BY Don Brun

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-End-

THIRD READING
HB 175



HOUSE BILL NO. 175
INTRODUCED BY D. BROWN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE TRUSTEES OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL ESTABLISH OR MAKE AVAILABLE A KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM IN THE DISTRICT; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-7-117, MCA."

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-End-

REFERENCE BILL

HB 175



GOVERNOR'S AMENDMENTS
TO HOUSE BILL 175
(REFERENCE COPY, AS AMENDED)
February 27, 1991

1. Title, line 6
Following: "DISTRICT;"
Delete: "AND"
2. Title, line 7
Following: "MCA"
Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE"
3. Page 2, line 9
Following: line 8
Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. This
act is effective July 1, 1992."

Gov. Amend.
HB 175

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9 equalization aid."

10 NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. (THIS ACT) IS
11 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1992.

-End-