

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 16, 1987

The meeting of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee was called to order by Chairman Dorothy Eck on April 16, 1987 at 1:30 P.M. in Room 410 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members of the committee were present except Senators Rassmussen and Jacobson.

CONSIDERATION OF HJR NO. 53: Rep. Tom Bulger, District # 37, sponsor of the resolution, stated that the purpose of the resolution is to do a study of the Montana welfare system, particularly the Medicaid-Medicare costs. The state is dealing with a 30% increase in these costs and needs to know why these costs have jumped to high and why they are predicted to go even higher. The cost of the study will be small compared to savings that may occur in welfare. Exhibit # 1.

PROPOSERS: Rep. Budd Gould, District # 61, stated that he has a good knowledge of welfare, having served on national and state human services boards for several years. He considers it vitally important to look at the reason for rising medical costs, a number one concern for the state. If only two studies can be funded, this should be one of them.

ACTION ON HJR NO. 53: Sen. Meyer moved that HJR # 53 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried unanimously. Sen. Meyer will carry the bill.

CONSIDERATION OF SJR NO. 13: Sen. Tom Keating, District # 44, sponsor of the resolution, stated that because Rep. Winslow's bill on the reorganization of Developmentally Disabled services died, he would like to have this resolution considered for interim study. The DD services come from five different departments, and it is difficult to coordinate services going to clients. The purpose of the study is to determine whether services could be better coordinated and administered. The previous taskforce has pointed up the need for a single administration. Some people now "fall through the cracks", while others are over-served. The study will deal only with DD services, and if the study reveals a need and ways to pull together disjointed services, then legislation will be drafted for the next session.

PROPOSERS: Tom Crosser, Office of Budget and Program Planning, stated that the indications are that unification needs to be done, and he supports a study to determine how that should work.

Steve Waldron, Community Mental Health Centers, stated that he is concerned with the resolution. Last fall's study looked at combining DD services with mental health services and he doesn't

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think that the two services should be combined, but he does agree that the present delivery of DD services is disjointed and needs to be looked at.

DISCUSSION OF SJR 13: Sen. Hims1: Is this just to be limited to administrative authority?

Sen. Keating: Yes. This study deals with just the administration and the delivery of services. We want to solve the disjointed delivery and coordinate the administration of services.

Sen. Vaughn: Is this similar to the proposed family services reorganization?

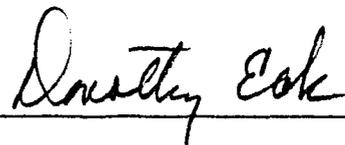
Sen. Keating: The DD services are pretty well defined, so the study won't be as broad or encompassing. But we do need to take a look at the reorganization of these services, as well.

Sen. Eck: What is happening now on these task forces?

Dennis Taylor, Developmentally Disabled Division Administrator: There hasn't been as much focus on studies lately in this area. However, we have been studying this administrative reorganization, and we would like the authority from the legislature to continue.

ACTION ON SJR 13: Sen. Hager moved that SJR DO PASS. The motion carried unanimously. Sen. Keating will carry the bill.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 P.M.



CHAIRMAN

ROLL CALL

Public Health, Welfare and Safety COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1987

Date 4-16-87

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Dorothy Eck	X		
Bill Norman	X		
Bob Williams	X		
Darryl Meyer	X		
Eleanor Vaughn	X		
Tom Rasmussen			
Judy Jacobson			
Harry H. "Doc" McLane	X		
Tom Hager	X		
Matt Himsl	X		

Each day attach to minutes.

AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

PROGRAM: AGENCY SUMMARY

BUDGET ITEM	FY 1986 Actual	Fiscal 1988		Fiscal 1989		FY 86-88 % Change
		Executive Current Level	Legislature	Executive Current Level	Legislature	
FTE	726.43	737.96	724.07	738.47	724.07	25.35
Personal Services	\$ 16,206,930	\$ 17,557,525	\$ 17,143,707	\$ 17,569,706	\$ 17,142,475	10.41
Operating Expenses	9,128,568	12,445,278	8,672,913	9,829,197	8,737,435	41.70
Equipment	218,635	482,639	75,473	480,144	61,821	-68.46
Non-Operating	183,588,816	224,744,027	212,929,867	237,769,513	221,171,932	31.57
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$209,142,949	\$255,229,469	\$238,821,960	\$265,648,560	\$247,113,663	30.27
FUNDING						
General Fund	\$ 59,195,874	\$ 70,252,325	\$ 66,585,740	\$ 71,089,616	\$ 66,269,345	30.65
State Special Rev	7,777,527	8,548,086	7,134,063	8,934,248	7,199,469	-3.50
Federal Revenue	142,169,548	176,429,058	165,102,157	185,624,696	173,644,848	31.96
TOTAL FUNDING	\$209,142,949	\$255,229,469	\$238,821,960	\$265,648,560	\$247,113,662	30.27

Program Description: The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services administers the majority of the state's human services programs. Services include cash assistance payments to recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, and the General Assistance Relief Program in state assumed counties; reimbursement to health care providers for medical services to medicaid clients; services for the vocationally and visually handicapped; and community-based placement services for the state's developmentally disabled.

A major change in the department's mission has been the creation of the new Department of Family and Social Services. Services that were formerly provided through the Social Services Program of SRS, including Foster Care and Aging Services Programs, have been transferred to the new department. The transfer of the Social Services Programs and some administrative staff and operating costs from SRS has reduced SRS's total expenditures by approximately \$24 million per year.

Budget: As shown in the above table, the increases in costs between fiscal 1986 and the subcommittee funding for the 1989 biennium occur primarily in the grants and benefits portion of the budget which increases 31.5 percent. Operating costs rise 41.7 percent over the same period. The principal cause of the increase in operating costs is the

EXHIBIT
 SOCIAL SERVICES
 DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
 FOSTER CARE AND AGING SERVICES PROGRAMS
 THE TRANSFER OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS AND SOME ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND OPERATING COSTS FROM SRS HAS REDUCED SRS'S TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY APPROXIMATELY \$24 MILLION PER YEAR.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 14

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THE PRESIDENT

STATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND GENERAL

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

35

THIRD

REASONS

**AGRICULTURE STUDY OF WELFARE, MEDICAL AND GENERAL ASSISTANCE SYSTEMS
GENERAL (MAY 1944)**

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

37

BE DISCUSSING IN

RELEASED

REPRODUCED

DOMESTIC USE

1944-1945

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 16 19 87

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

having had under consideration SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 13

FIRST reading copy (WHITE)
color

**STUDY CONSOLIDATION OF SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED
PERSONS**

KEATING

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 13

DO PASS

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DOROTHEE ECK

Chairman.