

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
51st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Chairman Ted Schye, on April 10, 1989, at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: None.

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Andrea Merrill, Legislative Council Researcher

Announcements/Discussion: Chairman Schye reminded the committee of the Education Committee dinner at the Green Meadow Country Club on April 11, 1989 at 6:30 p.m.

HEARING ON SB 470

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Swysgood, District 73, Dillon presented SB 470 for Sen. Hammond who was out of town and said SB 470 is an act authorizing third class elementary school districts to reduce the number of trustees from five to three. He stated SB 470 addresses the concern that when a third class district goes to five trustees there is no mechanism in statute allowing a return to three. He also said SB 470 states upon receipt of petition from ten qualified electors the Board of Trustees may return to three members.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

Rep. Wilbur Spring, District 77, Belgrade

Proponent Testimony:

Rep. Spring stated his support for SB 470.

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Questions From Committee Members: Rep. Eudaily asked Rep. Swysgood if in changing back to a three member board there would be a published notice in the paper as is the requirement in changing to a five member board. Rep. Swysgood answered there would be no requirement for publication but he would have no objection to doing so. Rep. Eudaily then asked if it would take three years to eliminate the extra trustees and Rep. Swysgood said yes.

Closing by Sponsor: Rep. Swysgood thanked the committee and said SB 470 addresses a concern in some of the rural school districts where due to the limited number of people in the district there are not enough qualified people to run for the positions.

DISPOSITION OF SB 470

Motion: Rep. Darko made the motion that SB 470 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion: None

Amendments, Discussion, and Votes: None

Recommendation and Vote: Motion CARRIED upon unanimous voice vote.

HEARING ON HJR 39

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Diana Wyatt, District 37, Great Falls said HJR 39 is an attempt to save the oil painting, "The Exalted Ruler", for public observation within the State of Montana. She said the painting is being sold to the highest bidder by the Elks Club of Montana and that the bill does not stipulate any one location where the painting would have to be retained.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

Bob Clark, Montana Historical Society

Proponent Testimony:

Bob Clark said this attempt to hold the painting in Montana is a correct one and the Montana Historical Society will be one agency likely involved in pursuing private funding.

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Questions From Committee Members: Rep. Wallin asked Rep. Wyatt why since the highest bidder involved money there was no mention of the amount necessary to obtain the painting. Rep. Wyatt said at present there are three gentlemen in Great Falls with a private option on the painting separate from the Elks Club and the price has gone between three and five million dollars depending on appraisal. She said however, the option as it stands would probably not equal what the appraised value plus restoration would be and until that option is off possibly the Elks Club in Missoula, the Charles M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, and the Montana Historical Society in Helena could work with private and state funding sources to purchase the painting at a more realistic price once the option is off.

Closing by Sponsor: Rep. Wyatt thanked the committee and encouraged a favorable committee report to retain and display the painting in a position where many Montanans and tourists could enjoy it.

DISPOSITION OF HJR 39

Motion: Rep. Johnson made the motion that HJR 39 DO PASS.

Discussion: None

Amendments, Discussion, and Votes: None

Recommendation and Vote: Motion CARRIED upon unanimous voice vote.

HEARING ON HB 795

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Speaker John Vincent, District 80, Bozeman said HB 795 may be the only opportunity this session to put money away on a voluntary basis in behalf of the students in Montana and create ongoing scholarship funds. The bill would establish another category of license plate in Montana with the proceeds going to each school's scholarship fund from plates purchased recognizing that particular institution. He said many states have found this to be a popular program generating a great deal of scholarship money. Speaker Vincent expressed appreciation to the Attorney General and particularly Bob Robinson of the Motor Vehicle Division for the idea and dedicated effort in the drafting of this legislation.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

Bob Robinson, Motor Vehicle Division
Carrol Krause, Commissioner of Higher Education
Sheila Stearns, University of Montana, Missoula (UM)

Henry McLernan, Montana Tech, Butte
Brian Harlin, Montana State University (MSU) and Associated
Students Montana State University (ASMSU)
Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association (MEA)

Proponent Testimony:

Bob Robinson said the charge for the collegiate license plate is classified as a donation and is completely voluntary, providing a sizeable amount in many states for scholarships. He said many states charge substantially more for the plate but he feels there may be more participation in Montana if the fee was lower. The design for the plates would be set by the Justice Department in cooperation and consultation with the various units of the University System and private colleges in the State of Montana.

Carrol Krause said the University System has an extensive need to increase the number of scholarships available to students and with the raise in tuition this year of approximately 14% certainly scholarships are going to make the determination often times whether a student goes to college. Mr. Krause said this is a program people can voluntarily participate in to contribute to a scholarship program at the school of their choice.

Sheila Stearns said the UM has approximately 25,000 alumni in the State of Montana and UM would expect about a 5% conservative rate of participation from the alumni in the purchase of the license plate, resulting in an approximate \$25,000 per year contribution. She said the UM believes its Alumni Association would greatly help in the marketing, advertising, and promotion of this program. Ms. Stearns urged committee support for this attempt at a voluntary investment in unrestricted scholarship dollars for the University System and other private colleges.

Henry McLernan said the success of this program will be measured by its marketing and from his point of view the smaller colleges are ready and willing to do their part.

Brian Harlin, (EXHIBIT 1.). Mr. Harlin also speaking on behalf of the ASMSU said the ASMSU support every effort in giving people the voluntary opportunity to support higher education and contribute to the State of Montana. He said many students are going to be hit quite hard by the increase in tuition and these scholarship programs may be what makes the difference.

Eric Feaver stated strong support for HB 795.

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Questions From Committee Members: Rep. Simpkins asked Bob Robinson if a person wanted a collegiate license plate with their initials on it would the charge be doubled and Mr. Robinson answered yes.

Rep. Johnson asked Speaker Vincent if Community Colleges are included in this legislation and he replied no. Rep. Johnson then asked if the Speaker would include the Community Colleges and he said he would have no problem in doing so if the committee decided to do so.

Rep. Phillips asked Bob Robinson if the County Treasurers would have problems with not getting a fee from the purchase of these collegiate plates and Mr. Robinson answered they should not have a problem since they do nothing more with the collegiate plates than with regular license plates.

Closing by Sponsor: Speaker Vincent stressed the voluntary aspect of HB 795 and said it will generate pride and enthusiasm for the University System and private colleges. He said it will give the University System more visibility and generate drastically needed revenue.

DISPOSITION OF HB 795

Motion: Rep. Daily made the motion that HB 795 DO PASS.

Discussion: None

Amendments, Discussion, and Votes: Rep. Johnson made the motion to amend HB 795 to include the Community Colleges. Rep. Glaser and Rep. Nelson questioned whether vocational technical schools should also be included and after discussion it was decided this could be taken up at a later time. Motion to amend HB 795 CARRIED upon unanimous voice vote.

Recommendation and Vote: Rep. Daily made the motion that HB 795 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion CARRIED by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 5:00 p.m.

April 10, 1989

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ted Schue", is written above a horizontal line.

REP. TED SCHUE, Chairman

TS/dlm

8004.min

DAILY ROLL CALL

EDUCATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE April 10, 1989

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Ted Schye, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Fritz Daily, Vice-Chairman	✓		
Rep. Vicki Cocchiarella	✓		
Rep. Paula Darko	✓		
Rep. Ervin Davis	✓		
Rep. Ralph Eudaily	✓		
Rep. Floyd Gervais	✓		
Rep. Bill Glaser	✓		
Rep. Dan Harrington	✓		
Rep. John Johnson	✓		
Rep. Tom Kilpatrick	✓		
Rep. Richard Nelson	✓		
Rep. John Phillips	✓		
Rep. Richard Simpkins	✓		
Rep. Wilbur Spring, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Barry "Spook" Stang	✓		
Rep. Fred Thomas	✓		
Rep. Norm Wallin	✓		
Rep. Diana Wyatt	✓		
Rep. Tom Zook	✓		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 11, 1989

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Education and Cultural Resources report that SENATE BILL 470 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in .

Signed: 
Ted Schye, Chairman

[REP. SWYSGOOD WILL CARRY THIS BILL ON THE HOUSE FLOOR]

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 11, 1989

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Education and Cultural Resources report that HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 39 (first reading copy -- white) do pass .

Signed: Ted Schye
Ted Schye, Chairman

*Leave
McKenna*

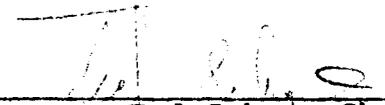
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 11, 1989

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Education and Cultural Resources report that HOUSE BILL 795 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended .

Signed: _____


Ted Schye, Chairman

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 24.

Strike: "or"

2. Page 1, line 25.

Strike: "(b)"

Insert: "a community college as defined in 20-15-101; or
(c)"



Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717

EXHIBIT #1
DATE 4-10-89
HB 795

Office of the President

Telephone (406) 994-2341

April 10, 1989

Rep. Ted Schye
Chair, House Committee on Education
and Cultural Resources
Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Rep. Schye:

Montana State University records its strong support for House Bill 795 regarding College License Plates.

Each year, Montana State University provides approximately \$900,000 in scholarship funds. About half of this amount is generated by the institution through private sources and half from outside sources including high school honor scholarships. Nonetheless, we have many qualified students for whom scholarship aid is not available.

The paucity of scholarship funding often results in losing top quality Montana students to other states. For example, we give 20 privately funded Presidential Scholarships each year. There are hundreds of competitors. Our top 100 candidates are routinely courted by other universities throughout the country.

We also have students on our campus who find themselves in financial difficulties despite the availability of federal financial aid. The recent tuition hike will no doubt cause this situation to get worse.

We greatly appreciate the intent behind HB 795 and assure the Legislature that the MSU Foundation stands ready to receive the dollars and distribute them for scholarship aid in accordance with the provisions of the bill.

Sincerely,


Marilyn F. Wessel
Director of Communications and
Assistant to the President

MFW:daj

AGENCY INDEX

Education Subcommittee
51st Legislature

Agricultural Experiment Station

Hearing: January 31, February 9, 13, and 16, March 6, 10
Executive Action: February 9, 15, and 16

Board of Regents

Hearing: January 24, February 8
Executive Action: January 24

Board of Public Education

Hearing: January 9
Executive Action: January 11

Bureau of Mines and Geology

Hearing: February 1, 9, 13, and 16
Executive Action: February 9 and 16

Commissioner of Higher Education

Hearing: January 24, 26, February 2, 8
Executive Action: January 26, February 8

Community Colleges

Hearing: January 19, 23, February 8, March 6, 10
Executive Action: January 23, February 13, March 10

Cooperative Extension Service

Hearing: January 31, February 9, 13, 16
Executive Action: February 9, 16

Deaf and Blind, School for the

Hearing: January 10, 17
Executive Action: January 17

Eastern Montana College

(see also university system: six units)
Hearing: February 7, 15
Executive Action: February 15

Fire Services Training School

Hearing: January 11, 17, 24, February 2
Executive Action: January 17

Forest and Conservation Experiment Station

Hearing: January 25, February 9, 13, 16
Executive Action: February 9, 16

Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology

(See also university system: six units)
Hearing: February 1, 15

Executive Action: February 15

Montana State University

(see also university system: six units)
Hearing: January 26, 30, 31, February 15
Executive Action: February 15

Northern Montana College

(see also university system: six units)
Hearing: February 6, 15, March 10
Executive Action: February 15

Public Instruction, Office of (OPI)

Hearing: January 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 27, February 8, 17
Executive Action: January 17, 18, 19, 20, 27 February 8, 17

University of Montana

Hearing: January 25, 26, February 2, 8, 15, 16, March 8,
March 10, 13
Executive Action: February 15

University System: Six Units

Hearing: January 20, 23, 25, February 8, 9, 13, 15, March
6, March 8, 10, 13
Executive Action: February 8, 15, March 13

Vocational Education, State Council for

Hearing: January 9, 16, 27, March 10
Executive Action: January 11, 27

Vocational-Technical Centers

Hearing: January 18, 23, 24, 26, February 2, 6, 8, March 6,
March 8, 10, 13
Executive Action: January 26, February 13, March 10

Western Montana College

(See also university system: six units)
Hearing: February 15, March 10
Executive Action: February 15

CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX OF TOPICS

Education Subcommittee 51st Legislature

January 3 - Organizational meeting

January 9 - Vocational Educational hearing. Board of Public Education hearing.

January 10 - School for the Deaf and Blind hearing.

January 11 - Fire Service Training School hearing; Vo-Ed executive action; Board of Public Instruction executive action.

January 12 - Office of Public Instruction hearing.

January 13 - Office of Public Instruction hearing.

January 16 - Office of Public Instruction hearing.

January 17 - Fire Service Training School hearing and executive action; Office of Public Instruction executive action; School for the Deaf and Blind hearing and executive action.

January 18 - Office of Public Instruction hearing and executive action; Vocational Technical Centers hearing.

January 19 - Community Colleges hearing.

January 20 - Office of Public Instruction hearing and executive action; University System hearing.

January 23 - Community College hearing and executive action; Vocational-Technical Centers hearing; University System hearing.

January 24 - Commissioner of Higher Education hearing; Board of Regents hearing and executive action; Vocational-Technical Centers hearing; Fire Service Training School hearing

January 25 - University System hearing; U of M hearing; Forestry Experiment Station hearing.

January 26 - University System hearing; MSU hearing; Commissioner of Higher Education hearing; Vocational-Technical Centers hearing and executive action.

January 27 - Office of Public Instruction hearing and executive action; Vocational Educational hearing and executive action.

January 30 - Montana State University hearing.

January 31 - Montana State University hearing; Agricultural Experiment Station hearing; Cooperative Extension Service hearing.

February 1 - Montana College of Mineral Science and Technical hearing; Bureau of Mines and Geology hearing.

February 2 - Vocational-Technical Center hearing; Fire Service Training School hearing; Commissioner of Higher Education hearing; University of Montana hearing.

February 6 - Northern Montana College hearing; Vocational-Technical Center hearing.

February 7 - Eastern Montana College hearing.

February 8 - University System hearing and executive action; Commissioner of Higher Education hearing and executive action; Board of Regents hearing; University of Montana hearing; Office of Public Instruction hearing and executive action; Community Colleges hearing; Vocational-Technical Centers hearing.

February 9 - University System hearing; Agricultural Experiment Station hearing and executive action; Cooperative Extension Service hearing and executive action; Forestry Experiment Station hearing and executive action; Bureau of Mines hearing and executive action.

February 13 - University System hearing; Agricultural Experiment station hearing; Community College executive action; Vocational-Technical executive action; Cooperative Extension Service hearing; Bureau of Mines hearing; Forestry Experiment Station hearing.

February 15 - University System hearing and executive action; University of Montana executive action; Montana State University executive action; Eastern Montana State executive action; Western Montana College hearing; Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology hearing.

February 16 - Agricultural Experiment Station hearing and executive action; Cooperative Extension Service hearing and executive action; Bureau of Mines hearing and executive action; Forestry Experiment Station hearing and executive action; University of Montana hearing.

February 17 - Office of Public Instruction hearing and executive action.

March 6 - University System hearing; Community Colleges hearing; Vocational-Technical Centers hearing; Agricultural Experiment Station hearing.

March 8 - Vocational-Technical Centers hearing; University System hearing; University of Montana hearing.

March 8 - HB 233 hearing and executive action; HB 277 hearing and executive action; HB 294 hearing and executive action.

March 10 - University System hearing; Vocational Education hearing; Community Colleges hearing and executive action; Vocational-Technical Centers hearing and executive action; Northern Montana College hearing; Western Montana College hearing; Agricultural Experiment Station hearing; University of Montana hearing.

March 13 - University System hearing and executive action; University of Montana hearing.

March 16 - HB 398 hearing and executive action; HB 400 hearing and executive action; HB 731 hearing and executive action.