

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
51st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Chairperson Bob Raney, on April 20, 1989, at  
12:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: All members present except:

Members Excused: Rep. Brooke, Rep. Kadas, Rep. McDonough, Rep.  
Moore, Rep. O'Keefe and Rep. Hannah

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Claudia Montagne, Secretary; Hugh Zackheim, Staff  
Researcher, Environmental Quality Council

Announcements/Discussion: None

HEARING ON SJR 24

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. PAUL RAPP-SVRCEK, Senate District 26, said the resolution was introduced in response to the recent passage in Idaho of legislation that addressed the problem of shipping raw logs to the Orient for processing. He said the resolution took note of that problem, and asked the Idaho Legislature to reconsider their action. He said there was a concern that the legislation would hinder the timber supply flowing from Idaho into Montana. SEN. RAPP-SVRCEK said there would be a means of retaliation, since Idaho got a considerable amount of timber from the Yak and other border areas. However, the resolution was offered in the spirit of support and cooperation, with the request that they reconsider in light of the impact on Montana's economy.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

Don Allen, Montana Wood Products Association  
Rep. Barry "Spook" Stang, House District 52  
Rep. Clyde Smith, House District 5  
Rep. Ben Cohen, House District 3  
Rep. Bob Raney, House District 82

Proponent Testimony:

DON ALLEN said that the issue of timber supply and the future of Montana's mills had come up during the session. He said his association had opposed the foreign export of logs from federal lands, which he felt was a responsible position. He said his association favored Sen. Packwood's bill which would make the ban permanent. He said the resolution was in keeping with their position.

REP. JIM ELLIOTT, House District 51, Trout Creek, stood in support of the resolution and said he would carry the bill on the floor of the House.

REP. SPOOK STANG, House District 52, stood in support of the resolution.

REP. CLYDE SMITH, House District 5, identified himself as a proponent.

REP. BEN COHEN stood in support of the resolution.

REP. BOB RANEY said he was a proponent of the bill.

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Questions From Committee Members:

None

Closing by Sponsor: SEN. RAPP-SVRCEK closed, stating that Keith Olson, Montana Logging Association, had asked to be listed as a proponent of the resolution. He said the resolution had passed the Senate Natural Resources Committee, as well as the Senate, unanimously, and encouraged the committee's concurrence.

## DISPOSITION OF SJR 24

Motion: REP. SMITH moved that SJR 24 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion: None

Amendments, Discussion, and Votes: None

Recommendation and Vote: The motion CARRIED, with Rep. Giacometto voting no.

HEARING ON SJR 22

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. RAPP-SVRCEK, Senate District 26, presented the resolution for Sen. Harp, who was in Conference Committee. He said the resolution directed the Environmental Quality Council (EQC) to study the protection and management of groundwater quality. He mentioned a number of bills that had been passed this session dealing with groundwater, namely Rep. Giacometto's bill regarding agricultural chemicals in groundwater, Rep. Grady's bill regarding groundwater monitoring at landfills, and Bob Raney's bill regarding leaking underground storage tanks, as well as others. He said the purpose of the resolution was to direct EQC to look at the issue in an overall sense and provide coordination and direction for the future.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

None

Proponent Testimony:

None

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Questions From Committee Members:

REP. GIACOMETTO asked why the mandate was needed for the EQC, especially when they had a lot of issues to study over the next biennium. SEN. RAPP-SVRCEK said it was his understanding that a resolution was always passed to standing committees regarding the issues they were to consider over the interim. If that was not the case, he felt there were some gaps in an overall policy regarding groundwater management that needed to be addressed.

REP. HARPER said that the Legislature often passed resolutions mandating standing committees. He said this was appropriate time for such a mandate, and EQC was the best place to put the study. He said that with federal regulations and requirements coming in, the state needed an organized and effective group to stay on top of it.

REP. GILBERT said he shared the feelings of both representatives who had spoken. He said the EQC so far had three major studies during the interim, and with too many, quality work would be impossible. He said his preference would be to reword the resolution to read "requested" rather than "assigned" or "required to". He mentioned that the third study had been funded, and covered log scaling.

REP. RANEY asked Don Allen if he had any comments, and Mr. Allen replied that he objected to the log scaling study being assigned to EQC.

Closing by Sponsor: SEN. RAPP-SVRCEK closed, suggesting that Rep. Gilbert or Rep. Harper would carry the bill on the floor.

#### DISPOSITION OF SJR 22

Motion: REP. ROTH moved that SJR 22 BE NOT CONCURRED IN.

Substitute Motion: REP. HARPER moved that the bill BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion: REP. HARPER said that with the amount of attention being given to groundwater, there would need to be some oversight. He said the EQC could manage the studies.

REP. GIACOMETTO said that he had no problem with the study, but mandating the study was his concern. He said the studies already assigned to EQC were priorities. He suggested a change in the language that would indicate a recommendation rather than a mandate.

REP. ROTH said the study was unnecessary, and was putting a burden on EQC.

REP. GILBERT said he had signed the bill, and had told the sponsors that it was an area they would be covering anyway in EQC's work on forest practices. He said amendments would prevent the resolution from any chance of passage this late in the session. He said the committee had made its feelings known regarding mandates of studies, and suggested changing that language in similar resolutions next session. He encouraged the committee to pass the resolution.

Amendments, Discussion, and Votes: None

Recommendation and Vote: The substitute motion CARRIED, 6-4, with Rep. Clark, Rep. Giacometto, Rep. Owens and Rep. Roth voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 1:00 p.m.



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REP. RANEY, Chairperson

BR/cm

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DAILY ROLL CALL

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1989

Date 4-20-89

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Bob Raney, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Ben Cohen, Vice-Chairman	✓		
Rep. Kelly Addy	✓		
Rep. Vivian Brooke			✓
Rep. Hal Harper	✓		
Rep. Mike Kadas			✓
Rep. Mary McDonough			✓
Rep. Janet Moore			✓
Rep. Mark O'Keefe			✓
Rep. Robert Clark	✓		
Rep. Leo Giacometto	✓		
Rep. Bob Gilbert	✓		
Rep. Tom Hannah			✓
Rep. Lum Owens	✓		
Rep. Rande Roth	✓		
Rep. Clyde Smith	✓		

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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 20, 1989

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Natural Resources report that SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 24 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in .

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Raney, Chairman

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

Classified

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 20, 1989

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Natural Resources report that SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 22 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in .

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Bob Raney, Chairman

[REP. G. B. +

WILL CARRY THIS BILL ON THE HOUSE FLOOR]

