

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE BILL 013

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN KEN MILLER, on April 18, 1997, at
7:00 A.M., in ROOM 108.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. William R. Wiseman (R)
Rep. Roger DeBruycker (R)
Sen. Ken Miller (R)
Sen. Dale Mahlum (R)
Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Taryn Purdy, Fiscal Analyst
Jaelene Racicot, Secretary

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 13

SEN. MILLER opened executive action on HB 13. {Tape: 1; Side: A;
Approx. Time Count: 0.}

Discussion:

REP. WISEMAN explained why HB 13 ended up in a free conference
committee. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .5.}

Motion:

SEN. WATERMAN MOVED AMENDMENT (hb001305.a35). {Tape: 1; Side: A;
Approx. Time Count; 1.4.}

SEN. MAHLUM. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.7;
Comments: Questioned SEN. WATERMAN about the effective date on
the amendment.}

Taryn Purdy explained to the committee the last time the method
of pay changed and how the salaries were determined. {Tape: 1;
Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.4.}

REP. MENAHAN asked Taryn Purdy about the previous law on salary.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.8.}

REP. WISEMAN asked Taryn Purdy asked how long it had been since the Commissioner of Political Practices had a pay raise. Ms. Purdy responded in the 1993 biennium. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.2.}*

REP. DEBRUYCKER asked Ms. Purdy if the other departments received a pay raise in 1995. Ms. Purdy stated the entire law on how to determine salaries was changed in 1995. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.7.}*

REP. WISEMAN asked about a 40% increase in pay raises to the legislators. Ms. Purdy stated the legislators received the same increase the state employees received. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.7.}*

REP. DEBRUYCKER asked if the Commissioner of Political Practices were left off the pay plan in 1995. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.6.}*

SEN. WATERMAN stated the amendment would represent a 31% salary increase. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.3.}*

SEN. MILLER stated they would place the commissioner of Political Practices into a grade and therefore would not be left out. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.4.}*

Vote: A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION FAILED; 3 - 3.

Discussion:

SEN. WATERMAN stated she was concerned about treating an employee different than the rest of the employees. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9.4.}*

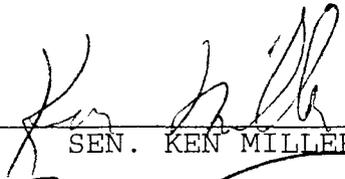
Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE HB 13 WITH THE SENATE AMENDMENTS. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. THE MOTION FAILED, WITH 3 REPRESENTATIVES AND 1 SENATOR VOTING YES.

Discussion:

REP. WISEMAN stated that if the House accepts the amendments passed by the Senate, then the bill would be on its way to the Governor. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.5.}*

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 7:14 a.m.



SEN. KEN MILLER, Chairman



JAELENE RACICOT, Secretary

KM/JR