

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

February 9, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m., with all members present except Rep. Meyer, who was excused.

House Bill 365 was discussed. Rep. South, chief sponsor, said the bill represents the Governor's proposed Foundation Program schedules. He introduced Jon Krutar, who explained that the bill provides for a 6% increase to keep up with inflation and a little more. The assumptions we made about ANB were provided by OSPI in October of last year. Maurice Hickey testified on the bill (attached).

House Bill 571 was discussed next. Rep. Meloy, chief sponsor, said the bill was introduced because of a problem in his district where most of the students live more than 1 mile but less than 3 miles from the school, and none can ride the bus. It creates great traffic congestion. This bill has a narrow definition of transportees covered, but widens the present law. The Legislature has tried to address this problem in the past but has not done so because of the fiscal impact.

Those who testified on the bill were Bob Stockton and John Campbell. They were not opponents but pointed out how difficult it would be to determine how many districts this bill would affect and how much it would cost.

House Bill 572 was discussed next. Rep. Courtney, chief sponsor, distributed a handout from the Butte school district. He introduced Bob Stockton to explain the bill. Mr. Stockton said OSPI determined that to hold district levies to the level they are now at it would be necessary to increase the Foundation program schedules 13.9%. They arbitrarily dropped that to 14%. This is an estimate based on experience of school districts around the state. He said he would rather have the high schedules not funded than low schedules fully funded.

Proponents of the bill were Lloyd Markell and John Campbell (testimony attached), and Gladys Vance, President of the Montana Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. Jon Krutar said that the difference in general fund money in the 2 bills is \$38.2 million.

The Committee went into Executive Session to consider several bills.

House Joint Resolution 37 - Rep. Lory moved that the bill DO PASS. The motion passed 14-1 with Rep. Meyer voting NO.

House Joint Resolution 18 - Rep. Barrett moved that the bill DO PASS. Rep. Lund made a substitute motion to table the bill. The substitute motion passed unanimously. The Chairperson appointed Reps. Gilligan and Barrett to work on amendments to the bill.

House Joint Resolution 16 - The committee decided to substitute a committee sponsored resolution (attached). Rep. Gunderson moved to adopt the attachment as a committee resolution. The motion passed unanimously. It was decided to leave HJR 16 on the table.

House Bill 541 - Rep. Gunderson moved to amend the title, page 1, line 6, and page 5, lines 2 and 6 to strike "specialist" and insert "support personnel." The motion to amend failed 4-11. Rep. Lund moved that the bill DO PASS AS NOT AMENDED. The motion passed 11-4.

House Bill 545 - Rep. Barrett moved that the bill DO NOT PASS. The motion passed 14-1 (Rep. Gunderson voted NO).

House Bill 546 - Rep. Barrett moved that the bill DO PASS. The motion passed unanimously.

House Bill 649 - Rep. Lory moved that the bill DO PASS. Rae Haas's suggested amendments were discussed. Rep. Estenson moved to strike page 3, lines 8 and 9 after "shall be" and insert "1 round trip to each site." The motion passed unanimously. After discussion, she moved to table the bill and talk to Mr. Stockton for the precise wording. The Chairperson appointed Reps. Lory and Estenson to work on amendments to the bill.

House Bill 391 - Rep. Gunderson moved to reconsider action taken on February 4. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Uhde then withdrew his amendments of that date. Rep. Barrett moved that the bill DO NOT PASS. The original vote was re-recorded and the motion passed 9-6.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ANN MARY DUSSAULT, Chairperson

EDUCATION COMMITTEE VOTING RECORD

February 9, 1977

	HB 541 Gunder- son <u>amend</u>	Lund HB 541 Do Pass as Not <u>Amended</u>	HB 391 Barrett Do <u>Not Pass</u>
Dussault	No	Yes	Yes
Gilligan	No	Yes	No
Courtney	Yes	Yes	No
Estenson	No	Yes	Yes
Gunderson	Yes	Yes	No
Hand	No	No	Yes
Kennerly	Yes	Yes	No
Kessler	No	Yes	No
Uhde	No	Yes	No
Barrett	No	No	Yes
Eudaily	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kvaalen	No	No	Yes
Lory	No	No	Yes
Lund	No	Yes	Yes
Meyer	No	Yes	Yes
	11 No 4 Yes	11 Yes 4 No	9 Yes 6 No