

Chairman Brand called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., all members were present.

(Secretary finds no copy of Hargesheimer's summary, but I'm sure there was one.)

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

HJR 79-State Administration Committee Bill--BRAND-Dick drew this up, and the form will be included in the resolution. We wanted the form for him because he came out with such a complicated thing last time. If we direct it in the resolution, he can't do anything. You still have the same reporting dates.

O'Connell moved DO PASS, with Robbins seconding, the motion carried unanimously. (The report didn't go out until 2/23 the day of the hearing)

#### HEARING OPENED

HB 424-Rep. Kimble, sponsor--(the Representative submitted written testimony, see attachment #2)

ALLEN JOSLIN, Department of State Lands--We don't oppose it. This is a simple oversight matter in 81-908, which allows citizens and corporations to purchase lands. There are three reservations with state lands within them. The state would be able to sell more than one section.

VICKI DE SONIA, Department of Community Affairs--(she submitted written testimony, see attachment #3, which explains 81-908, and it's applicability)

TURNER-Couldn't the individual indians buy it under trust? KIMBLE-Only the tribe can create trust land out of public land. TURNER-Can't they be private lands? KIMBLE-Sometimes. TURNER-Can they be original rights? KIMBLE-Under some terms. KROPP-Indians can't trade? KIMBLE-No, the state wants some boundary land adjacent to Milk River, but they couldn't do it due to the lack of authorization.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

HB 424-Feda moved DO PASS, Robbins seconded, and the motion carried with Kropp voting no, and Smith abstaining.

HB 447-MULAR-I have amendments (see attachment #1), which I move that the committee accept.

Meyer seconded the motion, and it carried with Ryan voting no. Mular moved that HB 447 go out AS AMENDED DO PASS, Meyer seconded and the motion carried with Ryan and Lien voting no.

HB 400-Kropp moved DO NOT PASS, with Feda seconding. Mular made a substitute motion that the bill be transferred to Taxation.

MULAR-It is really a tax bill, but on a local administrative level. If we move it to Taxation and it gets killed it would have more credibility. FEDA-I think we can kill it here.

Mular's motion failed, and Kropp's original DO NOT PASS motion carried with Mular voting no.

HB 765-O'Connell moved to accept the amendments (see attachment #4), and the motion carried unanimously. O'Connell moved AS AMENDED DO PASS, with Mular seconding; the motion carried with Smith voting no.

HB 686-Kropp moved DO NOT PASS, seconded by Turner.

Mular made a substitute motion of DO PASS, with O'Connell seconding.

KROPP-I'm tired of studies, and I think it should be the problem of the people. MULAR-In order to get a law mandating the study, we have to have a bill. Most communities have the money to do this. We are asking no more than a rancher who has hail damage and can't bail himself out. These people have insurance claims. There are no mechanics in the present law to do the necessary things to take care of this. The money expended for saline seepage was high. Gunderson had a hail damage bill, and urban people supported it. FEDA-The state can't afford to keep up the hail insurance. Flood insurance is a lousy set-up, and I am opposed. SMITH-Both of my houses flood, and we take care of them.

Mular's substitute motion failed 9 - 2 (O'Connell and Mular being the 2). So Kropp's original motion of DO NOT PASS came up, and passed 8 - 3.

HB 587-Feda moved to accept the amendments, with O'Connell seconding, and the motion carried unanimously. O'Connell moved AS AMENDED DO PASS, Kanduch seconded, and the motion carried with Mular, Ryan, Smith and Lien voting no.

HB 63-Mular moved DO PASS, Feda seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

HB 565-O'Connell moved DO PASS, Ryan seconded, and the motion carried with Smith and Kropp voting no.

HB 515-Feda moved DO NOT PASS, Kropp seconded and the motion carried with Ryan voting no.

HB 534-BRAND-I held this to get some information on the last study. (He read a letter from Bob Lohn - see attachment #5)The Attorney General has said that he will take the corrections sections of Institutions, and he isn't opposed to the bill. FEDA-I would like to see this on the floor. RYAN-I am part of this, and it is beyond me that anyone would think you could abolish Institutions and add it to SRS - which is already a monster. I have no argument with abolishing Institutions, but I want SRS cleaned up. We have hired people and they aren't doing their jobs. A man going into Probation & Parole would think he could eventually get to be Director, but all of our administrators come from out of state. LIEN-Executive reorganization hasn't done what it was supposed to. ROBBINS-I agree we have a mess in both of them, and if we get them together it would be easier. BRAND-Something has to be done to stop this. No one is getting helped, and state people are just trying to keep their jobs. KROPP-There's a new Director in Institutions, and I think we should give him a chance. Throwing them together might be a mistake. MENAHAN-The people in that department are afraid to do anything. Everybody tattles on somebody else. In the last strike at Warm Springs the workers appealed and appealed and finally struck, went to court and won. They do a lousy job of running things. LIEN-I will vote for this, but I don't know what it will do except shake them up. KROPP-How do we help by dumping Institutions into SRS? O'CONNELL-At least we are doing away with one department and can have them all under one roof - so they can be dealt with better. FEDA-This way at least they can't shuffle you around.

Feda moved DO PASS on HB 534, with Robbins seconding, and the motion carried with Kropp voting no.

KANDUCH-We have a problem with high unemployment in the timber trade, and alot of timber that could be cut and sent around the country. This resolution requests the federal timber agencies to increase sales of over mature timber in Montana.

BRAND-All in favor of introducing such a resolution (see attachment #6), vote yes. The motion carried with Ryan voting no.

MEETING ADJOURNED - 9:45 a.m.

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Joe Brand, Chairman

*Anita C. Sierke*  
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Anita C. Sierke, Secretary