

February 18, 1977

The Conservation and Public Participation Subcommittee of the Natural Resources Committee convened in room 437, at 7 a.m. on February 18, 1977, with Chairman Bengtson presiding and Reps. Curtiss, Davis and Nathe present.

HB 701 was discussed. Amendments had been prepared and were discussed. Chairman Bengtson expressed concern at tampering with the Title XX funds of the SRS. She said even though she would like to see weatherization under one department, she felt taking these funds could fragment the SRS elderly program as their weatherization funds are also used for home repair.

Rep. Curtiss made a motion to remove Title XX funds from the bill. This motion was seconded by Rep. Davis and carried.

Concern was expressed at asking the state for \$300,000 to fund this program. Pat Binns mentioned this would be matched by the federal government. The counties would get one-half of the money and the other half will be allocated to the counties as an incentive to encourage the full use of the program.

Rep. Nathe moved HB 701 be recommended to the committee do pass, seconded by Rep. Curtiss; motion passed with Rep. Davis voting no.

HB 426 was discussed. Gene Huntington, Budget and Planning Office, was asked for some general comments on the bill. He felt the bill was too specific. He said they have been doing some life cycle cost analysis in their planning. He said he would like to see the last two sections changed.

Pat Binns mentioned that the bill could also be used in retrofitting buildings--like school buildings. He said the superintendents of our local districts are interested in getting some kind of system to do this. He said if the state had the methodology available they would be able to do this on their own.

Rep. Davis felt that conservation retrofitting will be automatic as the price of fuel goes up. He was concerned though that the state when letting bids consider more than just the cost.

After a discussion of possible ways to amend HB 426 Rep. Bengtson asked Debbie Schmidt if she would work with Mr. Huntington and Mr. Hanson and come up with a workable bill.

HB 259 was discussed. Rep. Nathe questioned why a grant had not been applied for under the alternative renewable resource program rather than coming to the legislature to ask for \$50,000 from the general fund. He recommended do not pass. Rep. Davis and Curtiss agreed with Rep. Bengtson voting no. Motion carried.

A resume of the subcommittee's recommendation on bills are as follows:

HB 259--Do Not Pass
HB 430--Do Pass
HB 733--Do Not Pass

HB 425--Do Not Pass
HB 731--Do Not Pass
HB 701--Do Pass

Respectfully submitted,

