4/5/1977

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HOUSE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 5, 1977 10:05 a.m. Rm. 436 State Capitol Bldg.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Day with all members present except Representative Dassinger.

Mr. Mons Teigen, Montana Stockgrowers and Montana Woolgrowers Associations, was present to explain HJR 96. He stated that this resolution expressed the support of the House of Representatives and the Senate to urge congress to enact legislation requiring the labeling of all beef as either domestic or imported beef. Congress has already introduced two different resolutions concerning the labeling and inspecting of foreign meats. During a period of one year, 1976, \$1,798,000 worth of beef was imported into the United States. There are approximately twenty inspectors that travel all over the world inspecting the foreign meat companies. HJR 96 will urge congress to act on the proposed resolutions, which are badly needed.

PROPONENTS:

Ms. Alice Fryslie, Montana Cattlemens Association, stated that they were in full support of HJR 96.

Representative Gunderson asked if this labeling would increase the utilization of domestic beef? Mr. Teigen replied that he felt it would.

Representative Staigmiller asked if this labeling would apply to hotels and cafes? Mr. Teigen was not sure, but did not think it would.

Representative Ellerd asked if fresh meat was sold over the counter, that had been imported from other countries? Ms. Fryslie replied that it was not sold in Montana but it had been sold, as fresh meat, in New Orleans.

Mr. Teigen closed by stating that foreign inspectors do not inspect their meats as thoroughly as we do our domestic beef. Urging a do pass recommendation.

Representative Conroy moved HJR 96, do pass. It was seconded by Representative Staigmiller. The motion was passed unanimously.

Senator Dover, chief sponsor of SB 114, was present to ask the committee to reconsider the bill. It had been killed in committee on March 29th. He read the three options that are on the gas refund tax forms at the present time. They are as follows: 1) A percentage of the total is taken for farm and highway use. 2) Having two separate tanks one for farm use and one for highway use. 3) Having one tank, used for both, with a meter on the tank to determine how much gas is used for farm use and how much for highway use. Minutes April 5, 1977 Page 2

This bill being connected with option number 2, allowing for the purchase of gas in town for highway use. This gas is often bought at such places as the Farmers Union. This has been done in the past but is not legal. SB 114, would make this a legal action. The gas form now states, gas on the farm being used for highway use.

After a brief discussion Representative Johnston moved to reconsider SB 114. The motion failed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

William M. Day, Chairman

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