

Ref
25
1977

MINUTES

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

The Senate Rules Committee met on January 3, 1977 in room 331 of the state capitol. Senator Stephens called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m. All members were present. Also present were Nancy Aagenes, Secretary of the Senate, and Rosie Weber, Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

Senator Stephens instructed the secretary to send a notice to both the House and Senate that there would be a Joint Rules Committee meeting at 4:00 p.m. on January 4, 1977 in room 331.

Senator Stephens turned the meeting over to Mrs. Weber. She then asked Senator Turnage to explain the proposed rule changes. Senator Turnage handed out copies of the changes to the committee. He then explained the amendment to Senate Rule S7-1. This amendment is attached to the minutes as Appendix 1. Senator Turnage moved that the amendments be adopted, seconded by Senator Hazelbaker. After a brief discussion, the vote was taken and the amendments were approved unanimously.

Senator Turnage then explained the proposed amendments to S4-1 and S7-3. A discussion followed. Senator Turnage moved that the amendments be accepted, seconded by Senator Hazelbaker. The amendments are attached to the minutes as Appendix 2. The vote was taken and it tied at 4 aye's and 4 no's , the motion failed.

Senator McOmber moved that S1-2 be amended by striking out the words "and close" after the word beginning. The motion was seconded by Senator Turnage and the vote was taken. The motion was approved unanimously.

MONTANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
LIBRARY

Senator Thiessen stated that he would like to change JR5-4. The group decided that any changes would have to be brought up in the Joint Rules Committee meeting.

Senator McOmber stated that he would like to move that a limit on debate during second reading be made. A discussion was held. The consensus of the group was that the argument had merit, but that time was needed to work out details. Senator McOmber then withdrew his motion and Senator Stephens instructed him to work out the details and bring the matter to a future meeting.

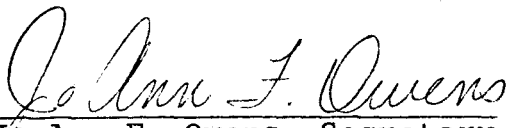
Senator Mathers asked the group to think about a bill to take care of problems in case of another tie in membership of the Senate.

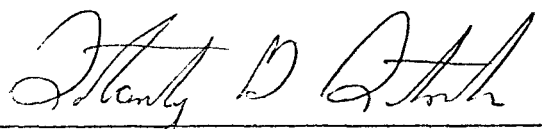
Senator McOmber stated that he would also like a clarification on the law on election and appointment of senate memberships. He wanted a look taken at the section on elections. He also said he would like a clarification of the proper listing of officers of the senate in the constitution. Senator Stephens instructed Rosie Weber to have someone from the Legislative Council research the request by Senator McOmber.

Senator McOmber stated that he had a request from some people to have access to the press table immediately upon adjournment. Senator Murphy said that he also had been approached on this subject. After some discussion, the group decided that no publications other than newspaper personnel already permitted on the floor be allowed.

There was no further business. Senator Stephens adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jo Ann F. Owens, Secretary


Senator Stan Stephens, Chairman

Date approved 1/6/77

Amend Senate rule S7-1 to read as follows:

S7-1. The senate shall elect a committee on committees consisting of 3 members, except when the senate is evenly divided between parties, when the committee on committees shall consist of 6 members, 3 from each party. The committee on committees, with the approval of the senate, shall appoint standing and select committees of the senate, and senate membership on joint committees except conference committees and special committees. The president shall appoint all conference committees and special committees with the advice of the majority and minority floor leaders. The senate may change the membership of any committee on one day's notice.

The standing committees of the senate are as follows:

1. Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
2. Bills and Journal
3. Business and Industry
4. Education
5. Finance and Claims
6. Highways and Transportation
7. Judiciary
8. Labor and Employment Relations
9. Legislative Administration
10. Local Government
11. Natural Resources ~~and Fish and Game~~
12. Fish and Game
- +2. 13. Public Health, Welfare and Safety
- +3. 14. Rules
- +4. 15. State Administration
- +5. 16. Taxation

Amend Senate rule S4-1, second paragraph, to read as follows:

A bill reported from committee without recommendation shall be ordered printed and placed on second reading. considered with the committee reports against passage of a bill.

Amend Senate rule S7-3 to read as follows:

If any final vote on a bill in a standing committee results in a tie vote, the bill shall be reported out of committee without recommendation and advanced to second reading considered as if the vote had been for against recommending passage of the bill.