

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
JANUARY 10, 1977

The meeting was called to order by Senator Towe, Chairman, at 11:05 a.m. in Room 410 of the Capitol Building. Committee members present were Senators Towe, Story, Brown, Rasmussen, Roskie, Jergeson, Blaylock and Devine.

The following bills were heard and discussed: SB 11
SB 13

SB 11 Senator Warden, District 18, sponsor of the bill, stated the bill proposes to prepare and publish the proceedings of the Montana Constitutional Convention of 1972 and to establish a three member committee to oversee that undertaking. (see attached testimony)

Mr. Tom Mahan, representing the State Bar of Montana, testified in favor of the bill stating in many cases it becomes necessary to research the intent of the Constitutional Convention. Only sixteen sets of the proceedings are available in the state and they are not compiled in a manageable or efficient manner. It therefore becomes extremely expensive to the client if extensive research is needed. He presented figures to the Committee re the number of lawyers and agencies in Montana who could require use of the proceedings (see attached).

Written testimony from Dorothy Eck was presented in favor of the bill (see attached).

Brian Cockhill, Archivist, Montana Historical Society, spoke in favor of the bill and stated with the present proceedings what should take three or four hours to research takes three or four days. He urged the publication as a boon to legal, historical and administrative researchers.

Mr. Ross Cannon, Helena attorney, spoke in favor of the bill. He stated the proceedings would be a valuable aid to attorneys at a reasonable cost. He feels attorneys are gathering intent based more on their best hunch using the current proceedings. He also stressed the lack of accessibility in relation to cost of service to clients.

There being no further proponents or opponents, the hearing was opened to questions by the Committee members.

Senator Towe asked how much it would cost the state to compile the proceedings. Mrs. Warden stated the total cost would be \$136,000. She added that existing manpower and mechanisms used in recodification could be utilized in the publication. The index system will conform to that in the new codes and Mr. Cockhill will add material to make research easier for the general public.

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Concern was voiced by several members that the selling price of the proceedings be high enough to cover the compiling and publishing cost to the state. They also inquired if further copies could be made if the full 1000 copies sold. Mr. Cockhill assured the Committee that the original photo set-up would be retained and could be used in further printings.

Senator Towe asked the Committee if they would like to see a fiscal note and it was agreed to request one.

There being no further questions the hearing was closed.

A proposed bill setting forth certain salary changes in some state officials by the Montana Salary Commission was presented to the Committee. SENATOR DEVINE MOVED THE BILL BE INTRODUCED BY THE STATE ADMINISITRATION COMMITTEE BY REQUEST. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Senator Towe reviewed a partial list of state appointments submitted to the Senate by the Governor. He will be meeting with the Governor later in the day to review all the appointments and the Committee will begin deliberations on those appointments January 12. Public notice will be given on appointments and public comment is invited. If no comment is received, the appointee will be so informed and it will not be necessary for him to appear before the Committee. If there is comment or objection, the appointee will be asked to appear before the Committee in person.

SB 13 Researcher John Hollow reported the procedure for incorporating vocational technical schools and community colleges into Section 4, subsection (4), page 10 would require substantive change in the bill. It was felt it would be better to introduce a separate bill for that procedure.

SENATOR BLAYLOCK MOVED SENATE BILL 13 DO PASS AS AMENDED (see minutes, January 7, 1977). THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SB 11 SENATOR JERGESON MOVED TO AMEND PAGE 1, LINES 18 AND 19 BY STRIKING "NO LATER THAN THE 20TH LEGISLATIVE DAY OF THE 45TH LEGISLATURE" AND INSERTING "WITHIN 10 DAYS OF PASSAGE AND APPROVAL". THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATOR ROSKIE MOVED TO AMEND PAGE 3, SECTION 4, LINE 12 FOLLOWING "COMMITTEE" BY INSERTING " WHICH WILL APPROXIMATE PREPARATION AND PUBLICATION COSTS". THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN MOVED SENATE BILL 11 DO PASS AS AMENDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. THE BILL WILL BE HELD FOR THE FISCAL NOTE.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to reconvene Wednesday, January 12, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 410.


Thomas E. Towe, Chairman

ROLL CALL

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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Date 1/10/77

Each day attach to minutes.