

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

February 24, 1977

The twenty-second meeting of the Natural Resources Committee was called to order by Senator Elmer Flynn, Chairman, at 9:30 a. m. on the above date in Room 405 of the State Capitol Building.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll call all members were present except Senator Roskie.

Mr. Larry Weinberg, Staff Attorney of the Legislative Council, was also present. Tala Skari of the Environmental Quality Council was also present.

CONSIDERATION OF HJR 24: A Joint Resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana commending the Great Falls Gas Company for helping homeowners to insulate their homes to conserve energy; encouraging other utilities to emulate this example.

Representative Les Hirsch, representing District 52 in Miles City, stated that the 1975 law provided for the insulation, and the Great Falls Gas Company took advantage of this provision and have been doing an excellent job in insulating the homes. The work is done and then is added to the monthly utility bill. In Great Falls a cost estimate was done on 320 homes and 110 of those homes were then finally insulated, and the program seems to be working quite well. I am asking to commend the Great Falls Gas Company for taking advantage of an Act that was passed in 1975. They should be commended for their energy conservation efforts.

Senator Jergeson said, I think we should commend them and try to encourage other utilities in the state to do the same.

DISPOSITION OF HJR 24: Brief discussion followed. Motion was then made by Senator Jergeson and seconded by Senator Galt that HJR 24 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF HB 477: An Act to amend Sections 89-318, 89-320; and 89-322, R.C.M. 1947, to provide that the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation rather than the applicant for a weather modification permit shall publish the notice of intention; and providing an immediate effective date.

Representative Herb Huennekens, representing District 68, said this is essentially a very simple bill. The current practice for

weather modification action is for the applicant to go through the notification process. The point of the bill is this. In almost all other application processing the notification is done by the department. The reason for that is the mechanics of writing the notification is a little technical. Moreover, it makes it a little more simple, a little more uniform.

Senator Manley asked, what is a weather modification.

Representative Huennekens replied, cloud seeding. He also said, with water fog it is standard procedure in the United States.

DISPOSITION OF HB 477: Motion was made by Senator Smith and seconded by Senator Devine that HB 477 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a. m.

  
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SENATOR ELMER FLYNN CHAIRMAN

## NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date 2-24-77

[illegible]

Each day attach to minutes.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

BILL HB 477  
HJR 24

# VISITORS' REGISTER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Please note bill no.

(check one)

[illegible]

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 24

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MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on NATURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 477

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 477

BE CONCURRED IN

DO PASS  
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# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

.....February 24..... 19 77.....

MR. ....PRESIDENT.....

We, your committee on .....NATURAL RESOURCES.....

having had under consideration .....HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION..... Bill No. 24.....

Respectfully report as follows: That.....HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION..... Bill No 24,.....

BE CONCURRED IN

DO PASS