

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 11, 1977

The meeting was called to order by Senator Story, Vice Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 410 of the Capitol Building. Committee members present were Senators Devine, Story, Jergeson, Brown, Rasmussen, Roskie, and Blaylock. Senator Towe arrived late.

The following bills were discussed: HJR 27
HB 182
HB 117
HB 488
HB 217

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 27

Representative Feda, District 4, sponsor of the bill, stated the resolution was the biennial legislation opposing gun control.

PROPOSERS

Bill Asher, representing himself, stated the references to the Criminal Justice Standards and Goals report had been deleted in this year's resolution and urged support of the resolution.

There were no further proposers and no opponents and the hearing was closed.

HOUSE BILL 182

Representative Meloy, District 29, sponsor of the bill, stated the purpose of the bill clarify the travel and per diem expenses of state employees.

PROPOSERS

Jack Crosser, Director of the Department of Administration, urged support of the bill.

There being no further proposers and no opponents to the bill, the hearing was closed.

Senator Story had to leave the meeting and Senator Devine assumed the chair.

HOUSE BILL 117

Representative Brand, District 28, sponsor of the bill, submitted his written testimony on the bill to the committee as well as some proposed amendments (see attached #1).

PROPOSERS

Rod Gudgel, Montana Nursing Home Association, urged support of the bill.

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Mike Cooney, Representative from District 83, urged support of the bill.

Tom Winsor, Montana Chamber of Commerce, stated his support of the bill.

OPPONENTS

Bob Lohn, Governor's Office and several state agencies, opposed the bill, stating a small group of legislators would have all the power of the legislature during the interim and this goes counter to democracy and total representation of the people.

Joy Bruck, League of Women Voters, presented her written testimony to the committee (attached #2).

There being no further proponents or opponents, the hearing was closed.

Senator Towe arrived and assumed the chair.

SENATE BILL 488

Representative South, District 51, sponsor of the bill, stated the purpose of the bill is to authorize the Department of Administration to practice architecture on state building projects up to \$25,000. The original limit of \$10,000 was set in 1963 and due to inflation the limit has to be raised.

PROPOSERS

Phil Hauck, state architect, concurred with Representative South's remarks and urged passage of the bill.

Sonny Hanson, representing the AIA (architects) urged the committee to support the bill.

There being no further proponents and no opponents, the hearing was closed.

HOUSE BILL 217

Representative Bardanoue, District 6, sponsor of the bill, stated the bill is a simple little amendment to the constitution which will allow the legislature to control the finances of the state not just during the sessions, but constantly. He stated the legislature must have control over the size of government and accordingly should have the power to approve or disapprove spending at all times.

PROPOSERS

Rod Gudgel, Montana Nursing Homes Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

OPPONENTS

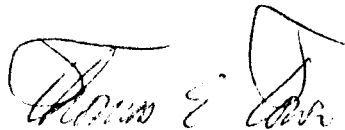
Bob Lohn, Governor's Office, stated the bill is precise but he foresees serious problems down the road if the body of the whole does not retain the overseer power.

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Joy Bruck, Montana League of Women Voters, presented her written testimony to the committee (attached #3).

There being no further proponents or opponents, the hearing was closed and discussion by the committee followed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to reconvene March 12 at 8:00 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas E. Towe", is written above a horizontal line.

Thomas E. Towe, Chairman

ROLL CALL

State Administration COMMITTEE

45th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1977

Date 3/11/1

[illegible]

6.1.14.

DATE _____

Sub.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY