

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 11, 1977

The meeting of the Local Government Committee was called to order by Chairman McCallum on April 11 at 9:40 A. M. in Room 410 of the State Capitol Building.


ROLL CALL: All members were present except Senator Thiessen and Senator Watt.

The following visitors were present: Gregg L. McCurdy, Montana Association of Counties; Rod Gudgel, MNHA; E. Richard Isern, Central Montana Health District; Walter Koostra, Missoula Board of Health; Ed Shepherd, Silver Bow Health Department; Jon Tousan, Cascade County Health Department; Vernon Sloulin, Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 294: Representative Driscoll, Sponsor of House Bill 294, stated this was a back-up bill for public health codes provision that had been included in House Bill 122. Jon Tousan, Cascade County Health Department, representing Don Pizzini, Cascade Health Officer, testified in support of House Bill 294. Bob Johnson, Lewis and Clark County Health Department, testified in support of House Bill 294 stating there is an uneven distribution of money throughout the state for health care. Most of the money is in Helena at the state level. He stated this bill allows local health departments a little more freedom to set fees for services. Ed Shepherd, Silver Bow County Health Department and Rod Gudgel, Montana Nursing Association, testified in support of House Bill 294. Vern Sloulin, State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, testified in support of House Bill 294 stating this bill will improve working conditions with local departments. Dr. Walter Koostra, Missoula Board of Health, and Richard Isern, representing Dr. Paul Gans, testified in support of House Bill 294. Will Selzer, Sanitarian, Lewis and Clark County Health Department, stated House Bill 294 would reduce duplication of services with the state health department. He stated the 72 hour closure would be more efficient for handling gross sanitary infractions than revoking licenses which would cause adverse publicity. Gregg McCurdy, Montana Association of Counties, testified in support of House Bill 294.

Phil Strobe, Innkeeping Association, opposed House Bill 294, especially the 72 hour closure clause.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.


Senator George McCallum, Chairman

ROLL CALL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

45th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1977

Date 4-11-77

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
George McCallum	✓		
Robert Watt			
Pete Story	✓		
Frank Dunkle	✓		
Lloyd Lockrem	✓		
Bob Peterson	✓		
Cornie Thiessen			
Bill Thomas	✓		
Senator Murphy	✓		

Each day attach to minutes.

SENATE LOCAL GOV'T COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE

BILL 46294

VISITORS' REGISTER

DATE 4-11-77

[illegible]

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY

NAME: Will Selser DATE: 4/11/77ADDRESS: 509 1/2 Madison Helena, MT.PHONE: 442-4169REPRESENTING WHOM? MyselfAPPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 294DO YOU: SUPPORT? ☒ AMEND? ☐ OPPOSE? ☐

COMMENTS: I would be happy to show any committee member our inspection files showing severe & recurring health infractions. U.S. Public Health Service suggests that any estab. with more than 40 demerits be immediately closed. We have several of these in our county alone. This after repeated work with these establishments.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.