

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 12, 1977

The thirty-seventh meeting of the Senate Education Committee was called to order by Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman, on the above date, in Room 402 of the State Capitol Building at 11:00 o'clock A. M.

ROLL CALL: All members of the Committee were present.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 378: An act amending Section 75 7018, R.C.M., to increase the schedule of reimbursement for school buses.

Representative Porter, Billings, District 65, sponsor of the Bill, was called on to present his testimony. He stated the situation that school bus transportation is in under the present funding of partially state reimbursed and the balance paid by the local districts by property taxes. That a House amendment reduced the reimbursement rate to 40 cents for the first year of the biennium and 45 cents for 1979 which does not come up to half of the actual cost of running a school bus and most counties are in a bind on their tax levies already.

Proponents of the Bill included:

Rob Stockton, OSPI, who had prepared a graph showing the cost of bus transportation per mile per bus capacity, how costs had increased over the past several years and that the major portion was being paid by the districts. Total average cost in 1975 for operation of a 45 passenger school bus was \$1.25; and that since transportation costs must be paid, people really do not have any vote on it.

There was no opposition to the Bill.

In closing, Rep. Porter mentioned an article in the Billings Gazette where school bus contractors were trying to get out from under a bus contract because they could not make anything at \$1.10 per mi.

Questions by the Committee related to the cost factors, with Senator Fasbender stating the transportation appropriation had been put in at 45 cents and he knew of no way to raise it.

The Chair closed the hearing of House Bill 378.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL No. 365: Considerable discussion of the school foundation schedule centered on the advisability of amending the schedule to an amount the districts could get by with,

and what would be the best course of action as to commensurate local levy increases or a state-wide deficiency levy to fund the foundation program. Differences in the financing statements offered by the offices of Mike Billings as compared to John LaFaver's were also discussed. Lloyd Markell, MEA, and Bob Stockton, OSPI, advised the Committee of the reasons for funding at the highest possible figure; and Senator Dunkle commented that if they were looking at a deficiency of \$10 million, why not take the \$10 million necessary from the Governor's Homestead Act. Senator Smith suggested using the \$12 million surplus funds the State had, to which Senator Fasbender stated it must be left because of margin of error and in case revenue doesn't meet expenses if an error were to occur.

Senator McCallum moved that House Bill 365 be amended to an increase of 8% for each year of the coming biennium; motion was seconded and carried by majority vote with Senator Fasbender and Senator Dunkle dissenting.

Senator McCallum moved that House Bill 365 AS AMENDED, BE CONCURRED IN; motion was seconded and carried by majority vote, with Senator Fasbender abstaining and Senator Dunkle voting "no". Senator Blaylock will carry the Bill in the floor. Amendments on the School Foundation Program schedule are as shown on the attached copy of the Standing Committee Report.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL No. 378: Senator Thomas moved that House Bill 378 BE CONCURRED IN; motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote. Senator Fasbender will carry the Bill on the floor.

Senator Fasbender announced he would make a motion on the floor after Second Reading to bring out HB 69.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

Chet Blaylock, Chairman

SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

Date April 7, 1977 House Bill No. 365 Time 1:18 PM

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman	✓	
Senator Ed Smith, Vice Chairman	✓	
Senator George McCallum	✓	
Senator Bill Mathers	✓	
Senator William E. Murray	✓	
Senator Frank Dunkle		✓
Senator Paul Boylan	✓	
Senator Larry Fasbender		
Senator Bill Thomas	✓	
Senator Margaret Warden	✓	

Jennie Lind
Secretary

Chet Blaylock
Chairman

Motion: Senator George McCallum moved that House Bill No. 365
AS AMENDED, BE CONCURRED IN; motion was seconded and carried by
majority vote, with Senator Dunkle voting "no" and Senator
Fasbender abstaining. Senator Blaylock will carry on the floor.

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 12, 1977

MR. PRESIDENT,

We, your committee on EDUCATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 365,

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 365,

Third Reading Bill, be amended as follows:

1. Amend page 1, section 1, line 25.

Following: "\$10,289"

Strike: "\$10,386"

Insert: "\$10,483"

2. Amend page 2, section 1, line 5.

Following: line 4

Strike: "\$10,386"

Insert: "\$10,483"

Following: "\$438"

Strike: "\$434.10"

Insert: "\$438.10"

DO NOT FAX

House Bill 365

3. Amend page 2, section 1, line 11.

Following: line 10

Strike: "\$14,293"

Insert: "\$14,425"

Following: "\$430"

Strike: "\$434.10"

Insert: "\$438.10"

4. Amend page 2, section 1, line 17.

Following: "\$22,606"

Strike: "\$22,819"

Insert: "\$23,031"

5. Amend page 2, section 1, line 18.

Following: "\$269.35"

Strike: "\$271.89"

Insert: "\$274.40"

6. Amend page 3, section 1, line 2.

Following: "\$999.05"

Strike: "\$1,008.48"

Insert: "\$1,018"

7. Amend page 3, section 1, line 3.

Following: "\$98.01"

Strike: "98"

Insert: "99"

8. Amend page 3, section 1, line 8.

Following: line 7

Strike: "\$949.63"

Insert: "\$958.50"

9. Amend page 3, section 1, line 13.

Following: "\$763.40"

Strike: "\$770.61"

Insert: "\$777.80"

10. Amend page 3, section 1, line 23.

Following: "\$58,611"

Strike: "\$59,164"

Insert: "\$59,719"

11. Amend page 4, section 1, line 1.

Following: "\$2,442"

Strike: "\$2,465"

Insert: "\$2,488"

House Bill 365

12. Amend page 4, section 1, line 3.

Following: line 2

Strike: "\$13.45"

Insert: "\$13.57"

13. Amend page 4, section 1, line 7.

Following: "~~\$2,229~~"

Strike: "\$2,250"

Insert: "\$2,271"

14. Amend page 4, section 1, line 8.

Following: "~~\$13.32~~"

Strike: "\$12.45"

Insert: "\$13.57"

15. Amend page 4, section 1, line 12.

Following: "~~\$1,430~~"

Strike: "\$1,443"

Insert: "\$1,457"

16. Amend page 4, section 1, line 14.

Following: "~~\$2.23~~"

Strike: "\$2.25"

Insert: "\$2.27"

17. Amend page 4, section 1, line 17.

Following: "~~\$1,207~~"

Strike: "\$1,219"

Insert: "\$1,230"

18. Amend page 4, section 1, line 18.

Following: "~~\$1.22~~"

Strike: "\$1.23"

Insert: "\$1.25"

19. Amend page 4, section 1, line 23.

Following: line 22

Strike: "\$1,695"

Insert: "\$1,105"

20. Amend page 4, section 1, line 24.

Following: "~~{ \$-19 }~~"

Strike: "22"

Insert: "23"

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21. Amend page 5, section 1, line 3.

Strike: "\$1,026.56"

Insert: "\$1,036.00"

22. Amend page 5, section 1, line 16.

Following: "~~\$10,986~~"

Strike: "\$11,009"

Insert: "11,321"

23. Amend page 5, section 1, line 21.

Strike: "\$11,009"

Insert: "\$11,321"

24. Amend page 5, section 1, line 22.

Following: "~~\$455.88~~"

Strike: "\$460.15"

Insert: "\$473.10"

25. Amend page 6, section 1, line 2.

Strike: "\$15,151"

Insert: "\$15,579"

26. Amend page 6, section 1, line 3.

Following: "~~\$455.88~~"

Strike: "\$460.15"

Insert: "\$473.10"

27. Amend page 6, section 1, line 9.

Following: "~~\$23,962~~"

Strike: "\$24,188"

Insert: "\$24,874"

28. Amend page 6, section 1, line 10.

Following: "~~\$285.50~~"

Strike: "\$288.20"

Insert: "\$296.30"

29. Amend page 6, section 1, line 19.

Following: "~~\$1,059~~"

Strike: "\$1,069"

Insert: "\$1,099"

30. Amend page 6, section 1, line 20.

Following: "~~\$1.92~~"

Strike: "\$1.04"

Insert: "\$1.07"

31. Amend page 6, section 1, line 24.

Following: "~~\$997.28~~"

Strike: "\$1,006.61"

Insert: "\$1,035"

32. Amend page 6, section 1, line 25

Following: "~~94~~"

Strike: "95"

Insert: "98"

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33. Amend page 7, section 1, line 5.

Following: "\$809.20"

Strike: "\$816.83"

Insert: "\$840"

34. Amend page 7, section 1, line 17.

Following: line 16

Strike: "\$62,714"

Insert: "\$64,497"

35. Amend page 7, section 1, line 20.

Following: "\$2,589"

Strike: "\$2,613"

Insert: "\$2,687"

36. Amend page 7, section 1, line 22.

Following: "\$14.12"

Strike: "\$14.26"

Insert: "\$14.66"

37. Amend page 8, section 1, line 1.

Following: "\$2,363"

Strike: "\$2,385"

Insert: "\$2,453"

38. Amend page 8, section 1, line 2.

Following: "\$14.12"

Strike: "\$14.26"

Insert: "\$14.66"

39. Amend page 8, section 1, line 6.

Following: "\$1,516"

Strike: "\$1,530"

Insert: "\$1,573"

40. Amend page 8, section 1, line 8.

Following: "\$2.36"

Strike: "\$2.38"

Insert: "\$2.45"

41. Amend page 8, section 1, line 12.

Following: "\$1,279"

Strike: "\$1,292"

Insert: "\$1,328"

42. Amend page 8, section 1, line 13.

Following: "\$1.29"

Strike: "\$1.30"

Insert: "\$1.35"

43. Amend page 8, section 1, line 17.

Following: "\$1,149"

Strike: "\$1,161"

Insert: "\$1,193"

44. Amend page 8, section 1, line 18.

Following: "\$2.21"

Strike: "\$2.23"

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45. Amend page 8, section 1, line 22,
Following: line 21
Strike: "\$1,088.15"
Insert: "\$1,119"

AND AS SO AMENDED, BE CONCURRED IN

PA
Chet Blaylock
Chet Blaylock, Chairman

SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

Date _____ House Bill No. 378 Time _____

9/10 -
5:00

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman	<u>✓</u>	
Senator Ed Smith, Vice Chairman	<u>✓</u>	
Senator George McCallum	<u>✓</u>	
Senator Bill Mathers	<u>✓</u>	
Senator William E. Murray	<u>✓</u>	
Senator Frank Dunkle	<u>✓</u>	
Senator Paul Boylan	<u>✓</u>	
Senator Larry Fasbender	<u>✓</u>	
Senator Bill Thomas	<u>✓</u>	
Senator Margaret Warden	<u>✓</u>	

Jennie Lind
Secretary

Chet Blaylock
Chairman

Motion: Senator Bill Thomas moved that House Bill No. 378

BE CONCURRED IN; motion was seconded and carried by unanimous
vote.

Senator Fasbender will carry on the floor.

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 12 1977

MR. PRESIDENT,

We, your committee on EDUCATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 378,

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 378,

Third Reading,

~~BE PASSED~~

BE CONCURRED IN

Chat Blevlock

Chairman.