

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
FINANCE AND CLAIMS  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 19, 1977

The forty second meeting of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee met on the above date in room 331 of the State Capitol. Roll call was taken and the meeting was called to order by Senator Thiessen, Chairman, at 8:06 A.M.

HOUSE BILL 554 was reported on by Senator Roberts. He said the subcommittee had discussed this with Attorney General Mike Greeley, Legal Council to the Governor, Bob Lund, and had talked to other members of the bar on this matter. The consensus of opinion was that they could not contest the Zook Brothers settlement and it was his opinion that the judgement in favor of the Zook Brothers is something that we are probably going to have to recognize. It is a final judgement by the supreme court, and he could not see any around it. The Sour Dough Land and Cattle Company in his estimation was something they might want to consider. It was his opinion that if we did not fund this the attorney general would then take action to have the amount reduced.

Motion by Senator Roberts that we pay everything but the Sour Dough and find the proper language and put it into the bill.

Motion was voted, passed, Thomas and Boylan voting no.

It was decided to strike line 23, 24 and 25 on page 1 and line 1 on page 2, and that Senator Roberts would discuss with the attorney general the language to put into the bill and bring it to the secretary. This was approved by the committee.

Motion by Senator Roberts that this bill as amended, do pass. Voted and passed.

The meeting was adjourned.

  
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SENATOR THIESSEN, Chairman

Gregg L. McCurdy  
Dir. of Government Affairs

## SENATE BILL 236

Suggested Amendments:

(1) Page 1, line 7

Strike: Municipalities  
Insert: Local Governments

(2) Page 1, line 12

Strike: Section 1 in its entirety.

Insert: Section 1. Distribution of the additional funds received pursuant to PL94-377 pertaining to the federal Mineral Leasing Lands Act. The additional 25% of money received from the U.S. Treasury, pursuant to PL94-377 (1976), shall be expended as follows:

(1) Of the additional money, 100% shall be paid to counties containing lands belonging to the United States which are leased pursuant to the provisions of the Mineral Lands Leasing Act, as amended. This money shall be allocated 50% on the ratio of the population of each such county to the total population of all such counties. The remaining 50% shall be allocated according to the ratio the total acreage subject to the Mineral Land Leasing Act contained in each county bears to the total such acreage in all counties containing such lands.

(2) The county treasurer in counties containing lands subject to PL94-377 shall set aside 50% of the additional funds received under the provisions of (this act). Within 30 days of receipt, the treasurer shall distribute to the municipalities within the county the funds set aside according to the per centage of population each municipality bears to the total population of all municipalities in the county.

(3) The population figures used for determining the allocation under (this act) shall be taken from the most recent federal census at the time of payment.

(3) Page 2, line 7

Strike: Section 2 in its entirety.

Insert: Section 2. Moneys distributed to local governments pursuant to (section 1 of this act) shall be deposited to the general fund, except that 50% of the additional moneys received by the county treasurer from the U.S. treasury shall be set aside in a special account for municipalities.

TESTIMONY

SENATE BILL NO. 239

The Montana Department of Agriculture endorses Senate Bill No. 239. This bill primarily provides that the Department will assist agricultural producers and county noxious weed personnel in managing and delineating noxious weeds that significantly affect agricultural production, both crop and range, in the state. This bill is a result of the activities and recommendations of the Department's Governor's Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council created by Governor Judge at the request of the Agricultural Ad Hoc Committee and the Department of Agriculture.

Management of noxious weeds involves a determination of the size and type of infestations and development of plans to control or suppress these infestations in cooperation with producers, local, state, and federal agencies and other groups, such as railroads. These management plans must be prepared on a practical, economical and environmentally acceptable basis. The plans must reflect county management priorities during a period of time three years or greater, because it is virtually impossible to effect permanent controls in a shorter period of time. Currently, noxious weed infestations are not only increasing in size but are appearing in new locations throughout the state. The Department in performing these functions will attempt to assist local groups in determining those areas in the state in which current chemical management techniques should not be used because of critical wildlife habitat, environmentally fragile areas, and situations in which the cost of the program in a particular area is economically unjustified. The Department will also attempt to resolve the current problem of protecting commercial bee operations while attempting to resolve the noxious weed problem in and around agricultural crops and rangeland.



## *The Big Sky Country*

### MONTANA STATE SENATE

SEN. CORNIE R. THIESSEN  
BOX 195  
LAMBERT, MONTANA 59243

March 10, 1977

PRESIDENT-PRO TEM  
COMMITTEES:  
FINANCE AND CLAIMS, CHAIRMAN  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
RULES

Commissioner, George Lackman  
Department of Agriculture  
1300 Cedar Street  
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Mr. Lackman,

The Senate Finance and Claims Committee has recommended a do pass on Senate Bill 289.

It is the committee's intent that no general fund be used in administering, monitoring, or auditing any federal funds received under the provisions of the bill. Thus all costs associated with the federal funding will be paid by federal dollars.

Sincerely,

C. R. Thiessen, Senator  
Chairman, Finance & Claims Committee

CRT:sk

11:08 AM

ROLL CALL

FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

45th LEGISLATIVE SESSION 1977

Date 4-19-77

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
THIESSEN, CH			
HIMSL, V.C.			
STORY			
ETCHART			
KOLSTAD			
LOCKREM			
NELSON			
SMITH			
STEPHENS			
FASBENDER			
BOYLAN			
FLYNN			
MEHRENS			
REGAN			
ROBERTS			
THOMAS			