

HOUSE FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE

February 6, 1979

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Staigmilller at 12:30 p.m. with all members present.

HOUSE BILL NO. 247

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN SCULLY, Chief Sponsor, introduced the bill. This bill will make it permissive for the Department of Fish and Game to issue moose, sheep, and goat permits to the holders of special bow and arrow licenses. This bill will not change seasons or allow special privileges, it just gives the bow and arrow hunters the opportunity to hunt sheep, moose, and goat, as well as deer antelope, and elk. I do not feel the bow hunter should be preempted from hunting these animals.

PROPONENTS:

JAMES J. WANTULOK, Montana Bowhunter's Association, stated he was in full support of the bill and introduced Mr. Robert Savage, to explain their position fully.

ROBERT SAVAGE, Montana Bowhunter's Association, explained that they were in full support of the bill. We feel that the bow and arrow hunter should have the same opportunity to hunt moose, sheep, and goat as the rifle hunter has. There are some areas that the Fish and Game could open to the bow and arrow hunters that is not open now because there is not enough game in these areas to open the season to the rifle hunters.

He concluded by quoting some figures on the amount of sheep taken by bow and arrow in Colorado. Out of 960 permits there were only 9 rams taken, with 12 areas open to the bow hunter.

LEE POOL, Montana Bowhunter's Association, rose in support of the bill. He submitted a list of 50 names of people in support of this bill from the Madison area.

ED KALLANG, Montana Bowhunter's Association, rose in support of the bill in behalf of the Lewis and Clark archers.

EDWIN J. KENT, Montana Department of Fish and Game, stated that this bill would add moose, sheep, and goat to the list of species which may have special archery-only hunting seasons authorized by the department. He also suggested that this bill be held in committee until House Bill No. 420 is heard. (testimony attached)

REPRESENTATIVE SCULLY closed by stating that he preferred to not have this bill held up. He was not aware of House Bill No. 420 but felt if there was a conflict it could be amended when 420 was heard.

Questions were asked by the committee and a more detailed explanation of how animals were taken by bow and arrow.

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Representative Curtiss questioned the taking of moose. She felt they were too dangerous of an animal for young bow and arrow hunters to hunt.

HOUSE BILL NO. 374

REPRESENTATIVE CARL SEIFERT, Chief Sponsor, introduced the bill. He stated that this was a simple bill. It changed the time limit for out of state boaters having to license their boats in Montana from 60 consecutive days to 90 consecutive days. The reason for introducing this bill was there was a lot of animosity from people coming to Flat-head Lake and having to license their boats after 60 days. Other states such as, Washington, Idaho, and Colorado, have a 90 day time limit and I feel we should have the same.

PROPOENTS:

BOB BIRD, Department of Fish and Game, rose in support of the bill and stated that he was available for any questions the committee may have.

After questions by the committee the hearing on House Bill No. 374 was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

HOUSE BILL NO. 374

Representative Johnston moved, DO PASS. The motion was passed with Representative Johnson opposed.

HOUSE BILL NO. 145

Representative Ken Robbins moved, DO PASS.

A question was asked if a provision should be put in the bill to assure a gradual change in the administration of the name change.

It was decided that Jim Lear, Staff Attorney, would draw up a Statement of Intent and action on the bill would be postponed until our next meeting.

HOUSE BILL NO. 247

Representative Conroy moved, DO PASS.

Representative Curtiss made a substitute motion, TO AMEND, by striking moose. The motion failed 16 to 1. Representative Curtiss in favor.

The original motion to, DO PASS, was voted on and passed 16 to 1. Representative Thoft opposed.

HOUSE BILL NO. 38

Representative Marks moved, TO AMEND, as follows:

Page 1, line 16 and 17.

Following: "state"

Strike: "whether they are privately or publicly owned and whether
or not they have been reduced to captivity"

Insert: "except wildlife, fish, game, game and nongame birds, water-
fowl, and the game and fur-bearing animals of the state that are
privately owned"

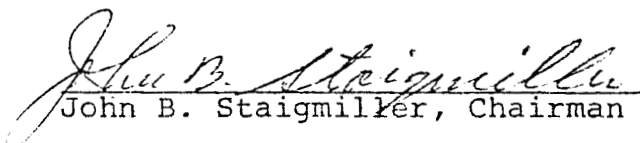
Representative Conroy made a substitute motion over all motions pending,
TO AMEND, the same material but insert in lieu thereof the following:

"not held in private ownership pursuant to the laws of this state"

The motion passed unanimously.

Representative Conroy moved, DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion passed
unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.


John B. Staigmiller, Chairman

Judy J. Mook, Secretary