

HOUSE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

February 14, 1979

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Vicki Johnson at 12:30 p.m. with all members present except Representative Hand, excused.

HOUSE BILL NO. 589

REPRESENTATIVE REX MANUEL, Chief Sponsor, introduced the bill. This bill had been a request from the Department of Agriculture and they will explain the bill further.

GORDON MCOMBER, Director, Department of Agriculture, stated that this bill and one other were the only two bills that the Department had requested this session. This bill will provide for an increase in licensing and registration fees of pesticide-related activities. The annual fee for each pesticide registered will be raised from \$10 to \$15. There are over 3,000 pesticides in Montana. The fee for a pesticide applicator's license will be increased from \$10 to \$15 and applicators applying for a dealer's license shall be required to pay \$10 opposed to the present \$5.

The Department proposed the following amendment, correcting an error in drafting the bill:

Page 8, line 7.
Following: "\$10"
Strike: "\$30"
Insert: "\$15"

With no further proponents or opponents the hearing was opened to questions by the committee.

HOUSE BILL NO. 590

REPRESENTATIVE REX MANUEL, Chief Sponsor, introduced the bill turning further explanation over to the Department of Agriculture.

GORDON MCOMBER, Director, Department of Agriculture, stated that this was another bill resulting from the Budget Office's request to increase fees. All of the money received from these fees go into the general fund account. This bill will provide for an increase in licensing or registration fees for persons warehousing beans, for apiaries, and for nurserymen. Persons warehousing beans licensing fee will increase from \$15 to \$20; general nursery license fees will increase from \$15 to \$30 and nurseries dealing in bulbs and perennials will increase from \$5 to \$10. Also, registration fees for apiaries were raised according to colony size.

The Department then proposed the attached amendments to increase the traveling expenses for the inspector from \$5 to \$20 and the fee of \$5 to 20 for the issuance of a certificate of inspection. Also, on page 4 to increase the seasonal nurserymen from \$15 to \$30.

He concluded by stating that no objections had been raised from the se

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involved in the increase of the fees.

OPPONENTS:

REPRESENTATIVE JAMES SCHULTZ submitted a letter from Taylor's Honey. This letter stated that the apiary increase appeared to be extremely high and suggested that maybe a 50% increase would be adequate. (letter attached)

Questions were asked by the committee and the hearing on HB 590 was closed.

HOUSE BILL NO. 577

REPRESENTATIVE EUGENE DONALDSON introduced the bill. This bill was a result of the interim committee's study on HJR 91, passed in the 1977 legislative session. This bill would provide for an increase in brand inspection fees for equine-type animals. "We hope by increasing the inspection fees that people will go to the life time permit."

He concluded by stating that the fiscal not was not correct.

PROPONENTS:

LES GRAHAM, Department of Livestock, stated that part of the problems they had with the inspection was, when horses were inspected the owners were only charged \$.25 per head. They did not want to pay the \$5, for a lifetime permit, when they could have the inspector come out each time for only a quarter. By raising the inspection fee to \$1 we hope that more people will go to the lifetime permits.

Most of the market sales are held on Saturday and Sunday which puts our inspectors into overtime, costing the Department more. All states honor lifetime permits.

Questions were asked by the committee and the hearing on HB 577 was closed.

Chairman Day resumes the chair.

HOUSE BILL NO. 101

Representative Conroy moved, DO NOT PASS. After a lengthy discussion the motion was carried 12 to 4. Opposed: Johnson, Day, Jensen, Kanduch

HOUSE BILL NO. 406

Representative Conroy moved, TO AMEND, as proposed by the Department of State Lands. (amendments attached) The motion was carried unanimously.

Representative Dassinger moved, TO AMEND, to accept some of the opponent amendments. (amendments attached)

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Representative Conroy moved, ALL MOTIONS PENDING, DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion was carried 14 to 2. Opposed: Johnson, Brand

HOUSE BILL NO. 521

Representative Johnson moved, TO AMEND, by striking \$500 throughout the bill and inserting \$250, and by strikeing \$1000 throughout and inserting \$500. The motion was carried 10 to 6. Opposed: Ellerd, Roth, Jensen, Smith, Kanduch, Conroy

Representative Lien moved, DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion was carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL NO. 577

Representative Brand moved, TO AMEND, as follows:

1. Title, lines 7 and 8.

Strike: lines 7 and 8 in their entirety.

2. Page 2, lines 12 and 13.

Following: "receive"

Insert: "25 cents per head for 12 head or less, or \$2 for 12 head to 20 head and"

3. Page 2, line 14.

Following: "head"

Insert: "for each head over 20 head"

The motion was carried with Representative Johnson opposed.

Representative Hirsch moved, TO AMEND, as follows:

1. Page 4, line 9.

Following: "receive"

Strike: "\$1"

Insert: "\$2"

2. Page 4, line 19.

Following: "receive"

Strike: "\$1"

Insert: "\$2"

The motion failed 12 to 4. Favored: Brand, Hirsch, Day, Dassinger

Representative Brand moved, DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion was carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL NO. 589

Representative Lien moved, TO AMEND, as follows:

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Page 8, line 7.

Strike: "\$30"

Insert: "\$15"

The motion was carried unanimously.

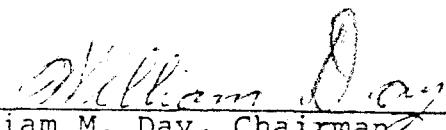
Representative Lien moved, DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion was carried with Representative Johnson opposed.

HOUSE BILL NO. 590

Representative Dassinger moved, TO AMEND, changing the apiaries fee increase to equal just double the orginal amount. After discussion the motion was withdrawn.

Representative Bengtson moved, DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion was carried unanimously. (amendments attached previously as submitted by the Department of State Lands)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.



William M. Day, Chairman

Judy J. Mook, Secretary