

State of Montana  
46th Legislative Session

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

A meeting of the Education Committee of the House of Representatives was called to order at 12:30 p.m. on March 2, 1979 in Room 5 of the Capitol Annex by Chairman Peter J. Gilligan.

The roll was taken and shows Representative Lund excused; all other committee members were present.

The purpose of the meeting was to hear Senate Bills 316, 193 and 79.

Senator Jergeson was asked by Chairman Gilligan to explain to the committee Senate Bill 193 (an act to require postsecondary vocational-technical centers to expend nongeneral fund moneys first and to revert unexpended general fund balances as fiscal year end). Senator Jergeson introduced Wayne Kedish of the Legislative Auditor's Office.

Proponents of Senate Bill 193 were:

Wayne Kedish, Legislative Auditor's Office, Helena, Mt. - Mr. Kedish stated, "During the audit of the Great Falls Vocational-Technical Center by the Office of the Legislative Auditor, a question arose as to whether appropriations not expended by the center should revert to the state general fund. If vocational-technical center moneys are considered expended when distributed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the appropriation provision for reversion does not apply. However, if these moneys are not considered expended until committed by the centers, the unexpended funds should revert to the general fund. The audit report prepared by the Office of the Legislative Auditor recommends that legislation be enacted to clarify the status of unexpended general fund moneys remaining at the centers at fiscal year end. Senate Bill 193 amends Section 75-7208, R.C.M., 1947 (20-7-325, MCA), to include provisions requiring that nongeneral fund moneys be expended before general fund moneys and providing that all general fund moneys distributed to the centers that are unexpended at fiscal year-end revert to the general fund." (See exhibit 1)

There were no opponents to Senate Bill 193 present. The committee was allowed to question the witness and the hearing was closed.

Senator McCallum was requested to explain Senate Bill 79 to the committee. Senator McCallum told the committee SB 79 would allow the transfer of official records from the Secretary of State's Office to the State Archives where climatized vaults would better preserve them. This bill would also establish the legal status of certified copies of public and official records. There were no proponents or opponents of Senate Bill 79 present. The committee was allowed to ask questions of Senator McCallum and the hearing was closed.

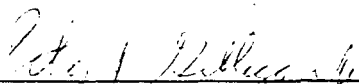
Senator Fasbender was asked to explain Senate Bill 316 (an act to clarify the law relating to the authority of a county superintendent to request, accept, and disburse money to school districts) to the committee. There were no proponents or opponents of the bill present. The committee was allowed to question Senator Fasbender. The hearing was closed.

The Education Committee went into Executive Session. Representative Oberg moved that SB 316 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gilligan asked Representative Oberg to carry SB 316 on the House floor.

Representative Teague moved to AMEND SB 193 to eliminate the word "moneys" throughout the body of the bill, and replace it with the word "money". The motion carried unanimously. Representative Lory moved SB 193, AS AMENDED, BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried 15-1, with Representative Eudaily voting no. Representative Tropila will be requested to carry SB 193 on the House floor.

Representative Reichert moved that SB 79 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried unanimously. Representative Reichert will carry the bill on the House floor.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

  
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Peter J. Gilligan, Chairman