

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. in Room 5 of the Capitol Annex on March 5, 1979 by Chairman Peter J. Gilligan.

The roll was taken and shows all committee members present.

The purpose of the meeting was to hear Senate Bills 32, 59, 189, 194 and 441.

Chairman Gilligan requested Senator Lensink, sponsor of Senate Bill 194 (an act to amend section 20-24-312, MCA relating to traffic fines on university system campuses, to permit the president to set fines of no more than \$10 based on a published schedule and to remove the restriction on use of parking meters), to explain this bill to the committee. Senator Lensink told the committee this bill would authorize the regents to authorize the president to raise traffic and parking fines from one dollar to ten dollars and remove restrictions on university parking meters. Senator Anderson briefly spoke in support of SB 194.

Proponents of Senate Bill 194 were:

Fred Thomas, University Planning and Building Committee, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana- Mr. Thomas told the committee the history of the problem and explained the need for this bill. (See Exhibit 1)

Rick Boylan, Associated Students of the University of Montana, Missoula, Mt. - Mr. Boylan reiterated points made by Mr. Thomas and urged passage of the bill.

A.A. Van Teylingen, 816 N. 17th, Bozeman, Mt. - Mr. Van Teylingen stated, "...without a reasonable fine, no traffic control system no matter how well planned will function well. (See Exhibit 2)

There were no opponents of SB 194 present. The committee was allowed to question the witnesses and the hearing was closed.

Senator Bob Brown was asked by Chairman Gilligan to explain to the committee Senate Bill 59 (an act to amend section 20-4-110, MCA, relating to suspension or revocation of teacher certificates by the Board of Public Education). Senator Brown briefly outlined the major points of the bill and introduced to the committee proponents of the bill.

Proponents of SB 59 were:

Harriet C. Meloy, Chairperson, Board of Public Education, 33 S. Main, Helena, Mt. - Ms. Meloy explained to the committee the Board of Public Education requested amendment of Section 20-4-110 MCA, dealing with suspension or revocation of teacher certificates since, "this statute can have a tremendous effect on the lives of school teachers and administrators, and the Board feels the current law is inadequate in several areas." (For complete written testimony, See Exhibit 3)

John Voorhis, Manager, Teacher Education and Certification, Office of Public Instruction, Helena, Mt. - Mr. Voorhis stated, "Our major concern is that people from other states who have had their certificates suspended or revoked and are serving that suspension not be given a Montana teaching certificate nor be allowed to practice their profession in our state during the course of that suspension." (For complete written testimony, See Exhibit 4)

Leonard Sargent, Montana School Boards Association, 501 N. Sanders, Helena, Mt. - Mr. Sargent spoke briefly in support of the bill.

Dave Sexton, Montana Education Association, 1232 E. Sixth Ave., Helena, Mt. - Mr. Sexton told the committee, "MEA supports this bill because it modernizes suspension/revocation statutes by clarifying grounds and due process." (For complete written testimony, See Exhibit 5)

There were no opponents to Senate Bill 59 present.

The committee was allowed to question the witnesses and the hearing was closed.

Senator Mathers was asked to explain Senate Bill 32 (an act for the general revision of the laws relating to the governance of community college districts so Chapter 15, Title 20, MCA, will be the primary law governing community colleges).

Proponents of Senate Bill 32 were:

Bill Lannon, Commissioner of Higher Education's Office, 33 S. Main, Helena, Mt. - Mr. Lannon told the committee this bill would bring all the community college laws to one point in the Montana Codes. He spoke in support of the bill, however, he stated he was sure some of the statutes would have to be amended in the future. (See Exhibit 6)

There were no opponents of Senate Bill 32 present. The committee was allowed to question the witnesses and the hearing was closed.

Chairman Gilligan requested Senator Stephens to explain Senate Bill 189 (an act authorizing the Superintendent of Public Instruction to contract with local school districts or private non-profit agencies for the delivery of audiological services to school age children). Senator Stephens told the committee this service is presently offered to 170,000 children in Montana

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at a cost of \$3.81 per child served.

Proponents of Senate Bill 189 were:

Shirley Miller, Director, Special Education Program, Office of Public Instruction, Helena, Mt. - Ms. Miller stated, "OPI does urge support for passage of this bill. (See Exhibit 7)

Richard Boehmler, 500 Eddy Ave, Missoula, Mt. (President, Montana Speech and Hearing Association) - Dr. Boehmler stated in justification for this bill, "Providing services to preschool hearing impaired substantially increases the child's potential for educational, personal, social, and vocational achievement with reduced cost of special education services." (For complete written testimony, See Exhibit 8)

There were no opponents to Senate Bill 189 present. The committee was allowed to question the witnesses and the hearing was closed.

Senator Lensink was requested by Chairman Gilligan to explain to the committee Senate Bill 441 (an act to revise the law regarding conflicts of interest of school board trustees).

Proponents of Senate Bill 441 were:

Chad Smith, Montana School Boards Association, 501 N. Sanders, Helena, Mt. - Mr. Smith spoke in support of the bill, explaining the major points to the committee. He also submitted the amendments to the bill attached as Exhibit 9.

There were no opponents of Senate Bill 441 present. The committee was allowed to question the witnesses and the hearing was closed.

The committee went into Executive Session. Representative Uhde moved that Senate Bill 189 be amended, to eliminate Regional Services Organizations from the bill. The motion carried unanimously. Representative Magone moved that SENATE BILL 189, AS AMENDED, BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried unanimously.


Representative Lund moved HOUSE BILL 194 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried unanimously.

Representative Oberg moved Senate Bill 59 Be Concurred In. There was discussion among the committee members. Representative Lund made a substitute motion that Senate Bill 59 be passed for the day. The motion carried unanimously.

Representative Lory moved that Senate Bill 441 be amended. The motion carried with Representatives Uhde, Oberg and Lory voting no. Representative Lory moved that Senate Bill 441 be passed for the day. The motion carried unanimously.

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The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

  
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Peter J. Gilligan, Jr., Chairman

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