

March 5, 1979

Chairman Brand called the hearing to order at 10:00 a.m., with all members present.

SB 287-Sponsored by Senator Towe -- This deals with the paperwork or forms you have to fill out in order to deal with state government -- the question is are these all necessary and can that be cut down. The National Federation of Independent Businesses did a survey and found that 89% of the people want something done. 500,000 man hours a year are spent on this and that's too much. The state of Oregon did this and ended up eliminating 500 forms as unnecessary. Seven states have addressed this and I think the approach that we are taking is the most efficient and least expensive of any. The bill says that each state agency should review their forms for need, duplication, etc. and make a recommendation to the Administrative Code Committee -- and perhaps this committee could make recommendations to the next Legislature.

BARRY STEPHENSON-National Federation of Independent Businesses -- He submitted written testimony, see Attachments #1 and 1A.

ROSEMARIE STROPE-Montana Chamber of Commerce -- Anytime we have conducted a survey, paperwork came right after taxation in terms of bother and time consumption to business. I feel it would be very important that this proposed review take place. We urge your support.

NO OPPONENTS

TOWE-The Superintendent of Public Instruction has already instigated a review like this and I have a list if you would like to look at it containing some of the information she has accumulated.

PORTER-Does this include forms within the agency? TOWE-It would be all forms that the public has to deal with. Interoffice memos aren't covered nor are they within the scope of the bill. Public Instruction has started a forms review procedure where anytime a new form is requested it has to go through a review procedure to see about duplication. BRAND-What about business? STROPE-We think that each business' expenses could possibly be reduced by 1/3.

CHAD SMITH-Montana Hospital Association -- He submitted written testimony, see Attachment #1B.

SB 375-Sponsored by Senator Graham -- This is a Code Commissioner bill. (For her explanation, see the bill summary, it is attached to that)

JIM LEAR-Staff Attorney, Legislative Council -- This is the culmination of the record of Title 2. In the future there will be just one or two bills. He went over the summary referenced above.

NO OPPONENTS

McBRIDE-What is the age thing in the line of succession? LEAR-The state does have the power to make discriminatory decisions relative to action in matters of age. Where this is a Code Commissioner bill, any other enactment that was dealt with in

(LEAR continued)--this session would supersede this bill.

SB 379-Sponsored by Senator Graham -- This is a very simple little bill that cleans up some language. It says the Office of Code Commissioner is created within the Legislative Services Division -- now there is no such thing as Legal Services, they are all integrated.

JIM LEAR-Staff Attorney, Legislative Council -- We concur with what the Senator said and support the bill.

NO OPPONENTS

SB 114-Sponsored by Senator Fasbender -- This is due to some action taken last session CIBUS -- we asked that all university systems come under CIBUS and now we are asking that all data processing equipment come under this. This asks then that all of this equipment be useable as a whole.

FRANCIS FARDANOUVE-Representative from Harlem -- I urge your concurrence.

GEORGE BOUSLIMAN-Budget Director -- We would feel alot more comfortable about having this kind of authority if the Legislature enacted it.

DOYLE SAXBY-Deputy Director, Department of Administration -- We had this responsibility in the old Code, and found that it was difficult to buy services and difficult to control. So, we ask that this be transferred to the Budget Director.

NO OPPONENTS

PORTER-On line 17, "approve the procurement" -- would this include leasing?

FASBENDER-Yes. PORTER-Would this determine the software and languages?

MIKE MELDAHL-Data Processing Coordinator, Governor's Office -- This would make sure that all languages are compatible.

SB 115-Sponsored by Senator Fasbender -- This repeals a section relative to federal assistance management and eliminates a duplication. It was submitted at the request of the Office of Budget & Program Planning.

GEORGE BOUSLIMAN-Budget Director -- This was apparently born out of the notion that one could put all the information anyone would need for federal assistance in one spot. It includes the requirement that anytime an agency requests federal assistance it has to get approval from the Board.

NO OPPONENTS

SB 156-Sponsored by Senator Story -- The sponsor couldn't be present at the hearing due to the need for a quorum in the Senate.

JIM TURCOIT-Assistant Administrator, PERS -- He submitted written testimony, see Attachment #2. He also called the committee's attention to the Statement of Intent which was drafted by PERS.

March 5, 1979

TOM SCHNEIDER-MPEA Executive Director -- Our main concern is that in the past employees have had to wait for their refunds for undue amounts of time sometimes, and this was because the employer contributions haven't been received by PERS. I think this committee should be aware that the Board can waive the interest penalty if the delay was no one's fault. So, if it's a situation of change in local government or computer breakdown, the board doesn't have to assess the interest penalty. But, if it is a reporting agency neglecting to report, then the Board can crack down on the agency.

NO OPPONENTS

McBRIDE-On page 1 the date is changed from the 10th to the 15th -- is that going to help? TURCOTT-You have various reporting deadlines and the 10th is very difficult for some agencies; so this sets a definite date that these things are due. That third recommendation is in response to refund requests, to write everyone of them is difficult and time consuming.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SB 156-McBRIDE moved to hold for further information, which carried.

SB 114-O'CONNELL moved BE CONCURRED IN, which carried unanimously.

SB 115-JOHNSTON moved BE CONCURRED IN, which carried unanimously.


SB 287-MAGONE moved BE CONCURRED IN, which carried unanimously.

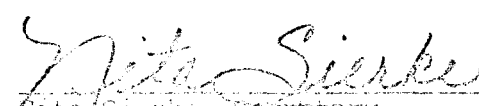
SB 375-STAGMILLER moved BE CONCURRED IN, which carried unanimously.

SB 379-SALES moved BE CONCURRED IN, which carried unanimously.

SB 171-ZEZOTARSKI-I talked with the sponsor and his intent was just office and warehouse space, and said he would be satisfied with just that; but I went through the statutes and we could create a new section defining office space, facilities, etc. and what is doesn't include. KANDUCH-I would agree with the new section. ZEZO-TARSKI-If it is defined you won't have to go through all the other sections if you want to change it just to add a new word.

Adjourned: 11:10 a.m.


Joe Brand, Chairman


Rita Sierke, Secretary