

HOUSE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

March 7, 1979

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Day at 12:30 p.m. with all members present except Representatives Bengtson, Brand, and Kanduch.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 28

SENATOR DOVER introduced the Senate Agriculture Committee Bill. He stated that this resolution dealt with gasahol. We are seeing more and more of this because of the rising cost in our economy and new developments. This resolution will help us get our act together. We can develop programs so we will be able to use the by products for human and animal consumption. The refineries have agreed to work with us on this program.

The Director of the Department of Natural Resources will appoint a citizens advisory council to assist and cooperate with the Department in implementing a program to research, develop, and demonstrate the means to use agricultural products and residues for the production of fuel. We hope to get some funding from the coal tax and in the future from the federal government.

With the passage of this resolution we will be able to get set up right and it will work good, enabling a good program to be implemented.

PROPOSERS:

GERHARD M. KNUDSON, Department of Natural Resources, rose in support of the resolution in behalf of the Department. He stated that they are willing to take steps to comply with the provisions of this resolution.

Questions were asked by the committee.

SENATOR DOVER closed stating that wheat was the product that they would be experimenting with. Using the gluten and protein by products for human and animal consumption and the starch for making the gasahol. There are 4 pilot plants operating east of the Mississippi River.

SENATE BILL NO. 396

REPRESENTATIVE AUDREY ROTH presented this bill for sponsor, Senator Allen Kolstad. She stated that this bill would raise the maximum tax levy on all assessable cattle in a county from 25 cents to 50 cents. County commissioners are empowered to levy this tax and to collect the same as other taxes on personal property. When they are collected they are deposited into a special fund known as the Stockmen's Special Deputy Fund.

PROPONENTS:

MONS TEIGEN, Montana Stockgrowers and Montana Woolgrowers Associations, stated that they were in support of this bill. It is a self help bill which is paid for by the people that benefit from it. They can abolish the protective committee whenever they wish, by petition.

CHARLES BROWN, Department of Livestock, stated that the Department was in favor of this bill.

REPRESENTATIVE ROTH closed stating that this bill was enabling them to keep up with inflation. As stated earlier this money is used for the Special Deputy.

Questions were asked by the committee and the hearing on SB 396 was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

SENATE BILL NO. 396

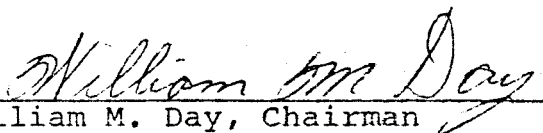
Representative Lien moved, BE CONCURRED IN. The motion was carried unanimously.

SENATE BILL NO. 407

Representative Conroy moved, BE CONCURRED IN. The motion was carried unanimously.

Representative Lien will carry SB 407 on the House floor.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.


William M. Day, Chairman

Judy J. Mook, Secretary