

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

March 17, 1979
Room 104
State Capitol

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 A.M. by Chairman Francis Bardanouve with all members of the committee in attendance.

Chairman Bardanouve stated that the committee would continue with action on House Bill 483.

He stated that we would resume action on the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. After discussion of the Aging Services Bureau, Representative Waldron made a motion to authorize SRS to pass through additional funds to area Aging Councils. On a voice call, the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Bengston made a motion to delete language regarding the Advisory Council Developmental Disabilities. With Representatives South, Ellis, Hurwitz, Kvaalen, Lund, Marks, Moore, Waldron and Bardanouve voting No, the motion failed.

At this time Speaker Harold Gerke stated that the Field Assistant Program under the Department of Community Affairs, for the value received, is one of the better programs. He urged reinstatement of that program.

Discussion was held once more on the functions of the Field Assistant Program. Representative Waldron commented that they are consultants from the State for local governments. This program involves about \$8,000 per year general fund money.

After considerable discussion, Representative South made a motion to reinstate 2 field auditors under the Department of Community Affairs and the necessary funding for them.

Representative Marks opposed this motion, and made a substitute motion to provide funding for 1 FTE instead of 3. With Representatives Ellis, Kvaalen and Marks voting Yes, Representative Marks' motion failed.

The vote was then taken on the original motion by Representative South and with Representative Kvaalen voting No, the Motion carried.

At this time Representative Moore made a motion to remove \$1,000,000 from general fund money for nursing homes under the Department of SPS. After discussion and with Representative Marks speaking against the motion, as did Representatives Waldron, Bardanouve and Keith Colbo, the Director of the Department, Representative Moore withdrew his motion.

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Representative Marks stated that the highest cost nursing homes in the State run the private nursing homes and he feels that they rip off the county homes.

Representative Moore expressed great concern over the nursing home program.

Discussion was then held between the members of the committee with questions and answers regarding the Renal Program under the Vocational Rehabilitation Bureau and the Veterans Affairs programs.

Discussion was also had on the Fire Service Training Academy under the Other Education portion of the bill.

After considerable discussion, Representative South made a motion that they insert \$3,750 in fiscal 1980 only, to appropriate funds for the Fire Service Training Committee. On a voice call, the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Moore made a motion to appropriate \$75,000 per year to Butte to reinstate their summer technical program.

Representative South opposed the motion saying that if we put this amount back in, we are giving Butte more than we give the other 4 and this is not quite right.

Representative Menahan spoke on behalf of the program in Butte and Representative Bengtson stated that she was impressed with the request from Billings for their program. The vote was then taken on Representative Moore's motion. With Representatives South, Hurwitz, Kvaalen, Lund, Yardley and Bardanouve voting No, the motion carried.

Representative Bengtson then stated that she agrees with Representative South's feelings on reinstating the program at Butte, and followed her statement with a motion that we appropriate an additional \$47,000 for the Vo-tech program at Billings. With Representative South, Ellis, Hurwitz, Kvaalen, Lund, Marks, Moore, Yardley and Bardanouve voting No, the motion failed.

At this time Representative Marks made a motion that the committee reconsider their action on the Butte Summer technical program. Representatives Manning, Manuel, Menahan, Moore, Waldron, voted No, and the motion carried.

A motion was then made to leave the language in the bill as it was in its original form regarding the Butte summer technical program. With Representatives Gesek, Manning, Manuel, Menahan, Moore and Waldron voting No, the motion carried.

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The next agency to be discussed was the Department of Public Instruction. Representative Bengston made a motion to appropriate \$218,000 for the biennium to the adult basic education program. This would be general fund money.

Speaker Gerke rose on behalf of the motion, stating that this has been a good program over the years. It is not expensive. The program in Billings has taken people from being tax eaters and made tax payers out of them.

Representative Moore spoke against the motion.

Representative South stated that the subcommittee had a difference of opinion over this portion of their report. He stated that he would rather spend general fund money on adults who may have been deprived from receiving a high school education for some reason or other. He went on to say that it is a small investment to make and therefore he would concur in the motion.

Representative Gesek supported the motion saying that they are doing a very good job in Flathead County on this issue.

Representative Marks stated that this is a small amount compared to what we are spending on other phases of education.

The vote was then taken on the motion by Representative Bengston, and with Representative Kvaalen voting No, the motion carried unanimously.

Representative South stated that we need to appropriate language for the Drivers Training program and made a motion to that effect. Again on a voice call, the motion carried.

Discussion was then held on the Special Olympics of the education portion of the bill. Representative Bengston made a motion to appropriate \$30,000 for the biennium for the special olympics and that this program would be administered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

After considerable discussion, Representative Moore made a substitute motion to allow \$15,000 special education money for the special olympics. On a voice call, the motion by Representative Moore carried unanimously.

Representative South made a motion that we appropriate \$685,108 in fiscal year 1980 and \$714,308 in fiscal year 1981 for the special olympics program out of special ed moneys already appropriated. Motion carried unanimously.

Representative South then made a motion that the second year of the biennium, we add 2 special ed FTES. Motion carried.

The committee then discussed the budget for the Historical Society

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and Representative Ellis expressed concern about security at the Historical Society.

The committee then discussed the Arts Council, and various portions of the Department of Institutions and the Deaf and Blind School.

Turning their attention to the Alcohol division under the Department of Institutions, Representative Moore made a motion to strike the first sentence in 3(b) in its entirety. Motion carried.

Representative Moore then made a motion to reduce the staff by 3 in the ADAD program. With Representatives Hand, Wood and Yardley abstaining, and with Representatives Kvaalen, Marks and Moore voting Yes, the motion failed.

Again after considerable discussion and questions and answers regarding the ADAD program, Representative Lund made a motion that there be no new alcohol programs unless they are approved by the legislature.

Representative Yardley supported the motion saying that there are considerable programs now, there is considerable flexisibility.

Representative Waldron stated that there is a problem with the motion as stated. He said that we might be tying their hands, if you try to put a limit on the number of programs, that would be fine.

Representative Moore stated that the programs that are working well will remain. The programs that are not functioning that well will should be discontinued.

Representative South asked why we need a ceiling if we line item.

Representative Ellis stated that he opposes the motion saying that we are tying the hands of management.

A substitute motion made by Representative Moore regarding this subjeet carried with Representatives Ellis, Manning and Menahan voting No.

Regarding the budget for Boulder, Representative Kvaalen made a motion to go to a staffing pattern of 1 to 1.4 for the direct care people. With Representatives Kvaalen and Moore voting Yes, the motion failed. The voting on this motion followed questions by Representatives Gesek and Marks. Lengthy discussion was also had on the subject before the vote was taken.

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The committee then discussed the supplies problem for the department of institutions.

Representative Yardley made a motion to increase the supplies and materials in the Swan River Forest Youth Camp by \$7,000 per year. On voice call, the motion carried unanimously.

At this time the meeting was recessed to reconvene upon adjournment.

The meeting reconvened at 2:40 P.M.

Representative Yardley continued his explanation of the budget for Warm Springs. He made a motion to re-instate the budget as proposed by the subcommittee putting \$63,000 back into Warm Springs and also take the limitation off the number of children that can be placed in the Children's Center. This would involve \$63,710 in fiscal 1980 and \$68,582 in fiscal 1981. On a voice call, the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Gesek then made a motion to add 2 FTE's to the staff at Warm Springs to serve in the capacity as Chaplain. After considerable discussion on this motion, Representative Gesek withdrew the motion.

Further discussion was had between the committee members regarding the budget for the pre-release centers for the prison.

The committee then discussed the Legislative Council budget. Representative Menahan explained their budget. He then made a motion to appropriate raises for the lawyers on the Legislative Council amounting to \$17,000 for each year of the biennium. Motion carried unanimously.

Representative Menahan then made a motion to transfer \$25,000 from Interim Studies and put it into a contingency fund to enable the council to change the studies if necessary. With Representative Bengston voting No, the motion carried.

Representative Menahan then made a motion to upgrade the lawyer in the Governor's Office from Lawyer I to Lawyer III. With Representatives Marks, Moore and Bengston voting No, the motion carried.

The next motion was also made by Representative Menahan for \$50,000 per year for matching money for \$150,000 grants and loans to small businesses that are small industries. With Representatives Ellis, Hurwitz, Kraalen, Marks, Moore and Wood voting No and with Representative South abstaining, the motion carried.

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The committee then considered the Department of Justice and Representative Menahan made a motion to approve 4 additional highway patrolmen. With Representative Marks voting No, the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was then made by Representative Menahan to add \$151,289 for fiscal year 1980 and \$156,234 to the Anti Trust Division, other funds, and to add language to the bill to make this a legal problem. With Representatives Wood and Moore opposing the motion, the motion carried.

Representative Menahan then made a motion to add the Director of Motor Vehicle Registration with a salary of \$38,908 for the first year and \$39,265 for the second year of the biennium. Motion carried.

Representative Waldron made a motion to retain 1 FTE, legal secretary at a salary of \$13,241 per year. With Representatives Gesek, Manning, Waldron and Yardley voting Yes, the motion failed.

Representative Menahan made a motion to appropriate legal fees of \$5,294 for the first year of the biennium and \$5,443 for the second year. Motion failed.

Representative Menahan made a motion to give the attorneys on board at the present time salary raises amounting to \$19,500 the first year and \$27,300 the second year of the biennium. Motion failed after an explanation of the problem by Chairman Bardanouve.

Representative Menahan made a motion to appropriate \$33,000 for the first year of the biennium and \$34,832 for the second year for mailers registration notices and also to add language that notices will be mailed regardless of passage of Senate Bill 184. Again on a voice call, the motion carried.

Representative Menahan made a motion for a one-time expense of \$36,000 for printing of 1981 license tabs. Motion carried.

A motion by Representative Menahan to appropriate \$5,000 a year for county prosecutors for operations carried unanimously.

At this time Representative Menahan made a motion to appropriate \$15,000 per year of general fund money for the salaries of county prosecutors. Motion carried.

Representative Menahan then made a motion to upgrade a high-mileage automobile used by the agency which would cost \$5,200.00. With Representatives Hand, Manning, Manuel, Menahan, Wood and Yardley voting Yes, the motion failed.

The next agency to be discussed was the Department of Revenue.

A motion by Representative Menahan for research carried unanimously.

Representative Menahan made a motion concerning Inheritance Tax Division for \$2,500 per year for mailing. Motion carried.

Representative Menahan then made a motion to appropriate \$2,750 per year for investigations. With Representatives Ellis, Gesek, Hand, Manning, Manuel, Menahan, Waldron, Wood, Yardley and Bardanouve voting Yes, and with Representative South absent, the motion carried.

Representative Menahan made a motion to add \$900 per year for communications. Motion carried.

In the Property Tax Division, Representative Menahan made a motion to eliminate \$177,000 each year. On a voice call, motion carried unanimously.

Under Campaign Practices, Representative Menahan made a motion to restore the Commissioner of Campaign Practices with a cost of \$93,386 the first year of the biennium and \$99,310 the second year. Motion carried unanimously on a voice call.

A motion regarding transfers of insurance was made by Representative Menahan and with Representatives Moore, Hurwitz and Marks voting No, the motion carried.

At this point Representative Moore made a motion to re-instate the attorney in the Securities Division. With Representatives South, Ellis, Gesek, Hurwitz, Kvaalen, Marks, Waldron and Bardanouve voting No, the motion carried.

The committee then began considering the Education Budget with the first presentation being Higher Education.

Representative Bengston made a motion to appropriate additional money to the WICHE program to take care of the faculty and other people that are enrolled in the program. With Representatives Ellis, Hurwitz, Manuel, and Waldron voting No, the motion carried.

A motion was then made draft a letter of intent regarding the WICHE program. With Representatives Bengston, Ellis, Gesek, Hand, Hurwitz, Manning, Manuel, Marks, Waldron, Wood voting No, the motion failed.

Representative South then made a motion to appropriate \$12,612 for the first year of the biennium and \$45,536 for the second year to Northern and \$13,000 the first year and \$13,700 for the second year to Western for computer operators. On a voice call, the motion carried unanimously.

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The meeting was then adjourned to reconvene at 1:00 on Sunday,
March 18, 1979.

Chairman

[Handwritten Signature]

Secretary