

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
April 18, 1979
46th Legislative Session

A meeting of the House Local Government Committee was held on Wednesday, April 18, at 11:00 a.m. in room 436. Chairman Hershal Robbins presided over the meeting. Members absent were Rep. Azzara, Bertelson, Hurwitz, Kemmis, Moore, South and Waldron.

Chairman Robbins opened the meeting to a hearing on SJR 38.

Senator George McCallum, chief sponsor of the resolution, explained the bill to the committee. He said that the resolution would request a study of problems of state compensation to local governments for state-owned property and begin to identify state mandates to local government. He said that the National Conference of State Legislators wrote a letter to him requesting that an application for a grant for this study be made. He said they listed 19 areas that the state may want to study. He said that there would be \$15,000 available for the study. Senator McCallum then turned the testimony over to Bob Person, Legislative Council, who did the research work on the study.

Bob Person passed out a copy of "4.115 State Compensation To Local Governments For State-Owned Property" and "4.116 State Mandates" for the committee to look at. See exhibit "A" and "B" attached to original minutes. He said that this legislation was primarily drafted from these brochures. He said that he had been in contact with the NCSL and had discussed the procedure with these people.

PROPOSERS:

Dan Mizner, League of Cities, spoke in support of the resolution and said that this study would give a better view of some of the problems in this area.

Dave Goss, City of Towns, Billings, also testified in favor of the resolution. He said that the city of Billings supported the bill and felt that it was a good approach to help everyone.

There were no other proponents and no opponents to SJR 38.

Senator McCallum closed on SJR 38.

Questions from the committee followed.

Rep. Pistoria asked Mr. Person if he could tell him what the ACIR stood for. Mr. Person said ACIR is Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations. He also said that NCSL stands for National Conference of State Legislators.

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Rep. Sales wanted to know how much money was involved and who would be doing the work. Senator McCallum said that \$15,000 is the maximum that would be allowed for the study and this would come from a grant of the AUD, Legislative Council sub-committee budget. Bob Person said that a portion of the money would be available for technical assistance. He said about \$1,000 would be for postage and printing and the balance would provide the basis for technical assistance. He said that he would have to talk to other sources to find out what technical systems would be available. He said that the committee would have the responsibility of allocating the money.

Rep. Robbins asked if the Local Government Committee would decide who would make up the study committee or who would make that decision and just how would this committee be set up.

Bob Person said that the regular approach would be taken on setting up the committee but the funding would be different.

Rep. Robbins asked Mr. Person if he knew of any other resolutions that have been funded in this way. He answered that he was not aware of any that have been done in exactly this manner but there was one funded in the 73 session that was similar however it was totally separate from the Legislative Council.

Rep. Oberg asked what happens if the priorities committee does not select this study and we get the grant, would the council take it back. Mr. Person it would be up to the council to make that decision.

There were no further questions from the committee.


EXECUTIVE ACTION:

Rep. Reichert made a motion that SJR 38 BE CONCURRED IN. Discussion on the motion followed. Rep. Pistoria asked Bob Person what would actually be studied. Mr. Person said that the two pamphlets explained the bulk of the resolution. Rep. Robbins said that the impact of state government on local government seems to be a big problem and he felt that the resolution was needed. A vote was called and passed unanimously with those present. SJR 38 BE CONCURRED IN.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


HERSHEL M. ROBBINS -Chairman

C. Martin - Secretary