

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

January 9, 1979

The third meeting of the Senate State Administration Committee was called to order by Senator Pete Story, Chairman, on the above date, in Room 442 of the State Capitol Building at 10:00 o'clock A. M.

ROLL CALL: All members were present except Senator Jergeson who was absent.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL No. 24: The Chairman called on Josephine M. Driscoll, Chief Deputy Commissioner of Insurance, Insurance Division of the State Auditor's Office, to present her testimony on Senate Bill No. 24.

Jo Driscoll explained the only change proposed from the present law is the "shall" changed to "may" so that it is not mandatory they hire a full-time field investigator but would still allow them to if, in the future, it might become necessary. At present, they use their current employees for field work as the need arises. Attached to these Minutes is a copy of the written commentary provided the Committee regarding this Bill.

Sen. Bob Brown questioned the number of persons available to investigate field problems, and was advised the agency had five persons at present.

The Chairman asked if this Bill would save one state employee. Ms. Driscoll replied that at present they shared a half-time person who also worked on related matters; therefore, it would save one-half state worker.

Chairman Story called for proponents of the Bill; there being none, he asked for any opponents, but none appeared.

There being no further questions, the hearing on Senate Bill No. 24 was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL No. 7: The Chairman called on Randy McDonald, representing the Code Commissioner, to present his testimony on Senate Bill No. 7.

Mr. McDonald stated that during recodification, they discovered a minor error in the law which makes reference to the department head. There is no department head for the Historical Society now. In 1974, it was removed from the direct control of the Board of Education. It is still attached to the Dept. of Education for administrative purposes only. This does not change the pay rate for trustees.

Sen. Roskie questioned when the Society was attached to the Dept. of Education and who does the hiring for the Board. Mr. McDonald answered that they had their own hiring power in

their director and that the Board was responsible to the Governor. The administrative duties were attached to the Dept. of Education by a change of the law in 1974.

Sen. Hafferman questioned if the change would open up the present \$25. payment limit, to which he was answered that this change would clarify that \$25 would be the exact amount they will be paid.

Chairman Story called for proponents of the Bill; none appearing, opponents were then called for. None were present.

There being no further questions, the hearing on Senate Bill No. 7 was closed.

Senator Roskie made a motion that Senate Bill No. 7 DO PASS; motion was seconded and carried by majority vote, with Senator Hafferman voting "no".

Senator Brown moved that Senate Bill No. 24 DO PASS; motion was seconded and, by unanimous vote, carried.

Copies of the partial list of the Governor's appointees were passed out to Committee members; these nominees are to be discussed at a time when all Committee members are present.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A. M.



Pete Story, Chairman

Date Aug. 1, 1979

## ROLL CALL

**STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

46th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 1979

Each Day Attach to Minutes.

SENATE

ROLL CALL VOTE RECORD

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Date Jan. 9, 1979 SENATE Bill No. 7 Time

Jennie L. Palmer  
Secretary

Pete Story

Motion: Motion was made by Senator George F. Roskie that  
Senate Bill No. 7 DO PASS; motion was seconded and  
carried, with Senator Hafferman voting "no".

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

.....January 9.....1979.....

MR. .....President.....

We, your committee on .....STATE ADMINISTRATION.....

having had under consideration .....SENATE Bill No. ....7.....

Respectfully report as follows: That.....SENATE.....Bill No. ....7.....

Introduced Bill,

DO PASS



ROLL CALL VOTE RECORD

Date Jan. 9, 1979 SENATE Bill No. 24 Time

Jennie L. Palmer  
Secretary

Pete Story  
Chairman

Motion: Motion was made by Senator Bob Brown that  
Senate Bill No. 24 DO PASS: motion was seconded and  
carried by unanimous vote.

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

.....January 9.....19 79.....

MR. ....President.....

We, your committee on .....STATE ADMINISTRATION.....

having had under consideration .....SENATE... Bill No. 24.....

Respectfully report as follows: That.....SENATE.. Bill No. 24.....

Introduced Bill,

DO PASS

*P.A.*

SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

BILL SB 7 & SB 24

VISITORS' REGISTER

DATE Jan. 9

NAME: RANDY M<sup>C</sup> DONALD DATE: 1/9/79

ADDRESS: legislative Council

PHONE: 449-3064

REPRESENTING WHOM? Code Commissioner

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 7

DO YOU: SUPPORT? ✓ AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Josephine D. Russell DATE: 1-9-79

ADDRESS: Ind. Dept., State Auditor's Office

PHONE: 449-2996

REPRESENTING WHOM? E. U. Tonny Onkel, Ind. Com.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: S. B. 24

DO YOU: SUPPORT? ✓ AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: Ind. Dept. bill to amend reference to employment of field investigators.

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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

MONTANA STATE SENATE

Senate State Administration Committee

SENATE BILL NO. 24

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED:

"AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 33-1-303, MCA, RELATING TO  
EMPLOYMENT OF ASSISTANTS TO THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER."

This amendment is designed to bring the statute into conformity with the needs and current practices of the Insurance Department.

At present the Department does not employ a full-time field investigator as is apparently required by law. The Department does not consider that the additional expense of such an employee would be justified at this particular time, and prefers to use its current employees for field work as the need arises. In this manner the Department is also free to choose the employee most qualified to deal with the particular problem at hand.

The Department has been effective in resolving controversies by correspondence and by telephone, and by field investigation when appropriate. Should it be necessary to hire a full-time employee designated as field investigator, the Department wishes to retain the discretion to make the appointment. However, a mandatory appointment would be excessive and unwarranted.

MONTANA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

By Josephine M. Driscoll  
JOSEPHINE M. DRISCOLL  
Chief Deputy Commissioner of Insurance