

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

January 15, 1979

An executive meeting of the Local Government Committee was called to order by Chairman, Senator George McCallum, on January 15, 1979, at 3:45 P.M. in Room 405 of the State Capitol Building.

ROLL CALL: All members were present

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 14: Senator McCallum of Senate District 12, reviewed Senate Bill 14, and told of some of the comments that were made at the hearing of January 13, 1979. It was felt that Dennis Taylor, Researcher, could perhaps draft a committee bill that would take the counties out of the bill but leave the cities in.

Senator Lockrem stated that he is having a new bill drafted that would take care of Missoula's problems. He stated his objections to SB 14, and stated he did not feel it was necessary to have Mr. Taylor draft a new bill for the cities. Senator Lockrem asked the staff how difficult it would be to amend SB 14, and the other 12 bills sponsored by Senators Watt and Jergeson, to take the counties out. Dennis Taylor stated that it is possible to either amend SB 14, as indicated or to prepare a "clean" committee bill. Mr. Taylor recommended that if the committee wants to proceed in this direction that a committee bill be requested to make the drafting go faster and to avoid technical errors that can accompany massive amendments. Either way, Taylor said, the substance of the bills would remain the same.

Senator Watt thought that he would perhaps take the counties part out of the bill unless the county has 5 or more commissioners. He also stated that he thought that perhaps SB 14 could have some of the powers amended.

Senator Lockrem commented that the cities have all the powers they need already, but that they do not have the flexibility.

Senator O'Hara felt that most of the people were afraid of allowing so much power in the hands of the county commissioners, perhaps the old laws could be amended.

Senator McCallum did not feel that most of the people completely understood the bill.

Senator Lockrem stated that the bill he is having drafted will be able to be amended into the recodification codes.

Senator Story stated he did not feel the bill is any longer a reorganization bill and the committee had to be very careful.

Senator Thomas stated that he felt SB 14 was very cumbersome and only two or three people really understood the whole bill.

Senator Peterson stated that he comes from an area with self government power so the bill really does not affect him.

Senator Rasmussen commented that he feels a legitimate concern and would like to be able to give the local governments more power. He then stated that he hoped Senator Lockrem's bill would take care of some of the problems.

Senator Conover stated that he did not like the idea of taxes being able to be levied by a local governing body.

Senator McCallum stated that the committee is responsible in taking care of the people and is concerned as to what the bill would do to the average citizen.

A motion was made by Senator O'Hara that Senate Bill 14 be given a "DO NOT PASS" recommendation. Seconded by Senator Story. Motion carried by a vote of 7-2. (See attachment.)

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Senator Lockrem and seconded by Senator Conover to adjourn at 4:15. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 18, 1979, in Room 405 of the State Capitol Building.

  
Chairman, George McCallum

ROLL CALL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

46th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 1979

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
GEORGE MCCALLUM, CHAIRMAN	✓		
LLOYD LOCKREN, VICE CHAIRMAN	✓		
MAX CONOVER	✓		
JESSE A. O'HARA	✓		
BOB PETERSON	✓		
A. T. (TOM) RASMUSSEN	✓		
PETE STORY	✓		
BILL THOMAS	✓		
ROBERT D. WATT	✓		

Each Day Attach to Minutes.

SENATE COMMITTEE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Date January 15, 1979 Senate Bill No. 14 Time 4:10

NAME	YES	NO
GEORGE MCCALLUM, CHAIRMAN	X	
LLOYD LOCKREM, VICE CHAIRMAN	X	
MAX CONOVER		✓
JESSE A. O'HARA	X	
BOB PETERSON	X	
A. T. (TOM) RASMUSSEN	X	
PETE STORY	✓	
BILL THOMAS	✓	
ROBERT D. WATT		X

*James L. ...*  
Secretary

*McCallum*  
Chairman

Motion: A motion was made by Senator O'Hara and seconded  
by Senator Story that SB 14 receive a recommendation of  
"DO NOT PASS" from the committee. Motion carried.

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

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

.....January 16..... 19 79.....

MR. ....President,.....

We, your committee on.....Local Government.....

having had under consideration.....Senate..... Bill No. 14.....

Respectfully report as follows: That.....Senate..... Bill No. 14.....

✓

DO NOT PASS *PA*  
DO NOT PASS

.....  
Chairman.