

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION
MONTANA STATE SENATE

February 14, 1979

The fifteenth meeting of the Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Committee was called to order on the above date in Room 415 of the State Capitol Building by Chairman Galt at 12:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

The witnesses that were present to testify are attached.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 436: Senator Graham, district #29 had introduced this bill. Up until now the Department of Livestock has exempted transferring of ownership of 5 head or less. This bill requires anyone making a change of ownership of less than five head to fill out a notification from the Department telling what was transferred. This must be mailed to the Department within 10 days. This would give the Department some record of these smaller transfers.

Gary Langley, Montana Stockgrowers, arose in support of the bill. He thought this bill addressed the problem of small transfers.

Charlie Brown, Department of Livestock, said this would probably not address the whole problem but would give the department some type of a record that they could refer back to. This bill would apply to five head of less just within the county. If they cross the county line they would have to be inspected. There would be a penalty for not sending in the notification within the 10 days.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 436: Senator Graham moved that Senate Bill 436 DO PASS. Motion carried. Senator Hager voting No.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 396: Senator Kolstad, district #5 had introduced this bill at the request of the Choteau County Protection Association. The bill would change the maximum levy from 25 cents to 50 cents per head. There are three or four protection association in the state. They do not anticipate that it will have to be raised to 50¢. They anticipate raising it to 28¢ to cover salaries.

Representative Audrey Roth rose in support of the bill. She said they are merely asking for the privilege of taxing themselves. They are getting good protection at the present time and are willing to pay for it.

Jim Stephens, Montana Farmers Union said they support the bill totally.

Gary Langley, Montana Stockgrowers, felt the protection associations are fulfilling a real need. Inflation has caught up with them and he felt they needed the increase.

Senator Kolstad said the state's statutes specifies 25¢ per head at the present and there has to be a change in the laws so they can levy a higher rate. The people pay the levy voluntarily.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 396: Senator Kolstad moved that Senate Bill 396 DO PASS. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 442: Senator Steve Brown said this bill deals with the accumulation of vacation time for public employees. He had a proposed amendment to the title, line 6, by striking "state" and inserting "public". This bill would allow employees to keep their excess vacation time if taken 90 days after the last day of the calendar year.

Tom Snyder, Montana Public Employees Association, said this is more of a management bill than an employee bill. Many people like to take time off around Christmas, but the ones that can't many times have to forfeit their accumulated vacation time.

Les Nilsen, Montana State Fireman's Association, said this makes the program that is already their easier to administer.

Pat Estenson, said this is administered by the Department of Administration. The department is neither an opponent or a proponent. These problems do occur and this bill would help the situation.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 442: Senator Conover moved the proposed amendment. Motion carried.

Senator Kolstad moved that Senate Bill 442 as amended DO PASS. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE Bill 279: Senator Dover said he had a proposed bill to submit in lieu of SB 279 and also a proposed resolution. These proposed bills are attached per exhibits 1 and 2.

Steve Keil, Montana Grain Growers, support the proposed bill. They felt the bill was the answer to the surplus of grain and to develop the utilization of grain.

George Skarda, Montana Wheat Committee, said the two biggest wheat markets are going to merge, Western Wheat and Great Plains. It will cost 65,000 dues to join in the merger. He felt the bill would benefit everyone.

Sharon Peterson, WIFE, strongly supported the bill. They have worked with many of the departments and felt the money would be spent wisely.

Jim Stephens, Montana Farmers Union and speaking for the Montana Farm Bureau supported the concept of the bill and the need for alternate energy.

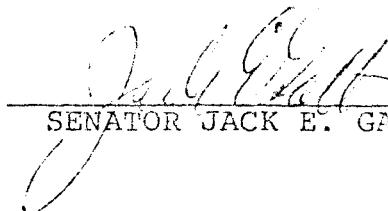
Jack Gunderson, Department of Agriculture, said he had worked with Senator Dover and the farm organizations. This bill would specifiy \$200,000 for research. The Department of Natural Resources could get 5 to 1 matching funds for this money which could amount to 1 million dollars. The wheat commission selects the programs that they see fit by contacting people in the different districts.

Steve Keil gave the committee a run-down on the Wheat Commissions budget which he felt was very justified.

Senator Kolstad moved that this proposal become a committee bill. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Senator Dover explained the proposed joint resolution. He said the resolution would give some direction to the department of Natural Resources to get some cooridination in the program. He felt at the present there was some duplication. It would also look into the best methods of working ethanol into the refinery system in the state.

Senator Graham moved that this proposal become a committee resolution. Motion carried unanimously.


SENATOR JACK E. GALT, Chairman

Date 2-14

ROLL CALL

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

46th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 1979

Each Day Attach to Minutes.

COMMITTEE ON

Agriculture.

DATE

February 14

S.B. 396-436-442

VISITORS' REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Oppose
Thomas F. Schneider	Mont. Public Service	442	X	
Eric Gache	✓	442	X	
Geo. A. Skarda	Mont. Wheat Comittee			
Jack Henderson	Montana Dept of Ag	279	X	
Lee Nelson	mt st. Fireman's Assn.	412	X	
Steve Bell	Montana B. & G. Com.	279		
Joe Larson	5-1f	279	X	
Mal Brown	Dept of Livestock	396, 436	X	
Mary Langley	Montana Stockgrowers Assn	396, 436	✓	

BILL NO.

INTRODUCED BY _____

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO AMEND THE WHEAT RESEARCH AND MARKETING ACT; CHANGING THE ASSESSMENT LEVIED ON WHEAT AND BARLEY; AND AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONTRACT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF FUELS AND FOOD FROM GRAIN RESIDUES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 80-11-206 MCA is amended to read:

"80-11-206 Annual assessment on wheat and barley grown.
(1) There is hereby levied an annual assessment of up to 5 mills per bushel upon all wheat grown and up to 10 mills per hundredweight on all barley grown in the state of Montana and sold through commercial channels. The assessment is hereby levied and imposed on each grower of wheat or barley in the state of Montana.

(a) in the case of sale of wheat or barley, at the time of any sale of wheat or barley by a grower, and shall be collected by the first purchaser of the wheat or barley from the grower at the time of each settlement for wheat or barley purchased; or

(b) in the case of a pledge or mortgage of wheat or barley as a security for a loan under any federal price support program, the assessment shall be collected by deducting the amount thereof from the proceeds of such loan at the time the loan is made by the agency or person making the loan.

(2) The assessment levied under the provisions of this part shall be deducted and collected as provided by this part, whether such wheat or barley is stored in this or any other state. The assessment shall attach to each transaction, but no grower shall be subject to assessment more than once irrespective of the number of times it shall be subject of a sale, pledge, mortgage or other transaction, the assessment being imposed and attaching on the initial sale, pledge, mortgage, or other transaction in which the wheat or barley grower parts with title to the wheat or barley, or creates some interest therein in a pledgee, mortgagee or other person."

1 JOINT RESOLUTION NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____

3

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION TO INVOLVE THE CITIZENRY OF MONTANA IN PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT RELATED TO THE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT OR DEMONSTRATION OF FUELS FROM AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND RESIDUES.

10

11 WHEREAS, the department of natural resources and conservation administers programs related to the research, development or demonstration of all forms of renewable energy, including agriculturally derived fuels; and

15 WHEREAS, the citizenry of Montana have expressed a growing awareness and interest for the need to be involved in the research, development or demonstration of fuels from agricultural products and residues.

19 N

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

22 That the director of the department of natural resources and conservation shall appoint a citizens advisory council, pursuant to 2-15-122, or an ad hoc citizens committee, to assist and cooperate with the department in implementing a

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 14 1979

MR. President

We, your committee on Agriculture, Livestock & Irrigation

having had under consideration Senate Bill No. 442

Respectfully report as follows: That Senate Bill No. 442, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Title, line 6.
Following: line 5
Strike: "STATE"
Insert: "PUBLIC"

And, as so amended
DO PASS

J.A.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 14, 1979

MR. President

We, your committee on Agriculture, Livestock & Irrigation

having had under consideration Senate Bill No. 436

Respectfully report as follows: That Senate Bill No. 436

DO PASS

J.E.C.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 14, 1972

MR. President.....

We, your committee on..... Agriculture, Livestock & Irrigation.....

having had under consideration..... Senate..... Bill No. 396

Respectfully report as follows: That..... Senate..... Bill No. 396

J.P.C.
DO-PASS