

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
RULES
MONTANA STATE SENATE

February 15, 1979

The meeting of the Senate Rules Committee was called to order on the above date in Room 331 of the State Capitol Building by Chairman Stephens at 6:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with no exceptions.

Discussion ensued on Senator Mehrens' motion to appoint a five member committee composed of members of the Finance and Claims Committee to put pressure on the governor to speed up the negotiations on settling the strike at the institutions.

Senator Stephens stated he felt this would be in conflict with the executive branch who is working to break the impasse. It could muddy the water and it could be charged that the Senate is overstepping its bounds. Further, he stated he does not believe it is right to interfere in this matter.

Senator Kolstad asked if negotiations are being conducted at this time, and Senator Mehrens responded in the affirmative.

Senator Blaylock expressed his feeling about setting some kind of precedence that any time they decided to strike they would come to the legislature to get them to settle it.

After further discussion, Chairman Stephens asked the committee how they wished to dispose of the matter.

Senator Turnage suggested a letter could be drafted by the chairman and sent to both parties. This was made in the form of a motion and passed unanimously. (Letter filed under correspondence.)

To dispose of the motion of Senator Mehrens, Senator Turnage moved that it be laid on the table. Motion passed unanimously.

Next topic for discussion was the request by Bob Sands of KEIN Radio Station of Great Falls to be allowed to bring his equipment to Helena and tape the proceedings of the Legislature by plugging into the PA system and broadcasting over the air. His request was based on a ruling by the Attorney General's office dealing with the open meeting law. Senator Blaylock expressed the fear that the Senate would be discriminating against other media and would have to allow them all in. Page 53 of the joint rules was referred to by Senator Towe, an observer, and he felt the rule was not clearly stated but by implication does deal with this question.

Motion by Senator Turnage that all bills currently in the Taxation Committee be considered to be revenue bills for the purpose of transmittal. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Stan Stephens, Chairman

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL VOTE ON _____

DATE 2/24

Present	Absent	Name of Member	Aye	No	Not Voting
✓		Blaylock			
✓		Graham			
✓		Hazelbaker			
✓		Jergeson			
✓		Kolstad			
✓		Mathers			
✓		Smith			
✓		Thiessen			
✓		Turnage			
		Bardanouve			
		Brand			
		Dussault			
		Gerke			
		Huennekens			
		Kvaalen			
		Moore			
		Ramirez			
		Sivertsen			
		Vincent			
✓		Stephens, Chairman			
		TOTAL			

MOTION:

Mal McKay
Secretary

February 16, 1979

SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Motion by Senator Mehrens:

The motion by Senator Turnage on the motion of Senator Mehrens that a five member committee be appointed by the President to intercede in labor negotiations presently underway by the State of Montana and labor organizations representing Montana's state institutions be tabled. Motion carried unanimously.

In lieu of appointing the committee the Rules Committee directed the Chairman of the Committee to communicate with the Honorable Thomas L. Judge, Governor of the State of Montana, and representatives of the unions involved expressing the sentiment of the State Senate that negotiations be resumed as quickly as possible and that particularly in the interest of the patients of Montana Institutions a speedy resolution of the unresolved differences be achieved bringing an end to this unfortunate situation.

February 16, 1979

SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Motion by Senator Turnage

Motion by Senator Turnage that all Bills currently in the Taxation Committee be considered to be Revenue bills for purposes of transmittal.