SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE February 16, 1979

The Senate Education Committee met Friday, February 16, 1979, in Room 402 of the Capitol Building. Senator Ed Smith, Vice Chairman, opened the meeting at 12:36 p.m. Committee members present were Senators Ed Smith, Thomas, O'Hara, Richard Smith, Severson, Fasbender, McCallum and Blaylock. Senator Brown arrived shortly after the meeting commenced and Senator Anderson was excused.

The committee heard the following bills: SB 361, SB 428, SB 192, SB 193, and SB 316.

SENATE BILL 361

Senator McCallum presented the bill for Senator Boylan, the sponsor. Senator McCallum introduced Mrs. Margaret Brown, Superintendent of Schools, Gallatin County, and she presented proposed amendments by the Association of County Superintendents (attachment #1).

PROPONENTS

Glennadine Ferrell, representing the Lake County Schools and the Association of County Superintendents, presented her testimony to the committee in support of the bill (attachment #2).

Edith Harper, representing Sweet Grass County and the Montana Association of County Superintendents, presented her written testimony in support of the bill (attachment #3).

Burdena V. Amsk, County Superintendent, Park County Schools, and representing the County Superintendents Association, presented her written testimony in support of the bill to the committee (attachment #4).

John Fero, President of the School Administrators of Montana, urged support of the bill saying the Superintendents organization is part of that group and the school administrators support them in their efforts. He said the bill is the first step.

Theresa Love, Broadwater County Superintendent of Schools, urged support of the bill.

OPPONENTS

Beverly Gibson, representing the Montana Association of Counties, said she felt a master's requirement was not necessary. She stated a certificate is adequate in small rural communities.

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There being no further proponents or opponents, the hearing was closed and discussion of the bill took place.

SENATE BILL 428

Senator Fasbender, sponsor of the bill, stated the fiscal note is complete but not in as yet. He expressed concern that when we put a substantial amount of money into the foundation program, we lose the tax relief factor. Generally, voted levies have been rising at a faster rate than has the foundation program general fund amount. Because of that he felt we should begin to look at some sort of a limitation without limiting the educational opportunites or enhancements that a particular district might want to add to their program. We as legislators and custodians of the general fund monies must see that there are some further controls exercised on the local level if education is going to continue and prosper in the state of Montana. Therefore, in Senate Bill 428, Senator Fasbender requests that a lid be placed on the voted levies in the local districts. would work by taking the amount the total personal income has increased over the last five years and determine what the average percent of increase would be. That amount would be the total voted levies could increase in the next biennium. that increase would be between 7 1/2 and 10%. He stated he had the Montana School Boards Association and the Montana Education Association look at the bills and even though they would most likely disapprove of the bill, he had asked them for suggested improvements should it become law. He said a trigger mechanism should be placed in the bill to cover the impact on funds should a voted levy be turned down.

PROPONENTS

Ed Nelson, representing the Montana Taxpayer's Association, presented information to the committee (attachment #5). He stated the association supports the bill because there is no way to limit growth of government unless you can limit the growth of education. He stated the growth of government is at a 40% level and something must be done both at the state level and locally to limit educational funding.

George Bousliman, state Budget Director, stated some form of state spending limitation will pass this session, and school spending should be limited also.

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OPPONENTS

<u>Superintendent Georgia Rice</u>, Office of Public Instruction, presented her written testimony in opposition to the bill to the committee (attachment #6).

Leonard Sargent, representing the Montana School Boards Association, presented his written testimony in opposition to the bill to the committee (attachment #7).

Marty Owens, State President of the PTA, stated the association opposes removing local control. She said the foundation program is not based just on property taxes and local levies are. She feels it is better to look at the funding every two years rather than decreeing it be set from here on.

John Fero, President of the School Administrators of Montana, presented his written testimony in opposition to the bill to the committee (attachment #8).

Dave Sexton, representing the Montana Education Association, said he endorsed the previous comments. He said there is local control over spending by a vote and it should not be changed. He further stated the bill does not take into account the differences in local budgets - those on lean budgets would never be able to keep up. Mr. Sexton further stated the largest part of the budget is in salaries and if there are reductions the first place will be in salaries or program reductions as other costs are pretty well fixed. He pointed out that salaries increased only a little over 7% this year while the consumer index is up over 9%. Montana is 27th in teachers salaries in the United States, which is \$1400 below the national average. He felt the consumer index should be the basis for the bill, not personal income.

Wayne Lersbak, Superintendent of Schools, Cascade County, presented his written testimony in opposition to the bill to the committee (attachment # 9).

Jim McGarvey, representing the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, stated his opposition to the bill. He said in recent years programs have had to be dropped by vo-tech schools and universities which had meant in some cases whole career plans have had to dropped. He felt a blanket limitation like this is unfair to any school offering a variety of programs as they will lose programs which will never be recovered. He felt local control should mandate the limits, not a blanket decree by the state.

John Deeney, Assistant Superintendent of School, Billings, stated his opposition to the bill as it infringes on local control. He said he agreed there should be a limit on state spending but that doesn't equate with local levies. He stated

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there have been dramatic increases in Billings for next year with utilities, salaries, medical coverages and a new junior high and elementary school having to be built. He said there may be vo-ed funding to be looked at and no one knows what special education costs will be as yet. He said there are certainly many concerns on the local level but the people on the local level should have the right to deal with them.

Glennadine Ferrell, representing the Lake County Schools and the Association of County Superintendents, presented her written testimony in opposition to the bill to the committee (attachement #10).

Chairman Brown read statements from two people who called in opposition to the bill and asked to have their testimony recorded for the committee deliberation (Joe Eslick, Anita Johnson, attachment #11).

There being no further opponents, Senator Fasbender closed by saying what we do here in Helena indeed impacts in what happens in local communities. Sitting on the Appropriations Sub-committee on Education he sees 46% of the general fund monies appropriated through that committee. He stated Montanans have been generous to a fault with funding of their educational services. He said we have declining school enrollment, but no declining costs. Education is an extremely expensive item but it does have a cost benefit ratio. If we are to argue that limits are to be placed on state spending then we must take cognizance of spending on the local level. total general fund dollars being spent in FY'79 for 167,664 students in Montana is over \$240 million. The state puts a considerable amount of money into that program and he feels it is constitutional and within the purview of the Legislature to determine what the maximum general fund budgets are going to be and if expenditures of those funds are exceeded we could withdraw funds which we feel exceeded the basic amount of growth. Special education is an important aspect of education here in Montana. It has a significant impact on the dollars available for education in Montana. It has been mandated in part by legislators who did not foresee what the costs ultimately would be and by the federal government that is not totally aware of some of the problems and restraints we were placed under. are trying to address some of those problems but we can't be concerned about one without being concerned about all educational programs. If we are going to talk about limiting state government we are going to have to talk about limiting the cost of education because it ia a major and substantial part of the cost of government in the state. We must address it in terms of all the other things that impact on education - not just react to special interest groups. Senator Fashender said he recognizes the problems that local districts are going to have. But we must look at all aspects in our funding of educational services so our decisions are based on priority

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rather than reacting to specific pressure groups.

There being no questions by the committee the hearing was closed on Senate Bill 428.

SENATE BILL 192

Senator Thiessen, sponsor of the bill, was unable to be present and Ellen Feaver, Deputy Legislative Auditor, presented the bill. The bill was requested by the Legislative Audit Committee and states when a school district makes a refund of revenue to the Office of Public Instruction or other revenue source, the refund payment is not to be treated as an expenditure of budgeted money and therefore is not to be charged against the district's spending authority.

The problem was noticed in vo-tech school when students would pay their fees, and then for whatever reason, suddenly withdraw from school and the school district would have to charge their spending authority to refund the fees paid. What they were actually doing to get around this and make the refund in a more logical way was depositing the fees in a clearing account. There was very little control over the fees and they were not being deposited according to state law. The refunds would then be made out of the clearing account. The amendment in the bill would simply allow for payment of fees paid that needed to be refunded without charging the school districts spending authority.

PROPONENTS

John Deeney, representing Billings Public Schools, agreed with previous testimony citing instances of the refund problem in Billings due to student transfers. He supported the bill.

There were no further proponents and no opponents to the bill and the hearing on Senate Bill 192 was closed.

SENATE BILL 193

Senator Jergeson, sponsor of the bill, stated the bill was requested by the Legislative Audit Committee and he called on Ellen Feaver, Deputy Legislative Auditor, to further present the bill. Seh said the problem was discovered in the audit of vo-tech centers. She stated they found there was some money at the end of the biennium and no identification as to whether it was general fund or non-general fund money in the accounting records.

The interpretation of disbursement of general fund money was that once it left OPI it was expended and therefore the state law requiring expenditure of

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non-general fund money first and any general fund money left at the end of the year revert back to the general fund did not apply. The Legislaive Auditor's interpretation was that it was not expended until expended by the vo-tech center. She said the Auditor's office agrees the statutes are not clear on this matter and therefore asked the Legislature to clarify.

PROPONENTS

Larry Key, representing OPI, presented his written testimony in support of the bill to the committee (attachment # 12).

Bob Stockton, representing OPI, agreed with Mr. Key's testimony and said this had happened in Bozeman and it necessitated the adoption of an emergency budget in that particular case.

There being no further proponents and no opponents, the hearing was closed on Senate Bill 193.

Senator Blaylock moved Senate Bill 192 Do Pass. The motion carried unanimously with Senators Severson and Anderson absent.

Senator Richard Smith moved Senate Bill 193 Do Pass. The motion carried unanimously with Senators Severson and Anderson absent.

SENATE BILL 316

Senator Fasbender, sponsor of the bill, stated the Interim Finance Committee, of which he is a member had become aware sometime back of some problems in special education. This was more vividly brought to their attention when it became necessary to put a statewide deficiency levy out to cover the cost of special education in the state last year. He then became Chairman of a special subcommittee to look at problems of special education and determine if there was a way to limit or cap the cost of the special education in the state. This bill, recommended by that committee, has nothing to do with capping any costs. It does make it clear that the superintendent may accept or disburse funds for any district for special education regional resource centers purposes which are now excluded by law.

There being no proponents and no opponents to the bill the hearing was closed.

Senator Thomas moved Senate Bill 316 Do Pass. The motion carried unanimously with Senators Severson and Anderson absent.

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SENATE BILL 262

Senator McCallum moved SB 262 Do Pass. The motion failed on a roll call vote (attachment #13).

Senator Blaylock moved Senate Bill 262 Do Not Pass. The motion carried on a roll call vote (attachment #14). Senator McCallum asked for a majority and minority report.

SENATE BILL 292

Senator Fasbender moved SB 292 Do Not Pass. The motion carried with Senators Severson and Anderson absent and Senator Blaylock voting no.

SENATE BILL 441

Senator Thomas moved to amend page 1, line 25 (attached committee report). The motion carried unanimously with Senators Severson, Anderson, and Blaylock absent.

Senator McCallum moved to amend page 2 by deleting line 2 and 3. The motion carried unanimously with Senators Anderson, Blaylock, and Severson absent.

Senator Richard Smith moved Senate Bill 441 Do Pass As Amended. The motion carried unanimously with Senators Anderson, Blaylock and Severson absent.

SENATE BILL 361

Senator Richard Smith moved SB 361 Do Not Pass. The motion carried with Senator McCallum voting no and Senators Anderson, Severson and Blaylock absent.

SENATE BILL 428

Senator Richard Smith moved SB 428 Do Not Pass. Senator Fasbender made a substitute motion that SB 428 Do Pass. After discussion, the motions were both withdrawn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m. and will reconvene Monday, February 19, 1979 at 12:30 p.m.

Senator Bob Brown, Chairman

Date 3/16/99

ROLL CALL

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NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Sen. Bob Brown, Chairman	- 1 1 M 5 D M 2	TMICON	EXCOSED
Sen. Ed Smith, Vice Chairman	X		
Sen. Jesse O'Hara	X		
Sen. George McCallum	X		
Sen. Elmer Severson	X,		
Sen. Mike Anderson			X
Sen. Chet Blaylock	<u> </u>		
Sen. Larry Fasbender	<i>y</i>		
Sen. Richard Smith	مر		
Sen. Bill Thomas	X		

Each Day Attach to Minutes.

COMMITTEE ON Education

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'EXPLANATION OF A BILL FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT REFUNDS

OF REVENUE RECEIVED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT ARE NOT CHARGED

AGAINST A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SPENDING AUTHORITY

THIS BILL IS AN ACT TO AMEND STATUTORY PROVISIONS RELATING TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS BY CLARIFYING THAT REFUNDS OF REVENUE SHALL NOT REDUCE SPENDING AUTHORITY.

BECAUSE MONTANA LAW DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY PERMIT SCHOOL DISTRICTS

TO MAKE REVENUE REFUNDS IN THIS MANNER, THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUC
TION (OPI) HAS PROHIBITED ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM MAKING REFUNDS

FROM THE OPERATING FUND. BECAUSE A LAW EXISTS SPECIFICALLY PERMIT
TING STATE AGENCIES TO MAKE REFUNDS WITHOUT DECREASING APPROPRIATION

AUTHORITY IN 79-415(3), R.C.M. 1947, (17-8-101, MCA) OPI OFFICIALS

BELIEVED THAT SUCH A LAW WAS NECESSARY TO PERMIT THE SAME ACCOUNTING

FOR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

CURRENTLY, MANY SCHOOL DISTRICTS RETAIN A PORTION OF THEIR REVENUE IN A CLEARING ACCOUNT RATHER THAN DEPOSITING IT DIRECTLY TO THEIR OPERATING FUND. THEY THEN MAKE REFUNDS FROM THE CLEARING ACCOUNT. THIS RESULTS IN ADDITIONAL BOOKKEEPING PROCEDURES, POOR ACCOUNTING CONTROL, AND DELAY IN THE PROPER RECORDING OF REVENUE.

THIS ACT WILL APPLY TO REFUNDS MADE BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

EXISTING PROVISIONS IN 75-6811.2, R.C.M. 1947 (20-9-224, MCA) APPLY

TO REFUNDS MADE TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BY OTHERS.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS LEGISLATION IS TO CLARIFY THE AUTHORITY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO STREAMLINE PROCEDURES FOR TRANSACTIONS THEY ARE ALREADY ACCOMPLISHING BY OTHER MEANS.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

of

ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS

That Senate Bill No. 361 be amended as follows:

Page 2, section 1, line 1, (d) 1

Following: "degree"
Insert: "with an endorsement"

Page 2, section 1, line 3, (d)

Following: "institution"

Strike: "and"

Insert: "or has served as a county superintendent

four or more years: and

1	Arate BILL NO. 361
2	INTRODUCED BY Santana and American
4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REQUIRE A COUNTY
5	SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO HOLD A MASTER'S DEGREE IN
6	SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE CERTIFICATE;
7	PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY VARIANCE; AMENDING SECTION 20-3-201,
8	MCA."
9	
10	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
11	Section 1. Section 20-3-201, MCA, is amended to read:
12	"20-3-201. Election and qualifications. (1) A county
13	superintendent shall be elected in each county of the state
14	unless a county manager form of government has been
15	organized in the county. The county superintendent shall be
16	elected at the general election preceding the expiration of
17	the term of office of the incumbent.
18	(2) Any person shall-be is qualified to assume the
19	office of the county superintendent who:
20	(a) is a qualified elector;
21	(b) holds a valid teacher certificate issued by the
22	superintendent of public instruction; and
23	(c) has not <u>no</u> less than 3 years of successful
24	teaching experience as a certified teacher or
25	administrator;

1	(d) holds a master's degree with an endorsement in
2	school administration from a unit of the Montana University
3	system or an equalivalent institution: and or has served as
4	county superintendent four or more years : and
5	(e) holds an appropriate class 3 administrative
6	certificate as provided in 20-4-106, except that he is not
7	required to possess both an elementary and a secondary
8	instruction endorsement."
9	NEW SECTION. Section 2. Emergency variance from
10	certain requirements. (1) Upon application of any qualified
11	elector residing within the county, the superintendent of
12	public instruction may, pursuant to guidelines adopted by
13	the board of public education, grant an emergency variance
14	from the requirements of subsections (2) (d) and (2) (e) of
15	20-3-201 for that county whenever those requirements present
16	an unreasonable obstacle to the securement of a county
17	superintendent for that county.
18	(2) The board of public education shall adopt rules in
19	the nature of guidelines to be followed by the
20	superintendent of public instruction in granting or denying
21	such emergency variances.
22	(3) An emergency variance is valid only for the term
23	of office of the county superintendent who takes office
24	pursuant to that variance.
25	NEW SECTION. Section 3. No application to existing

LC1585/01

- 1 county superintendents. The requirements of subsections
- 2 (2) (d) and (2) (e) of 20-3-201 apply only to county
- 3 superintendents who take office by election or otherwise
- 4 after July 1, 1979.

-End-

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NAME: Limiadire Tenill DATE: 2/16/19
ADDRESS: Boy 329 Polson 59860
PHONE: 883-4419 02401 (office)
REPRESENTING WHOM? M. assoc. Des School Supt.
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB36/
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMENDED OPPOSE?
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NAME: Cilità Hagin DATE: 2/16/79
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DO YOU: SUPPORT? / AMEND? OPPOSE?
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The Montana besociation of Caunty School Superintendents, with the cooperation of the University of Mintana have developed a graduate program by which any County Superintendent can abtain a

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The program has similar involled. Lefter are Country Superintendents; three are former lawrety survey Superintendents; three are former lawrety in the affect of School administrator of Bentana, anather is a field representative for the Office of Publica Instruction and the third is employed in anather country position and one an assistant lawrey Superintendent.

Since I have a fifth year of callege and lack but a few credit reguments for a martins, Jam enralled in a cause through Women in

administrative pregram spravned by the Mintana.

A masters degree alone does not make a good ideator, Of most importance is experience and four years in the position curtainly qualified. I therefore urge the passage of Sinate little 361.

Edith Harpey, Causty Superialistate Sweet Green Causty, Big Limber and part presedent of Martana associative of Causty School Superinter Links

D.D.

NAME: Burden	a L'Amek	DATE:	ch. 1/2
ADDRESS: Ciy - C	ounty Complex	Liveristin.	NT 59047
PHONE: Office	- 222 - 2150		
REPRESENTING WHOM?	County Superi	intendents in	al myself
APPEARING ON WHICH	PROPOSAL: SB	361	
DO YOU: SUPPORT?	AMEND?	OPPOSE?	
	See attachma		
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COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS PARK COUNTY, MONTANA

LIVINGSTON, MONTANA 59047

Written Testimony on Senate Bill 361, provided by Burdena V. Amsk, Park County Superintendent of Schools.

Qualifications: Master of Arts Degree in Education

Class 3 Administrative Certificate:

- 1. Principal Endorsement
- 2. Superintendent Endorsement

Began Term Of Office January 1, 1979

In recent weeks, as a newly elected County Superintendent, on numerous occasions I have had situations come to the forefront which required me to consult with County Superintendents who had several years of experience on the job.

I do have a Master's Degree in Education as well as my administrative certificate as a principal and as a superintendent of schools. As a newly elected official, with education training, I can vouch for the fact that experience is the best teacher for holding any job. Turning to professional people who have experience on the job brings forth a much more complete picture to alternatives in decision making.

Many individuals who are already in office will be penalized by Senate Bill 361 as it now stands at re-election time. I hope that you will consider amending this bill to enable current county superintendents time to avail themselves of future required education. Experienced individuals provide a valuable contribution to the education field. County superintendents who already are in office, should be looked upon as valuable resource people. Therefore, I urge you to please consider waving the added educational requirements for individuals who have served as County School Superintendent for four or more years.

Also, please consider an amendment which requires future potential County Superintendent candidates to hold a <u>Master's degree</u> with an <u>endorsement in school administration</u>. In the office of County Superintendent of Schools, the school administration endorsement is invaluable.

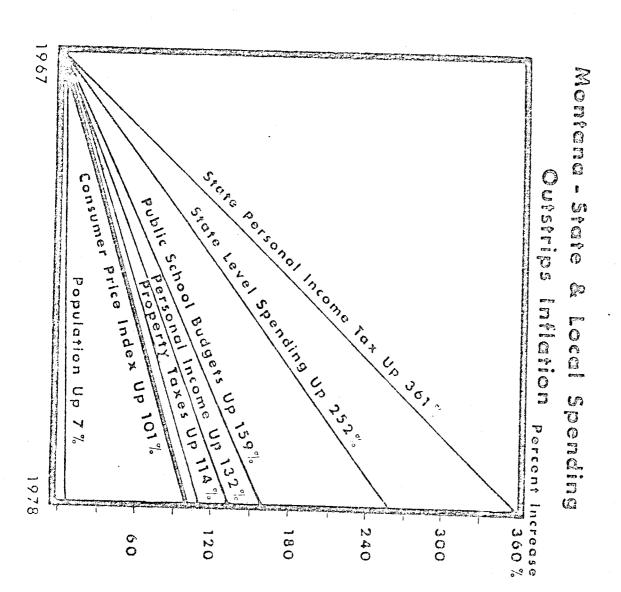
Thank you for allowing me to testify regarding Senate Bill 361. If I can provide more information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Supering / Grade.
Burdena V. Amsk

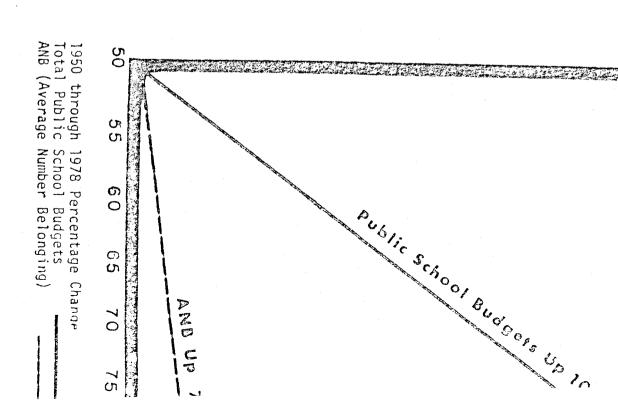
Burdena V. Amsk
County Superintendent of Schools
Park County

NAME: Benerly Libson DATE: 2-16-79
ADDRESS: Helena
PHONE: 442-5209
REPRESENTING WHOM? Fut. ason. of Counties
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 31/
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?
COMMENTS: mot necessary - Small Co.'s Supt.'s
are mostly administration - several
are combined officer



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OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -

STATE CAPITOL HELENA, MONTANA 59601 (406) 449-3095 Georgia Rice Superintendent

February 16, 1979

To:

Senator Bob Brown, Chairman Senate Education Committee

From:

Superintendent Georgia Rice Office of Public Instruction

Re:

Senate Bill Number 428

I respectfully appear before you today on Senate Bill 428 to call your attention to three concerns which I have as Montana's Chief State School Officer.

- 1. Our Montana constitution created a Legislature in Article V which oversees the affairs of our state. The same constitution in Article X reaffirms the right of elected school district trustees to supervise and control schools. This right necessitates the ability to determine the educational program and the tax structure which supports it. Obviously both this 46th assembly and the over 500 school district trustees are duly elected by the people. I believe that if SB 428 becomes law, one elected body will, in actuality, usurp the rights of another.
- 2. There is a pervading mood in our times and in this legislature to cut state spending. We must not place a larger burden on the local property tax payers. However, if a local district is inclined to maintain their school programs at current level, I must defend their right to do so. I believe that it is improper for the state legislature to dictate limits on local citizens.
- 3. The "Office of Citizen" has made our country great. Citizen involvement is the most important element in our form of government. It is imperative that we who are elected as public servants not only preserve but encourage the "Office of Citizen". It is my opinion that stripping the Montana citizens of their right to levy any tax on themselves is not a proper move for a state legislature. As Superintendent of Public Instruction, I must speak out most vigorously to defend our system of public education supported by locally mandated levies. But, as an elected public servant and as a citizen, I am just as opposed to removing the ability of my fellow citizens to tax themselves as I would be to taxing them without representation.

I urge your support of the constitution by voting Do Not Pass on Senate Bill 428.



MONTANA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

501 North Sanders Helena, Montana 59601 Telephone: 406/442-2180

Leonard H. Sargent, Executive Director Wayne G. Buchanan, Director of Special Services

DATE:

February 16, 1979

TO:

Members of Senate Education Committee

FROM:

Leonard H. Sargent, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO SB 428

The Montana School Boards Association stands in opposition to SB 428. The intent of the bill is to place a statutory limit on the amount by which a local school board may increase its annual general fund budget. The budgeting powers of school districts are primarily vested in the local board of trustees, and we oppose any limitation on these powers by state statute.

Most districts find it necessary to vote special levies to meet their budget needs in addition to those funds provided by the state foundation program and county permissive levies. The average amount at present is 24% for voted levies. Such levies have a very high success rate in Montana. The people, by their vote, have expressed their willingness to tax themselves for the operation of their local school programs.

This bill would penalize these people. If they were willing to vote the necessary budget increases and such increases exceeded the state imposed limits, they would have the excess removed by the state through a corresponding reduction in the foundation program - which is also their money.

Senator Fasbender, when he first presented us a copy of this bill, indicated that had it been in place in 1975, school spending since that time would have been \$42 million less than it was. This would have been disasterous for public schools in Montana.

Another major concern is that it appears that many other costs may be rolled back upon local districts following this legislative session including a sizeable amount of special education costs, vocational education funding, and the costs imposed by Federal mandates such as removal of architectural barriers (over \$1,000,000 in Helena alone). This bill would not even allow local districts to increase their budgets to meet these costs.

Also, while it has been rare, there is a real jeopardy in this bill for a district which does fail to pass its voted levy. Such a district would never be able to recover to its former operating level, even in the face of the "allowable emergency" provisions of 20-9-161(5).

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT
George Lippert
P. O. Box 1255
Fort Benton, MT 59442

VICE PRESIDENT Earl Messick Route #1, Box 1248 Libby, MT 59923

IMMEDIATE
PAST PRESIDENT
Larry Tveit
RR #1, Box 33
Fairview, MT 59221

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

- 1 EARL MESSICK RR #1, Box-1248 Libby, MT 59923
- 2 GEORGE LIPPERT Box 1255 Ft. Benton, MT 59442
- 3 MARVIN BARTEL Box V-73 Wolf Point, MT 59201
- 4 LARRY TVEIT RR #1, Box 33 Fairview, MT 59221
- 5 ANITA JOHNSON Soute #1
- lewistown, MT 59457 6 CLAUDE LACKNER
- Route 2 Missoula, MT 59801
- 7 KERRY KEYSER · Box 126 Ennis, MT 59729
- 8 WILBUR SPRING RR #1 Belgrade, MT 59714
- 9 LUCILLE OLDS Box 1149
- Red Lodge, MT 59068 HAROLD PETERSON P.O. Boy 124
- P. O. Box 124 Colstrip, MT 59323

MUNICIPAL:

BILLINGS DIRECTOR RITA HEIZER 2903 Radciiff Drive Billings, MT 59102

BUTTE DIRECTOR BETTY LOU BERG 1208 W. Diamond Butte, MT 59701

CREAT FALLS DIRECTOR MAME JUNKERMIER 2904 3rd Ave. North Great Falls, MT 59401

HELENA DIRECTOR
PENNY BULLOCK
1020 Highland
Hena, MT 59601
SOULA DIRECTOR
AENE HILLER
746 Longstaft
Missoula, MT 59801

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SB 428.

Wayne F. Lersbak Superintendent of So Cascade, Montana

Montanan's income varies from region to region throughout the state.

Local school districts would not know exact figures to be able to set budgets in April (election time) of each year.

Establishing a budget ceiling in effect takes away local control for public school districts.

The legislature already has control of spending amounts of local school districts through the foundation program.

I would preface my following statements by saying:

- 1. There may be wasteful spending in public education, and
- 2. there may be specific areas to cut down spending in public education.

Why do the legislators have to continually elude to public education in obtaining feathers for their hats? Public education is virtually defenseless and easy prey for " saving money."

The future of public education appears to rest only on the merits of the people in education, and certainly not with the needed leadership of those in State Government. We need help from you, not constant distrust.

If real "money savings" is the object with the legislature, you won't find satisfying result in education constraints, I would suggest looking elsewhere.

Education costs must be allowed to ride with the tide, inflation, stability or depression, as it only has influence over labor-wages which I doubt have risen in Montana each year over the cost of living index.

NAME: JOHN	B. DEFNEY	DATE: 2 16 19
ADDRESS: 3906	Coffen Dh	1, Billings, Mt
REPRESENTING WHOM?	129/10m/g	Justice 20161
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NAME: Lemadrie Genell DATE: 3/16/79 ADDRESS: By 329 Polson 57860 PHONE: 883-4419 -2401 (office) REPRESENTING WHOM? Lake Co. School & MACSS (Co Supt appearing on which proposal: SB428DO YOU: SUPPORT? ____AMEND? ___OPPOSE? COMMENTS: The Legisletine 12 Interferring with local Control again. The Legislet. controls the foundation program Achientes That is all the limiting they Ohneddo. If the local People west to merese the budget they should be allowed to do so. If the local people wish to had the Une all they have to do in on to the presentipul. This here invoid limet le use 7824 funds in pen co. what of Weed to add a new proposer such so

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Joe Eslick, Principal at Big Fork, stated Senate Bil 428 will have a devastating effect on Big Fork school as they have been voting 22-23% of their budget in special levies on the elementary level. They did not pass this year. If they are held to a percent increase they wouldn't get anything as nothing passed this last year.

Anita Johnson, Lewistown School Board Trustee, stated she and the rest of the trustees oppose the bill on the basis that if a bond levy fails, you would not be able to get funds for the next year.

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NAME: <u>C//</u>	! 211	Fencer		DATE:	716/79	
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OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -

STATE CAPITOL HELENA, MONTANA 59601 (406) 449-3095

Georgia Rice Superintendent

February 14, 1979

To:

Senator Bob Brown

Chairman, Senate Education Committee

From:

Representing Superintent of Public Instruction
Testifier, Larry C. Keritate Director, Vocational Education

Re:

Senate Bill 193, 2/16/79, Room 402, 12:30 p.m.

Mr. Chairman:

The Office of Public Instruction rises in support of SB 193 in its present form and if Section 1, (2), means what we interpret it to mean:

Section 1 (2) "A postsecondary vocational-technical center shall apply expenditures against nongeneral fund moneys whenever possible before using state general fund appropriations."

If the underlined part of this sentence--whenever possible--refers to the federal requirements placed on the expenditures of federal funds, then we are in agreement with this bill.

Thank you.

NAME:	Slohn 7	K. Smith	DATE:	116/29
ADDRESS:	1010			
PHONE:	273 6	5147		
REPRESEN	TING WHOM? _	Loto School	1 Mist. # 7	
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		February 16,	1979
MR President			
We, your committee on	Education		
having had under consideration	Senate		він №. 192
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Respectfully report as follows: That	Sonate		Bill No. 192

DO PASS

February 16, 1979

We, your committee on	Education	
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STATE PUB. CO. Helena, Mont.

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MR President			
We, your committee on	Education		
having had under consideration	Senate		. Bill No316
Respectfully report as follows: That	Sonares		ри м., Ээ

DO PASS

STATE PUB. CO. Helena, Mont.

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

SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

₩E	YES	NO.
Senator Ed Smith, V. Chairman	X	
Senator Jesse O'Hara	X	
Senator George McCallum		V
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Senator Mike Anderson	alis	eny eny
Senator Chet Blaylock	y	
Senator Larry Fasbender	X	
Senator Richard Smith		
Senator Bill Thomas	*	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Senator Bob Brown, Chairman		+
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	February 16	19_72
MR. President		
We, your committee on Educatio	ži	
having had under consideration		Bill No.262
Respectfully report as follows: That		Bill No.202
Senator Richard Smith		
Senator George McCallum		
Senator Bob Brown		
Senator Elmer Severson		
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STATE PUB. CO. Helena, Mont.

		February 16	19 79
President			
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Respectfully report as follows: That Sonate Bill No. 292

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Chairmen.

February 16.	197.9
Bill N	o411

Respectfully report as follows: That Senate Bill No. 441 introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Page 1, lines 24 and 25.
Following: "holding"

Strike: remainder of line 24 through 'minority" on line 25

Insert: "an"

2. Page 1, line 25. Following: "interest" Insert: "of 10% or less"

3. Page 2, lines 2 through 3.

Following: line 1

Strike: subsection (i) in its entirety

Renumber: subsequent subsections

ALD, AS SO AMENDED DO PASS

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

	••••	February 16,	19.2
MR. President			
We, your committee on			
having had under consideration			. Bill No3.6.]
			•
Respectfully report as follows: That	aate		Bill No 3.3.1

DO NOT PASS

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