

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

March 5, 1979

The thirty-fourth meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Pete Story on the above date in Room 442 of the State Capitol at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: All members of the Committee were present.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 484: The Chairman called on Rep. Carl Seifert, House District 26, Polson, sponsor of the Bill, to present his testimony.

Rep. Seifert explained this was for an act to abolish the present system of state campaign funding and revert any funds remaining to the state general fund. The present tax form on which this check-off is shown allows people to designate \$1 to a state fund for use by the governor for campaign expenses. The fund has a present balance of about \$228,000. He stated about 20% of the persons making tax returns check this box, but didn't think they realized what they were doing. It was a volunteer check-off, but the money did not come from the individual; it came from the state general funds. There is another House Bill to expand this to include supreme court justices, but he felt it best to eliminate the whole practice. The way it is now, we are taking tax money which should be used for more needed services and giving it away. People who want to run for public office should have enough get-up-and-go to finance their own campaigns.

Further proponents were called for.

Ken Dunham, Executive Director, Republican Party, in support of the Bill, submitted written testimony, copy of which is attached to these original Minutes.

Janelle Fallan, representing the Montana Chamber of Commerce, submitted written testimony which pertained to both House Bill 484 and House Bill 853, but supports the passage of HB 484 and urges the killing of HB 853. Copy of this testimony is attached to these Minutes, to which reference is made for further details.

John Bell, representing himself as a taxpayer, rose in support of passage of HB 484. He submitted a copy of the Montana state income tax form showing the check-off for campaigns which states that it does not increase or decrease an individual's taxes. He felt this was a misstatement and that any funds should go into the general fund and be used for general fund purposes, not for political candidates. He also submitted a written statement from Mrs. Marj Bell, a housewife, which urges the passage of House Bill 484.

Opponents were called.

Phil Tawney, representing the Democratic Party, stated House Bills 484 and 853 were the result of an interim committee study on the future of campaign funding, but they could not agree on one solution.

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Therefore, three bills were drafted and introduced, two of which were passed from the House and were both being considered together. The Democratic Party supports the public financed campaigns. He estimated about \$750,000 would be spent on the next governor's race. \$62,000 was sent to Woodahl the last election which was just about one-half of his total campaign funding.

Margaret Davis, representing the League of Women Voters, also opposed the Bill and submitted a written statement, copy of which is attached to these minutes, which pertained to the public participation idea.

Paul Richards, Montana Common Cause, in opposition to the Bill, stated he thought there was an excellent rate of participation by this check-off system and since cost of running for office is so high, this is a means of giving some candidates a chance to be in an election they might otherwise not be able to afford. He thought justices should not have to go out to hustle funds on a "non-partisan" basis.

Al Williams, Montana AFL-CIO, stated they wanted to be on record as opposed to HB 484.

Chairman Story opened the hearing for questions of the Committee; there being none, closing statement was called for.

Rep. Seifert declared he had brought this Bill up because he was very sincere in his thinking that the state should not subsidize political campaigns with tax money when there is a shortage of funds in such necessary areas as schools. Candidates who really get out and work at contacting the public don't necessarily have to spend a lot of money, and that continuation of the state funding of campaigns will just result in more money spent in the long run.

Hearing was then closed on House Bill No. 484.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 779: The Chairman called on Rep. John Scully, House District 76, Bozeman, to present his testimony as sponsor of the Bill.

Rep. Scully testified this Bill would create an all-beverage license classification for the five airports in the State. He did not think the House amendments to the Bill were necessary, however. The cost for this type of license was set at \$800, which he felt was a fair cost. The airports this would affect are Kalispell, Bozeman, Helena, West Yellowstone, and Billings. It has been impossible for these airports to buy liquor licenses at a reasonable price in these areas because of the quota system and that it would be the general public who would end up paying the high prices if they did have to go this route.

Further proponents were called for.

Bill Merrick, Chairman, Gallatin Field Airport, Bozeman, in support of the Bill, commented that they had previously requested help from the legislature with this problem in obtaining a liquor license for Gallatin Field and West Yellowstone. They were not anxious to

get into the liquor business, but felt they should provide these services to the people and that the traveling public and persons involved in the transportation of the air traffic demanded these services. They had many situations where planes are late or delayed, and people wanted a place to go. They have provided the airport with a bar and coffee shop set-up; the lunch counter is operating, but because of the problem with getting a liquor license, they have not been able to provide the public with that service.

Frank Wolcott, Manager of the Gallatin Field Airport, submitted written testimony in support of the Bill, copy of which is attached to these minutes, and stressing that the liquor business at airports is not a direct competition with other liquor establishments and that as the license would not be transferable, it did not have a marketable value. Also, as a qualification for eligibility for this special license, an airport must handle at least 20,000 passengers a year, thereby assuring that the number of licenses issued would be based only on public need.

Bill Utter, Director of the Great Falls Airport, supporting the Bill, stated that there was a period of time that the Great Falls Airport did not have a liquor license. After this experience, he thought the only way to profitably operate was to have a liquor license in addition to the food services.

Hugh Kelleher, Helena Airport Director, commented this was the third attempt in trying to get a license. The Helena Airport handles about 50,000 planes a year; in addition, the people involved with moving the passengers would use these services. All tolled, there is a large number of people who are deprived of this service because of the present quota system.

Bruce Vanica, Northwest Airlines Sales Manager, commented that they bring out many different types of people, such as hunters, skiers, etc., in the various seasons, and with only three airports in the State where the services for obtaining liquor is available, they hear complaints. Favorable consideration for HB 779 was urged.

Gary Green, Director, Missoula County Airport and also representing the Board of County Commissioners, supporting the measure, testified they felt it will substantially aid the best use of their new airport at Missoula and enhance all segments of Missoula County in serving the traveling public. This is particularly important as in many instances, this is the only impression travelers get of Montana.

Ted Mathis, Manager, West Yellowstone Airport and Montana Aeronautics Division, explained that even though that airport was only open four months out of the year, June through September, they serve well over 20,000 passengers. Because of the small community, it is impossible to pay for a liquor license from that area even if one was available at any price. Because of the number of passengers they serve, he felt they do have the necessity for such a license.

Bob Durkee, representing the Montana Tavern Owners Association, testified that organization supports the Bill and endorses its passage based on the testimony given. They did not feel this special

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license would damage their business.

Sen. Bob Brown stated that Richard Hadley from the Kalispell Airport also wasnts to be on record as in favor of the Bill.

There being no opponents, closing statement was called for.

Rep. Scully stated he wanted to add only one point: that all fishermen, hunters and skiers are not alcoholics.

There being no questions from the Committee, the hearing was closed on House Bill No. 779.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 861: Rep. Scully also being the sponsor of this Bill, Chairman Story advised him to proceed with his presentation.

Rep. Scully was a member of the Legislative Audit Committee which conducted the review of various boards and agencies under the sunset law. He stated that he had been required to have the rules in the House suspended in order to introduce this Bill to eliminate the requirement of the present sunset laws to do these reviews every 6 years. This requirement was not brought to the attention of the Committee until they got to looking at the various bills to reinstate these agencies and boards. It appears the "sunset" audit didn't eliminate too many of these boards, and if it were done every six years, it would be a very expensive procedure, without accomplishing much. The present law sets out that every two years, certain boards will be reviewed, and as it takes six years to do a complete review of all these boards and agencies, and we have to re-establish such boards and agencies after each review under the present law, it would be a continuing six-year cycle. He did not think this was very wise.

Larry Huss, Montana Society of CPA's, supported this Bill, but reminded that it did not eliminate the continuing sunset review for those agencies who have not gone through the procedure. It also does not eliminate this being done at some future time, nor does it preclude the legislature from tacking on a provision to the effect that the legislature could review a particular agency if they would want to do that.

Sonny Hanson, Montana Technical Council, rose in support of the Bill.

Opponents were called for by the Chairman.

Paul Richards, Montana Common Cause, stated the concept of the sunset law was very valuable and a very healthy concept to make government function in a more responsible manner. He urged that the review of the rest of the agencies be continued to close loopholes.

Sen. Story reminded Rep. Scully that there would have to be some adjustments if this Bill passed through the Senate as the Bills reconstituting some of these agencies have the 6-year restriction

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in them.

Rep. Scully advised that he had reminded the Legislative Council to catch this so that these re-constituted boards are not sunsetted again in six years. He also added that the Committee doing these reviews had worked very hard on this and scrutinized these agencies very closely.

Sen. Roskie questioned the representative for Common Cause if they were only interested in loopholes in government, to which Mr. Richards replied that they were also questioning tax rules; they did not question the audit of these agencies by the Audit Committee. Continuing his questioning, Sen. Roskie asked what Richards thought the sunset was supposed to do. The reply was that this aspect should look at special privileges and review government functions; that tax loopholes and tax subsidies exist which should be stopped and that special interests are being subsidized.

Sen. Hafferman asked for an example of a loophole, to which Richards responded that there were some allowances of certain subsidies.

Rep. Scully, responding to an inquiry from Sen. Ryan, referred to the specific statute dealing with the sunset audits; this lists all of the various agencies by name and states in which years they will be reviewed. This Bill does not change any of that language. His concern was for the elimination of the 6-year re-review requirement.

There being no further questions, the hearing on House Bill No. 861 was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 853: The Chairman called on Rep. James D. Azzara, House District 96, Missoula, to present his testimony as sponsor of the Bill.

Rep. Azzara stated this Bill would reconstitute the public financing of political campaigns in Montana and extends the range of public financing beyond the governor to the chief justice of the Supreme Court. On pages 2 and 3, are the major changes. This says that 60% of the funds collected as a result of the check-off on income tax would go to the governor-Lt. governor, and the remaining 40% would be divided equally between the chief justice and associate justices.

Proponents were called for by the Chairman.

Phil Tawney, representing the Democratic Party, testified that the Department of Revenue estimates about \$320,000 will be in the fund at the time of the next general election; and that figure, each gubernatorial candidate would receive \$96,000 and 40% would go to Supreme Court candidates. The legislation creating two more justices had not yet passed so this should be amended to include those justices. He also felt the limitation on persons receiving these funds was very important and urges the passage of this Bill.

Al Williams, Montana AFL-CIO, rose in support of the Bill.

Margaret Davis, representing the League of Women Voters, also requested being on record in support.

Paul Richards, Common Cause, supported the Bill very strongly and thought that including the Supreme Court justices was a very good idea as soliciting campaign funds was not the best situation for a non-partisan candidate. He then cited an example of federal campaigns by persons who ran on the national level and receiving subsidies from the public and then voting in favor of particular interests.

Opponents were called for.

Janelle Fallan, representing the Montana Chamber of Commerce, per the written testimony previously submitted on House Bill 484 which also pertains to this Bill, opposed this Bill.

John Bell opposed it also, saying this was an impossible situation in having political candidates subsidized with tax money. He then questioned what would happen to this money which was raised in years when there were no candidates running for these offices, for instance, the justice's terms are now 8 years. The limitation on the spending for a campaign is definitely a deterrent, he felt. Cost per vote figures of Stan Berger at \$5 and John Melcher at \$1 were cited as examples. This Bill is very inappropriate, he stated, although if anyone was deserving of public campaign funding, it should be the supreme court candidates. However, he felt a person should have the option of saying who he wanted to support in a political race.

Ken Dunham, representing the Republican Party, testified in opposition that the money itself was not the most important factor in these campaigns. Electibility is also of great importance. By this Bill, more bureaucracy will be created and more paper work will be required - which is what people have been trying to get away from. This Bill is not a compromise of the ad hoc study committee, he stated, as he was a member of that committee and one of the 3 fiscal conservatives.

The Chairman then called for the closing statement.

Rep. Azzara added that he thought all funds not used during the election year reverted to the general fund and the entire procedure was voluntary. What is indicated by this check-off on the returns is a situation where they can get a handle on the money donations to political campaigns.

Sen. Roskie, referring to a remark of Mr. Tawney on allowing Republicans to compete wondered if he was inferring that Democrats outnumber Republicans in the state, so they were contributing more. Responding, Mr. Tawney said he thought this also helps those who are not in power because they have the ability to raise more money. Court ruling was to the effect that the only way to put a ceiling on this spending was to have the candidate accept public financing. This would allow both candidates to buy prime time TV and radio which he felt was very important. Continuing his questioning, Sen. Roskie asked if this ceiling doesn't give the incumbent a clear advantage, to which Tawney replied he didn't think so, per Mr. Bell's statement.

Sen. Roskie further commented that the efforts of some candidates regarding special interest groups is also a major influence in campaigns and that he felt private funding did make a difference. Mr. Tawney remarked a certain amount of money was needed to be effective, but it is not the only thing that affects an election.

Sen. Roskie then stated there was no relationship in Mr. Tawney's statement, and Mr. Richards pointed out a lot of bad things about the way the federal government acts with oil depletion money, etc. Turning to Mr. Richards, he asked for an example where Montana candidates have misused funds - keeping it to Montana. Mr. Richards started to respond regarding their contention of having documented cases of instances in Congress.

Sen. Ryan objected to the continuation of this type of questioning on a party line basis.

Chairman Story stated the Committee would not get into personalities.

In response to Sen. Roskie's question if this Bill would help or cure any problems he may see in our present system, Rep. Azzara replied that he thought some of these questions may be actualized and others left to the future. The money may prevent some candidate from getting before the public.

Sen. Story commented that what this would do is enhance the Republican and Democratic parties, without considering the individual.

Rep. Azzara felt the policy set out on page 1 addresses this, to which Sen. Story responded that it does only as it relates to a new group, not an established one.

Sen. Roskie extended apologies to anyone who may have been affronted and expressed his concern for any insinuations applied toward Montana and its candidates.

There being no further questions, the hearing on House Bill No. 853 was closed.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL No. 337: Sen. Jergeson submitted the Statement of Intent previously discussed by the Committee pertaining to this Bill and read it to the Committee.

After short discussion, Sen. Hafferman moved that the Statement of Intent be adopted. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Sen. Jergeson then moved that House Bill No. 337, WITH STATEMENT OF INTENT ATTACHED, BE CONCURRED IN; this motion carried also by unanimous vote. Duplicate original copy of Statement of Intent Regarding House Bill No. 337 is attached hereto for specific details.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL No. 779: Sen. Brown moved that House Bill No. 779 BE CONCURRED IN; motion passed without opposition.

There was some discussion on amending the Bill to include an effective date; Sen. Brown will check on this and perhaps amend it later.

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DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL No. 861: Sen. Jergeson moved that House Bill No. 861 BE CONCURRED IN; by unanimous vote, the motion carried.

FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILLS 484 AND 853: Sen. Story commented that as a member of the Finance Committee, they felt it was a raid on the general fund and if anyone were funded, the Supreme Court should be. He also felt it was another way to finance special interests. However, if this system were changed so that people were spending their own money, it might be more acceptable.

Sen. Ryan questioned the tax form of the State and how it worked.

Ward Shanahan responded that it was taken against the tax liability, not out of an individual's own pocket; that the Bill would have to be amended to accomplish an actual contribution of personal funds from tax refunds.

Sen. Story questioned what the implications would be when only working people who might be getting refunds would be financing the fund and ranchers and businessmen did not because they don't get refunds, and also expressed the danger in these funds being used for special interest groups.

Discussion on the different concepts presented by these two conflicting Bills was held, centering on the voluntary contribution or raid of general fund theory.

Mr. Tawney remarked this is strictly voluntary on the part of the individual.

Mr. Shanahan stated that by putting it above the line, offering an extra tax deduction, that private charities were suffering.

Sen. Brown suggested having the researcher prepare some amendments to HB 853 to make it strictly a voluntary system and so that the money would not come out of the general fund.

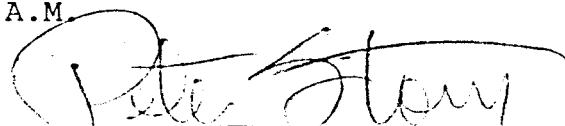
The Chairman cautioned putting amendments on a bill which might be killed anyway; so, a straw vote was taken. Tentative voting on HB 484 was approximately a tie.

Chairman Story then directed the researcher to prepare amendments to be considered at the next meeting.

Sen. Roskie was appointed to carry House Bill 337 on the floor; Sen. Brown will sponsor HB 779 and Sen. Jergeson will carry HB 861

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Story at the hour of 11:45 A.M.



PETE STORY, Chairman

Date March 5, 1979

ROLL CALL.

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

46th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 1979

[illegible]

Each Day Attach to Minutes.

DATE

March 5, 1979

COMMITTEE ON

State Administration

House Bills 484, 779, 853, 861

VISITORS' REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Opp
FRANK WOLCOTT	GALLATIN FIELD ^{AIRPORT}	HB 779	X	
W.A. Merrick	Gallatin Field	HB 779	X	
BILL UTTER	GREAT FALLS AIRPORT	HB 779	X	
Carl R. Kelliker	Helena Airport	HB 779		
GARY W. GREEN	Missoula County Airport	HB 779	X	
Janelle Falan	MT Chamber of Commerce	H 484 H 853	✓	
John D. Dwyer	MT DEMOCRATIC PARTY	H 484 H 853	X	
Margaret Evans	League of Women Voters of MT	HB 484 HB 853	X	
Bob Durkee	Mont Tavern & Grill	HB 779	X	
John Bell	self	H. 484 H. 853	X	
H.S. HANSON	MONT. TECH. COUNCIL	H 861	✓	
TED MATHIS	YELLOWSTONE AIRPORT	HB 779	✓	
Lee Williams	Dept. of Revenue	779		
LARRY HUSS	Mont Soc. CPA	HB 851	X	
Phil Tawney	Mont Demo. Party	HB 484 HB 853	✓	
AL Williams	Mont. Demo. Party	H. 484 H. 853		

NAME: FRANK WOLCOTT DATE: 3-5-79

ADDRESS: Box 51, BELGRADE

PHONE: 388-6632

REPRESENTING WHOM? GALLATIN FIELD AIRPORT

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 779

DO YOU: SUPPORT? ☒ AMEND? ☐ OPPOSE? ☐

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

Montana Individual Income Tax Return - 1978

or fiscal year beginning 1978 and ending 1979

PLACE LABEL HERE

Correct label if necessary.

Your First Name & Middle Initial	LAST NAME	Your Social Security No.	Your Occupation
Spouse's First Name & Middle Initial	Spouse's Social Security No.	Spouse's Occupation	
If married ENTER			
MAILING ADDRESS	Number and Street or Rural Route	City, Town or Post Office	State Zip Code

FILING STATUS: ☐ Single ☐ Married (joint return) ☐ Married (separate returns or state) ☐ Married and spouse died ☐ Married and spouse is not filing

CHECK ONE: ☐ Resident Full Year ☐ Nonresident Full Year ☐ Resident Part Year Give date of change

Gubernatorial Campaign Fund: CHECK 1 IF YOU WISH TO DESIGNATE \$100 OF YOUR TAXES FOR THIS FUND CHECK 2 IF SPOUSE WISHES TO DESIGNATE \$100 (This will not increase your tax or reduce your refund.)

If combined separate filing is elected, use Column A for yourself and Column B for spouse. For all other returns, use Column A only.

	COLUMN A - for yourself, joint, separate or single	COLUMN B (for spouse)
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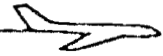
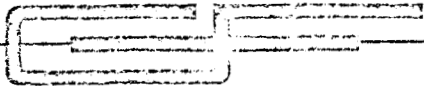
INCOME REPORTED ON FEDERAL RETURN (Lines 1 through 12)		
1. Wages, salaries, tips, etc. (Attach withholding forms. If unavailable, attach explanation)	1	
2. Interest income	2	
3. Dividend income (less exclusion)	3	
4. Net business income (attach copy of schedule C)	4	
5. Gain or loss from sale or exchange of property (attach schedule)	5	
6. Net rent or royalty income (attach schedule)	6	
7. Partnership income or loss (list name)	7	
8. Net farm income (attach copy of schedule F)	8	
9. Other income (specify)	9	
10. Total of lines 1 through 9		
11. Adjustments for moving expense, etc. (schedule must be attached)	11	
12. Total income per Federal return (Subtract line 11 from line 10)		
13. MODIFICATIONS from page 2, Schedule I	13	
14. Montana adjusted gross income (line 12 plus or minus line 13)		
15. Deductions—(If you elect the standard deductions, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 10% of line 14 but not more than \$500 (not more than \$1,000 if married filing a joint return). If you itemize deductions, enter total from page 2, Schedule II	15	
16. Subtract line 15 from line 14 and enter balance here	16	
17. Enter exemption deduction from page 2, Schedule III	17	
18. Taxable income (subtract line 17 from line 16)	18	
19. Tax from tax computation schedule at bottom of page 3	19	
20. Enter 10% of amount on line 19	20	
21. Total tax (add lines 19 and 20)	21	
22. Credits from page 3, Schedule IV	22	
23. Balance - subtract line 22 from line 21 and enter difference (but not less than zero)	23	
24. Combine amounts shown on line 23 Columns A and B	24	
25. Montana tax withheld (attach withholding statements)	25	
26. Payments on 1978 Estimated Tax	26	
27. Total of lines 25 and 26	27	
28. Combine amounts shown on line 27, Columns A and B	28	
29. If line 24 is larger than line 28 enter Balance Due here and pay in full with this return. If balance due is less than \$1.00 file return without payment	29	
30. If line 28 is larger than line 24 enter Overpayment here. Refund or credit will be made only if \$1.00 or more (allow at least 6 weeks for your refund check)	30	
31. Amount of line 30 to be Refunded \$		
32. Amount of line 30 to be Credited To 1979 estimated tax \$		

Make timely tax payments to state Treasurer. Mail tax forms to Montana Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 20000, Helena, Montana 59601

Name of person or firm preparing return

Late filing penalty \$
Late payment penalty \$
Interest \$
Total \$

I, the undersigned, declare under the penalties for false swearing, that I have examined this return and accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is a true, correct and complete return made in good faith.



GALLATIN FIELD

Owned and Operated by
Gallatin Airport Authority
P.O. Box 146, Bozeman, Mt. 59715
Frank S. Wolcott, Airport Manager
Telephone: Belgrade 406 388 6600

Serving Southwest Montana

MARCH 5, 1979

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

DEAR SIR:

I AM THE AIRPORT MANAGER AT GALLATIN FIELD, BOZEMAN'S JET
PORT, AND PAST PRESIDENT OF THE MONTANA AIRPORT MANAGERS ASSOCIATION.

HB 779 IS AN ACT CREATING A PUBLIC AIRPORT RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSE
FOR AIR CARRIER AIRPORTS THAT ENPLANE AND DEPLANE 20,000 PASSENGERS
OR MORE PER YEAR. (THE AIRPORTS CONCERNED THAT DO NOT HAVE LIQUOR
LICENSES ARE HELENA, MISSOULA, BOZEMAN, KALISPELL AND WEST YELLOWSTONE.)

I WANT TO POINT OUT THAT:

- BARS ON AIRPORTS ARE REALLY NOT COMPETING WITH OTHER BARS.
- THIS LIQUOR LICENSE WOULD HAVE NO MARKETABLE VALUE.
- A BAR AT AN AIRPORT IS A CONVENIENCE TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

-IN ORDER FOR AN AIRPORT TERMINAL OF OUR SIZE TO HAVE ANY FOOD
SERVICE FACILITIES THEY WOULD SURELY NEED TO HAVE THE BAR IN CONJUNC-
TION TO MAKE IT PROFITABLE. AT LEAST INITIALLY.

-IN THE CASE OF GALLATIN FIELD WE WOULD NEED A LICENSE UNDER
THE ALLOTMENT OF BELGRADE. BELGRADE IS 25% OVER THEIR ALLOTMENT NOW.

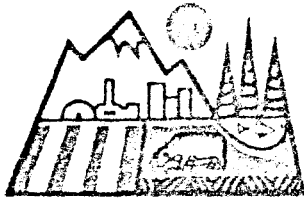
-HELENA, BOZEMAN AND MISSOULA HAVE JUST COMPLETED NEW TERMINAL
BUILDINGS. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO FURNISH THE PUBLIC FOOD AND
DRINK SERVICE IN THESE NEW BUILDINGS.

-PURCHASE OF A LICENSE IN THE BELGRADE AREA WOULD RUN WELL OVER
\$100,000 WHICH WE DO NOT FEEL IS JUSTIFIABLE BY A PUBLIC ENTITY.

I HOPE THAT YOU AND YOUR COMMITTEE CAN FIND IT JUSTIFIABLE TO
GIVE HB 779 A DO PASS.

SINCERELY,

FRANK WOLCOTT, AIRPORT MANAGER



MONTANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P. O. BOX 1730

• HELENA, MONTANA 59601

• PHONE 442-2405

Senate State Administration Committee
March 5, 1979
Testimony on HB 484 and HB 853
Janelle Fallan

It seems a little unusual that the House could pass both 484 and 853, since one expands public financing and the other eliminates it.

Presumably, the Senate in its wisdom will understand and settle this contradiction. The best way to settle it, in the interests of the taxpayer, is to pass HB 484 and kill 853.

Public financing of campaigns is, most simply put, using the taxpayers' money to support candidates those taxpayers might not otherwise support.

Public financing is a questionable function for government. People have, to date, shown themselves to be capable of contributing to political campaigns on their own. Does the state also need to do so?

Public financing must be administered, which requires another government office, and bureaucracies are not known to shrink.

Public financing has been called a solution in search of a problem. What will it solve?

Is it the illegal use of campaign funds? It will not solve that problem and furthermore, campaign finance laws have been enacted to that end. To date those laws seem to be working well and serving the public interest.

Is it a lack of money for some races? If that is the problem, it should not be considered the function of government to solve it.

Is it "overspending" by candidates? Who determines what is overspending? As long as candidates must make open, timely, public reports on what they spend, it should not be the government's concern whether they spend \$5 or \$5,000,000. If the people don't like what they perceive to be overspending, they can say so on election day.

Is the problem public participation in the electoral process? Checking a square on one's income tax return is hardly active participation in an election.

When a person plans to run for office, he or she must consider two basic things: getting votes and raising money. While there is not a consistent correlation between money spent and votes received (since the one who spends the most is not always the one elected), the candidate who can't raise money is not likely to get too many votes. It should not be the state's job to guarantee the same amount of funds to both candidates.

The notion that the check-off does not cost anything should be given a rapid burial. The \$172,000 in the fund at present had to come from somewhere, even if it allegedly did not add to the individual taxpayer's tax liability. It came from the general fund, from money already appropriated by the Legislature to other purposes. If the cost of state government could easily be reduced by that much to fund political candidates, perhaps the taxpayers of Montana paid too much to begin with.

If the state is concerned with encouraging more participation in the electoral process (and why should this be the state's concern to begin with?), it should open the process, not limit it. So far, this session the legislature has done a very good job at this.

Public financing of campaigns instead is a limit on candidates and on people in general. Spending money is one way to be politically active. So is being a campaign volunteer. If it is seen as a proper function of the state to limit one aspect of political activity, it may sometime be seen as a proper function to limit any aspect.

TO: SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

SENATOR PETE STORY, CHAIRMAN

FROM: MARJ BELL, NORTHWEST OF HELENA AT BIRDSEYE

I AM STRONGLY IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 484.

PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FUNDS RESTRICT YOUR RIGHT TO SUPPORT CANDIDATES OF YOUR CHOICE AND FORCE YOU TO SUPPORT POLITICAL CANDIDATES YOU MANY TOTALLY DISAGREE WITH.

PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FUNDS ARE A RAID ON OUR HARD EARNED-TAX MONEY. THE FISCAL NOTE ON HB 484 STATES THAT AS OF JUNE 30, 1979 THE FUND WILL BE \$220,000. THIS MONEY COMES FROM THE GENERAL FUND. WE HAVE MANY OTHER PLACES IN THE BUDGET THIS YEAR WHERE THAT \$220.000 IS SORELY NEEDED.

PLEASE GIVE HB 484 A "DO PASS" OUT OF YOUR COMMITTEE.

Marj Bell

MARJ BELL

HB 484

League of Women Voters
of Montana
917 Harrison
Helena, Montana 59601
5 March 79

We oppose HB 484 which would abolish the Public Campaign Fund. The public has accepted the concept of the tax check off for political campaigns both on the Federal and state levels. The program is voluntary and gives many citizens the opportunity to participate in the political process who would not otherwise do so.

The League of Women of Women Voters believes that a combination of public funding with private contributions is the most effective means of assuring quality campaigns.

Margaret E. Davis

Statement of Ken Dunham, Executive Director, Montana
Republican Party, 1425 Helena Avenue, Helena MT 59601

I am speaking in support of House Bill 484, which would abolish the public campaign fund, and transfer the remaining funds to the state general fund.

The establishment of the campaign fund in 1974 was a reaction to allegations of misuse of political campaign funds in Montana, and a reaction to a general climate of political distrust in America following events at the national level.

One should remember that at the time the legislature took this action, Montana had no apparatus for monitoring political campaigns.

At the time many people thought the logical approach was partial public financing of political campaigns.

But, in fact, the Montana experiment of public financing did little other than provide the two gubernatorial candidates with \$65,000 each that they likely would not have had otherwise raised. The general spending limits in those two campaigns were just elevated that amount of money.

The problem in political campaigns cited as a major reason for public financing was not the amount of money spent. Rather, it was instead what happened to the money once it was received by the campaign, where it was spent, and the fact that the public didn't have a means to readily learn anything about campaign contributions and expenditures.

That has largely been changed by the establishment of strict campaign reporting requirements, and the public disclosure of campaign receipts and expenditures.

There is an obsession in this country of trying to impose public financing on candidates by a number of special interest groups. That action has been characterized as "a solution in search of a problem."

page 2

This country was founded on a belief in free enterprise. I happen to believe that that concept follows in political campaigns as well.

If a person is an electable candidate, and he or she wants to be elected to a particular office, then that candidate must be able to raise sufficient money to tell his story. If people don't have confidence in that candidate, they won't give money and the chances of being elected will be diminished.

We don't need the government - either federal or state - providing the candidate the money for that campaign. If people want to give to political campaigns, let them do so directly and make the candidate justify himself to the people directly - not through a government subsidy.

ROLL CALL VOTE RECORD

SENATE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

Date March 10, 1977 Bill No. 779 Time 1:30 PM

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Pete Story, Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator George F. Roskie, V. Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator Bob Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator A. T. (Tom) Rasmussen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator Patrick L. Ryan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator Greg Jergeson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator William F. Hafferman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Jennie L. Palmer
Secretary

Pete Story
Chairman

Motion: Senator Bob Brown moved that House Bill No. 779

BE CONCURRED IN; motion carried by unanimous vote.

Sen. Brown will carry the Bill on the floor.

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

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 5 19 73

MR. President

We, your committee on State Administration

having had under consideration House Bill No. 772

Scully (B. Brown)

Respectfully report as follows: That House Bill No. 772,

Third Reading Bill,

DO PASS BE CONCURRED IN

PA.

ROLL CALL VOTE RECORD

SENATE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

Date April 5-70 House Bill No. 861 Time _____

*2 in attendance for
Basinger on floor*

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Pete Story, Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator George F. Roskie, V. Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Bob Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator A. T. (Tom) Rasmussen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Patrick L. Ryan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Greg Jergeson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator William F. Hafferman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Jennie L. Palmer
Secretary

Pete Story
Chairman

Motion: Senator Greg Jergeson moved that House Bill No. 861

BE CONCURRED IN; motion carried by unanimous vote.

Senator Jergeson will carry the Bill on the floor.

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

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

..... March 5 1972

MR. President

We, your committee on State Administration

having had under consideration House Bill No. 861

Scully (Jergeson)

Respectfully report as follows: That House Bill No. 861

Third Reading Bill,

DO PASS: BE CONCURRED IN

PA.

ROLL CALL VOTE RECORD

2

SENATE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

Date March 5, 1970 Bill No. 337 Time _____

*Be concurred in
with Statement of Intent
attached*

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Pete Story, Chairman	✓	
Senator George F. Roskie, V. Chairman	✓	
Senator Bob Brown	✓	
Senator A. T. (Tom) Rasmussen	✓	
Senator Patrick L. Ryan	✓	
Senator Greg Jergeson	✓	
Senator William F. Hafferman	✓	

(4) carry

Jennie L. Palmer
Secretary

Pete Story
Chairman

Motion: Senator Greg Jergeson moved that House Bill No. 337

BE CONCURRED IN, with Statement of Intent as adopted by the
Committee attached; motion carried without opposition.

Sen. Roskie will carry the Bill on the floor.

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

(1)

ROLL CALL VOTE RECORD

SENATE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

Date March 5, 1972 House Bill No. 337 Time

*Statement of Intent of Hafferman
introduced at 3)*

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Pete Story, Chairman	✓	
Senator George F. Roskie, V. Chairman	✓	
Senator Bob Brown	✓	
Senator A. T. (Tom) Rasmussen	✓	
Senator Patrick L. Ryan	✓	
Senator Greg Jergeson	✓	
Senator William F. Hafferman	✓	

Jennie L. Palmer
Secretary

Pete Story
Chairman

Motion: Senator Bill Hafferman moved that the Statement of Intent
for House Bill No. 337 proposed by Sen. Greg Jergeson be adopted;
motion carried by unanimous vote. Copy of Statement of Intent
is attached to this record.

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

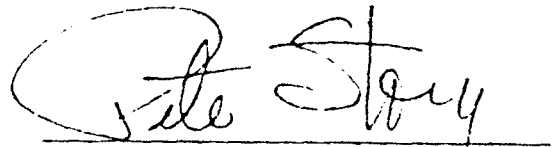
STATEMENT OF INTENT REGARDING HOUSE BILL No. 337

A statement of intent is not required for House Bill 337 in that it does not grant additional rule-making authority. However, the Senate State Administration Committee voted to attach a statement in accordance with Joint Rule 11-2.

(1) It is the intent of the Committee that this legislation shall apply only to those spouses who never had available to them the option of participating in the Highway Patrolmen's Retirement System covered by Chapter 349, laws of 1975.

(2) It is, further, the intent of the Committee that the administrators of the Highway Patrolmen's Retirement System shall avoid seeking benefits for those persons who have failed to take advantage of the option of participating in the Highway Patrolmen's Retirement System.

Adopted by the Committee on State Administration of the Senate on the 5th day of March, 1979.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pete Story", is written over a horizontal line.

Pete Story, Chairman

HOUSE BILL NO. 337

INTRODUCED BY STOBIE, KEYSEN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE MINIMUM RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN SURVIVING SPOUSES OF RETIRED HIGHWAY PATROLMEN WHO HAVE EXHAUSTED THEIR BENEFITS; PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Extension of benefits. If no retirement allowance was payable on duty JANUARY 1, 1975 1979, to the surviving spouse of a member of the Montana highway patrol under subsections (2) through (5) of section 1, Chapter 349, Laws of 1975, because of the exhaustion of benefits prior to that date, a retirement allowance of \$300 per month shall be paid to such surviving spouse.

Section 2. Effective date. This act is effective on passage and approval.

-End-

A statement of intent is not required for HB 337 because in that it does not grant additional rule making authority. However, the Senate State Administration Committee voted to attach a statement in accordance with Joint Rule 11-2.

1. It is the intent of the committee that this legislation shall apply only to those spouses who never had available to them the option of participating in the Highway Patrolmen's Retirement system covered by Chapter 349, Laws of 1975.

2. It is, further, the intent of the committee that the administrators of the Highway Patrolmen's Retirement system shall avoid seeking benefits for those persons who have failed to take advantage of the option of participating in the Highway Patrolmen's Retirement system.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 5 19 72

MR. President

We, your committee on State Administration

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 337

Stobie (Roskie)

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 337,

Third Reading Bill,

DO PASS: *GA.* BE CONCURRED IN,
and Statement of Intent Adopted