

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
RULES
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 4, 1979

The meeting of the Senate Rules Committee was called to order by Chairman Stephens at 1:35 p.m. on the above date in Room 331 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with no exceptions.

RECONSIDERATION OF HJR 46 (introduced by Fagg, Gerke and others). Chairman Stephens introduced David Cogley with the Legislative Council who spoke on the resolution as neither a proponent nor an opponent. Specifically, he addressed the last section of the bill. He likes the concept of requiring requests to be in early as it would facilitate bill drafting by the first day of the session. Many other states proceed in this manner. The resolution provides that two bills by each legislator can be requested after the session providing a relief for important matters that come up. It was suggested by Senator Blaylock that this number be changed to five. Many other points were discussed which include the following: The pre-drafted bills could go to the standing committees for a review or closer look to determine if the bills are presentable. This would help spread the workload and avoid the logjam we had this session. It took 39 days to get out the bills requested working an average of 14 hours per day. At the Caucus you could apprise the freshman legislators on how to get legislation introduced thereby eliminating the exemption. You allow a limit on drafting requests made to the Council and each legislator could personally pay for the rest. Agency bills should not count as part of the limit. Chairman Stephens suggested that maybe the committee would consider re-activating the Interim Legislative Improvement Committee to take this bill as the basis for a study. Enforce the October 15th deadline for requesting bill drafting. The agencies can rely on the committees to get their legislation introduced.

A motion was made by Senator Blaylock that a Senate Joint Resolution be drawn up along the lines we have discussed and brought back to the Rules Committee. Motion carried.

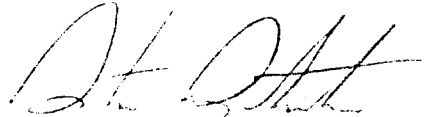
RECONSIDERATION OF H.B. 837 (introduced by Fagg, Gerke, et al). This bill has to do with committee restructuring and was heard in the Rules Committee March 8th, but postponed taking any action to afford more time for study. It was the consensus that the bill has merit, but should be studied more, perhaps in the next session of the legislature.

Senator Kolstad moved that H.B. 837 be not concurred in. Motion carried.

Approval was given to Secretary of the Senate, Dennis Casey, to send S.B. 321 to the House so that they might have the option of moving to override the Governor's veto.

The problem relating to some abuse of printing requests was discussed and it was decided that approval would have to be given by Senator Mathers or Senator Stephens.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. Stephens", written in dark ink.

Stan Stephens, Chairman

JR 46
B837

#16

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL ~~VOICES~~ ON

Rm 331

DATE 4-4

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

Mel McKay
Secretary

MOTION:

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 4, 19 79

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on RULES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 837

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 837

BE NOT CONCURRED IN

DO PASS *3. a.*