

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
January 5, 1981

The House Appropriations Committee met at 3:00 P.M. on January 5, 1981 in Room 104, with Chairman Art Lund presiding and all members present except Rep. Steve Waldron who was absent.

First order of business was the introduction of the Committee members and the staff of Legislative Fiscal Analysts that will be working with the Appropriations Committee. Present were Judy Rippingale, Acting Legislative Fiscal Analyst and Fiscal Analysts, JanDee May and Barbara Bartell.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION #3

REP. BOBBY SPILKER, District #32, introduced HJR #3 which seeks to establish a uniform pay plan for legislative employees that compensates those employees on a basis similar to other state employees and that such conditions be uniform for the House and the Senate.

Following items were indicated as having changed from previous years:

- (1) Secretaries have consistently been grade 10's with no distinction made for duties or responsibilities. Exceptions were requested for secretaries to the following individuals - President, Speaker, Secretary of Senate, Chief Clerk, Majority Leader and Minority Leader. It was requested that these secretaries be a grade 11.
- (2) That the personal aide to Representative Gould be paid an additional \$100 per month, bringing the salary to \$1,000 per month.
- (3) Employees step will be established by their legislative experience. Employees with no previous legislative experience will begin at step 2 except in the case of pages who are grade 1, step 9. Pages in previous years were step 7 which complies with the State minimum wage law but not the Federal. Establishing pages at grade 1, step 9 is in compliance with the Federal Minimum Wage Law.

REP. SPILKER expressed concern that in previous years legislative employees expected to be paid additional for working holidays. Speaker Marks indicated that as part of their orientation this year, employees were advised that the holidays were considered as another working day.

REP. BARDANOUVE questioned whether Page 5, section 9 on Public Employee Retirement benefits was the policy throughout State Government. Rep. Moore felt that Page 4, section 6 covered this in that the employees receive an additional fourteen cents an hour to cover benefits.

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REP. BARDANOUVE indicated that an additional fourteen cents would hardly cover the employer's contribution to PERS and raised the question as to what had been done in previous legislatures.

REP. LORY advised that the employer's portion of PERS had been paid in the 1977 Legislature. The question was not raised in the 1979 session and as this would apply only to a state employee who had taken a leave of absence from his/her job to work the legislative session, it would not present a problem from existing employees.

REP. BARDANOUVE then moved that House Joint Resolution #3 do pass. Let the record show that the vote in favor was unanimous.

HOUSE BILL #1

REP. SPILKER, for Chairman Lund, introduced House Bill #1, an act appropriating money for the operation of the 47th Legislature and pre-session costs of the 48th Legislature. A breakdown of the expenditures by category and distribution is outlined in EXHIBIT 1.

CHAIRMAN LUND indicated that the House portion of the Feed Bill represented a 12.6% increase over two years ago. Rep. Spilker outlined the following items which had some effect on this increase.

- (1) Legislators are now being paid \$39.50 per day as opposed to \$34.98 last session. Speaker of the House received an additional \$5/day. There was a 25% increase, in line with the pay matrix established by the 1979 Legislative Session, for attache's salaries. The figure indicated of \$732,843 includes attache's and legislators.
- (2) Under Personal Services, Per Diem, for legislators only, \$40 per day for 108 days for 100 members (includes both House and Senate).
- (3) REP. SPILKER pointed out that under Operating Expenses, sub-item Communications - there has been a 42% increase in charges for telephone service.

REP. BARDANOUVE asked Rep. Spilker if the figures were available indicating the increase over last year's feed bill. Rep. Spilker advised that the feed bill was actually less this session. Last session's feed bill was introduced at \$3,339,125.

REP. BARDANOUVE then moved that House Bill #1 do pass. Prior to a vote being taken, a question was raised from the floor.

JUDY RIPPINGALE, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, voiced a concern about an appropriation in the amount of \$22,420 from last session for the Fiscal Analyst's office. The wording on these funds was not clear as to whether it would carry over or if it had to be reappropriated. Wording could be interpreted that it would not carry over past December, 1980.

DIANA DOWLING, of the Legislative Council, indicated that it was the intent of the Legislature that these funds (approximately \$20,000) would be available for expenditure through July 1, 1981.

A vote was then taken on Rep. Bardanouve's motion that House Bill #1 do pass and let the record show that the vote in favor was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.


ART LUND, CHAIRMAN

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1981 FEED BILL

<u>Mail Room</u>	<u>Print Room</u>	<u>Business Office</u>	<u>Total 1981 Council</u>	<u>Legis. Publica.</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>	<u>Total Feed Bill</u>
	\$104,352	\$5,746	\$157,476	\$ --	\$ 732,843	\$502,143	\$1,392,462
	10,935	473	15,924	--	257,964	136,660	410,548
	--	--	--	--	432,000	216,000	648,000
	<u>1,287</u>	<u>6,219</u>	<u>173,400</u>		<u>1,422,807</u>	<u>854,803</u>	<u>2,451,010</u>
	440	25	29,885	180,646	25,000	15,000	250,531
	000	250	72,350	400	15,000	12,000	99,750
	346	--	25,034	5,000	35,000	30,000	95,034
	100	--	100	--	64,956	40,489	105,545
	332	300	39,632	--	14,741	28,907	83,280
	500	--	500	--	10,000	3,200	13,700
	<u>535</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>13,540</u>	<u>354</u>	<u>2,350</u>	<u>1,550</u>	<u>17,794</u>
	253	575	181,041	186,400	167,047	131,146	665,634
	<u>000</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>21,500</u>
	540	\$6,794	\$355,941	\$186,400	\$1,604,854	\$990,949	\$3,138,144
					Fiscal Analyst		<u>3,800</u>
							\$3,141,944

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 5,

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MR. **SPEAKER**

We, your committee on **HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS**

having had under consideration **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION** ~~XXXX~~ **#1**

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE STATE OF MONTANA CONCERNING THE CLASSIFICATION, PAY, AND OTHER
CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF LEGISLATIVE EMPLOYEES.**

Respectfully report as follows: That **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION** ~~XX~~ **XX** No. **#3**

DO PASS.

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January 5,

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Bill Clerk

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HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR THE
OPERATION OF THE FORTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE AND PROVIDING AN
IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."**

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