

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
March 12, 1981

The Local Government met March 12, 1981 at 12:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Old Highway Building. CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN called the meeting to order and asked the secretary to call the roll. All committee members were present except REPRESENTATIVES VINGER, AZZARA and GOULD who were excused. REPRESENTATIVE HANNAH was absent. STAFF RESEARCHER LEE HEIMAN was also present.

SENATE BILL 50 sponsored by SENATOR GEORGE McCALLUM

CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN introduced SENATOR McCALLUM and asked that he introduce his bill.

SENATOR McCALLUM said Senate Bill 50 is a result of the County Compensation Board that was created 1979 session. The Board was to be appointed by the Governor. He appointed a member from each one of the elected officials to make a recommendation on salary increases. They came up with an agreement in November or December of 1980 as to what they were going to recommend to the legislature in terms of salary increases.

When the bill was first introduced in the Senate, the subcommittee made certain changes because of the concern of a number of counties. The bill in front of you is the bill which the subcommittee recommended and which the Senate Local Government passed over to you.

The Local Government Committee reduced the \$20 per hundred to \$10 per hundred and \$20 for populations above 30,000. In the past Local Government Committees used the population and evaluation of the various counties. Elected officials have always told us that the evaluation isn't what gives them the problems, it's people. They worked on the formula that the more people you had, the more problems you had, and the more work. The Senate Local Government committee went for \$20 per hundred plus a \$12,000 base. They included figures so if that didn't bring them up to what a 7% increase in salary would be, we give them the 7%.

In Yellowstone County we stayed with \$10 per hundred plus we raised the base to \$14,000. The county sheriff's were raised \$2,000 above the base. Last session the salary was set at \$2,000 above the base. The Attorney General ruled that we made some mistakes in our amendments so they only got \$1,200. So we thought we should put that back in. The Superintendents of Schools had been getting \$400 above the base and that is left as it is. County Attorneys are now receiving \$34,346. Part-time county commissioners are receiving the base plus \$1,200. We raised the county attorneys to \$36,500 and part-time ones will get the base of \$1,200. The salary commission had asked for a Consumer Price Index of 100%, which the commission would set by resolution by the first of July after 1981, or in June 1982. We changed it to 70% of the CPI. There was a great deal of talk as to whether the counties would be able to come up with the money to

pay the increases.

On the floor of the Senate most of us agreed that they receive \$2,500 more than the base salary because county commissioners are the governing body of the county and 11 sheriff's are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. That would make them the highest paid county officials except for the county attorney.

CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN announced we have to be out of here by 2 o'clock so we'll assess your time on that basis. Will all witnesses be sure to sign the witness sheets in the back hall.

MIKE STEPHEN represented the Montana Association of Counties. He said they strongly support the bill in its current form. The increases that are figured for each county are reasonable and affordable. He reminded the group that with passage of this bill, this is a mandated increase in wages, followed by the years afterwards of being set by the commissioners of up to 70% of the consumer price index. I think the second portion of the bill adds some flexibility and gives rise to the fact that each county is different, and the portableness of this can be taken care of on the local level. He also mentioned that numerous elected officials from Flathead Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties have signed a sheet which recommends an amendment to raise the base salaries in succeeding years by an increment up to 100% of the price index instead of not more than 70%. You can observe their signatures.

WALTER L. HAMMERMEISTER, Chairman of County Compensation Board and Sheriff of Pondera County, said he was presenting a written list of things which they accomplished. If you later run out of witnesses, I would be willing to speak as a private individual to support a pay raise for county officials.

WILLIAM ROMINE represented the Clerk and Recorder Association. He said they support the basic purposes of Senate Bill 50. He submitted written testimony which is made a part of these minutes. He also submitted several amendments which they urge be incorporated in this bill. We urge that you support Senate Bill 50 with the suggested amendments.

BILL BRINCKEL, a county commissioner from Stillwater County said he served a dual purpose as he also served as a member of the salary commission. We endorse the bill as it comes out of the Senate but we do have one amendment. We would like to change the base to \$13,000 for counties of the fourth and fifth class to the population increment of \$15 per 100 persons or major fraction thereof included in the county's population as determined by the 1980 decennial census.

JOHN NESBO, Commissioner of Toole County and President of the Montana Association of Counties said the Association stands in support of Senate Bill 50. We feel that it is a workable and affordable bill. With the cost of living provision included, it also addresses individually the very fine responsibilities of each county. The current amended version of Senate Bill 50 positively addresses the various responsibilities of county officers. We urge your passage of Senate Bill 50.

WILLIS M. McKEON said he is county attorney from Phillips County and the county attorney representative on the County Compensation Board. He briefly reviewed the work of the County Compensation Board. The last legislative session created this board and over the past year we met 12 or 14 times examining the duties, responsibilities and obligations of the various elected county officials, looking over their job classifications, listening to them review statutory obligations they have to fulfill and remembering that each session of the legislature brings additional duties to each county elected official. The lowest paid county official generally receives about \$6,000 less than the highest paid county official. We didn't think that was fair. We felt the county official in the smallest county was doing the same amount of work as that county official in the larger counties. In the small counties they work with a staff of 2 or 3 people in the office. In the large counties they are working with a staff of anywhere from 30 to 40 people. We hoped that we could do away with taxable value as having any effect in establishing the salary of any elected official. We really haven't accomplished that. We now have a salary bill that pays the county officials in the first, second and third class counties X number of dollars and in the 4th, 5th 6th and 7th class Y number of dollars. That is still being affected by the taxable value of the counties and the proposed amendments presented today creates a third class.

When that is done, the figures on the sheets passed out to you will show that there will still be a differential that is larger than it was before, or about \$6,500 from the lowest paid county official to the highest paid county official. We don't think that is right; the figure should be closer together. We studied and reviewed and hashed and rehashed the possibility of bringing the salaries closer together. Comparisons between other officials were brought out. I submit to you that the county officials are being underpaid; that a 7% increase to a present substandard salary is not sufficient by today's standards. We hope that sufficient consideration can be given to Senate Bill 50 to take care of the inequities, to provide a pay plan that can be a permanent pay plan and a plan that will allow for additional raises as the cost of living increases. Many members of the County Compensation Commission would be glad to come and work with either the House or Senate Committee in redoing the bill, drafting sufficient and appropriate amendments bringing the bill more in line with what was originally submitted by the County Compensation Board. This group offers the dedication and conscientious service of public servants who want to do a good job.

They are well respected in their community or they would never have been elected. They are entitled to an adequate salary. Any employer, whether he be public or private, is shirking his duty if he is not paying his employees an adequate salary. The state and county are not paying an adequate salary to the dedicated and faithful employees.

JOE GOUTREID, fiscal officer for the Montana Association of Counties said he'd be brief. I want to take a position with the association that supports this bill. We know a lot of time and effort has gone into the writing of this bill and think it is something we can live with and the counties can afford.

I'm TOM HONZEL and I represent the Montana County Attorneys and am their registered lobbyist. MR. HONZEL said a couple of the amendments have already been addressed by MR. ROMINE. He requested amendments: Page 5, line 15, change the \$12,000 figure to \$2,000 and on Page 5, line 19 and page 6, line 1, change the \$36,500 figures to \$38,500. What we mean when we say a part-time county attorney is that he is allowed to have a private practice in addition to his duties as county attorney. I think the term part-time is misleading. One thing you should be aware of is that county attorneys are not county officials, but state officials. In addition we have duties for the State government. I believe the salaries request by the county attorneys are not unreasonable and hope you will give serious consideration to this bill.

CHARLES GRAVELEY, county attorney for Lewis & Clark County, handed out what he referred to as his written testimony, but asked to add a little more as to how this affects the county attorneys in Lewis and Clark County. You will note that the county attorneys' salaries range considerably from a low of 6.3% to a high of 43.6%. I am not attacking the much deserved raises for the elected officials. I am only asking that full-time county attorneys be treated on a comparable basis. The \$38,500 amendment that MR. HONZEL refers to will grant the full-time county attorney a 12.1% pay increase. If you will look at the 7% interest in traffic in each of the last two years and look at the inflation factor, you will find a net decrease in purchasing power of approximately 15% over the past two years. We are not asking that we be made whole as far as the inflation factor is concerned, but we want to be able to get better. If you will read the variations and the balance of the prepared report, you will see that full-time county attorneys support the bill with the amendments recommended by MR. HONZEL.

JOE ROBERTS, said he represents the County Treasurer's Association. We have two county treasurers who are going to be very brief and I'll try to do the same. I think the reason for applause after TOM McKEOWN'S testimony was because he gave a pretty good statement that all of us would like to subscribe to, so maybe that will save some testimony. Senate Bill 167 which was referred to earlier would have given county commissioners authority to set the salaries.

As you know, there is substantial disagreement on that and opposition from many county groups. I don't believe Senate Bill 50 got the scrutiny it should have had in the Senate because Senate Bill 167 was being held over its head, either take what we're going to give you in SB 50 or else you'll get SB 167. Those salaries, which will not be increased according to the new formula but just by applying a percentage figure of that 7%, are woefully inadequate. With inflation being what it is, 12% should be used for those computations.

I'm GLORIA PALADICHUK, Richland County Treasurer. The city clerk and the school district clerk make more salary than I do. Even under Senate Bill 50 they still would make more than I do. A city clerk makes \$15,510 and school clerks \$24,505. I want to remind you that their salaries are paid by taxpayers, as are county officials. I also would like to defend the counties that have a small population and high tax valuation. Richland County is listed at 12,200 population. We have people moving in every day, yet this doesn't affect the population count. There are 8,171 laws we must comply with.

I'm CHARLIE FRAZIER, County Treasurer and Superintendent of Schools for Wheatland County. I'm basically representing the smaller, sixth class counties. I can't see where any progress has been made from what it was in the past. My salary at the present time for both offices is approximately \$11,500. I have one deputy and one clerk that I am sure of having for the rest of the year. All of the salaries in our county total approximately \$90,000. We expended possibly \$2,240,000 last year in our county and our salaries amounted to less than 4% of that. I say that the treasurers in the small counties, large and in between are charged with basically the same duties and we should expect the same base pay. If all salaries started at the base wage, the increase in our county would be about \$14,000 total which is less than 1%. I urge that you give favorable consideration to Senate Bill 50.

I'm JOHN SCULLY and I'm representing the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association. You are going to have to make a basic underlying decision even here. There are two ways for us to get uniformity at the state level in terms of salaries.

1. We have uniform collective bargaining for public employees or,
2. We can go through the painful process each year of coming to the legislature and having you set yours and other elected officials salaries at the state level. I feel that this alternative of having the legislature set the salaries is still better in achieving uniformity. You must arrive at the uniform level for us. If we put the salary decisions back on the county level, we'll have the same kind of situation that REPRESENTATIVE McBRIDE talked to you about in Butte over the inequities among the fight between county officials. We'd like to see you take out the discretionary ability of the local government and take out the 70% discretion. I don't think that will provide any uniformity. It will inch itself along the line where someone in one county does the same thing but is not

getting the same salary. Our position is that you must have uniformity. Secondly, we are here at the state level and what better place is there to apply the uniformity in terms of cost of living. There are thousands of state employees that settled at 12%, yet this bill says the same type of employee at the local level can only have 7%. We have a responsibility in state government to pay the proper wage and increments in cost of living. If we were to allow that at the local level, they'd go from different percentages; some would pay 4%; some 8%; some 12% and some nothing. That is not fair. We support the 12% if that is what you are approving for everyone else. Also, I think you should stick to your basic premise. Let's try it once, and that is at the population increase. We've never done that before. The population obviously makes problems. To that end we will submit to you that you should raise the \$10 increment to \$15. We hope you will do away with the discretionary amount and go for percentages.

PAUL KELLER said he is a registered lobbyist representing the County Superintendents of Schools. I want to point out to you that in the bill county superintendents do get an extra \$400 over the base pay for the reason that they have to qualify. They must have the qualifications of a teacher. They need three years experience before they can run for office, so they are entitled to an additional increment. We support the bill with the amendment offered that there will be a salary increment each year and that it shall be not less than 70%.

DALE DYE, said he is sheriff of Ravalli County. I have a couple of facts I'd like to bring to your attention in reference to a petition which was presented by MIKE STEPHEN for support from 7 western counties. Due to the fact that the elected officials have been dead-set against the commissioners having the authority to set salaries and they signed this. It was explained to them what they were signing but were given a blank sheet of paper which they all signed. The didn't fully understand that the commissioners had the discretionary power which is 70% of the cost of living increase to go from zero to 70%. They thought they were signing that it would go from 70% of the cost of living to a locked in 100%. RICK LATER, sheriff of Beaverhead County, said he'd like committee members to look above the black line on the first page of the hand out at the elected officials salaries, and also look at the salaries below the black line and he feels it is a sad deal when the janitors make a couple thousand dollars more than the elected officials. Please look at the other handouts too. I support Senate Bill 50.

SHERIFF AL RIERSON from Kalispell said there have been many of you today who expressed that we are at the crossroads of integrity and courage to meet the challenge ahead of us. We have a challenge which we must meet or we will have a lot of chaos in an orderly society. In our county, looking at the budget costs and taking the cost per

day for the population, it cost 5.4 cents per day for each person in our county, which is almost nothing. Looking at 2 cigarettes, the cost is 7.4 cents. A newspaper is 25 cents and a cup of coffee is normally about 35 cents and a bottle of beer 90 cents. My monthly net salary is \$1,079, and a secretary at Anaconda Aluminum Company who works three years gets more salary than I do. (For additional information, see written testimony attached and made a part of these minutes.)

ROSEMARY TONN said she is a Gallatin County Commissioner. I just want to say that we support Senate Bill 50.

JOHN ONSTAD said he is sheriff of Gallatin County and President of the Montana Peace Officers Association. I would like to ask the sheriffs and deputy officers that are affected by this proposed bill to stand. A large group stood, and CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN said he never felt so well protected.

MARY SVARE said she is treasurer of Toole County. I would like to thank everyone who testified today and made depositions. She asked the 8 members of the commission to stand up and be recognized.

SENATOR McCALLUM closed. He said he appreciates the consideration that the committee has given to the people who came here today. It is a hard task and I wish you well. I am sure that the House will use their good common sense and come up with a bill that these people will be happy with.

REPRESENTATIVE SALES asked a question of any coroner present: Last session the county coroners agreed to have their salary set at the local level because they felt there was such a tremendous difference in the qualifications of the people from county to county. They agreed it should be done that way, and yet I see something in this bill that sets out a whole program for the coroners. Can you tell me why?

ANSWER: I never went into this. I can only say that if you work coroner cases, it takes a minimum of 7 to 8 hours and some times 3 to 4 days or more to complete a case. In our county we work about 100 cases or more a year. I think full-time coroners should be compensated for the work involved. It takes a lot of work and a lot of knowledge to dispose of a case.

REPRESENTATIVE SALES asked SENATOR McCALLUM why it is back in the bill?

SENATOR McCALLUM asked SHERIFF HAMMERMEISTER to reply.

SHERIFF HAMMERMEISTER said the coroners definitely did come in and ask for the part that was passed in the Senate, with one minor change. In counties over 30,000 instead of the coroner being full-time and receiving full salary, he is put in at the discretion of that part. The basic reason for this was that the coroners were not happy with the compensation as it was being set at the local level. Some of them literally got nothing, but some got paid quite decently. In fact the chairman of the Coroners Association is the highest paid coroner in Montana.

REP. PISTORIA said he'd like to know what the amendments were offered. He asked John Scully to reply.

JOHN SCULLY said the one he touched on was the 7% cost of living increment applying back to the base salary or to the last year's salary. He feels the cost of living increment should apply to the past year's salary and that it should be 12% rather than 7%, due to the fact that state employees bargaining are now at about the 12% figure. The second amendment was that he believed the 70% discretionary part would not be based on discretion at the local level.

REP. MATSKO for Sheriff Hammermeister: On page 9, line 2 where the bill has been considerably amended and speaks about the base salary of \$14,000, the \$14,000 is scratched and 100% is scratched and not more than 70% is in there. What was the intent of the committee that drafted this legislation as to what the base salary and the percentage should be?

SHERIFF HAMMERMEISTER: The intent of the County Compensation Board was that the base for all elected officials starts out at the \$14,000 figure. We also want this cost of living to be kept so that the smallest county would get exactly the same cost of living raise as the largest county. A person who gets paid a good salary gets a high increase on a percentage basis, but a person who is paid nothing and you get a percentage of that you still get nothing. They average out all the monies for cost of living and give everyone the same amount of dollars. That was the intent. By basing the cost of living of one specific figure, \$14,000, then every county official would get the same amount of cost of living increase.

REP. DUSSAULT for SHERIFF HAMMERMEISTER: How would you feel about setting the cost of living percentage at a maximum of 70%?

SHERIFF HAMMERMEISTER said that would be acceptable, because then it is set by statute.

REP. ANDREASON for Mr. Hammermeister: I want to make sure in my mind whether you would not object to a statement not less than 70%?

SHERIFF HAMMERMEISTER replied that Rep. Dussault made the comment that she didn't agree with the discretionary figure but liked the fact that not less than 70% was a little better. It was reduced from 100% to 70% for the reasons given by Senator McCallum. We would agree with fixing it at the state law.

REP. SALES asked the Chairman of the Compensation Board to reply to the following question: On page 7, line 20 where it says "PLUS \$2,500," did the Compensation Board put that in, or who did that?

ANSWER: Is this the \$2,500 for the commissioners? Rep. Sales replied yes. The person answering then said this was not put in by the County Compensation Board. It was done on the floor of the Senate.

CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN mentioned the committee has another hearing scheduled at 2 p.m., at the other building. He closed the hearing on Senate Bill 50 and asked committee members to take their material with them.

SENATE BILL 353 - sponsored by Senator Max Conover.

SENATOR CONOVER said this is a bill to provide for the auction of junk vehicles by the counties. It gives counties the right to hold an auction sale after the vehicles have been collected. He passed out written testimony regarding the contents of the bill, as well as written testimony regarding the fiscal note. (The written testimony is attached to and made a part of the minutes.)

PROPOSERS FOR SENATE BILL 353

WILLIAM ROMINE represented the Wrecking Yard Association. He said they support Senate Bill 353 and presented written testimony which is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

OPPOSERS TO SENATE BILL 353

LARRY MITCHELL represented the Solid Waste Bureau of the Department of Health. He said they are not really opposing the bill or supporting it. The no-selling provision in the bill at the present time was put in as a rule of the department, primarily to keep them from competing with the wrecking industry. At that time they didn't want people to be able to go in and be able to pick up parts in competition to them. If you want to change the rule, that is fine and we can't really protect that anymore. I am not sure that the type of auction you are talking about will bring in the revenue you are hoping for. The vehicles in these yards are the ones that the wrecking industry doesn't usually collect because they are not economically valuable enough to go out and haul in. It might be a bigger headache for the county that has to administer the auction. We would suggest

one amendment on page 3, line 2 following the word "accepted" add the words "per vehicle." The minimum bid for the auction must not be less than the cost to the county for the acquisition and storage of the motor vehicle. That is fine. But what if somebody wants to bid on a door latch or door handle? Will they have to bid the total \$40 the county said it cost to bring the vehicle in or can you buy it for what the item would cost? The junk car budget should not have to pay for picking up the vehicle twice. When the vehicles are removed from the yard, the minimum bid should be maintained. But the minimum bid should not apply when bidding on component parts only. Mr. Mitchell said he hopes the department doesn't have to make the rules administering the auctions. If an amendment isn't made to clarify this, it should go into the legislative committee to clarify amounts for minimum bids for component parts.

CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN asked if there were further opponents. As there were none, he asked SENATOR McCALLUM to close.

SENATOR McCALLUM said he has no qualms with the suggested amendments for a minimum bid per vehicle, but he doesn't agree with the expenses Mr. Mitchell is talking about. In Yellowstone County we already have the men to handle this. I've talked to the county commissioners and it wouldn't cost them one dime. I don't feel that because one of the department heads from here doesn't want to do a little work, they should come in and make quarrels with us. We passed this bill and we set the standards. So much money accumulated in the junk vehicle fund that we had to put some of it out for bikeways. Are we going to keep piling it up? This is an earmarked fund. Instead of putting it back into that earmarked fund, I'm giving it back to the counties. The counties will be doing the work; why not give the money back to them?

QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

REP. HOLLIDAY asked Mr. Romine to reply to her question. As you can see, I signed the bill and I support it and will probably carry the bill on the House floor. First of all, when there is a district that is multicounty and these junk vehicles go to one place in a multicounty district, how often are those junk vehicles picked up?

MR. ROMINE said according to the statute they are picked up when there are 200 vehicles. The state handles the collection, not the local counties.

REP. HOLLIDAY said she realizes that, but is it 200 from Musselshell County or 200 from six counties?

MR. ROMINE said he isn't sure. That district has two graveyards one at Lewistown and one at Roundup. They are crushed out periodically when the user of the program asks us to crush them out. I'd say in that particular area, they are crushed every two years. Your question is where will the money from the auction go? I don't know the answer.

REP. HOLLIDAY said the second question is, "Where will the auction take place?"

ANSWER: The auction is held at the graveyard site.

REP. HOLLIDAY wondered who would get the money from the auction?

ANSWER: I would imagine it would be divided up between the six counties. I would assume the counties would make the decision.

REP. SALES said the Senator referred to the earmarked fund. Does that money come from the fees we pay when we license our vehicles? Or, are the only monies in there from the disposal of the junk vehicles?

MR. ROMINE: No, all the money from the junk vehicles which is paid through licensing is put into the earmarked fund of the State Treasurer's office.

REP. KESSLER asked Senator McCallum: Do you envision that when there are 200 cars in the graveyard, there will be an auction?

SENATOR McCALLUM said you may have an auction; you don't have to have one.

REP. KESSLER: Mr. Romine, can you bid on parts or must you bid on the whole car?

MR. ROMINE said you can bid on the car or any component thereon.

REP. ANDREASON asked how much money is in the junk car fund today?

MR. MITCHELL said there is approximately \$1.2 million, but remember that \$700,000 of that is in escrow for the counties.

REP. KITSELMAN said he can see from the fiscal note where that part would be valid if the junk yard were open on a daily basis for sale of component parts, because you need someone there to man it and identify the parts.

SENATOR McCALLUM said the reason is because if you went to an auction, there would be a cost to the county. The way it sets

now, using Yellowstone County as an example, they have a lot of robberies and vandalism. There are parts in there that are just like new. If you went downtown and bought them, it would probably cost you \$100 or more, so why spend that when you can get one for nothing?

REP. DUSSAULT asked Larry Mitchell a question. She said there is always vandalism because people who can't buy the parts go in and steal them at night. Didn't you say the reason the county graveyards cannot sell parts is because of a rule put in by your department?

LARRY MITCHELL said the reason for this was because we didn't want to interfere with the wrecking industry.

REP. DUSSAULT wanted to know why they'd changed their minds now? Couldn't half of the problem be solved by simply repealing that rule?

MR. MITCHELL said we will repeal the rule and let the counties handle the matter as they choose.

MR. ROMINE said if the rule was repealed, the money would still go to the State. My intent is that the money should go to the counties. Merely repealing the rule that there would be no sales would not be the answer.

REP. DUSSAULT wondered why the change of heart?

MR. ROMINE said there are two reasons. One is a lot of times people come to a wrecking yard and say, "I know of a vehicle at the wrecking yard that has such and such. I can't get it. Can you? The wrecking yard says "no." The complaint has come back, so we've tried to work out a way so people can get the parts. Secondly, we thought this bill would be good for the public and we wanted the public to know our association was not so money-hungry that we wanted a monopoly only for ourselves. We would not want them open on a daily basis, but we think we could live with the auction basis.

REP. HOLLIDAY asked Senator Conover if his idea was to generate more money for the counties by selling component parts? If so, how can you accept the amendment for component parts?

SENATOR McCALLUM: To start with I had included in the bill that you can buy components or the whole vehicle. That is the way I wanted it when it was first drafted, but it didn't come out that way. So we changed it.

REP. SWITZER asked Mr. Mitchell a question: Doesn't the state pay the people who gather up the junk cars \$10 a vehicle or

something like that? Isn't that a state paid fee?

MR. MITCHELL said no. We make money available to the counties. The budget now runs from \$5,000 minimum to a \$100,000 in Yellowstone County. With that money the county runs their own program. They either pick up the vehicles themselves or pay a contractor anywhere from \$10 to \$50 to pick up the vehicle. The average cost around the state is about \$40 per car.

REP. KITSELMAN asked what prevents a county from having a daily auction.

MR. MITCHELL said nothing.

CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN closed the hearing on SENATE BILL 353.

SENATE BILL 368 - sponsored by Senator Roger Elliott

SENATOR ELLIOTT said this bill was requested by the Association of County Treasurers. This bill deals with certain aspects of subdivisions. What it tries to do is to have the treasurer certify or sign off before a subdivision is platted that the real estate taxes have been paid off on a piece of land. The purpose of this is to simplify the recordkeeping in the treasurer's office. Typically what you have is a 40 acre tract that is going to be platted down into 120 lots. You have a certain amount of park land taken out of that 40 acre tract and a certain amount designated for streets, curbs and sidewalks that are not a part of the taxable base of that 40 acre tract. There is a considerable amount of paperwork which must be done to find what the delinquent taxes on the 40 acre tract was in relation to the taxable value after the subdivision takes place. I'll let the county treasurers explain their position.

PROPOSERS FOR SENATE BILL 368

GLORIA PALADICHUK, treasurer from Richland County, said she represents the County Treasurer's Association. There are three reasons why we feel this bill should be passed. (1) We feel that if a landowner wants to subdivide that the taxes should be current. (2) We feel that we should protect a new buyer. It is hard to check delinquent taxes once the classification has changed. (3) Before subdivision, delinquent records are kept by section, township and range. Once they are subdivided, it is by lots. A new buyer could possibly be required to pay any delinquent taxes, so we urge your support of this bill.

JOE ROBERTS said he represents the County Treasurer's Association. I wish to indicate that we are in favor of the bill and we asked Senator Elliott to sponsor it. I would also like to indicate that our Association President Roberta Wolf is here, so if there are any questions, she'd be glad to answer them.

CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN asked if there were any opponents. Since there were none, he asked Senator Elliott if he'd like to close.

SENATOR ELLIOTT said he had one other aspect to mention. He has talked with several subdividers regarding their thoughts and they see nothing wrong with the bill. They all feel delinquent taxes should be paid on these properties before they go into subdivision. I'm surprised that the Treasurer's Association would have to ask for this type of legislation. I encourage your DO PASS recommendation.

QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

REP. DUSSAULT: Has this really been a problem? Have there been taxes which have not been current?

GLORIA PALADICHUK said this has been a problem. It really creates a big problem when it happens, because suddenly you are no longer under a section, township and range. When it does happen, there is a problem of reclassification. Even with a title check, there is a possibility that there are delinquent taxes. It creates a problem for us because we, by law, are supposed to get the delinquent tax tied to the current tax bill.

REP. AZZARA: When title passes from the subdivider to the purchaser of the land, the assessor has to pick that information up and it has to go into the records for the purpose of levying future taxes. At that point, isn't a title search conducted which would turn up delinquent taxes?

ANSWER: We could miss it. The thing is that we have the responsibility to collect the taxes. If the title company misses it, then they are going to have to pay it when they give the title insurance. We do have the additional responsibility of letting a new buyer know there are delinquent taxes in time to get the descriptions together and get that tax bill out to the person.

REP. HOLLIDAY said that in the testimony she presented the other day on a certain bill which referred to 35,000 acres that had been purchased for subdividing, the taxes are delinquent. Before something is done, the taxes will be cleaned up under this bill.

REP. DUSSAULT asked if she bought a piece of property that was subdivided and the taxes were delinquent on it, would she as the buyer be responsible for the delinquent taxes?

ROBERTA WOLF said you are responsible for the whole amount.

REP. DUSSAULT asked if she would still be responsible if there has been a title clearance by the title company?

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
March 12, 1981

PAGE 15

ROBERTA WOLF said yes, but there are a lot of people who don't get title insurance.

CHAIRMAN BERTELSEN said as there were no further questions, the hearing on SENATE BILL 368 is closed.

The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.


Verner L. Bertelsen, CHAIRMAN

hbm

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COMMITTEE

BILL SENATE BILL 353

Date March 12, 1981

SPONSOR Senator Max Conover

2:00 p.m.-- Room 103

[illegible]

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

NAME William L. Remine BILL No. S.B. 353
ADDRESS P.O. Box 1691 Helena DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT wrecking yards
SUPPORT X OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: Under the present law, all vehicles taken to the county junk vehicle graveyard must be crushed and sold for scrap. Although most of those vehicles are only good for scrap, there are many that can be used to repair existing cars. In this age of energy conservation, we should encourage the recycling of used parts. This bill will allow the general public to bid on these vehicles and parts. Contrary to the fiscal note, which was prepared by the solid waste division, which opposes this bill, the cost to the counties should be nil. It is not required to have an auction. When it does, it need only post notice at the graveyard site. All the money realized would go to the county. This bill should also reduce vandalism, not increase it. Right now, the counties are having problems with vandalism because people cannot buy these vehicles. Since the minimum bid is the cost to the county of picking up the vehicle in the first place, even if someone buys one of these vehicles, strips it, and leaves it laying around for the county to pickup again, the county will not suffer extra costs.

NAME Larry Mitchell BILL No. SB 353
ADDRESS Melena DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Solid Waste Bureau - Dept of Health
SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND ☒

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

PROPOSED SB353 AMENDMENT

Page 3

1. component parts of the vehicles that have accumulated in the
2. yard. The minimum bid accepted FOR A VEHICLE must not be less than the
3. cost to the county for the ~~acquisition~~ RETRIEVAL and storage of the
4. motor vehicle being offered for sale. etc.

Reasoning:

These amendments will make it clear that there is no minimum bid required for individual parts sold at auction and removed from vehicles at the site. Without these amendments, a minimum bid for a door handle would be the same as the minimum bid for the entire vehicle. Minimum bids for vehicles should be equal to or greater than the county's cost of retrieving (collecting) and storing the vehicle. The term "acquisition" could be interpreted to include often expensive program administrative costs such as salaries, rents, mileage and others. These are more difficult to determine on a per vehicle basis than simple retrieval and storage costs. All we should be concerned with is reimbursing the public cost incurred in physically hauling the vehicle to the site in the first place in case the program has to do it again once the vehicle is sold and removed.

I would also like to question the Fiscal Note that accompanies this bill and was prepared by Larry Mitchell. The fiscal note says that this will result in a net loss of approximately \$13,000 per year to county government.

Mr. Mitchell's figures estimate the income from the sale of junk vehicles to be \$26,000, a figure that may be low but that I will accept (I feel this is somewhat hard to determine. Mr. Mitchell's figure is based on the minimum bid per vehicle.) He estimates the costs of the auctions, etc. to be \$11,200. Taking only these two figures, this would leave a profit of \$14,800 to the communities.

Mr. Mitchell, however, estimates that this bill will increase vandalism to the extent that \$28,000 will be needed to cope with the problem. I do not follow Mr. Mitchell's reasoning. This bill does not relax the laws that prevent a person from breaking into a county junkyard. In fact, this bill encourages the sale of the vehicles and public inspection at regulated dates. It would seem that a person wanting a part off of a car would wait for an auction rather than risking imprisonment or a substantial fine. Anyway you look at it, this matter is one of speculation that I do not feel should have been included in this fiscal statement.

Other communities have tried this type of a program. Prince George County, Maryland has been operating this program for only six months. They started with a budget of \$167,000 and have already made \$106,000 in six months. The head of the program, Andrew Beall, felt that the program will make enough at this month's auction to completely pay off the original \$167,000 after which time the remaining sales monies will be profit to the county.

The program is very popular, especially with the private wrecking yards and citizens who do their own automobile work.

I feel that this bill can have a positive financial impact on the counties, despite what the fiscal note states.

Under the present law, junk vehicles which are placed by the county in a county vehicle graveyard cannot be sold to the general public. Instead, periodically the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences hires a crusher which goes to the graveyard and crushes all the vehicles, which are then sold for scrap metal.

In many instances, the vehicles in the county graveyard have more value as parts than they do as scrap. Over the years, the general public has attempted to buy parts or junked vehicles from the county graveyards, but they have been prevented from doing so under the present law. This Bill changes that law by allowing the counties to auction off the vehicles and parts to the highest bidder. The minimum bid for a vehicle would be the cost to the county in taking possession of the vehicle originally. The purpose of this is to prevent a double cost to the county in the event that the person who buys the vehicle subsequently strips it, and then leaves it abandoned again. There is a notice provision for the auction, but the notice only has to be posted at the graveyard site, which should not be a burden upon the county, as far as costs are concerned. It is also important to note that the counties are not required to have an auction at any particular time. In other words, the county could have an auction on a weekly basis, or monthly, or for that matter, only once or twice a year.

Finally, because the county will be undergoing all the costs and expenses of the operation of the auction, and because it is a local matter, the Bill also provides that the revenue produced from the auction would be paid into the county general fund.

It is not contemplated that there will be a great many auctions over the year, or that very many vehicles will be sold out of the county graveyards, but the option should be left open so that vehicles with some value can be sold to the general public and not merely crushed into scrap.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

BILL SENATE BILL 368

Date March 12, 1981

SPONSOR SENATOR ROGER ELLIOTT

2:00 p.m. - Room 103

[illegible]

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

NAME Clara Kalamian BILL NO. SB 368
ADDRESS Box 100, Sidney, MT. DATE March 13, 1981
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Co. Treasurers Assoc.
SUPPORT ✓ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

Oral Testimony:

I support SB 368. The Co. Treasurers Assoc. is of the opinion this bill is needed to protect our taxpayers. We believe when a subdivision is approved, the taxes should be paid current, & not passed on to a new buyer.

Before subdividing, delinquent taxes are checked by Section, Township & Range & after subdividing - they are by lots, thus, making it difficult for a new owner making sure taxes are paid before buying.

~~HOUSE~~ HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Date March 12, 1981 12:30

Old Highway Auditorium

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

COMMITTEE

2 B 50

March 12, 1948,

ONSOR

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

BILL SENATE BILL 50

Date March 12, 1981

SPONSOR Senator George McCallum

Old Highway Auditorium

[illegible]

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Testimony
Senate Bill 50

To: The Honorable members of the Montana House of Representatives Local Government Committee

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

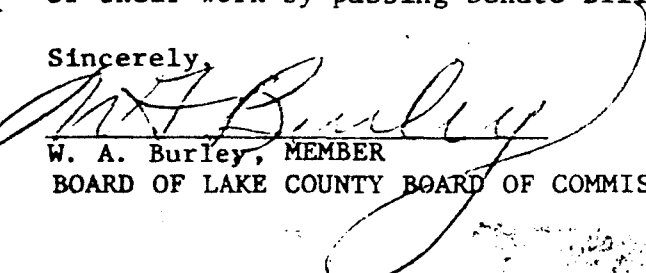
Before you for your consideration is Senate Bill 50, a comprehensive salary bill for county elected officials. This bill resulted from the efforts of the local Government Salary Commission created during the previous legislative session. It represents many hours of hard work, compromise and co-operation between all branches of local elected officials.

Support for this measure is widespread. Last Friday, March 6, 1981, elected officials from Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders counties met in Polson. Of those attending, 100% supported Senate Bill 50 as evidenced by their signatures on the petition attached to this testimony. I have no doubt that similar support exists with those officials in the seven county area who were unable to attend this meeting, as well as those throughout the entire state.

We do recommend an amendment to allow the governing body to increase salaries in yearly increments up to 100% of the consumer price index instead of 70% as currently proposed.

With the exception of this one amendment, I urge your committee to pass favorably on this bill. Co-operation among elected officials and their associations has rarely been as positive. The concept of the Local Government Salary Commission has worked. It has provided a basis for future unity among county officials. We wish to thank the legislature for their creation of this committee and encourage your acceptance of their work by passing Senate Bill 50 with the recommended amendments.

Sincerely,



W. A. Burley, MEMBER

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

We, the undersigned County Elected Officials representing Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties do hereby endorse Senate Bill 50, an act to establish salaries for elected county officials, and plead for its passage. We do recommend that this bill be amended to allow the governing body to raise base salaries by an increment up to 100% of the consumer price index instead of "not more than 70%" as currently proposed. We petition the honorable members of the House Local Government Committee to expedite passage of S.B. 50, a cohesive and fair measure developed through the unified efforts of county elected officials.

Ray M. DeLong	Sanders Co. Comm.
Bill Gould	Lincoln Co. Comm.
Bill Bursley	Lake Co. Comm.
Don Dwyer	Lake Co. Comm.
Don Campbell	Missoula Co. Assessor
Bill Tiddy	Lake Co. Assessor
Ethel M. Harding	Lake Co. Clerk and Recorder
Marie Morrison	Granite Co. Clerk and Recorder
Elmer L. Laughlin	Lincoln Co. Clerk & Recorder
Joe D. Hindman	Flathead Co. Clerk & Recorder
Gary K. Carlson	Ravalli Co. Supt. of Schools
Margaret J. Dahl	Mineral County Clerk & Recorder
L. Ruth Larsen	Lincoln Co. Assessor
Cheryl Richards	Ravalli County Assessor
Robert Lindland	Ravalli Co. Treas.
Gene West	Missoula Co. Treas.
Shirley L. Waffa	Flathead Co. Treas.
Marjorie D. Kraus	Lake Co. Treasurer
Joan A. Aist	Flathead County Commissioner
Henry Oldenburg	Flathead County Commissioner
Frank W. Williams	Ravalli County Comm.
Harold Fitzner	Lake Co. Comm.
Hugh A. Cumming	Ravalli County Comm.
Harold White	Ravalli County Comm.
Edwin F. Bernick	Mineral County Comm.
Tom W. Quinn, Jr.	Mineral County Commissioner
John Martin	Sanders County Commissioner

SB 50 (Salaries) - Using Final Census Figures

County	Class	Population	Full-Time		Sheriff Base + \$2000	Full-Time Co. Atty.	Part-Time Atty. Base + \$1200	Other Officials Base Salary	School Supt. Base + \$400	Coroner over 30,000 pop. \$14,000 + pop.
			Commissioners Base + \$2500	Base + \$24,570						
Cascade	1	80,700		\$24,570	\$24,070	\$36,500	\$22,070	\$22,470	\$22,070 (FT)	
Flathead	1	52,000		\$21,700	\$21,200	\$36,500	\$19,200	\$19,600	\$19,200 (FT)	
Gallatin	1	42,900		\$20,790	\$20,290	\$36,500	\$18,290	\$18,690	\$18,290 (FT)	
Lewis & Clark	1	43,000		\$20,800	\$20,300	\$36,500	\$18,300	\$18,700	\$18,300 (FT)	
Missoula	1	76,000		\$24,100	\$23,600	\$36,500	\$21,600	\$22,000	\$21,600 (FT)	
Yellowstone	1	108,000		\$27,300	\$26,800	\$36,500	\$24,800	\$25,200	\$24,800 (FT)	
Hill	2	17,900		\$18,290	\$17,790		\$15,790	\$16,190	\$1790 + \$1200 (\$2290 PT)	
Petroleum	7	700		\$50/day	\$14,140		\$12,140	\$12,540	\$140 + \$300 (\$440 PT)	
Dawson	3	11,800		\$17,680	\$17,180		\$15,180	\$15,580	\$1180 + \$600 (\$1780 PT)	
Garfield	6	1,700		\$50/day	\$14,340		\$12,340	\$12,740	\$340 + \$300 (\$640 PT)	
Carter	6	1,800		\$50/day	\$14,360		\$12,360	\$12,760	\$360 + \$300 (\$660 PT)	
Treasure	7	1,000		\$50/day	\$14,200		\$12,200	\$12,600	\$200 + \$300 (\$500 PT)	
Madison	4	5,400		\$15,828	\$15,328	\$36,500	\$13,328	\$13,728	\$1,328 + \$600 (\$1,928 PT)	
Jefferson	5	7,000		\$50/day	\$15,489		\$13,489	\$13,889	\$1,489 + \$600 (\$2,089 PT)	
Teton	4	6,500		\$16,104	\$15,604		\$13,604	\$14,004	\$1,604 + \$600 (\$2,204 PT)	

Class 1-3 counties = \$14,000 base + \$10/100 population

Class 4-7 counties = \$12,000 base + \$20/100 population

Part-time county commissioners = \$50 per day

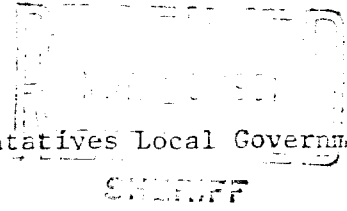
Coroners: over 30,000 population may be full time with \$14,000 base + population increments

15,000 - 30,000 pop. \$1200 plus pop. increments

5,000 - 15,000 pop. \$600 plus pop. increments

less than 5,000 \$300 plus pop. increments

Testimony
Senate Bill 50



To: The Honorable members of the Montana House of Representatives Local Government Committee

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

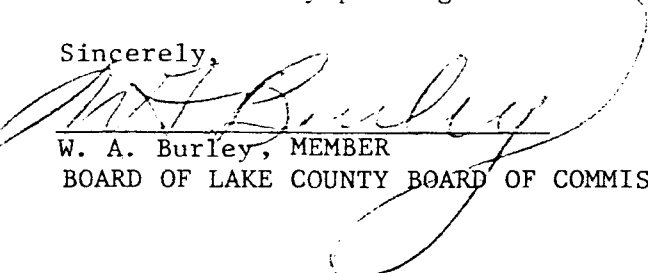
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Eleanor L. Vaughn	Sprinkler Co. Clerk & Recorder
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Hugh A. Cumming	Ravalli County Comm.
Harold White	Ravalli County Comm.
Edwin F. Belneking	Mineral County Comm.
Tom Mawin, Jr.	Mineral County Commissioner
John Martin	Sanders County Commissioner

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that maintenance of the said road shall be assumed by Beaverhead County, Montana,

and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that within ten (10) days of the date of this resolution, the County Clerk and Recorder shall cause written notice of this decision of the Board of County Commissioners to be sent by certified mail, to all owners of land abutting on the herein described road pursuant to the provision of Section 7-14-2604, M.C.A.

Passed and approved this 16th day of June, 1980.

Discussion was held regarding the collection of junk cars in order to use the funds from the State. It was decided to contact the County Attorney about employing someone as a County employee to haul these cars.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the County Commissioners that the salaries for all County elected officials, appointed officials and their respective employees shall be as follows:

County Attorney	14,579.16	
Sheriff	14,579.16	
Clerk & Recorder, Treasurer, Clerk of Court	13,205.28	
Superintendent of Schools	13,663.24	
Undersheriff	13,850.20	
Deputy Sheriffs	13,121.24	
Road Foremen	19,260.00	
Regular Road Employees	16,050.00	
Shop Mechanic	18,618.00	
Extra Road Employees	46.00	per day
Extra Operators (Dozers, Cans)	63.00	per day
County Extension Agent	8,500.00	
County Nurse	10,272.00	
County Sanitarian	17,484.60	
Custodian-Buildings	15,408.00	
Custodian-Boiler	4,494.00	
Custodian-County Yards	3,434.70	
Food Stamp Clerk	3,600.00	
County Attorney Steno	11,556.00	
Planning Director	18,600.00	
Civil Defense Director	3,531.00	
Dispatchers	8,885.28	
Chief Dispatcher	9,309.00	
Janitor <i>Part Time</i>	11,556.00	
Cook	7,383.00	
Coroner	1,200.00	
County Health Officer	600.00	
Extra Help	3.50	per hour

Office Deputies and Assistants:

There will be a six month probationary period starting salary of \$600.00 per month. After the six month probationary period the officer in charge may advance the employee in pay to \$650.00 per month. An officer may be allowed a chief deputy to be paid 90% of the officer's salary if the deputy has at least three years experience in said office. Salaries for the fiscal year 1980-81 will be at a 7% increase.

*Beaverhead
County
Dillon, MT.
1980-81
Salaries*

*Mark H. Miller
Dillon*

FAMILY SIZE - INCOME SCALE FOR FREE

AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS

. This is the income scale used by Dillon Hot Lunch to determine eligibility for free and reduced price meals in the 1981 school year.

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Free Income Guideline</u>			<u>Reduced Income Guideline</u>		
	<u>Year</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Week</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Week</u>
One	5,700	475	110	8,350	696	161
Two	7,220	602	139	10,730	894	206
Three	8,750	729	168	13,110	1,093	252
Four	10,270	856	198	15,490	1,291	298
Five	11,800	983	227	17,870	1,489	344
Six	13,320	1,110	256	20,250	1,688	389
Seven	14,850	1,238	286	22,620	1,885	435
Eight	16,370	1,364	315	25,000	2,083	481
Each additional Family Member	1,530	128	29	2,380	198	46

MONTANA STANDARD 3-4-88

Republican tax breaks stumble over estimates

By STEVE SHIRLEY

Standard State Bureau

HELENA — New revenue and spending estimates released Tuesday indicate the Republican legislative majority may have a tough time providing the \$107 million in tax relief it proposed in January.

But, the estimates still don't seem to answer the question of how much money will be available for tax relief.

Republican leaders said Tuesday they believe the state will get \$630 million in general fund revenue in fiscal 1982-83. They also said the tentative spending level for state programs in the next biennium is \$546 million.

Later, at least one GOP leader acknowledged they were mistaken in saying the \$546 million spending level included 9 percent pay raises for state employees — because it didn't include any pay raise.

Many legislators have indicated they may give state employees a 12

percent pay boost. If 12 percent is figured in, the actual state spending level for the next biennium would be closer to \$600 million. That figure also doesn't include any money for one-time projects over and above the regular state budget. One estimate is that there are requests for \$100 million worth of such projects.

During a news conference, House Speaker Bob Marks, R-Clancy, said

(Related story on Page 2)

Republicans hope to provide \$72 million in tax relief in addition to \$35 million provided by the tax-indexing Initiative 86 passed last fall.

But, after discovering the \$546 million spending figure didn't include pay hikes, Marks conceded it would be difficult to enact the \$107 million tax package. He added that it's difficult to say exactly what can be obtained because the revenue estimates are tentative and the spending levels are not determined. Senate President Jean Turnage,

H-Polson, also said it's difficult to tell whether Republicans can provide all \$107 million in tax relief because spending and revenue figures fluctuate so much. "It may not be possible to get all of it," he said.

House Taxation Committee Chairman Ken Nordtvedt, R-Bozeman, said he thinks the state will get \$645 million in revenue in the next biennium. And, he said the Legislature should not spend any more than \$580 million if it is to stop the excessive growth of state government.

A third — and substantially lower — revenue estimate has been made by Dave Lewis, budget director for Gov. Ted Schwinden, who believes the state will receive only \$590 million for the biennium.

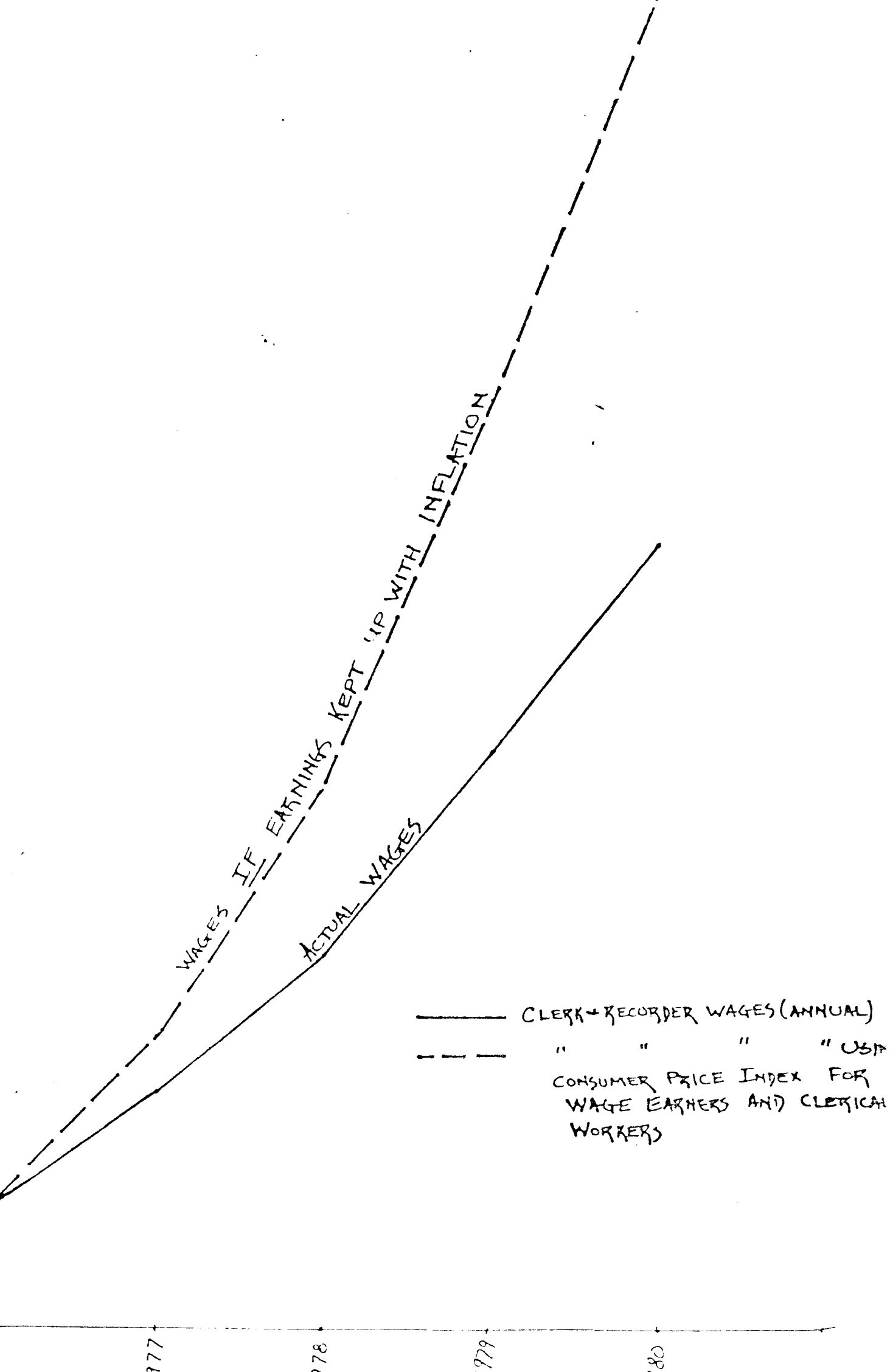
Lewis said he thinks the Republicans are "absolutely trapped" because they can't provide tax relief they've pledged and still fund state programs at promised levels. "They only way they can get out of

this is to commit themselves to spending the interest on the coal tax trust fund and raising the gas tax," he said.

Lewis said Schwinden proposes using about 90 percent of the coal tax money — there is about \$35 million — for highway construction. He said that would be best because the program can be shut down easily if Congress or the courts invalidate the coal tax. He said the governor won't request an increase in the gas tax.

Both Lewis and Marks said they think the Legislature will have to reduce spending levels proposed by appropriations subcommittees. These general fund spending levels have been proposed:

- Legislative, judicial and administrative: \$87 million.
- Human services: \$115 million.
- Natural resources: \$28.9 million.
- Institutions: \$96.7 million.
- Higher education: \$132 million.
- Other education: \$84.2 million.



NAME L. Dale E. Hyle BILL No. 5B5C
ADDRESS Barilla County DATE 3-12-51
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Shirley D
SUPPORT X OPPOSE AMEND X

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: L. Dale E.lected officials in my county

That signed a blank piece of paper at
Polson had not read the Bill and did not
realize that the Commis. had discreession
from 0 to 70 to 100 and they thought they were
signing in favor of moving a locked in 70 to
to 100 and they didn't realize this would
just move the discreession of the Commis
from 0 to 70 to 0 to 100

NAME Bill Frankel BILL No. SB 10
ADDRESS Braden MT DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT John Brown
SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE 6 AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

*We support the Bill
But we have an amendment which gives
a different base + population for the 5 class
counties, which is \$15,000 + \$15 per 100 population.*

22-5-77

I have been asked by the County Attorneys' Association to offer testimony to you on Senate Bill No. 50 and its effects upon the full time county attorneys. The first thing you must be aware of is that the bill, in its present form, is very misleading. It appears in reading the bill that full time county attorneys are currently being paid \$30,000. and will receive a \$6,500. pay increase if the bill is passed in its present form. Such, however, is not the case. In 1977, the salary of full time county attorneys was set at \$30,000. In 1979, we received a seven percent (7%) increase to \$32,100. and in 1980 that was increased by seven percent (7%) to \$34,347., the rate at which we are paid today. The increase in salary for the past two years has barely equaled one-half of the inflation rate. That has resulted in a net decrease in purchasing power of fifteen percent (15%) in the last two years alone.

The full time county attorney must meet certain requirements before he can hold the office. He must have resided in the state for two years and have been admitted to practice for at least five years before the date of election. The same qualifications apply to District Court Judges, Supreme Court Judges and the Attorney General. Those provisions were adopted so, presumably, only "qualified" lawyers would hold the position. Any attorney worth his salt, with five or more years of experience, is earning in the neighborhood of \$45,000.-50,000.

Let's take a look at what this bill, if enacted in its present form, would mean for elected officials of Lewis and Clark County.

ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARY

<u>Position</u>	<u>Present Salary</u>	<u>Proposed by S.B. 50</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
Co. Commissioners	\$16,090.80	\$20,810.00	29.3%
Clerk & Recorder	16,090.80	18,310.00	13.8%
Clerk of Court	16,090.80	18,310.00	13.8%
Treasurer	16,090.80	18,310.00	13.8%
Auditor	16,090.80	18,310.00	13.8%
Supt. of Schools	16,549.20	18,710.00	13.1%
Sheriff	17,464.20	20,710.00	16.3%
Coroner	12,749.04	18,310.00	43.6%
County Attorney	34,347.00	36,500.00	6.3%

By setting forth these salaries, I am by no means attacking the much deserved increases for the elected officials. I am, however, on behalf of all full time county attorneys, very upset that we are not being treated on the same footing as other elected officials. All we want is comparable treatment. We would be satisfied with the 13.8% increase now slated for others even though the amendment to \$38,500. will be only twelve percent (12%). If you increase the salaries for others, just treat us comparably.

Every session of the Legislature places added duties upon the county attorney. He should receive adequate compensation for performing those duties. Remember the requirements for holding the office - five years experience - and remember, all we want is to be treated on the same percentage increase level as others.

NAME Charles G. Gensley BILL No. SB-50
ADDRESS Helena DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT County Attorneys
SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND ☒

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

Please see county attorneys recommended changes and the attached prepared statement. The bill needs to be amended to treat the full time county attorney more equitably in comparison to raises recommended for other elected officials.

Walter Hammermeister

COUNTY COMPENSATION BOARD REPORT FOR SENATE BILL 50

The County Compensation Board was established by the 46th Legislature. It was a Senate Local Government Committee Bill SB 352. The members of the County Compensation Board are: Kathryn Humphrey, Clerk of District Court in Judith Basin County, Stanford, Montana, Glennadene Fereell, County Superintendent of Schools in Lake County, Polson, Montana, Bonnie Miller, Clerk and Recorder of Powell County, Deer Lodge, Montana, Willis McKeon, County Attorney of Phillips County, Malta, Montana, Sally Jo Price, County Assessor of Mineral County, Superior, Montana, Mary Westermarck-Svare, County Treasurer of Toole County, Shelby, Montana, William F. Brinkel, County Commissioner of Stillwater County, Columbus, Montana, and Walter L. Hammermeister, Sheriff of Pondera County, Conrad, Montana.

These board members were charged with 3 duties:

1. Review the compensation paid county elected officials in Montana; in reviewing compensation, the board shall consider the salaries paid in Montana, other states, and private enterprise and such other factors as may be pertinent to the board's duties;
2. Recommend to the 47th legislature, equitable statewide salaries for the various elected county officials, taking into consideration the duties, responsibilities, personal inconveniences, and other such factors the board considers to be pertinent; and
3. Recommend to the 47th legislature at least one plan for compensating elected county officials that would provide continuing, proper salaries and that would take into consideration cost-of-living factors or other significant factors the board feels may reduce the need for regular legislation setting the salaries of locally elected county officials.

Our first meeting was on November 9, 1979. All meetings were held in Helena. Bonnie Miller was elected Vice Chairperson and myself, Walter Hammermeister, Chairman. DCA helped us by supplying Janice Hoffman as Secretary and later all around handy woman, and Dave Wanzonried also assisted. He presented a proposed work schedule, and we determined how we were going to proceed.

On January 18, 1980, we had material on possible Montana State Government's comparable positions. It was generally agreed that positions in state government are more specialized and departmentalized.

Each association prepared it's own job description and it turned out if the job was comparable to a state government job that the state job paid much more than the county position. The state still pays 50% more to as much as 200% more than our new proposed county salary in Senate Bill 50.

We looked at per capita income and average employee income, but, they included part-time employees and the unemployed as well.

We looked at Sales Marketing Management Survey of Buying power for 1979 and Editor and Publisher Effective Buying Income for 1979, which is used by different Montana businesses that do survey feasibility study projects. Those 2 sources showed Montana average estimated disposable income per household and median household effective buying income all for 1979 to be \$15,305.00 and \$13,483.00 respectively. Since both figures represented take home pay, we felt they must be based on most households having 2 wage earners and therefore, was probably unrealistic.

So that each Compensation Board member would better understand the job and duties and responsibilities and personal inconvenience of the other county elected officials' jobs, and so we could try and establish proper salary, we allowed each association or different elected official to make a presentation of their job duties, responsibilities, and personal inconveniences or other factors their association felt may be interesting. They were allowed a maximum time of 1 hour for presentation with $\frac{1}{2}$ hour for questions and answers. The Clerk and Recorder, County Attorneys, and County Superintendent of Schools were first, then, the Sheriffs, Clerks of Court, and County Assessors. We finished up by March 22nd, after a 2 day meeting with the Treasurers, County Commissioners, County Surveyors, Coroners, Auditors, and Justices of the Peace.

From these presentations and justifications that were presented later along with qualifications is why our Compensation Board later allowed additional compensation in Senate Bill 50 for the County Attorneys, Sheriffs, and Superintendents of Schools. All presentations

were typed out and all minutes of our meetings were typed and all meetings were tape-recorded and all recordings are still saved.

We compiled salaries of private enterprises and allowed testimony or input from private individuals. One in particular that comes to mind is a certified public accountant from Belgrade. He audits Gallatin, Madison, and Beaverhead Counties. He felt so strongly of his convictions that he came in to our meeting several times. He not only audits county government, but, private business and individual income tax. He felt that elected county officials were grossly underpaid when one considers their vast responsibilities and obligations.

It turned out that the responsibilities and obligations and duties of county elected officials far exceed the similar responsibilities and duties of state or private enterprise jobs of comparable salary.

In the meantime, we were trying to collect the salaries and how they were set for county elected officials of the 17 western states so that by our April 25th meeting we studied the salary of those states that replied. The ways other states set salary vary from state legislature doing it, as in Montana, to a formula taking into account the assessed valuation, the square miles and road miles in a county. Another state has a flat rate for various duties. If that county elected official does a specific job he gets paid a flat rate for that duty, and for each and every additional duty he performs he gets paid an additional rate for each and every duty.

One state has a county compensation board in each county and that board sets the elected officials' salary each year. Some states have the county commissioners set the salary in each county. The salary of county elected officials in other states vary from a few states that is comparable to Montana's present county elected officials salary to, I believe, a majority of states that are presently paying a salary that is similar to that salary our board is proposing for 1981 - 82 fiscal year in the Senate Bill 50.

It is interesting that in 1978 Idaho did an update on county salary. They compared salaries with counties of similar population of close states. They compared Utah, Oregon, Washington and Nevada. Even though Montana has the longest border with them, they uniquely did not use Montana salaries. We also asked John McEwen, the personnel classification

specialist for the Department of Administration, to explain his procedure of classifying state salaries.

At our May 20th meeting, we established a tentative proposal of a base plus population increments on the idea of Senate Bill 50 and then didn't have any more meetings until August 15th, so that each compensation board member could survey their counterparts over the state either by letter or at each association convention or conference to try and determine if we had the support of our fellow elected county officials.

A few reasons why we possibly went to this type of a salary schedule is through the associations' presentation of job duties, that we decided work for county elected officials was related to people and the amount of people in a county, and that the present statute schedule varies between increments of individual taxable valuation of \$325.00 to as low as \$91.00, and the population schedule varies between an individual population increment of from \$336.00 to as low as \$91.00.

We also felt that the taxable valuation of counties was starting to fluctuate because of changes in what is being taxed and how much certain items are being taxed. We felt that if those characteristics continued that in time county government may be funded by some form entirely different than what we presently have.

At our August 15th meeting, we arrived at the \$14,000.00 base and the \$20.00 per 100 population increment. We had 3 meetings after and we discussed different figures and different plans each time, including allowing the county commissioners or a compensation board to set the salaries 30% above the base and population increments. These other ideas were always voted down and we always voted to retain the idea that makes up Senate Bill 50. From the earliest meetings on, we considered the fact that a few counties are presently at their absolute top mill levy for funding county government. We realized that if there was not any money available for any pay raise in some counties, then we just might as well save our time and stay home. However, we were mandated by the 46th Legislature to review and recommend proper salaries.

During various meetings, we realized and discussed the fact that for all the various county elected officials that a noticeable amount of their duties and responsibilities are

performed by county officials, only for and so that state government can function. Many of us felt that state government should accept more obligation to help fund county government. However, we were cautious of that idea because of the fear there may be some strings attached to the state government funding.

We feel that the \$14,000.00 base can be conservatively justified from the Department of Labor and Industry records showing Montana private non-agriculture industries' average hourly earnings for over a year to be about \$6.42 per hour. (included in this average is motel maids \$6.42 per hour is what I understand the legislature is paying their clerks. The \$14,000.00 base in Senate Bill 50 is less than \$6.75 per hour. An elected county official with the duties and responsibilities they all have should certainly be worth more than 33¢ per hour or 5% more than the average private non-agricultural industries worker of Montana.

30 years ago many elected county offices were quite often held by nice people that needed the job. Today, county government is big business handling many, many thousands and millions of dollars. The duties and responsibilities have increased many times so that all county elected positions need people of above average capabilities.

At our September 15th meeting, due to most on our board wanting to keep the spread between the smallest counties and the largest counties salary closer together, we cut the population increments for counties over 30,000 population from \$20.00 per hundred to \$10.00 per hundred. That idea stood until our last meeting on November 17th when a county commissioner from the 2nd and 3rd largest counties and a person representing the largest county committed themselves to supporting all of Senate Bill 50 if we would increase the \$10.00 per 100 population up to \$15.00 per 100 population. For those commitments, our board raised the population increment for the counties with populations exceeding 30,000.

In Senate Bill 50, on page 7, line 21, is the recommended cost-of-living. When our board first approved the cost-of-living it was based on the regular elected officials' salary of base plus population.

At the next meeting, we cut the cost-of-living about in half. Then, after an October 22nd meeting of MACO with the representatives of some of the other elected officials' associations, we arrived at the cost-of-living as printed in Senate Bill 50. All 12 elected officials

are included for this cost-of-living. The J.P.s are tied in through the present law by the Clerk of Courts' salary, the full-time County Commissioners are tied in through the salary of the Clerk and Recorder, and the County Attorneys cost-of-living is the same, but, it is listed on Page 5, starting at line 16 of Senate Bill 50.

Our compensation board is conservative in that this cost-of-living is regressive. However, we do feel it complies with the mandate of the 46th Legislature that established this board, when it charged us to perform the 3 duties. This 3rd duty will reduce the need to regularly return to legislature to increase our county salaries.

This cost-of-living is regressive in that as long as inflation increases and the cost-of-living goes up, all county elected officials will slowly fall behind (some faster than others) because the cost-of-living percent increase or decrease is based each and every year thereafter on only the \$14,000.00 base even though the cost-of-living dollars do accumulate above the \$14,000.00 base. All county officials in all the counties will receive exactly the same number of dollars. Yellowstone County will get the same as Petroleum County and the county attorney and sheriff will receive the same increase as the assessor.

Yesterday our board met with the man that is instrumental in compiling the fiscal report attached to Senate Bill 50. He commented that for some officials (like sheriffs and county attorneys) and the larger counties, the projected cost-of-living is less money than taking a straight 7% pay increase as was done the last 2 years.

On Page 9, starting at line 5 of Senate Bill 50, is a grandfather clause for salaries. Since Senate Bill 50 does change the salary schedule and no longer uses a direct taxable formula, without this grandfather clause 2 counties would have taken a pay cut (due to presently a small population and large taxable valuation). The grandfather clause does affect 4 counties and it is in effect only for one fiscal year.

The most money and largest percent of money that is on the fiscal report is made up by the largest counties. So that you can see actual dollar increase, county by county, an officer of another association, I believe, will present to you a schedule that is similar to what our compensation board had to work from.

This fiscal report is not all an obligation upon the county because the state of Montana

pays the salary of the assessor, and that is listed on the fiscal report, but, the state also pays half the salary of the county attorney.

To assist this bill, the Sheriffs Association does have a salary bill for the deputy sheriffs that is a compliment to Senate Bill 50. Presently, only first, second and third class counties can vary the salary of their deputy sheriffs from 75% to 90%. All the other class counties must pay 90% of the sheriff's salary. Pending the appearance that Senate Bill may be passed, the sheriffs will present a deputy sheriffs bill that will allow the counties of from 0 - 15,000 population to pay the deputies 75% to 90% of the sheriff's salary, and counties with populations from 15,000 to 30,000 population pay 70% to 90%, counties from 30,000 to 60,000 population pay from 65% to 90%, and counties from 60,000 to 100,000 population to pay 60% to 90%, and counties over 100,000 population to pay from 55% to 90% of the sheriff's salary. We cannot let the deputy sheriff receive a smaller percent of pay unless we know we are getting a reasonable pay raise.

In closing, I wish to say county elected officials need Senate Bill 50 passed. My present average monthly take home pay is only \$134.00 more than my mother and father-in-laws' Social Security check.

I believe Senate Bill 50 is very conservative because in the majority of counties, the average elected official will still receive less salary (\$16,270.00) than the retirement pay of a Montana district court judge that was in the news yester, the 16th day of January, 1981.

Walter L. Hammermeister
Chairman of County Compensation Board
Sheriff of Pondera Co.

NAME Tom Hartzel BILL No. SR 50
ADDRESS Helen DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Council At Large
SUPPORT 1 OPPOSE 1 AMEND ✓

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

NAME Kathleen C. Humphrey BILL No. S.B. 50
ADDRESS Box 307, Tipton, MO 64479 DATE 3-12-1981
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT County Commission - Clerk of Court
SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐ AMEND ☒

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

Senate version completely overlooks any future raises for part time County Commissioners. Salary Commission tied their salary in with percentage of Clerk's Records & thus increases would be taken care of.

As elected officials in Counties were "short" changed by the Senate amendments.

Thank you for your sincere consideration of S.B. 50.

Later

NAME Rick Liston BILL No. SB 50
ADDRESS 5 N. Litch, Dillon, MT DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Signifx
SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

NAME _____ BILL No. _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT _____

SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

NAME L John Onstad BILL No. SB 50
ADDRESS 319 W Main Bozeman DATE 3-19-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Sheriffs + Peace officers
SUPPORT — OPPOSE — AMEND —

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

NAME Ally Lane BILL No. 2550
ADDRESS Spokane Falls, WA DATE 9/1/81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Hospital - Narcotics Unit
SUPPORT ✓ OPPOSE AMEND

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: I only ask that you look at
all the data available with an open
mind - remembering that the
dictated officials are people having
great responsibility - responsibility
that is the same no matter whether
they are from a class or district
country. Thank you for all the many
hours of work you are going to put
in on this bill.

May I add that I know that if
you feel it to be necessary any
member of the Board will be
glad to give you any assistance
they can.

NAME H. R. Rixson BILL No. Sent. Bill 5
ADDRESS Cal. 2211 DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Sherriff
SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐ AMEND ☐

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:



AL C. RIERSON

SHERIFF-CORONER

BOX 1076 - PHONE 755-3691

KALISPELL, MONTANA 59901

TO: The Honorable members of the Montana House of Representatives
Local Government Committee

FROM: Sheriff Al Rierson

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

In reference to Senate Bill 50, I would like to express a few views on the need for an adequate salary for deputy sheriffs throughout the state of Montana. I speak in behalf of my own department, Flathead County Sheriff's Department. Currently, we have thirty-five sworn officers. Flathead is the largest in area of the six major counties. We are the third largest in population of the six major counties. Looking back over the years, we have only one officer who has stayed in the department for fifteen years out of the past twenty. The rest range from fourteen to two and three years in service. One of the principal reasons, of course, for this high turnover is the lack of an adequate salary. Losing a trained officer, with his schooling and two or three years of experience, is a cost of from \$15,000 to \$25,000 at least.

Following is a breakdown of one officer's monthly salary and his payments, for a family of three:

Take-home pay		\$ 945.52
Trailer payments	\$ 229.00	
Car Payments	145.00	
Furniture payments	70.00	
Trailer space	85.00	
Gas and care for vehicle	60.00	
Lights and heat	60.00	
Telephone	30.00	
TV cable	20.00	
Life Insurance	36.00	
Car License and ins.	50.00	785.00

Remainder, food and all misc. costs 160.52

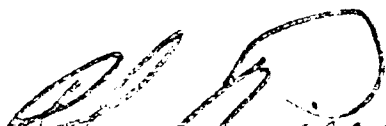
This particular officer has a hospital/doctor bill - over and above the insurance payments - of \$1200.

Also, remember that in 1975, the dollar bought \$1.00 worth of goods.

In 1980, the dollar buys .65 worth of goods.

In 1990, \$945.52 buys \$614.59 worth of goods.

This is a short summary to substantiate my plea to you for your support for an adequate salary for sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in Montana.



NAME William L. Romine BILL No. S.B. 50
ADDRESS P.O. Box 1691 Helena DATE 3-12-81
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Clerk & Records
SUPPORT X OPPOSE AMEND X

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: the association supports the basic approach of S.B. 50. However, it does urge the committee to set up three base salary ~~classes~~ ~~classes~~ classes. \$14,000 for 1st & 2nd class counties. \$13,000 for 4th & 5th class counties, and \$12,000 for 6th & 7th class counties. There sufficient population differences between 4th & 5th as opposed to 6th & 7th class counties to justify this different treatment.

The association also believes that the cost of living increase in 1982 should be based upon the actual salary paid, and not upon the base salary alone. Otherwise, there could be some instances where no salary increase would occur.

Finally, the association urges the committee to change the cost of living increase to read not less than 70% the consumer price index, rather than not more than 70%. If the county commissioners wish to set salaries in the future, we should not get tied on how high they may go.

Proposed Amendments on S.B. 50, submitted by the Clerk & Records Assn.

1. Amend page 4, third reading copy, after the word "OK" on Line 22, by inserting a new subparagraph (B), which would read as follows:

"(B) \$13,000 FOR COUNTIES OF THE FOURTH AND FIFTH CLASS
TO THE POPULATION INCREMENT OF \$15 PER 100 PERSONS OR MAJOR
FRACTION THEREOF INCLUDED IN THE COUNTY'S POPULATION AS
DETERMINED BY THE 1980 FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS; OR"

2. Amend line 23, page 4 by striking (B) and inserting (C) and by striking the words "FOURTH THROUGH" and inserting "SIXTH AND".
3. Amend page 9, line 2 by striking the word "base" and also on Line 2 by striking the word "MORE" and inserting the word "LESS".

	1980 Pop. 1980	Attorneys 45,000/22,500	Sheriff 19,000 + pop	Superintendent 14,500 + pop	Other 14,000 + pop	Pop. Additive
Beaverhead	8200	22500	20640	16140	15640	1640
Big Horn	11100	22500	21220	16720	16220	2220
Blaine	7000	22500	20400	15900	15400	1400
Broadwater	3300	22500	19460	15160	14660	660
Carbon	8100	45000	20620	16120	15620	1620
Carter	1800	22500	19360	14860	14360	360
Cascade	80600	45000	32590	28090	27590	13590
Chouteau	6100	22500	20220	15720	15220	1220
Custer	13100	22500	21620	17120	16620	2620
Daniels	2800	22500	19560	15060	14560	560
Dawson	11900	22500	21380	16880	16380	2380
Deer Lodge	12500	45000	21500	17000	16500	2500
Fallon	3800	22500	19760	15260	14760	760
Fergus	13100	22500	21620	17120	16620	2620
Flathead	51500	45000	28225	23725	23225	9225
Gallatin	42800	45000	26920	22420	21920	7920
Garfield	1600	22500	19320	14820	14320	320
Glacier	9700	22500	20940	16440	15940	1940
Golden Valley	1000	22500	19200	14700	14200	200
Granite	2700	22500	19540	15040	14540	540
Hill	17900	22500	22580	18080	17580	3580
Jefferson	7000	22500	20400	15900	15400	1400
Judith Basin	2600	22500	19520	15020	14520	520
Lake	19100	22500	22820	18320	17820	3820
Lewis and Clark	43100	45000	26965	22465	21965	7965
Liberty	2300	22500	19460	14960	14460	460
Lincoln	17700	22500	22540	18040	17540	3540
Madison	2700	22500	19540	15040	14540	540
McCone	5400	22500	20080	15580	15080	1080
Meagher	2100	22500	19420	14920	14420	420
Mineral	3700	22500	19740	15240	14740	740
Missoula	75400	45000	31810	27310	26810	12810
Musselshell	4400	22500	19880	15380	14880	880
Park	13000	45000	21600	17100	16600	2600
Petroleum	700	22500	19140	14640	14140	140
Phillips	5400	22500	20080	15580	15080	1080
Pondera	6700	22500	20340	15840	15340	1340
Powder River	2500	22500	19500	15000	14500	500
Powell	6900	22500	20380	15880	15380	1380
Prairie	1800	22500	19360	14860	14360	360
Ravalli	22400	45000	23480	18980	18480	4480
Richland	12200	22500	21440	16940	16440	2440
Roosevelt	10400	22500	21080	16580	16080	2080
Rosebud	10000	22500	21000	16500	16000	2000
Sanders	8600	45000	20720	16220	15720	1720
Sheridan	5400	22500	20080	15580	15080	1080
Silver Bow	37900	45000	26185	21685	21185	7185
Stillwater	5600	22500	20120	15620	15120	1120
Sweet Grass	3200	22500	19640	15140	14640	640
Teton	6500	22500	20300	15800	15300	1300
Toole	5600	22500	20120	15620	15120	1120
Treasure	1000	22500	19200	14700	14200	200
Valley	10200	22500	21040	16540	16040	2040
Wheatland	2400	22500	19480	14980	14480	480
Wibaux	1500	22500	19300	14800	14300	300
Yellowstone	107700	45000	36655	32155	31655	17655
Additive - Pop.			145290	145290	145290	145290
Base			104000	812000	784000	
			1059290	957290	929290	145290

County	CLASS	1980 Population	Present Salary	3rd Reading CJR SB 50 Salary 1981-82 1982-83
Beaverhead	4	82041	13,205	13,640
Big Horn	1	11,083	15,313	15,110
Blaine	3	6990	13,234	14,700
Broadwater	6	3263	11,589	12,660
Carbon	3	8081	13,339	14,810
Carter	6	1800	11,427	12,360
Cascade	1	80,637	19,440	22,060
Chouteau	3	6090	13,163	14,610
Custer	4	13,070	13,728	14,620
Daniels	6	2826	11,696	12,560
Dawson	3	11,850	13,713	15,190
Deer Lodge	1	12,507	13,728	15,500
Fallon	2	3769	13,563	14,380
Fergus	3	13,052	13,982	15,310
Flathead	1	57,462	16,809	19,150
Gallatin	1	42,821	16,091	18,280
Garfield	6	1649	11,321	12,320
Glacier	2	9662	14,297	14,970
Golden Valley	7	1017	10,678	12,200
Granite	6	2691	10,948	12,540
Hill	2	17,931	14,685	15,790
Jefferson	5	7040	12,607	13,400
Judith Basin	6	2636	11,575	12,520
Lake	3	19,098	14,236	15,910
Lewis and Clark	1	43,053	16,090	18,310
Liberty	5	2322	11,680	12,460
Lincoln	3	17,731	13,982	15,770
Madison	4	5437	12,456	13,080
McCone	5	2707	11,680	12,540
Meagher	6	2145	10,948?	12,420
Mineral	6	3674	11,067	12,740
Missoula	1	75,432	18,692	21,540
Musselshell	5	4417	12,456	12,880
Park	5	12,682	13,457	14,540
Petroleum	7	657		12,120
Phillips	4	5357	12,323	13,080
Pondera	3	6735	13,332	13,340 14,670
Powder River	1	2523	15,269	14,250
Powell	5	6939	12,711	13,380
Prairie	6	1833	10,948	12,360
Ravalli	3	22,427	14,103	16,240
Richland	2	12,225	14,296	15,220
Roosevelt	3	10,446	13,847	15,040
Rosebud	1	9915	17,093	14,990
Sanders	4	8559	13,205	13,720
Sheridan	3	5391	12,712	14,540
Silver Bow	1	37,930	16,269	17,790
Stillwater	5	5597	12,323	13,120
Sweet Grass	6	3211	11,589	12,640
Teton	4	6485	12,714	13,300
Toole	3	5568	12,965	14,560
Treasure	7	981	10,681	12,200
Valley	4	10,249	13,848	14,040
Wheatland	6	2352	10,948	12,480
Wibaux	6	1479	11,575	12,300
Yellowstone	1	107,659	21,681	24,770

Any increment dependent upon local governing body. (up to 70% of - or increase in population)

Grandfather Clause* Applies Get SB 50 for Actual wording and extra compensation for some offices

Class 1-3 = \$14,000 base + \$10/100 population
 Class 7 = 2,000 base + \$20/100 population
 Sheriff = Salary plus \$200
 Supt. = Salary plus \$400
 County Attorney = \$36,500 full time; base salary plus \$1200 part time
 County commissioners + \$2500 per year - part time commissioners \$50 per day

Form 4236 Counties

SB 50 (amended)

State Publishing Co.
 Helena, Montana

Class	Population	1980	Current Base Salary	Current Base Salary + 7%	Other elected off.
Beaverhead	4	8,200	\$ 13,205	\$ 14,129	\$13,640
Big Horn	1	11,100	15,313	16,385	15,110
Blaine	2	7,000	13,234	14,160	14,700
Broadwater	6	3,300	11,589	12,400	12,660
Carbon	3	8,100	13,339	14,273	14,810
Carter	6	1,800	11,427	12,227	12,360
Cascade	1	80,700	19,440	20,801	22,070
Chouteau	3	6,100	13,103	14,020	14,610
Custer	3	13,100	13,728	14,689	15,310
Daniels	6	2,800	11,696	12,515	12,560
Dawson	3	11,800	13,713	14,673	15,180
Deer Lodge	4	12,500	13,728	14,689	14,500
Fallon	2	3,800	13,563	14,512	14,380
Fergus	3	13,100	13,982	14,961	15,310
Flathead	1	52,000	16,809	17,986	19,200
Gallatin	1	42,900	16,091	17,217	18,290
Garfield	6	1,700	11,321	12,113	12,340
Glacier	2	9,700	14,297	15,298	14,970
Golden Valley	7	1,000	10,678	11,425	12,200
Granite	6	2,700	10,948	11,714	12,540
Hill	2	17,900	14,685	15,712	15,790
Jefferson	5	7,000	12,607	13,489	13,400
Judith Basin	5	2,600	11,575	12,385	12,520
Lake	3	19,100	14,236	15,233	15,910
Lewis and Clark	1	43,000	16,090	17,216	18,300
Liberty	4	2,300	11,680	12,498	12,460
Lincoln	3	17,800	13,982	14,961	15,780
Madison	4	5,400	12,456	13,328	13,080
McCone	5	2,700	11,680	12,498	12,540
Meagher	6	2,200	10,948	11,714	12,440
Mineral	7	3,700	11,067	11,842	12,740
Missoula	1	76,000	18,692	20,000	21,600
Musselshell	4	4,400	12,456	13,328	12,880
Park	4	12,700	13,457	14,399	14,540
Petroleum	7	700			12,140
Phillips	3	5,400	12,323	13,186	14,540
Pondera	3	6,700	13,234	14,160	14,670
Powder River	1	2,500	15,269	16,338	14,250
Powell	5	7,000	12,711	13,601	13,400
Prairie	6	1,800	10,948	11,714	12,360
Ravalli	3	22,500	14,103	15,090	16,250
Richland	1	12,200	14,296	15,297	15,220
Roosevelt	3	10,500	13,847	14,816	15,050
Rosebud	1	9,900	17,093	18,239	14,990
Sanders	4	8,700	13,205	14,129	13,740
Sheridan	2	5,400	12,712	13,602	14,540
Silver Bow	1	38,100	16,269	17,408	17,810
Stillwater	5	5,600	12,323	13,186	13,120
Sweet Grass	6	3,200	11,589	12,400	12,640
Teton	4	6,500	12,714	13,604	13,300
Toole	2	5,600	12,965	13,873	14,560
Treasure	7	1,000	10,681	11,429	12,200
Valley	3	10,300	13,848	14,817	15,030
Wheatland	6	2,400	10,948	11,714	12,480
Wilbank	5	1,500	11,575	12,385	12,300
Yellowstone	1	108,000	21,681	23,199	24,800

For each 10th year after the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1981, the latest federal decennial census statistics shall be the basis for computation of population increments under this section. During the intervening 9 years, the computation of population increments shall be based on July 1 of each year shall be based on the last calendar year's annual estimates of counties' populations compiled by the federal-state cooperative program for estimates of the university of Montana bureau of business and economic research and the U.S. bureau of the census or other estimate that the bureau of business and economic research may certify.

The county governing body shall by resolution, on or before July 1, 1982, and on or before July 1 of each year thereafter adjust and fix the salaries of (the elected officials) for cost-of-living increase by adding to the annual salary computed an increment calculated by applying to the annual base salary not more than 70% of the last previous calendar year's consumer price index for all urban consumers. The cost-of-living increment for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1983, and for each subsequent fiscal year shall be added to all cost-of-living increments granted for previous years.

Class 3 = \$11,000 base + \$100/population
 Class 4-7 = \$12,000 base + \$100/population
 Sheriff = Salary plus \$2000
 Supt. = Salary plus \$400
 County Attorney = \$36,500 full time; base salary plus \$1200 part time
 County commissioners = \$2500 per year - part time commissioners \$50 per day

Form #236 Counties

SB 50 (amended)

Class 4&5

State Publishing Co. Helena, Montana	Class	1980 Population	Current Base Salary	Current Base Salary + 7%	Other elected off.	Amended Base Salary	Increase Per Official
						\$14,230	\$101/year
Beaverhead	4	8,200	\$ 13,205	\$ 14,129	\$13,640		
Big Horn	1	11,100	15,313	16,385	15,110		
Blaine	2	7,000	13,234	14,160	14,700		
Broadwater	6	3,300	11,589	12,400	12,660		
Carbon	3	8,100	13,339	14,273	14,810		
Carter	6	1,800	11,427	12,227	12,360		
Cascade	1	80,700	19,440	20,801	22,070		
Chouteau	3	6,100	13,103	14,020	14,610		
Custer	3	13,100	13,728	14,689	15,310		
Daniels	6	2,800	11,696	12,515	12,560		
Dawson	3	11,800	13,713	14,673	15,180		
Deer Lodge	4	12,500	13,728	14,689	14,500	14,875	166/year
Fallon	2	3,800	13,563	14,512	14,380		
Fergus	3	13,100	13,982	14,961	15,310		
Flathead	1	52,000	16,809	17,986	19,200		
Gallatin	1	42,900	16,091	17,217	18,290		
Garfield	6	1,700	11,321	12,113	12,340		
Glacier	2	9,700	14,297	15,298	14,970		
Golden Valley	7	1,000	10,678	11,425	12,200		
Granite	6	2,700	10,948	11,714	12,540		
Hill	2	17,900	14,685	15,712	15,790		
Jefferson	5	7,000	12,607	13,489	13,400	14,050	561/year
Judith Basin	5	2,600	11,575	12,385	12,520	13,390	870/year
Lake	3	19,100	14,236	15,233	15,910		
Lewis and Clark	1	43,000	16,090	17,216	18,300		
Liberty	4	2,300	11,680	12,498	12,460	13,345	847/year
Lincoln	3	17,800	13,982	14,961	15,780		
Madison	4	5,400	12,456	13,328	13,080	13,810	482/year
McCone	5	2,700	11,680	12,498	12,540	13,405	865/year
Meagher	6	2,200	10,948	11,714	12,440		
Mineral	7	3,700	11,067	11,842	12,740		
Missoula	1	76,000	18,692	20,000	21,600		
Musselshell	4	4,400	12,456	13,328	12,880	13,660	332/year
Park	4	12,700	13,457	14,399	14,540	14,905	365/year
Petroleum	7	700			12,140		
Phillips	3	5,400	12,323	13,186	14,540		
Pondera	3	6,700	13,234	14,160	14,670		
Powder River	1	2,500	15,269	16,338	14,250		
Powell	5	7,000	12,711	13,601	13,400	14,050	449/year
Prairie	6	1,800	10,948	11,714	12,360		
Ravalli	3	22,500	14,103	15,090	16,250		
Richland	1	12,200	14,296	15,297	15,220		
Roosevelt	3	10,500	13,847	14,816	15,050		
Rosebud	1	9,900	17,093	18,239	14,990		
Sanders	4	8,700	13,205	14,129	13,740	14,305	176/year
Sheridan	2	5,400	12,712	13,602	14,540		
Silver Bow	1	38,100	16,269	17,408	17,810		
Stillwater	5	5,600	12,323	13,186	13,120	13,840	654/year
Sweet Grass	6	3,200	11,589	12,400	12,640		
Teton	4	6,500	12,714	13,604	13,300	13,975	371/year
Toole	2	5,600	12,965	13,873	14,560		
Treasure	7	1,000	10,681	11,429	12,200		
Valley	3	10,300	13,848	14,817	15,030		
Wheatland	6	2,400	10,948	11,714	12,480		
Wibaux	5	1,500	11,575	12,385	12,300	13,225	840/year
Yellowstone	1	108,000	21,681	23,199	24,800		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 26, 1962

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT

having had under consideration SENATE Bill No. 50

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 7-4-2107, 7-4-2501, 7-4-2503, AND 7-4-2504, MCA, ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS AND PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

House Amendments to:

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE Bill No. 50

1. Page 4, line 17.

Following: "30,000."

Strike: "1"

2. Page 4, lines 18 and 19.

Following: line 17

Strike: "(A)"

Following: "214,000"

Strike: "FOR COUNTIES OF THE FIRST THROUGH THIRD CLASS"

3. Page 4, line 22.

Following: "CENSUS"

Strike: "; OR"

Insert: "."

4. Page 4, line 23 through line 1 of page 5.

Strike: subsection (b) in its entirety.

DO PASS

Amendments to Senate Bill 50 (continued)

5. Page 6, lines 9 through 25.

Strike: subsection (e) in its entirety.

Relatter: subsequent subsection.

6. Page 8, line 13.

Following: "one)";

Insert: "and"

7. Page 8, line 19.

Following: "salary)"

Strike: "; and the county coroner"

8. Page 9, line 2.

Following: line 1

Strike: "base"

Following: "salary"

Insert: "established by 7-4-2503(1) plus previous cost-of-living increments"

Following: "1992,"

Strike: "NOT MORE THAN"

9. Page 9.

Following: line 24

Insert: "(3) The county governing body shall by resolution, prior to July 1 of each year, establish the salary of the coroner. The salary must be in effect upon the first day of each ensuing fiscal year."

AS AMENDED BE CONCURRED IN

.....Warner L. Bertelsen.....

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 21, 1921

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT

having had under consideration SENATE Bill No. 353

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE AUCTION OF JUNK VEHICLES BY COUNTIES; AMENDING SECTIONS 75-10-521, 75-10-531, AND 75-10-532, MCA."

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE Bill No. 353

BE NOT CONCURRED IN
PASS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 14, 1921

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT

having had under consideration SENATE Bill No. 368

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING CERTIFICATION BY THE COUNTY TREASURER THAT THERE ARE NO DELINQUENT TAXES OUTSTANDING ON PROPERTY PROPOSED TO BE SUBDIVIDED; AMENDING SECTION 76-5-611, MCA."

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE Bill No. 368

BE CONSIDERED IN

DO PASS

Warner L. Bertelsen
Chairman.