

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
April 11, 1981

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. in Room 436, by Chairman Feda, presiding. All members were present.

HOUSE BILL 636 .

Discussion:

CHAIRMAN FEDA opened the meeting by stating that there were many amendments made to the original bill. He stated that the major concern of the therapists, is that they are opposed to the yearly inspections, as each member has to pay \$500 per inspection.

REP. PAVLOVICH stated if there is a complaint made, an inspection should take place, otherwise inspections should only take place every two years.

REP. WALLIN stated that there should be a peace officer present at these inspections, and possibly one on the board, since there was a problem at one parlor in Billings.

REP. FEDA stated that there should be a peace officer doing the inspection but not one on the board.

SEN. STORY felt that the bill was too stringent.

SEN. KEATING also felt that the bill was too stringent.

REP. WALLIN stated that the peace officer should be present for the inspections. He also stated that he has been getting calls to keep the Massage Therapist Board to maintain control.

SEN. KEATING asked if the Massage Therapists have to be licensed.

REP. FEDA stated that yes, they do have to be licensed and they are required to pass an examination to become licensed.

SEN. BROWN asked if these Massage Parlors are being operated in the proper fashion.

REP. FEDA stated that to his knowledge yes they are.

SEN. KEATING stated that the county attorney knows about every new massage parlor that opens.

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REP. FEDA stated that this is done because the therapist's want to maintain respectability within the community.

SEN. KEATING stated that they provide a service to the community at a low cost. He stated that the YMCA in Billings had this service and was quite successful with it.

REP. FEDA asked how the members felt about putting a peace officer on the board.

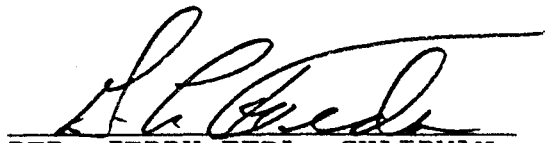
SEN. KEATING stated that if a peace officer is put on the board, he would have to be transported around the state for inspections and that would be costly. He also stated that a local peace officer should be present upon inspection.

SEN. BROWN stated that the sunset date was moved up so the bill can be looked at during the next biennium.

All members were in agreement with the discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



REP. JERRY FEDA, CHAIRMAN