MINUTES OF MEETING SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE January 19, 1981

Page 1.

The eighth meeting of the Senate Judiciary Committee was called to order by Mike Anderson, Chairman, on the above date in Room 331, at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

All members were present.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 111:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE LAWS BY PROVIDING THAT QUALIFIED PERSONS ACTING UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND DIRECTION OF A PHYSICIAN OR A REGISTERED NURSE MAY WITHDRAW BLOOD FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING ALCOHOL CONTENT UNDER THE IMPLIED CONSENT LAW; BY EXTENDING PROTECTION FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY TO SUCH PERSONS; AND BY CHANGING "INTOXICATING LIQUOR" TO "ALCOHOL".

Senator Stimatz, District 43, Butte, introduced the bill at the request of the Department of Justice. Beer and wine are currently excluded from the definition of "intoxicating liquor", which is why he feels the term should be changed to "alcohol." Additionally, he suggests that qualified persons, such as laboratory technicians, be allowed to take blood samples to determine alcohol level of the blood. Senator Stimatz offered an amendment to the bill to amend the title on Page 1, line 11, by adding "by changing the reference to the rule-making body" after "persons"; and also to amend line 3 on page 6 after "the" by deleting "state board of health and environmental sciences" and inserting "Division of Forensic Sciences".

Speaking briefly in favor of the bill were Captain Walt Miller, of the Montana Highway Patrol; Chad Smith, of the Montana Hospital Association; Tom Honzel, for the County Attorneys Association; and David Lackman, lobbyist for the Montana Public State Health Association. Mr. Lackman presented written testimony (marked Exhibit A and attached to these minutes).

Senator Mazurek asked if even broader language in determining

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who was qualified to draw a blood sample might be helpful. Larry Majerus, from the Montana Department of Justice, stated that the main intent was to allow the medical technicians to be included, not to take the process out of the hospital environment where such qualified persons would not be available. He added that in an "on the highway" situation away from a hospital there were other techniques available, such as breath analysis.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 112:

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-3-303, MCA, TO REQUIRE EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES BEFORE THE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PRIOR TO BRINGING SUIT IN DISTRICT COURT FOR ALLEGED UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION.

Senator Tveit, District 27, presented the bill on behalf of the School Board Association. He distributed copies of his testimony (marked Exhibit B and attached to these minutes) which he read aloud.

Chad Smith, representing the Montana School Boards Association, also spoke on behalf of the bill, stating that there has been a number of charges filed before the Human Rights Commission, only to find that they were also being filed independently in district court. This is a duplication of proceedings and a waste of effort, as well as a form of harrassment against some small entity which is forced to defend itself against two proceedings at the same time. This means double cost to the taxpayers.

John Frankino, Chairman of the Human Rights Commission, said that their concern with this area of the law has been registered in Senate Bill 56, also under consideration. A fact sheet relative to this bill was submitted (marked Exhibit C, and attached to these minutes).

Karen Townsend, a four-year member of the Human Rights Commission said that SB 112 conflicts with SB 56, which in her opinion is a better bill because it does not preclude the plaintiff's filing in district court if the administrative proceeding has not progressed adequately at the end of six months.

Senator S. Brown suggested that this committee hold this bill and that Senate Bill 56 be referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee, so the two bills can be studied together.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 63:

Senator S. Brown recommended DO PASS, with the understanding

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that the Committee Report not be filed on it until Senator Mazurek clears it with the secretary of this committee.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 76:

Following brief discussion of the bill, Senator Berg recommended DO NOT PASS. The vote was eight to two in favor of the motion.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 10:

Senator Anderson mentioned that Senator Stevens commented that four people had signed the minority report coming out of the Interim Committee handling this matter. Following discussion of the bill, Senator O'Hara recommended that it receive a DO NOT PASS vote, a motion which carried six to four.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 83:

Senator Mazurek moved to amend Section 1, paragraph 2, line 20, striking everything after the word "false", all of line 21, and the word "identification" on line 22. Senator O'Hara recommended that the bill DO PASS AS AMENDED, and his motion carried unanimously.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 45:

Senator Crippen recommended that the bill DO NOT PASS, and the motion carried unanimously.

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ROLL CALL

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION 1981	
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EXCUSED NAME PRESENT ABSENT Anderson, Mike, Chr. (R) O'Hara, Jesse A. (R) Olson, S. A. (R) Brown, Bob (R) Crippen, Bruce D. (R) Tveit, Larry J. (R) Brown, Steve (D) Berg, Harry K. (D) Mazurek, Joseph P. (D) Halligan, Michael (D)

Each day attach to minutes.

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PLEASE	LEAVE	ANY PREPAR	RED STATEME	NTS WITH T	HE COMMITTE	EE SECRETARY	<u> </u>

NAME: David B. LACKMAN DATE: Jan. 19, 1981
ADDRESS: 1400 WINNE Ave., Helena 59601
PHONE: 443-3494
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APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 5 13 111 13/ood Alcohol - dvewing
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PHONE: 443 - 555-4	
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APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 57 ///	7 -
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NAME: Ciren Journsend DATE: 1/19/8/
ADDRESS: 1450 Patter Canyon Rd
PHONE: 549-9083 (hm) 449-3816 (wk)
REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Human Rights
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 58 1/2
DO YOU: SUPPORT? OPPOSE?
comments: the provisions conflict w/ \$\$ 56
which the Commission has requested
be introduced. The position of the Commission
is that although the administration
route ought to be encouraged, we do
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prichade ble believe the solution on
58 56 is more appropriate which
gures to Human Rights Die 6 mos to
resolve the complaint at that point
the complainant could go to court.
56 1/2 would not prevent Federal CX litigation,
the kind of letigation which would result from
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Exhibit H

Senate Bill No. 111 *An act to amend the driving under influence laws by providing that qualified persons acting under the supervision and direction of a physician or a registered nurse may withdraw blood for the purpose of determining alcohol content under the implied consent law; by extending protection from civil or criminal liability to such persons; and by changing "intoxicating liquor" to "alcohol"; amending sections 61-3-402, 61-3-403, 61-8-404, and 61-8-405, MCA."

After the implied consent law was on the books, I had the responsibility of organizing the testing program. Although medical technologists have always drawn blood, there was no mention in the law of other than physicians and nurses to take blood samples for alcohol determination. Suggested amendment of the codes to include other qualified persons is another thing I didn't get around to before I retired. We urge your favourable consideration of Senate Bill 111.

David B. Lackman, Lobbyist,

Montana Public Health Association January 18, 1981

P.S. Pg. 6 - line 3, change "board" to department

Exhibit 15

STATEMENT	IN	SUPPORT	OF	SENATE	BILL	NO

This bill amends Section 49-3-303, M.C.A. which relates to Chapter 3 entitled "Governmental Code of Fair Practices" and is a part of Title 49, M.C.A. dealing with human rights. The section to be amended deals with the procedure for enforcement of any violation by authorizing dual and simultaneous procedures which are an obvious and unnecessary duplication. The complaining party may file a complaint with the Commission for Human Rights to have his complaint determined by the administrative agency and may, in addition, petition the district court in the district where the complainant resides to have the matter judicially determined at the same time.

The general law dealing with administrative remedies is that a complainant must exhaust available administrative remedies before proceeding to court. The reason for the rule is that the administrative agencies specialize in the particular field of law that they administer and the courts are not burdened with the adjudication of matters that can be resolved by administrative hearing and appeal. The general law provides that if either party is unsatisfied with the administrative decision after all administrative remedies have been exhausted, the aggrieved party may then appeal the decision to the courts.

Not only are the dual proceedings redundant and wasteful, but actually could result in conflicting decisions because the ultimate administrative decision could be appealed to the district court in Helena, while another district court proceeding was pending in the district where the complainant resides.

The duplication in simultaneous proceedings serves no purpose but it does force the defending party to defend both proceedings at double the cost. Such financial burden merely amounts to a means of harassment of the governmental entity that is being charged with some alleged violation.

Exhibit C

FACT SHEET

SB 56 Introduced by Senator Bob Brown at the request of the Montana Human Rights Commission.

A bill for an act entitled:
"AN ACT TO GENERALLY REVISE AND CLARIFY LAWS RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS BY SHOWING THE INTERRELATIONSHIP OF CHAPTERS 2 AND 3 OF TITLE 49, MCA; BY PROVIDING A METHOD OF APPOINTING AN ACTING COMMISSIONER TO REPLACE AN ABSENT COMMISSIONER; BY CLARIFYING ADMINISTRATIVE CONTESTED CASE PROCEDURES; AMENDING SECTIONS 49-2-101, 49-2-202, 49-2-204, 49-2-301, 49-2-401, 49-2-402, 49-2-501, 49-2-502, 49-2-505, 49-2-601, 49-3-101 THROUGH 49-3-104, 49-3-202, 49-2-204, 49-3-205, 49-3-302, AND 49-3-303, MCA."

- 1. "The laws administered by the commission are phrased in such a way that the legislative intent is not clear concerning three issues. The confusion arises because the commission administers two acts which contain contrasting language in specific sections." Page 45, State of Montana, Report to the Legislature, Sunset Review, Commission for Human Rights; Office of the Legislative Auditor, 1980.
- 2. The first issue is whether complaints filed under the Fair Practices Act, Chapter 3 of Title 49, MCA, should have the same 180 day statute of limitations as complaints filed under the Human Rights Act, Chapter 2 of Title 49, MCA. This bill states that the statute of limitations is the same for complaints filed under either Act.
- 3. Secondly, there is a question whether or not a complainant under the Human Rights Act can also immediately file in district court without exhausting administrative remedies, as can a person with a complaint under the Code of Fair Practices. This bill provides equal access to the court system for persons filing against either private or governmental respondents. However, the bulk of discrimination claims will continue to be resolved by the commission.
- 4. Finally, it is presently unclear whether private employers can make use of all of the defenses to a discrimination claim which are available to governmental employers under the Fair Practices Act. This bill makes those defenses equally available to all employers, and makes clear that the Commission should read the two acts together in performing its duties.

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> STATE PUB. CO. Helena, Mont.

Mike Anderson

Chairman.

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	<u>January 19</u> 19 87
MR. PRESIDENT	
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or other items of identificat:	ion*
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SENATE COMMITTEE JUDICIARY		
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Crippen, Bruce D.		
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Mazurek, Joseph P.	,	
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Motion: Recommend DO NOT PASS		
		

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

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STATE PUB. CO. Helena, Mont.

Mike Anderson

Chairman.

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