

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

February 9, 1981

The seventh meeting of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee met on the above date in room 108 of the state capitol building. The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m., roll call was taken and is attached, and Chairman Himsel said we would discuss Senate Bill 180.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 180: Senator Van Valkenburg, the chief sponsor of Senate Bill 180 explained the bill. He said this is a bill that was recommended by the Interim Committee on state mandates and the effects of state owned property on local governments. He said he had taken the liberty of passing out a copy of a study of eight selected state mandates to Montana Local Government, marked exhibit 1. He said, I did not serve on the committee but was asked by a member of the committee who did not return to legislature to sponsor the bill. Senator Watt and Senator Lensink did not return. This bill would take the county medical assistance from the counties and replace it with a state indigent medical assistance program. The fiscal note indicates a big program. Approximately the same amount would be eliminated at the county level. There is a slight increase in the state expenditures; I think some people from the SRS are here who could answer you as to how the Fiscal note was based. In order that you will not be as surprised as I was, there is one proponent for the bill here and 28 opponents. Apparently there is concern from private hospital industries that they will be asked to bear the burden of increased costs of the indigent.

Senator Van Valkenburg discussed the way the bill would work, and referred to the appendix page E4, E5 and #6 of exhibit one. He also asked for his proponent to speak.

Doris Sheppard, Association of Counties, MAP, spoke in favor of S. B. 180. She said the cost to the counties was too great and she felt this should be a service of the state. She also referred to the larger cities who received many of the indigent because they wished to go to larger centers where there was better medical service.

Opponents to the bill who spoke follow:

Chad Smith said this was creating a hardship on the hospitals who could not refuse medical care and the patients or their insurance would have to absorb the cost of the care. He gave out a sheet of amendments which he considered a necessity if the bill were to go through the committee.

John LaFavor, Director of Social and Rehabilitative Services, SRS, said they are sensitive to the need of the counties, but said he was still trying to find out the entire responsibility of the SRS and felt this was a bill that would cost the state a great amount of money and was not sure how it would be handled.

Rose Scoog, Nursing Home Association, said the nursing home has expressed the same concerns and she would concur in the testimony of Chad Smith.

James Holt, Tool County Hospital said he would agree with the remarks of Mr. Smith, and to a large extent with those of Mr. LaFavor.

Vince Huntington, administrator of the Granite County Hospital at Phillipsburg said they do levey the full 13½ mills and there never seems to be enough money. He said this bill would remove the local control and still leave a lot of the shoulders of the local government to pay.

Committee Questions: Senator Hims1: I would like to address this to Dorris Sheppard. I am confused. You are representing Montana Association of Counties and you are for the bill? The other county people are against the bill. Sheppard: Our commissioners are for it. It is one of the 4 areas that was listed as one of the main concerns of the commissioners. We do not know what happened to this bill. Our intent was not to lose control locally but to have the indigent paid for by the state, and they can control how much money. I do not know what happened to the bill, it did not come out like we wanted.

Senator Aklestad: Where is the discrepancy between the fiscal note and the information you gave us? Sheppard: We have the whole list of what it cost here. It was just a little over \$3 million. I am sure the state must have a reason for saying \$6 million. The information we got from our own counties was \$3 million.

Senator Thomas: This has nothing to do with state owned property being assessed? Senator Van Valkenburg: The committee was conducting the study of 2 general programs. One was the medical and the other the universities.

Senator Van Valkenburg closed by saying this bill is a fairly good example of the very large problem that state mandates create on local governments. He said he did not think we could amend the bill to do everything for everybody, but that the problem was not going to go away, and that if we did not provide the funding for the mandates we make on local government we would continue to hear from them session after session.

Senator Hims1 declared the hearing on S. B. 180 closed.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 330: This was the bill to let the state earn more interest through a risk free lending through Hanover Trust and would earn the state up to \$500,000.

Senator Hims1 suggested that in view of the fact that there may be a bill passed to change the end of the fiscal year to October that an amendment should probably be put on the bill to make it effective immediately upon passage and approval.

MOTION by Senator Dover to amend the bill to give it an immediate effective date. Voted, PASSED, voted unanimous with Senators Etchart and Regan absent.

MOTION by Senator Dover that Senate Bill 330 as amended, do PASS. Motion voted, passed unanimous with Senators Etchart and Regan absent.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 234: Senator Aklestad said he did not feel it would work in some of the Government areas and would therefore make a MOTION that Senate Bill 234 DO NOT PASS. Voted, Roll call vote, 8 for the motion, 6 against, and 2 absent, roll call vote attached.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 180: MOTION by Senator Smith that Senate Bill 180 DO NOT PASS. Discussion on the bill as follows:

Senator Haffey: Am I right in saying that the people who are here opposing the bill did so primarily because it would put the cost on the paying patients -- costs that they now do not bear?

Senator Himsl: The counties can manipulate more now than they could by having it operated on a state level. They feel more comfortable now than not knowing what they would get.

Senator Van Valkenburg: I don't feel it is the counties, but the hospitals that think they could have problems with this.

Senator Himsl: But the hospitals pretty well dominate what the commissioners say on this.

Senator Smith: My people do not support it. I don't know how we could dump this on them when they can't handle what they have.

The motion was voted, MOTION PASSED, 13 yes, 1 no, 2 absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.



Senator Himsl, Chairman

ROLL CALL

FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1981 Date _____

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Senator Etchart			
Senator Story	✓		
Senator Aklestad	✓		
Senator Nelson	✓		
Senator Smith	✓		
Senator Dover	✓		
Senator Johnson	✓		
Senator Keating	✓		
Senator Boylan	✓		
Senator Regan	✓		
Senator Thomas	✓		
Senator Stimatz	✓		
Senator Van Valkenburg	✓		
Senator Haffey	✓		
Senator Jacobson	✓		
Senator Himsl	✓		

VISITORS' REGISTER

Secret
HOUSE

COMMITTEE

Date _____

SPONSOR _____

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
James M. Holcomb	Shelby	Toole Cty Hosp		X
Jan McLeavel	Baker	Fallon Mem. Hosp		X
Don Jarden	Edmonton	Dahl Mem Hosp.		X
Vague M. H.	Edmonton	Dahl Mem		X
Les Kark	Sturte	Nor. Mt. Hosp		X
Jim Poye	Poplar	Comm. Hospital		X
J. M. Clam	Poplar	"		X
Edmond	"	"		X
C. Gray	Quilbertson	" "		X
Ed Ryquist	Barnville	Cully, Rasmusen Memorial		X
Bob Brackney	Choteau	Teton Med. Center		X
Maie Huntington	Philipsburg	Granite Co. Hosp.		X
John Barrows	COLUMBUS	Stillwater Hosp		X
Johnnie Kiehl	Chester	J.C. Hospital		X
Richard Brown	Chester	Lib. Cty. Hosp		X
Richard J. Ojala	Conrad	Pondera Medical Center		X
Eric C. Cracker	Malta	Phillips Co. Hosp.		X
John Hyslop	KALISPELL	Kalispell Reg. Hospital		X
Virginia Jarden	Milltown			X
W. Ballantyne	Shelby	Toole Co. Hosp.		X
Ken Ballantyne	Shelby	Toole Co. Sanitarium		X
W. J. Stevens	GLENDIVE	GLENDIVE COMM. HOSP		X
Wayne McCracken	Malta			

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Date _____

5B 180

SPONSOR

[illegible]

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

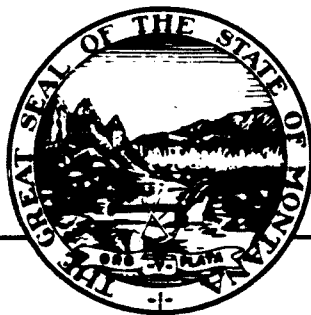
PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Secretary Finance + Claims
2/9/81 SB180

**A Study of
Eight Selected
State Mandates to Montana
Local Governments**

ExH1

November 1980



MONTANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Room 138
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 449-3064

SENATE COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Date 2/9/81SL, 80

Bill No. _____

Time 11:58

NAME	YES	NO	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Senator Etchart			✓	
Senator Story	✓			
Senator Aklestad	✓			
Senator Nelson	✓			
Senator Smith	✓			
Senator Dover	✓			
Senator Johnson	✓			
Senator Keating	✓			
Senator Boylan	✓			
Senator Regan			✓	
Senator Thomas	✓			
Senator Stimatz	✓			
Senator Van Valkenburg		✓		
Senator Haffey	✓			
Senator Jacobson	✓			
Senator Himsl	✓			

Sylvia Kinsey
Secretary

Senator Himsl
Chairman

Motion:

Do Not Pass

SENATE COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND CLAIMSDate 1/Bill No. 234
HTime 11:5 -

NAME	YES	NO	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Senator Etchart			✓	
Senator Story		✓		
Senator Aklestad	✓			
Senator Nelson	✓			
Senator Smith	✓			
Senator Dover	✓			
Senator Johnson	✓			
Senator Keating	✓			
Senator Boylan	✓			
Senator Regan			✓	
Senator Thomas		✓		
Senator Stimatz		✓		
Senator Van Valkenburg		✓		
Senator Haffey		✓		
Senator Jacobson		✓		
Senator Himsl	✓			

8-6-2

Sylvia Kinsey
SecretarySenator Himsl
ChairmanMotion: 2 C 234 P-6

Amendments suggested by MACO for Introduction with SB 180

1. Title, line 12.
Following: "SECTIONS"
Insert: "7-6-2426,"
2. Page 1, line 18.
Following: the enacting clause
Insert: "Section 1. Section 7-6-2426, MCA, is amended
to read:

" 7-6-2426. Enumeration of county charges. The following are county charges:

(1) charges incurred against the county by virtue of any provision of this title;

(2) one-half of the salary of the county attorney and all expenses necessarily incurred by him in criminal cases arising within the county;

(3) the salary and actual expenses for traveling, when on official duty, allowed by law to sheriffs and the compensation allowed by law to constables for executing process on persons charged with criminal offenses;

(4) the board of prisoners confined in jail;

(5) the sums required by law to be paid to grand and trial jurors and witnesses in criminal cases;

(6) the accounts of the coroner of the county for such services as are provided by law;

(7) all charges and accounts for services rendered by any justice of the peace for services in the examination or trial of persons charged with crime as provided for by law;

(8) the necessary expenses incurred in the support of county hospitals and poorfarms ~~and in the support of the indigent sick~~ and the otherwise dependent poor whose support is chargeable to the county;

(9) the contingent expenses necessarily incurred for the use and benefit of the county;

(10) every other sum directed by law to be raised for any county purpose under the direction of the board of county commissioners or declared to be a county charge. " "

Remember: All subsequent sections

3. Page 3, line 8.
Following: "~~same,~~"
Insert: "and to erect and maintain hospitals or nursing homes as provided in Title 7, Chapter 34, parts 22 and 23"

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 2, 1981

19

MR. President

We, your committee on Finance and Claims

having had under consideration Senate Bill No. 180

Respectfully report as follows: That Senate Bill No. 180

DO NOT PASS
IF PASS

if C

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

~~January~~ Feb. 9 1981

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on FINANCE AND CLAIMS

having had under consideration SENATE Bill No. 234

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE Bill No. 234

DO NOT PASS

DO PASS

20

SENATOR HIMSL

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 9

1921

MR. President

We, your committee on Finance and Claims

having had under consideration Senate Bill No. 330

Respectfully report as follows: That Senate Bill No. 330
Be amended as follows:

1. Title, line 7.

Following: "SECURITIES"

Insert: "AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE"

Page 1.

Following: line 23

as read: "Section 3. This act is effective on passage and approval."

Be so amended,
ASS