

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
MARCH 16, 1981

The Senate Committee on Education and Cultural Resources met Monday, March 16, 1981 in Room 402 of the Capitol Building. The meeting was called to order by Senator Bob Brown, Chairman, at 1:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present were Senators Brown, Smith, Mazurek, Thomas, McCallum, Severson, Haffey, Hammond and Blaylock.

The committee heard the following bills: HB 15
HB 35.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 15

"AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AVERAGE NUMBER BELONGING (ANB)
FOR FOUNDATION AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH UNUSUAL
ENROLLMENT INCREASES; AMENDING SECTION 20-9-314, MCA."

Representative Donaldson, District 29, sponsor of the bill, stated the bill is an update of the same bill from last session and was introduced to eliminate the 80% provision as the recapture clause is working very well. The bill allows the calculation factor to be fairly and easily administered without a double negative situation existing. It also allows the district to bring in the projected amount and use the present year ANB for determination. Representative Donaldson pointed out there has been a great deal of discussion regarding declining enrollments but many districts are experiencing large increases due to energy development and this bill would help those situations.

PROPOSERS

Wayne Buchanan, representing the Montana School Boards Association, said his organization supports the bill. He said it is a good bill and most necessary.

Owen Nelson, representing the Montana Education Association, said if a district has an increasing enrollment, they should get the funding to support the increase.

There being no further proposers and no opponents to the bill, Representative Donaldson closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 35

"AN ACT TO RAISE THE GENERAL BONUS PAYMENT PAID TO
EXPANDED SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AMENDING SECTION 20-6-401,
MCA."

Representative Donaldson, District 29, Sponsor of the bill, stated when schools consolidate the general bonus payment is currently \$100 per pupil. However, inflation has made that amount almost negligible. The bill would increase that amount to \$300 per pupil. He said even though the immediate cost is \$32,000, (fiscal note) savings through consolidation will far surpass that amount in the long run.

PROPOSERS

Owen Nelson, representing the Montana Education Association, said his organization supports consolidation and annexation and feels the \$100 doesn't do much good. He said the \$300 is a bare minimum increase.

Wayne Buchanan, representing the Montana School Boards Association, said he supports Representative Donaldson. He noted consolidation will mean more efficient operation and the increase in the bonus payment will be an added incentive to consolidation.

There being no further proponents, no opponents or questions by the committee, Representative Donaldson closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION ON HOUSE BILL 35

Senator Blaylock moved House Bill 35 Be Concurred In. The motion carried unanimously. Senator Blaylock will carry the bill.

ACTION ON HOUSE BILL 15

Senator Mazurek moved House Bill 15 Be Concurred In. The motion carried unanimously. Senator Brown will carry the bill.

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Minutes of the Meeting
Senate Committee on Education and Cultural Resources
March 16, 1981

ACTION ON HOUSE BILL 367

Senator Blaylock moved the amendments as per the attached standing committee report (#1). The motion carried unanimously.

Senator McCallum moved House Bill 367 Be Concurred In As Amended. The motion carried unanimously. Senator McCallum will carry the bill.

FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 662

The committee members discussed the information submitted by Andrea Merrill, Legislative Council Researcher (attachment #2). It was decided that OPI was hoping for 4 wheel drive usage for emergencies only.

Senator Hammond asked to have Terry Brown, OPI, and Representative Burnett, sponsor of the bill, appear at the Wednesday committee meeting to further discuss the bill.

FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 587

The committee agreed to put House Bill 587 in a subcommittee for further study. The subcommittee members are Senators McCallum, Brown and Mazurek.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to reconvene Wednesday, March 18, 1981, at 1:00 p.m.

Bob Brown
Senator Bob Brown, Chairman

jdr

ROLL CALL

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1981

Date 3/16/81

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Senator Ed Smith	X		
Senator George McCallum	X		
Senator Elmer Severson	X		
Senator Swede Hammond	X		
Senator Chet Blaylock	X		
Senator Bill Thomas	X		
Senator Joseph Mazurek	X		
Senator Jack Haffey	X		
Senator Bob Brown, Chairman	X		

Each day attach to minutes.

DATE MARCH 16, 1981

SENATE

COMMITTEE ON

EDUCATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES

BILL NO.

HB 15

35

H B 15
35
H R 45

VISITOR'S REGISTER

[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY
March 16, 1981

HOUSE BILL 15 - Representative Donaldson

Under this bill, whenever an unusual enrollment increase application is approved by OPI, the ANB used to establish the foundation program for the ensuing fiscal year shall be the difference between the approved increase number and 106% of the current year's ANB. Currently, the school would get only 80% of the difference.

HOUSE BILL 35 - Representative Donaldson

This bill would raise the "general bonus payment" paid per pupil by the state to encourage school districts to consolidate. This bonus payment comes from state equalization funds, but is not considered as part of the regular state aid received by the enlarged district. Pupils in the "component" district having the largest total number of pupils are ineligible for bonus payment consideration. Whenever two or more schools consolidate or annex they may make an application for bonus payments.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 45 - Representative Bardanouve

Preserving and perpetuating the art and antiques assembled by the family of Charles Monroe Bair, and recognizing the contributions made by Mr. Bair to the state of Montana.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 16, 1981

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 35

Donaldson (Blaylock)

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 35

W.C.
BE CONCURRED IN
EXPLIK

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 16, 19 81

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE

Bill No. 15

Donaldson (B. Brown)

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE

Bill No. 15

G/C.
BE CONCURRED IN
~~KARAS~~

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 16, 19 81

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE

Bill No. 367

Dussault (McCallum)

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 367
third reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Page 2, line 7.
Following: "TRUSTEES"
Strike: "BELIEVE"
Insert: "of a school district believes"

2. Page 2, line 8.
Following: "[ACT]"
Strike: "THEY"
Insert: ", the board"

3. Page 2, line 9.
Following: "THE"
Strike: "STATE"

4. Page 2, line 12.
Following: "THE"
Strike: "STATE"

~~XXXXX~~
continued

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Senate Committee on Education and Cultural Resources
House Bill 367

5. Page 2, line 13.

Following: "THE"

Strike: "STATE"

6. Page 2, line 16.

Following: line 15

Strike: "SIGNIFICANT"

Insert: "substantial"

Following: "DISTRICT"

Insert: "that cannot be readily absorbed as provided in subsection
(5)"

And, as so amended,
BE CONCURRED IN

Further explanation on HB 662, allowing four-wheel drive vehicles as school buses - conversation with Terry Brown, OSPI Transportation Safety Consultant

The House amendments and the Statement of Intent allow the Board of Public Education to adopt rules prescribing minimum standards for four-wheel drive vehicles that are used as school buses. Minimum standards related to safety, such as body construction, gas tank protection, emergency exits, etc., might be impossible to develop to cover all the makes of four-wheel drive vehicles on the market. Yellow paint and other markings might be used as a standard. To refit or special order four-wheel drive vehicles with safety features would probably be as expensive as the four-wheel drive school buses now available to haul under 16 passengers. This type of bus (available in four-wheel drive) has been available for purchase for the past few years and would meet the needs expressed by proponents of this bill (better mileage, easier manageability in adverse weather, less costly). The Board of Education has developed minimum standards for buses that carry less than 16 passengers (Type II in the regulations) and many districts are now using them. They cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000. An eight-passenger Suburban, for instance, books at \$14,000 this year. Gasoline mileage may even be comparable (my Suburban gets six miles per gallon in stop-start driving).

In the past, the Board of Education did grant variances for the use of alternative vehicles but stopped when the new type of buses came on the market a few years ago.

The original amendments suggesting variances for emergency weather and road conditions would be more acceptable to OSPI rather than the broad grant of authority to develop minimum standards for nonbus vehicles.

SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

Date 3/14/61 House Bill No. 443 Time _____

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Ed Smith		X
Senator George McCallum		X
Senator Elmer Severson		X
Senator Swede Hammond		X
Senator Chet Blaylock	X	
Senator Bill Thomas	X	
Senator Joseph Mazurek	X	
Senator Jack Haffey	X	
Senator Bob Brown, Chairman		X

Bill Blaylock
 Secretary Chairman

Motion: by Senator Blaylock to
amend HB 443

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

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 16, 19 81

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 463

Wallin (Severson)

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 463

third reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Line 15.

Following: "firearms"

Insert: "in accordance with policies established by the board of regents"

And, as so amended,
BE CONCURRED IN

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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 16, 1981

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 819

Bengston (Hammond)

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 819
third reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Title, lines 4 and 5.

Following: "REMOVE"

Strike: "CONTRACTED AUDIOLOGICAL SERVICES FROM"

Insert: "THE REQUIREMENT THAT"

2. Title, line 6.

Following: "INSTRUCTION"

Insert: "MUST CONTRACT DIRECTLY WITH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS OR
COOPERATIVES FOR THE DELIVERY OF AUDIOLOGICAL SERVICES"

3. Page 3, line 4.

Following: "education"

Insert: ";

(13) contracting for the delivery of audiological services
to those children allowed by Montana law in accordance with
policies of the board of public education"

And, as so amended,

BE CONCURRED IN

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PA.

Chairman.