

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

March 30, 1981

The 31st meeting of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee was called to order by Chairman Hims1 at 7:15 a.m. in room 108 of the Capitol Building on the above date. Roll call was taken and all members were present.

CONSIDERATION CONTINUED ON HOUSE BILL NO. 500:

Senator Dover: I would like to go back to the Legislative Council on the membership in NCSL.

MOTION NO. 28: On page 7, line 17, to delete \$70,000 from CSG, page 7, line 17 (page 3 of the green book) and add \$20,000 to the NCSL for legislative travel.

Senator Regan: Why not pay the dues and let the legislator do the travel. We could allow the original money to stay there and indicate it should be pro-rated and that is the intent. We would not have to change the figures, only write a letter to the council.

Senator Van Valkenburg: Mr. Chairman, there are some pretty strong feelings on this in the House. They really want CSG and I think we will stir up a hornets nest.

Senator Hims1: I have the same impression as Senator Van Valkenburg that the leadership in the House is pretty well involved and will cause a problem if we take it out.

Senator Keating: Why not accept both and let them handle it when it goes back to the House?

Senator Hims1: Conference committees are no picnic.

Senator Dover: In talking to some of the House members they don't know that the NCSL isn't in there. I would move to delete the \$70,000 and add \$20,000 to the NCSL for travel.

MOTION (substitute motion) NO. 29: Senator Regan moved we do not change any of the figures from the previous session but simply write a memo and it will be sent to the Legislative Council and the House members and be understood that travel

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will be pro-rated and will be about 1/2 of the travel to the conferences. Along with that it should be pointed out that the way will be paid for the staff since you cannot make them come up with their own money, but it will be curtailed under this budget.

Senator Van Valkenburg: On page 7, line 19, there is some language that should be changed if this motion goes through.

The question was called, voted and failed.

Going back to the original motion #28, the question was asked by Senator Aklestad as to how much money was in for travel. Dover: NCSL dues are \$52,000 and \$27,000 for travel, CSG dues are \$63,000 and \$27,000 for travel through this motion. There is no more money in it.

MOTION NO. 30: Motion by Senator Dover, page 7, line 19, following "CSG" add the words "and NCSL".

The motion was voted and passed.

MOTION NO. 31: Language as per attached amendment, to be added to the bill. Motion by Senator Dover to accept the amendments.

Senator Dover explained that this would be no additional funds, but that whenever a new piece of equipment was bought they would have to go through the Department of Administration to see that it would tie into the central system. He explained that the Highway Patrol has a band, the Fish and Game has a band, etc., but there is no emergency band that will tie into, in case it were needed. This would help the process to move in the right direction. He said he had worked with the Highway Patrol, Fish and Game, Department of Administration, etc., and they felt it could be done.

Senator Boylan: There are a lot of federal funds here. They were told to do this before and they have not done it. We told them to get on the system so they could be hooked in to the systems plan, but it hasn't been done. Do you think that four years or six years down the line they will have done anything different.

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Senator Dover: You are absolutely right. That is why I put this in. This bill does not put in any money. It is there, they only buy the right equipment when they buy.

With this planning.....the department heads aren't going to get this done without money and FTE.

Senator Himsl: I would have a little problem in putting this in the appropriation bill. It is a lot of language.

Senator Dover: The reason is that the money is there to do this. In fact, they came to me crying for money to do this. They are supposed to have the money in there to do it. There is money to go into data processing.

Senator Himsl: Have you checked this with the Department of Administration? Dover: Yes, I have run everyone crazy with it.

Senator Himsl: And they accepted it? Dover: Yes, I think it is necessary to do this. If we don't, we will come back and 2 or 6 years from now it will still be the same. In defense of the department this time, the only money was for public radio and Television. That is where part of it went.

Senator Keating: In the subcommittee hearings it became apparent that most of them were dealing with the radio, Mountain Bell, etc. Every one had it's own program. The emergency office was looking for enough money to buy a generator to keep the system going. The geography of the state is so that we have no emergency contacts. All the radios are different. The various departments could get together and consider working out a plan for a high band system. We have said they need a plan to coordinate for emergency communications for inter-department. Quake Lake was an example. The Highway Department had a truck on one side and there was a Highway Patrol on the other. They could see each other, but could not communicate. If they had had a high band emergency band they could have coordinated for the good of the state. This language will start setting up a system and save \$17 or \$18 million in communications equipment alone. They have agreed it is a good idea. We just have the language here, not the money.

Senator Aklestad: In this language we are administering and not legislating. Next time we will be taking up the private and federal funds.

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Senator Van Valkenburg: I guess I support what you are doing, but I thought we were going to take money from each agency and put it together in terms of one appropriation. I see now probably the budget director will have to put it together.

Senator Dover: The money for the administration is in the Department of Administration. We appropriated money to Highway Patrol. When they buy radios they will have to buy the ones that will fit into the state network.

Senator Smith: This will work very slowly. When is it going to be done? Will you come back two years from now and see it done?

Senator Dover: I have done what I can to expedite it and I will try to follow through.

Senator Regan: Is this the telecommunications system we have been talking about? Dover: It is not public.

Senator Regan: It was the intent of the Telecommunications to put it together. Did they ask for money for the coming biennium? Dover: None extra. Regan: What do you mean, extra? Dover: More than just for the staff. They didn't come in for extra equipment.

Senator Regan: Mr. Chairman, I can appreciate the attempt here. That is the logical thing for the state to do. I think that is what they are trying to work for. All radios do not have the same function. Communications do different things and use different bands. To expect them in two years to come in with a complete thing in place..... It would be a piece-meal approach attempting to put it in place unless you give them a lot of money. It sounds good, and is doing a little chewing on them. You could say, continue to try, but unless you put some money in there you are asking something unfair.

Senator Dover: In the radios, primarily you are looking at a pilot plan. The Highway system has proposed and worked out a plan. They think that they can get one good area in, and if more money comes in, they will set up more data processing. There is a lot of money in there. The thing we have to stop is every time they want to put up a system in any other town they would be careful buying a system that is not compatible to the state planned system. On telecommunications, they feel there is not a lot they can get in place in the next two years. There

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is another bill for \$90,000 for planning and about the same amount for equipment that is not in there today.

Senator Regan: Is it still out? Dover: Jack Moore and those over there are pretty sure it will go through.

Senator Hims1: I have a problem with this, you are asking them to take operation money and put it to this program. They will put it in operation. Look at the line items. Most of them are block plans to the department. They will turn out with a plan but you have no guarantee that is where it will go.

Senator Smith: In regard to the radio system. They can't put the Highway Department all on the same frequency. It would be so jammed. How do the trucks, etc. contact the Highway Patrol in case of an accident or whatever? Dover: They will each have their individual bands but will also have a band they can get on for emergencies and that is a separate band.

The question was called, voted and failed.

MOTION NO. 32: Senator Dover said he had another amendment on page 22, line 2 on Disaster and Emergency Services. He said he would ask the fiscal analyst to explain this amendment. Barbara: The agency wants to reclassify its personnel. It has been a lengthy time since having a personnel review. They would like to have this money put in so that if the reclassification is done they will have the money to pay the salaries. They are a small agency and it would really be a burden on them to pay this.

Senator Hims1: If they ask for a reclassification it would take this much a year, just to take a look at it? Barbara: This would be the upgrading if the department approved all the upgrading.

Senator Hims1: It is appropriating money in case the upgrading is approved. Dover: The funds will revert if the reclassifications are not made.

Senator Etchart: In our subcommittee we did not approve any retroactive upgrades. I cannot see it.

Senator Aklestad: How much is for upgrades and how much for the study to see if they get it? Barbara: All the money is for upgrades. This would be about \$30,000 a year.

The question was called, the motion was voted and failed.

Senator Johnson said she had a request on pass through money from the Health Department to the HSA and would like to bring it up. She was asked to wait until we came to that section, and we would treat it as we had the other sections.

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences: Senator Hims1 said he had a request that had been left with the committee from the Deputy Director in which you would amend on page 22, following line 19, to increase the Occupational Health general fund of \$6,900 the first year and \$6,900 the second year, to fund benefits for the .35 FTE and fund enough more money to be able to fill the position of physicist since it cannot be filled at the salary offered.

MOTION NO. 33: Motion by Senator Regan to move the upgrading of the physicist position.

The motion was voted and passed. No votes recorded for Senators Smith, Dover and Aklestad.

The next item to be addressed was the Food and Consumer Safety with a proposed increase to fund four upgrades granted to the bureau after the budgets were submitted to OBPP and LFA.

Senator Etchart: In effect, this is another upgrade. I think we should take it all at one time.

Senator Regan: I would like to comment about this budget. I think they came in with a budget that was considerable scaled down from the executive budget. As a committee we were pretty tough on them and we did cut. We slapped their hands and may have gone too deep. I am not sure that I am as unsympathetic here as with some of the others. You are looking at a very tight budget.

Senator Van Valkenburg: On upgrades in general. Upgrades are a part of the law in the sense that the way the state personnel system works when an upgrade is granted, the department has to pay it. This is not retro-active, in a sense it is pre-active.

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We are not giving back pay, we are paying from July 1, and on. If we don't put the money in personnel services they are going to have to pay it and something else will suffer.

Senator Hims1: If there is no motion on this, I guess that will take care of it. Regan: You are looking at a tight Budget, and I mean that.

Senator Smith: If we start this every department will outsmart us.

Senator Aklestad: I don't think there is a budget in the state government that isn't that tight.

No motion was made, no action taken on the above request.

Laboratories: Senator Hims1 said the next request was for laboratory supplies, \$28,430 for the biennium. This would be operating supplies and gas.

Senator Johnson: Why wasn't this in the budget? Story: We did give these people what they asked for. We gave them what they asked for at that time.

Senator Aklestad: We pumped a lot of money into them for this sort of thing. They had a lot of expenses because of the PCB, etc.

Senator Regan: There used to be 12 FTE over there. There are now six over there. It has been considerably reduced. There were six people taken out of the lab. I was one that was slapping their hands and I have some concerns.

Senator Johnson: How much over all cuts were there in the whole department. Norman, LFA: 30 cuts.

Senator Johnson: Did they actually terminate?

Senator Keating: Page 33 of the green book. The committee reduced from 28.5 to 19. Is that in the lab? The committee reduced from 28.5 to 19. Is that in the lab? So that should answer the question being asked.

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Senator Johnson: If 28.5 out, how many are people that retired, and are not being replaced. How many actual bodies were out? It is hard to get a state employee out. Were these people actually fired, or spread to another department, or what?

Senator Regan: They were people on board whose bodies are no longer there.

Senator Aklestad: That was requested by the department. They wanted them terminated.

MOTION NO. 34: Senator Regan said she would move to give them this, (above). The amount is not large. Aklestad: They came in and asked for supplies. We gave them additional supplies in the subcommittee also. Norm, LFA: The amount put in the budget was as the agency originally requested. Then they came in for an additional amount.

Senator Regan: The amount was before he cut the FTE's. He cut the FTE's and said it would be more automated and was amazed at how many over there was and he was going to try to make some changes there at the same time he asked for the supplies. It was a sort of a trade off. So, we cut the budget but did not increase the supplies.

The question was called, vote was taken, and the motion failed.

MOTION NO. 35: Senator Story said the Tumor Registry bill had gone through second reading and the amounts to be added were \$46,100 and \$48,100 for 1983.

The motion was voted and passed.

MOTION NO. 36: Senate Bill 245 with the fee on marriage licenses would increase \$12,237 in other funds each year. Senator Story said he would move that we give the authority to spend this money.

The motion was voted and passed.

Discussion on the subcommittee bill and where it stood. Senator Story said it had received an adverse committee report. Norm, LFA: It is my understanding the bill was killed. Judy: That

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bill is not dead yet. It still is at #30 which gives them sufficient money to spend. The Chairman is expecting a run on it to raise it up. It would give them more money. Senator Regan: We will have to make an adjustment if that happens.

Senator Story: There is a request for a contingency fund for the Licensing and Certification Bureau. I would have the fiscal analyst explain this to you. Norm: The department is anticipating a cut in funding for licensing and certification on nursing facilities and hospitals. This is for fiscal year 1981. They have to act on it within 40 days for it to come into effect. The department wanted a contingency in case it does. I don't think we should do it.

Senator Aklestad: There are only 40 more days and I don't think it is going to happen. If we put a pool for every budget we are in trouble.

There was no motion made on this, so no action was taken.

MOTION NO. 37: I have a proposed amendment for the Department of Health, page 22, line 20. I will pass this out, there is an attached explanation to the amendment. This amendment will delete \$79,864 in F.Y. 82 and \$87,052 in 1983. The reason for this is that I feel that contraceptives have no reason to be part of the department finances.

Senator Regan: I will resist the motion. Why do you offer the amendment? Senator Keating: They are giving them away. I don't think it is a taxpayers duty to protect a man for his vices. It is just a waste of money.

Senator Van Valkenburg: How much should we then add to the welfare budget, etc., on the increased number of people?
Keating: I think people ought to accept their own responsibility.

The question was called. The motion passed, the vote 9 to 6 and Senator Thomas absent.

Senator Himsel asked Senator Johnson if she wished to bring her motion up at the present time. She said the Health Department budget has \$50,000 to transfer to Health Services. This is area councils on the executive board, and it is Health Department budget given to the Health Systems Agencies. They then write the checks, etc.. they have been investing it and getting the interest on the money. I feel the Health Department can retain the money and they can write the checks to the council.

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You are then keeping the money in the department. It is general fund money.

Senator Johnson said she would like to line item it to remain in the Health Department budget.

Senator Story: But this is pass-through money.

Senator Johnson: The Health Department can write the checks instead of the HSA. It can remain in the Health Department accounting. She then asked if the fiscal analyst could explain to the Committee more on it. Norm: There is \$50,000 in contract services. It is actually a contract to a health services agency. They use it for part of their operation and the department stated that they say the grass roots participate has valuable input to their planning process. If you are willing to take this money and see it in the department you would have to put a line item in it.

Senator Story: Couldn't the HSA be reduced by that amount of money.

Senator Johnson: It will not affect them. It will be spent the same way, both are working together. The Health Department would write the check on state money to instead of the HSA.

Norm: It is one of the contracts the department put in.

Senator Himsl: Who gets the money appropriation, etc? Norm: \$50,000 for grant for contract services to Health Systems Agencies. The Health Planning budget is much larger. Under this there is a contract for \$50,000. When the department originally submitted their budget it was much larger. Under this there is a contract for \$50,000. When the department originally submitted their budget it was much larger. This is just one of them.

Senator Himsl: The \$50,000. That is contracted to some other Health Plan Agency to deliver the services? HSA is a federal agency and they are involved with certification among other things.

This is the federal funds we are talking about. If we cut them out it will change. It is all federal funds. General funds cannot be reduced.

Senator Himsl: That is pass-through money. Why are we proposing it? Johnson: I will put this up tomorrow and have it in writing.

Labor and Industry: Senator Regan: There was some testimony on the Board of Personnel appeals. Is there any concern there?

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Senator Van Valkenburg: I was the one asking questions and I talked to them afterward and was assured they didn't need any more help in that regard.

SRS: Senator Story said before we pass the Mental Health Councils he wanted to bring up a point. From the Mental Health area councils we permitted them .3 planners per year. The lady in charge wants at least a .5 planner. The reason for at least a 1/2 planner because it is too difficult to calculate salaries and get someone to work .3 percent of a year. She asked me to move to change it to a .5 planner per year, and I will so move, or if you would prefer more information I will bring it tomorrow. It was decided to leave this until tomorrow to take it up.

MOTION NO. 38: Senator Regan said she had an amendment for the SRS on page 24, line 5. The Renal ill we had so much trouble with has gone through and this would provide the additional money per year for it. I would like to have Judy explain. Judy: I only plugged in the \$75,000 each year. Regan: I talked to John and he indicated in working at the expenditures of the Renal Program that there was money for transportation and day care. Those are outside the program as we intended. If transportation and babysitting is disallowed. It is my opinion that this will be enough to cover the rest of the program.

John Lafaver: I concur in that. It is out of the program.

Senator Regan: I would move the amendment, page 24, line 5, incorporate in general funds it will be \$200,000 all told. About \$100,000 less than the previous biennium.

Senator Himsl: It will be a \$250,000 total? We had \$75,000 each year. Then we are looking at about \$150,000 for the biennium.

Senator Aklestad: This will plug in the travel. etc., because the money we had plugged in was for the basic needs of the patient on the machine. These amendments will plug them all back in.

Senator Himsl: This doesn't commit it to that purpose.

Senator Regan: I have discussed it with the department and they know what changes are reasonable and acceptable. Only if a medical emergency and they are using an ambulance. The baby

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sitting will not be covered. I feel this is a necessary amendment in view of our action on the floor the other day.

Senator Aklestad: I would like to acknowledge the \$100,000 would take care of anybody who really needed the services. The rest has been pumped in after the subcommittee made its recommendations.

The question was called, voted, and passed. Senators Nelson and Aklestad voted no.

MOTION NO. 39: Senator Van Valkenburg said he would move to strike the language on page 25, lines 8 through 11. Judy: It requires them to submit a lot of information to the state. In light of the size of the DD homes that seems to be a reasonable request.

Senator Himsl: They are set up on the outside. Once they make the contract and are certified that should be it. By deletion you are not asking them to go in and demand more detail.

Senator Keating: Are they audited?

Senator Himsl: I understand no. They form a contract with the corporation in the community to deliver the services on the basis of an agreement and it is their baby after that.

Senator Regan: I served on it. We had on the board a CPA who did go in and audit to assure us it was done. Judy: There has been a revision in SRS audit that will give them money to contract to audit nursing homes. They can probably audit some of the D.D. contracts also. There has been some problem with records not being in good enough condition.

Senator Himsl: The same as nursing homes? Judy: SRS will have enough money to audit some of the contracts on DD.

Senator Smith: I serve on the DD council. We review their budget and audit it as individuals.

Senator Himsl: You make a contract with another organization. I question how much you are going to audit it. That is the difference between an in-house and an outside audit.

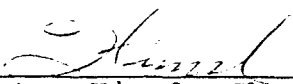
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The motion to strike lines 8 through 11 on page 25 was voted.
The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Regan said on page 26, lines 1 through 5 there may be some in appropriation. No request for state funding. I understand they don't want funds going to it. I would move to strike lines 1 through 5.

MOTION NO. 40: Senator Regan moved the above. A request was made to delay the motion until tomorrow.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.



Senator Himsl, Chairman

ROLL CALL

FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1981

Date

3/30/81

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	✓		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 27

19 81

MR. **President**

We, your committee on **Finance and Claims**

having had under consideration **House** Bill No. **727**

Respectfully report as follows: That **House** Bill No. **727**

BE NOT CONCURRED IN

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PF

SENATE COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Date _____

Bill No. _____

Time 8:55

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: # 32

SENATE COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Date 3/30 H Bill No. 500 Time 8:26

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	✓			

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Sylvia Kinsey
Secretary

Senator Himsl
Chairman

Motion:

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#31

SENATE COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Date

3/2/0

Bill No.

500

Time

7:32

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		✓		

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Sylvia Kinsey
Secretary

Senator Himsl
Chairman

Motion:

cf # 28
to 900 - 6200
792

SENATE COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Date

8/30

Bill No.

500

Time

8:15

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		✓		

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8

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Sylvia Kinsey
Secretary

Senator Himsl
Chairman

Motion:

Lab Supplies✓#34

FINANCE AND CLAIMS

3/30

5000

7:26

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Senator Himsl
Chairman

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 $\frac{1}{6} \cdot 2^9 \cdot 13^1 \cdot 17^1$ (P50.1.2)

SENATE COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Date

7/20

Bill No.

H. B.511

Time

7:50

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	✓			

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Sylvia Kinsey
Secretary

Senator Himsl
Chairman

Motion:

#31 *Long on Committee*