

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 22, 1981

The meeting of the Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee was called to order by Chairman Tom Hager on Wednesday, April 22, 1981 at 1:30 in Room 410 of the State Capitol Building.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Senator Norman. Senator Johnson arrived late, however. Kathleen Harrington, staff researcher, was also present.

Many visitors were in attendance. (See attachments.)

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE RESOLUTION 5: Senator Joe Mazurek of Senate District 16, chief sponsor of SR 5, gave a brief resume of the bill. This bill in a resolution of the State of Montana recognizing and encouraging citizens participation in the International Year of the Disabled Persons.

Senator Mazurek stated that there are a number of events planned for this the Year of the Disabled Persons, including a program with the governor scheduled for May 5, 1981.

There is the same version of this bill in the House.

Representative Bud Gould of district 98 stood in support of the bill. He stated that the House had passed their version of the bill this morning unanimously. He then stated that the best thing of the bill is that it brings about public awareness of disabled persons.

Mike White, the Helena Chairman of the Flagship Committee in charge of the programs for the International Year of the Disabled Persons, stated his support of the bill. Part of his job has been speaking to schools and clubs about disabled persons. There is a definite need to inform the public about disabled persons and their given talents and abilities. The needs to be a strongly public awareness program.

Bob Donaldson, representing the Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services, stated that most civilized countries have some sort of program going on at the present time in regards to the Year of the Disabled Persons. Public education is very important and everyone should do their part to see that the public is made aware.

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Ken Royhans stated that he is one of the county workers on the program for disabled persons. He stood in complete agreement with what everyone had said before him. Mr. Royhans then invited the members of the Committee to visit homes where there may be disabled persons residing to see what wonderful things they are able to do.

Dan McCarthy, the director of Progress Inc. in Helena, stood in support of the bill. He stated that not all handicaps are visible and that the biggest share of the population is not aware of that. Everyone needs to be aware and see that everyone is made aware of the disabled persons and their talents.

Nina Vaznelis, representing herself and also the Developmental Disabilities Planning and Advisory Council, stood in support of the bill. She told of her experiences as a mother of a retarded child which dies in 1974 and her experiences of working with disabled persons. She now works with disabled persons all the time.

With no further proponents, the Chairman called on the opponents. Hearing none, the meeting was opened to a question and answer period from the Committee.

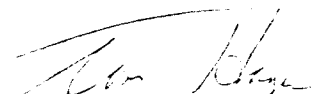
Senator Hager asked Senator Mazurek asked if a letter should be sent to someone in regards to this resolution.

Senator Mazurek stated that the resolution is just for the Senate to be on record as endorsing the International Year of the Disabled Persons.

Senator Mazurek closed by thanking the Committee for their time and asking them to have favorable consideration of this bill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There will be no further meetings of the Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee unless otherwise notified.

ADJOURN: With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



CHAIRMAN, TOM HAGER

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1981

Date April 22

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Tom Hager	✓		
Matt Himsl	✓		
S. A. Olson	✓		
Jan Johnson	Late		
Dr. Bill Norman		✓	
Harry K. Berg	✓		
Michael Halligan	✓		

Each day attach to minutes.

DATE _____

COMMITTEE ON _____

VISITORS' REGISTER

[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretariat)

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 22,

1981

MR. **PRESIDENT:**

We, your committee on **PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

having had under consideration **SENATE RESOLUTION**

Bill No. **5**

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE RESOLUTION**

Bill No. **5**

4/10.
DO PASS