

HOUSE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 8, 1983

The House Labor and Employment Relations Committee convened at 12:30 p.m. on March 8, 1983, in Room 224K of the State Capitol, with Chairman J. Melvin Williams presiding and all members present. Chairman Williams opened the meeting to a hearing on HB 899.

HOUSE BILL 899

REPRESENTATIVE KELLY ADDY, District 62, said the bill was late getting drafted as the problem didn't surface until recently. He said the Ninth Court of Appeals held that the way the Board of Personnel Appeals is constituted is unconstitutional. The bill amends the law to say members of each side must have some bargaining experience. He had a suggested amendment which would strike "no such" on line 5, page 2, and insert "general labor-management."

DAVID HUNTER, Commissioner of Labor and Industry Department, apologized for the bill getting in late. He said he didn't see the summary of the decision until February 22. He said all the members will remain as they are under this bill. He said the bill makes the law consistent with the federal court standards and will solve the problem.

REPRESENTATIVE ADDY closed.

There were no questions from the committee so Chairman Williams closed the hearing on this bill and opened the hearing on SB 210.

SENATE BILL 210

SENATOR HAROLD DOVER, District 24, chief sponsor, said this is one of four bills that make up a package. He said all the bills give a little and take a little. He said the purpose of the bills is to keep job service stations open in the rural areas. He said no one likes to see cuts in their own program but we need to keep in mind the purpose of the unemployment program. It is to help those attached to the permanent labor program. These bills, he said, will utilize our state dollars to the maximum to keep the unemployment program viable. Senator Dover spoke on Senate Bill 210 and a copy of his testimony on this bill is Exhibit 1 of the minutes.

DAVID HUNTER, Commissioner of Labor and Industry, said they need this bill because of the way the federal statutes are written. He said they cannot use the unemployment trust fund for administrative purposes. A handout by Mr. Hunter is Exhibit 2.

JIM HUGHES, Mountain Bell Telephone, said they support the bill. He said it is appropriate to keep these vital functions alive. He said he would like to stress the importance of supporting the other three bills in the package, also.

JERRY OVERMIER, Assistant Vice President of the First Bank, Helena, spoke for the bill and a copy of his testimony is Exhibit 3 of the minutes.

FORREST BOLES, Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of the bill. He said he would be even more ready to support the bill if it were funded from other sources but he said they recognize the shortage. He said this is an important and unprecedented step as Montana trust funds are to be used for administrative uses. He questioned for how long this would be advisable, however.

ROBERT M. HELDING, Wood Products Association, said they support the enactment of this bill.

DON JUDGE, Montana State AFL-CIO, spoke in support and a copy of his testimony is Exhibit 4 of the minutes.

CELINDA C. LAKE, Women's Lobbyist Fund, spoke in support and a copy of her testimony is Exhibit 5 of the minutes.

JOHN HOLLOW, Montana Homebuilders, spoke in support of the bills. He said the question brought up by Mr. Boles on the advisability of using the funds for this purpose very long bothered him. So, he said, while he did support the bill, he felt the question should be looked at again in the next couple of years. He didn't want it to get locked in so he questioned if it should have a sunset provision written in.

SENATOR DOVER closed. He said this bill is a compromise by the employers and he hoped the committee would keep that in mind.

Questions were asked by the committee.

Chairman Williams closed the hearing on this bill and opened the hearing on SB 213.

SENATE BILL 213

SENATOR HAROLD DOVER, District 24, chief sponsor, said this bill rounds unemployment compensation amounts to the nearest lower full dollar amount and removes the requirement that the Labor Department publish an annual unemployment compensation benefit schedule. A copy of his testimony is Exhibit 6 of the minutes.

DAVID HUNTER, Commissioner, Labor and Industry Department, said Senator Dover had adequately discussed the bill. He said this is because of legislation passed by the federal government and so is a compliance issue. He said they would essentially truncate the cents and so leave the amount to the nearest whole dollar. He urged concurrence.

JIM HUGHES, Mountain Bell Telephone, said they rise in support.

ROBERT M. HELDING, Wood Products Association, said they support the enactment of this bill.

CHAD SMITH, Unemployment Compensation Advisors, spoke in support. He said the four bills are a package and should be considered that way as they are all interwoven in the financing. He said the last three offset the cost of the first one. He said all should be accepted or none.

DAVE GOSS, Billings Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support. He said this will not be that big an impact on the individual. He said there is a balance between all the bills and that should be considered.

Opponents

DON JUDGE, Montana State AFL-CIO, spoke in opposition and a copy of his testimony is Exhibit 7.

PAT MCKITTRICK, Teamsters Joint Council #2, spoke in opposition.

SENATOR DOVER closed. He said we need to realize the money we are trying to save is a trust fund which is paying out money to the unemployed. If we don't keep this fund viable, we have to borrow which is better avoided in this time of high interest.

There were no questions from the committee so Chairman Williams closed the hearing on this bill and opened the hearing on SB 215.

SENATE BILL 215

SENATOR HAROLD DOVER, District 24, chief sponsor, said this bill provides a 1-week waiting period between unemployment compensation benefit years when the claimant is in a compensable status at the end of his old benefit year and at the beginning of his new benefit year. A copy of his testimony on this bill is Exhibit 8 of the minutes.

DAVID HUNTER, Commissioner, Labor and Industry Department, said there are two important things about this bill. If a

claimant draws out all his benefits, he won't draw less under this bill. He will just have to wait a week. He said the bill affects transitional claimants and there are about 2400 of these. He said a transitional claimant is one who has filed for benefits and then gone back to work. His benefit year ends and that is where he serves the waiting week. He said the person who is unemployed and draws his 26 weeks will serve the waiting week at the very first. He said there are 42,000 claimants and this would affect only 2400 of them. He said the hammer the federal government has is if you don't enact this statute they won't pay the other half of that first week. He said this is a bill that saves the trust fund a significant amount of money and won't hurt the claimant.

ROBERT M. HELDING, Wood Products Association, said they support the bill.

CHAD SMITH, Unemployment Compensation Advisors and Montana Small Employers, spoke in support. He said he wished to reemphasize this is part of the package and should be accepted in connection with the other bills.

FORREST BOLES, Chamber of Commerce, said he had been a member of the council that worked on these bills. He said he supported it.

JIM HUGHES, Mountain Bell Telephone, said they support the bill.

Opponents

DON JUDGE, Montana State AFL-CIO, spoke in opposition and a copy of his testimony is Exhibit 9.

PAT MCKITTRICK, Joint Council of Teamsters, said they opposed for reasons given by the past speaker. He said this week without pay would be a hardship for these unemployed people. He said this could be a crucial piece of legislation to them.

EILEEN ROBBINS, Montana Nurses Association, spoke in opposition and a copy of her testimony is Exhibit 10.

SENATOR HAROLD DOVER closed. He said there is two ways to look at this. He said employers are going bankrupt at a faster rate than any period since 1933. He said we need to work together on this project. He said the employee is hurting because the employer is hurting. He said we do need to keep the fund viable.

Questions were asked by the committee.

In response to a question Mr. Hunter said the person who is still eligible would have had to work a significant amount of that year. To have some of his 26 weeks left in the 52nd week, he would have had to be employed a good part of the year. So, he said, they should not be as hard pressed as those that have expended their allotted benefit weeks and are still unemployed. He said they had tried every which way to get the federal government to pay their half of this week but there was no compromise.

Chairman Williams closed the hearing on this bill and opened the meeting to a hearing on SB 273.

SENATE BILL 273

SENATOR HAROLD DOVER, District 24, chief sponsor, said this provides a change in the minimum qualifying wages for unemployment and insurance benefits. A copy of his testimony is Exhibit 11.

DAVID HUNTER, Commissioner of Labor and Industry, said this bill would index the minimum qualifying wage. He said as it is at present it is possible to get more from benefits in 1985 than you earn in wages. He said the bill would raise the minimum qualifying earnings from \$1000 to \$1700 a year. He said this would remove the people who only work seasonal jobs. He said they are finding that more and more people qualify under the \$1000 limit criteria.

ROBERT M. HELDING, Wood Products Association, said they support the bill.

CHAD SMITH, Unemployment Compensation Advisors, said they support the enactment of this bill. He said it is one of the four bill package.

JIM HUGHES, Mountain Bell Telephone, said they support the bill. He said we need to make the money available to those who really need it.

FORREST BOLES, Montana Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support. He said this packet of bills is an effort at some cooperation between employers and employees. He said this bill is a way of keeping the fund solvent.

DAVE GOSS, Billings Chamber of Commerce, spoke for the bill.

Opponents

DON JUDGE, Montana State AFL-CIO, spoke in opposition. He said it takes 23 hours a week at 3.25 an hour to qualify. Workers who have less than that can't collect unemployment benefits. A copy of his testimony is Exhibit 12.

PAT McKITTRICK, Teamsters, said they oppose the bill and concur with the testimony of Mr. Judge.

CELINDA C. LAKE, Women's Lobbyist Fund, spoke in opposition and a copy of her testimony is Exhibit 13.

SENATOR DOVER closed. He said there is a philosophical problem here - workers should not receive less in wages than they do in benefits. He said this would cause problems.

Questions were asked by the committee.

Chairman Williams closed the hearing on this bill and opened the meeting to an executive session on the following bills.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

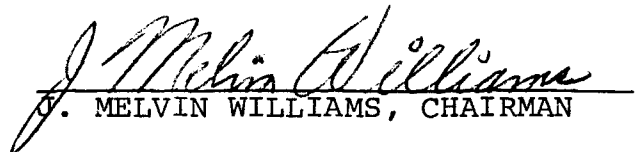
HOUSE BILL 899 Rep. Addy moved DO PASS. This motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 800 Chairman Williams said this bill had been passed out on March 4 but because of the number of amendments, he had held the bill for the committee to get a look at the amendments as put on the bill. Some had needed the wording changed but there was no substantive changes. Ms. Brodsky went through the amendments at Chairman William's request. These are the amendments that appear on the standing committee report for this bill.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

GEORGE E. ALLEN, Executive Vice President, Montana Retail Association, left a testimony sheet supporting SBs 210, 213, 215 and 273. This is Exhibit 14 of the minutes.

Respectfully submitted,


J. MELVIN WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

Emelia A. Satre, Sec.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE LABOR AND EMP. REL. COMMITTEE

BILL SB 210

DATE 3/8/83

SPONSOR Senator Dover

[illegible]

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

addy

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO HB 899

1. Page 2, line 5.

Following: "having"

Strike: "no such"

Insert: "general labor-management"

Exhibit 1

SENATOR HAROLD L. DOVER

SENATE BILL 210

By request of the Department of Labor and Industry

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DIVISION
TO USE A PORTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EMPLOYERS FOR
CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES; AND PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.

I am carrying Senate Bill 210 because it is very necessary if 17 Job Service stations like ours in Lewistown are to stay open with the present cuts being proposed by the administration and acted upon by Congress. Rural communities become very dependent on this service because they don't have private employment agencies. The incomes of the people are often lower and don't attract private agencies.

SB 210 would continue the service of these agencies by utilizing a small portion (.2%) of the unemployment insurance tax for administrative costs as well as benefits. The bill would dedicate .2% of the state unemployment tax for administrative purposes. Any monies not used would revert to a trust fund to be used solely for benefits kept in Montana.

The Appropriations Committee in the House has already put the spending authority in, that federal monies will be used first. This .2% dedicated money would be used to keep Job Service stations going when federal monies are not available. When our benefit monies are down, unemployment is at its highest - low income people hurt the worst and the most affected areas (rural areas) are the first to have their Job Service stations cut.

There is a trade-off between benefits paid and job placement made by a local office.

Example: Lewistown is 100 miles to Great Falls - 120 miles to Billings - Result - reduced placement of individuals drawing unemployment insurance benefits, - thus more payout in unemployment - which can result in employers paying more into unemployment. If Job Service could get each one of the 42,000 claimants on the job one week earlier, they they would get back themselves; it would save the state \$4 Million in benefits paid out.

If the Job Service is taken out of a community it will have a direct economical impact in that community, and when these people do drive to Billings or Great Falls - they'll spend more of their money there.

There will be an increased cost to the employers to find an employee. He will have to seek out who wants a job, their experience and abilities.

Unemployment insurance will be much more open to fraud because of being done by mail and less fact to fact contact. There is less knowledge of the claimants ability to work - or efforts to get work - thus allowing more freeloading that would normally be disqualified to draw benefits.

	Individual Placements (1)	(Some persons more than 1 job) Placement Transactions (1)	Total ES Grants Expenditures (3)	Cost Per Individual Placement	Cost Per Placement Transaction
FFY '78	34,055	53,517	\$3,864,300	\$113.47	\$72.21
'79	36,553	58,397	\$4,108,000	\$112.38	\$70.35
'80	31,689	47,873	\$4,191,600	\$132.27	\$87.56
'81	30,557	49,253	\$4,918,800	\$160.97	\$99.87
'82	28,845	41,372	\$4,547,900	\$157.67	\$88.53

Source-Date

- (1) Report 22B and Job Service Program Budget and Planning Documents
- (2) Report 95 for September of each FFY
- (3) Report 61 for September of each FFY

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 449-3661

January 5, 1983

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

Job Service Administrative Funding Proposal

Job Service funding will be cut significantly if the Reagan Administration budgets are adopted. Montana would be forced to close 17 of 24 offices. The 1983 Montana Legislature needs to decide if Montana wants to find state funding to continue to provide services or whether we are prepared to walk away from service in all but seven communities in the state.

The Department's proposal is to continue service by utilizing the unemployment insurance tax for administrative costs as well as benefits. The proposal would dedicate 0.2 percent of the state unemployment insurance tax for administrative purposes as appropriated by the Legislature. (In 1982 the average tax is 2.7 percent on the first \$8,000 of taxable wages.) Any money not appropriated for administrative purposes would be reverted to the Trust Fund to be used solely for benefits. These funds would be held and invested in Montana rather than being deposited with the Treasury.

Based on 1982 figures of a taxable wage base of \$8,000 this proposal would generate four million dollars in revenue, a tax increase of \$16 per year per employee. As the taxable wage base increases, the total tax paid by each employer would increase, however, the rate of 0.2 percent would remain constant. If federal funding meets or exceeds the level appropriated by the Legislature, then none of the monies would be used for administrative purposes and the total amount would revert to the Trust Fund for payment of benefits. The net increase in taxes to employers will be the difference between the amount appropriated by the Legislature and the dollars provided to the State of Montana by the federal government.

Why Retain Job Service

There is a trade-off between benefits paid and job placements made by a local office. If the State of Montana is forced to close Job Service offices, the reduced placements of individuals who are drawing unemployment insurance benefits will increase the average number of weeks that unemployment claimants draw benefits. If the Job Service offices did nothing more than to get each one of the 42,000 claimants in this state a job one week earlier than they would have gotten by themselves more than \$4 million in benefits will be saved. Benefits paid have a direct tax impact on employers.

The choice the Legislature has to make is a trade-off; how much should be spent for benefits versus how much should be spent for administration. At current level staffing use of trust fund monies for administration will reduce the net overall expenditure because of the savings in benefit dollars.

If unemployment insurance claimants have to drive to the seven largest cities to file their initial claim, those individuals are going to spend more of their money for groceries, gasoline, etc. in those communities rather than the communities in which they reside. That will have a direct economic impact on main street businesses in the 17 communities where offices would be closed.

The closing of Job Service offices will eliminate the ability to provide a job placement service for employers. There will be an increased cost to employers who will have to deal directly with job applicants, and to do their own screening and testing because that service will not be available from the local office.

Unemployment insurance will become a "mail order operation," much more open to fraud. As the number of offices and staff dwindles, the ability to determine whether a claimant is in fact able, available and seeking work will decline proportionately. In fact, in rural areas there will be almost no enforcement ability, allowing freeloaders that would be otherwise disqualified to draw benefits.

Budget Figures

	<u>FFY 81</u>	<u>FFY 82</u>	<u>FFY 83</u>	<u>FFY 84</u>	<u>FFY 85</u> (Oct. 1, 1984)
Job Service Staff	182	155	140	90	40
Unemployment Staff (in local offices)	55	55	56	56	56
	<u>237</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>96</u>

<u>CURRENT STAFFING(FFY 83)</u>					<u>FFY 81</u>
<u>Office</u>	<u>Job Service</u>	<u>Unemployment Insurance</u>	<u>Other Programs</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Staff Total</u>
* Billings	25.84	7.8	15.88	49.52	69.01
Bozeman	8.72	2.8	2.08	13.6	15.97
* Butte	7.98	3.8	10	21.78	30.38
* Great Falls	12.97	5.8	13.4	32.17	45.47
* Helena	11.13	3.3	10.5	24.93	34.74
* Kalispell	7.99	5.75	9.85	23.59	32.46
* Missoula	10.18	8.2	14.47	32.85	46.73
Sub Totals	<u>84.81</u>	<u>37.45</u>	<u>76.18</u>	<u>198.44</u>	<u>274.76</u>
Anaconda	2.97	2.1	2.24	7.31	5.62
Cut Bank	1.62	1.00	1.06	3.68	6.65
Dillon	1.97	.5	.38	2.85	3.26
Glasgow	2.4	.6	.8	3.8	4.82
* Glendive	4.08	.4	.4	4.88	4.56
Hamilton	2.00	2.00	1.33	5.33	8.38
* Havre	3.76	1.3	1.52	6.58	7.56
Lewistown	3.10	.75	.91	4.76	5.26
Libby	1.42	2.90	1.68	6.	8.17
Livingston	2.88	1.1	.66	4.64	5.23
* Miles City	4.04	1.2	1.36	6.6	8.30
Polson	2.48	1.2	1.41	5.09	6.5
* Shelby	1.67	.5	.67	2.84	4.96
Sidney	4.07	.4	.39	4.86	4.75
Thompson Falls	.89	1.1	.64	2.63	3.04
Wolf Point	.54	.5	.8	1.84	3.14
Sub Totals	<u>39.89</u>	<u>17.55</u>	<u>16.25</u>	<u>73.69</u>	<u>90.02</u>
Central Office	<u>15.3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>23.66</u>	<u>39.96</u>	<u>103.01</u>
TOTALS	140	56	116.09	312.09	467.97

* Building owned by State.

Placement Activity

	<u>Individual Placements</u>	<u>Placement Transactions</u>	<u>Total ES Grants Expenditures</u>	<u>Cost Per Individual Placement</u>	<u>Cost Per Placement Transaction</u>
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82	28,845	51,372	\$4,547,900	\$157.67	\$88.53

Cost Summary For Proposed Legislation

		<u>Affect On Trust Fund</u>		
<u>Bill</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost/Savings</u>	<u>FY 84</u>	<u>FY 85</u>
SB 210	.2% Administrative Funding	Cost	(1,469,962)	(3,071,042)
SB 213	Round Down Payments	Savings	287,606	195,400
SB 215	Waiting Weeks Between Years	Savings	448,500	450,000
SB 273	Minimum Qualifying Wage	Savings	710,045	1,122,418
			<hr/>	<hr/>
		NET	(23,811)	(1,303,224)
			<hr/>	<hr/>

1/31/83

Mr. Chairman, my name is Jerry Overmier.

I am the Assistant Vice President and Personnel Officer for the First Bank in Helena and we use Job Service for all our hiring. We have also used their training programs regularly. I hold the office of State Vice Chairperson of the employer group, J.S.I.P., and I have traveled to the rural communities and talked with the employers.

I am here to testify today, however, primarily as the management member of the Board of Labor Appeals. As you probably know, the Board of Labor Appeals hears appeals of Unemployment Insurance claims from both workers and employers.

I support this bill and the Department's efforts to keep rural Job Service offices open because:

- 1) There would be more appeals if the local offices were not there to help ensure fairness to employers and claimants.
- 2) The Trust Fund would be even less solvent because more weeks of Benefits would be collected if the offices were not there to help with job placement. The Law states that to be eligible for unemployment benefits the claimant must be able, available and seeking work.
- 3) The system would be less honest if we did not have these people to work with the claimants and employers and reassure them that the system is fair.
- 4) The Federal FUTA tax from employers pays 97% of the Administrative costs to run Job Service and if the offices were closed, it could mean taxation without representation.



Box 1176, Helena, Montana

JAMES W. MURRY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARYZIP CODE 59624
406/442-1708TESTIMONY OF DON JUDGE ON SENATE BILL 210, BEFORE THE HOUSE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
RELATIONS COMMITTEE, MARCH 8, 1983

I am Don Judge, representing the Montana State AFL-CIO. I am here to speak in strong support of Senate Bill 210. This bill provides for funding to keep Montana's Job Service offices open, by allocating a small portion of existing unemployment insurance taxes.

Because of Reagan Administration cutbacks in funding, Montana could lose 17 of its 24 Job Service offices, without the passage of this bill. This shortsighted attempt to save money by closing Job Service offices when unemployment is at its highest level since the depression is a nonsensical approach to our nation's problems. With over 37,000 Montanans unemployed, jobless workers desperately need the help of Job Service offices in obtaining employment. No matter how hard they tried, the staff in seven offices could not begin to operate as effectively and efficiently as 24 offices do. Without adequate Job Service assistance in finding employment, jobless workers will suffer even more financial burdens. And, those workers who might have been able to find a job, with Job Service help, will continue to draw unemployment insurance benefits, thus further reducing the unemployment insurance trust fund.

If only seven offices remained open, many workers would have to drive long distances to file for unemployment insurance benefits at a time when they can least afford to do so. Workers in places like Shelby or Cut Bank might have to drive as far as Great Falls to file their claims. And, they would have little or no opportunity to obtain help in getting a job.

In addition, it is entirely possible that unemployed workers might decide to shop in the larger community, since they had traveled so far already. That means an additional financial drain on the main street merchants in the smaller communities.

Montana Job Service offices are performing an essential public service. Recently, the Montana Job Service Agency received an official commendation from the U.S. Department of Labor for its high national ranking in finding jobs for job applicants in Fiscal Year '82. Montana ranked second in the nation in job placement transactions, and sixth in the nation in individuals placed in jobs per staff member. In Montana, there were 419 job placements per staff member, compared with the national average of 240. This is an outstanding record, and it can only be continued.

through adequate funding for Job Service offices.

Recognizing the importance of keeping Job Service offices open in our state, the Montana State AFL-CIO went on record at its 1982 annual convention with a resolution supporting the legislative funding necessary to maintain adequate service for Montana's unemployed.

The Montana State AFL-CIO urges your support for Senate Bill 210.

WOMEN'S LOBBYIST FUND

Box 1099
Helena, MT 59624
449-7917



TESTIMONY OF CELINDA C. LAKE. WOMEN'S LOBBYIST FUND. ON MARCH 8, 1983,
IN SUPPORT OF SB 210 TO PROVIDE FOR A PORTION OF THE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE
USED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES WHICH WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR JOB
SERVICES

We support SB 210 which would authorize the unemployment insurance division to use a portion of contributions from employers for certain administrative purposes which could be used to fund the Job Service Offices in Montana. The cuts in federal funding for Job Service offices could close as many as 17 offices in Montana, which could include all of the offices located in rural Montana. This would be a tremendous hardship on all Montanans coming at a time of economic down turn when employment services are needed more than ever. It has some particularly adverse effects on women in Montana.

To begin with, individuals would have to travel long distances -- as much as 200 miles -- to apply for unemployment and to use the the Job Service placement. A particular high proportion of the women who use Job Service Offices are single parents and/or working at the lowest paying jobs. The cost of such repeated travel would be prohibitive for these women. Family responsibilities in general for women would make it difficult for them to travel to and from these offices -- for example, as much as an eight hour drive in eastern Montana.

Often times women have shorter work histories than men or obtain an initial job after having been out of the paid labor force for a significant period of time. That means they often need more information about how to obtain and apply for jobs. Job Service Offices have provided that assistance. They have also acted as a resource to get people into training programs -- again a service important to women who may have been out of the job market for a time and who often start at the lowest paying jobs. Finally, Job Service Offices have often been de facto active proponents of affirmative action in hiring through their own interviewing and placement procedures.

Because Montana's women have needed the services offered by Job Service Offices in ever increasing numbers and because they often have particularly high need for the unique array of services offered by these offices, we would urge this committee to pass SB 210 which would make an important contribution toward keeping our Job Service Offices open despite federal cuts in support.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE LABOR AND EMP. REL.

COMMITTEE

BILL SB 213

DATE 3/8/83

SPONSOR Senator Dover

[illegible]

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

SENATOR HAROLD L. DOVER

SENATE BILL 213

By request of the Department of Labor and Industry.

AN ACT TO ROUND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AMOUNTS TO THE NEAREST LOWER FULL DOLLAR AMOUNT; AND TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY PUBLISH AN ANNUAL UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFIT SCHEDULE; AMENDING SECTIONS 39-51-2201 AND 39-51-2202, MCA.

The federal unemployment statutes have been changed so that the federal government will no longer pay for the federal half of extended benefits on incremental dollar amounts - that is if states don't round benefit amounts down to the next lowest dollar then the state must pay all the amount above that next lower dollar.

Anything rounded off to the lowest dollar the federal government will pay 50%, and state 50%. Anything above that amount the state pays 100% - which is figured to total about \$500,000 this coming biennium.

The federal government doesn't require this change - just if we don't comply it takes more state dollars to provide these benefits and there is less state dollars to cover our normal obligations.



Box 1176, Helena, Montana

JAMES W. MURRY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

ZIP CODE 59624
406/442-1708

FACT SHEET ON SENATE BILL 213, HOUSE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MARCH 8, 1983

PENALIZING THE UNEMPLOYED:

Over 37,000 people in Montana, through no fault of their own, are currently unemployed. Senate Bill 213 is one more attempt to penalize these workers for this situation they have not chosen to be in.

WHAT SENATE BILL 213 DOES:

Currently unemployment insurance amounts are rounded to the nearest full dollar, so mathematically, half are rounded up and half down. This Bill changes that so that maximum and minimum amounts and actual unemployment payment amounts are all rounded to the nearest lower full dollar amount.

The reason for this Bill is that Ray Donovan, Secretary of Labor has mandated that the states must round down these amounts or lose a small amount of Federal unemployment insurance reimbursement. It is not yet known exactly how much would be lost or how it will be done. Congress has approved this administration change, but the states do not have to have it in place until October 1, 1983.

WHY WE OPPOSE SENATE BILL 213:

Individual loss to workers that would result from this Bill because of the rounding down of benefits could be up to \$25.74, for a worker receiving 26 weeks of benefits. It is possible that even more could be lost because maximum and minimum amounts would also be rounded down, all of the time, instead of half of the time as is done now. The amounts may seem small, but \$25.74 can mean a lot to an unemployed head of a family.

NO OPPOSITION TO BENEFIT SCHEDULE DELETION:

The removal of the language requiring that the Department annually publish a benefit schedule is simply a housekeeping measure, since benefits are no longer figured on a schedule.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE LABOR AND EMP. REL. COMMITTEE

BILL SB 215

DATE 3/8/83

SPONSOR SENATOR DOVER

[illegible]

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

SENATOR HAROLD L. DOVER

SENATE BILL 215

By request of the Department of Labor and Industry.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE A 1-WEEK WAITING PERIOD BETWEEN UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFIT YEARS WHEN THE CLAIMANT IS IN A COMPENSABLE STATUS AT THE END OF HIS OLD BENEFIT YEAR AND AT THE BEGINNING OF HIS NEW BENEFIT YEAR; AMENDING SECTION 39-51-2104, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

Senate Bill 215 brings Montana's law into compliance with federal statutes. It requires that a claimant serve a "waiting week" between benefit years. A waiting week does not disqualify a person for any benefits - it merely requires them to wait one extra week to receive them; a week in which they may find a job and not be in need of benefits.

Without SB 215 the federal government will not pay their share of the first week of extended benefits - that cost Montana \$562,000 in 1982. Because we are on extended benefits right now, it is costing Montana \$30,000 a week for every week we stay on extended benefits. This bill will save the unemployment trust fund almost \$900,000 over the biennium. That is \$900,000 of the employers taxes and with little or no cost to claimants. The claimant is still entitled to the same number of weeks of benefits - he just has to wait one week to start receiving them.

This bill will make the employers contributions to the fund go further. It makes the unemployment fund more viable - less to borrow - less interest!

Exhibit 9



Box 1176, Helena, Montana

JAMES W. MURRY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

ZIP CODE 59624
406/442-1708

TESTIMONY OF DON JUDGE ON SENATE BILL 215, BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS, MARCH 8, 1983

I am Don Judge, representing the Montana State AFL-CIO. I am here to testify against Senate Bill 215, which is just one more attempt to unfairly penalize Montana's unemployed workers. This bill provides for a one week waiting period between benefit years, when an unemployment insurance claimant is receiving benefits.

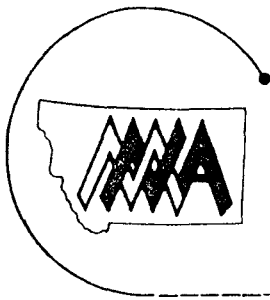
Making an unemployed worker go a week without unemployment insurance benefits will save the state money, but at the expense of added financial hardship to a worker who is unemployed through no fault of his or her own. High unemployment is the direct result of deliberate Reagan Administration policies. Those policies were designed to cool down inflation, but it is the workers who have paid the price, along with the elderly, the needy, the sick and the handicapped. As front-line inflation fighters, workers have already paid too high a price. This bill adds an additional burden to the jobless worker.

And the reason that the bill has been introduced is because of Federal Administration regulations which provide that if a state does not have a waiting week between benefit years, then the state must pick up the entire cost of the first week of extended benefits, rather than 50%, for all initial claimants. That would cost the state approximately half a million dollars a year. We would prefer that the state picked up that additional cost, rather than penalizing unemployed workers by making them struggle through the week waiting period.

Approximately 2,400 jobless workers would have to wait out that week without an unemployment insurance check. Are those workers and their families supposed to go without eating during that period? Do you think Montana Power will not bill them for heat or electricity for seven days? I doubt it very much, don't you? It is tough enough to try to exist on an unemployment insurance check, without further punishing the unemployed.

Please vote against Senate Bill 215.

Thank you.



Montana Nurses' Association

2001 ELEVENTH AVENUE

(406) 442-6710

P.O. BOX 5718 • HELENA, MONTANA 59604

TESTIMONY SB 215

The Montana Nurses' Association opposes SB 215. This bill would further hurt economically those who are already hurting the most: the unemployed workers of America. At a time when unemployment is universal, unemployment payments must not be cut off to the unemployed, even for one week.

It is unreasonable to think that the savings to the U.S. government by not paying the one week will substantially help the economy; whereas a loss of one week's unemployment would severely affect a worker and family trying to live on the unemployment payments.

If an unemployed worker is out of work and eligible for unemployment, he or she is entitled to payment for all weeks unemployed.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen C. Robbins
March 8, 1983

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE

LABOR AND EMP. REL.

COMMITTEE

BILL SB 273

DATE 3/8/83

SPONSOR SENATOR DOVER

[illegible]

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

SENATOR HAROLD L. DOVER

SENATE BILL 273

By request of the Department of Labor and Industry.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A CHANGE IN THE MINIMUM QUALIFYING WAGES FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS, AMENDING SECTION 39-51-2105, MCA, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Senate Bill 273 corrects what is starting to become a problem in the employment insurance system. We index the taxable wage base, we index benefit amounts - maximum, minimum and an individuals amount - but we don't index the minimum qualifying wage. As inflation raises wages we are allowing people who are less and less attached to the labor market to qualify for benefits. Their members are growing rapidly from 277 in 1979 to 1,055 in 1982; and projected to 3,500 in 1985 under the current statute.

SB 273 indexes the minimum qualifying wage to minimum benefit amount - both would set in statute at 15% of the average weekly wage. That would raise the minimum qualifying wage from \$1,000 in 1982 to about \$1,700 in July 1, 1983 - That's \$1,700 over 52 weeks, not much money. Certainly no one is supporting a family on that amount, or making house payments on the \$39.00 a week minimum benefit amount. Passage of this bill does help keep the trust fund solvent so we can pay benefits to workers who have been laid off and need the \$120 per week that the average claimant earns.

Maybe the most important argument for SB 273 is that it preserves an important element of the unemployment system -

no worker gets more in unemployment than they got in wages.

Workers benefits are set at 50% of their wages in a 52 week base period - they can't get more than the maximum 60% of the weekly wage (currently \$158) or less than 15% of the average weekly wage (currently \$39). By 1985 the minimum benefit amount will reach or exceed \$50 per week. If we don't enact SB 273 a worker could go to work for 20 weeks, earn \$50 per week and when he filed for unemployment under the current law, draw more than \$50 per week in benefits. That is an unhealthy situation - a worker should always have an incentive to go back to work. We can maintain that incentive by indexing the qualifying wages.

The savings is significant - \$1.8 Million dollars over the biennium.



Box 1176, Helena, Montana

JAMES W. MURRY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

ZIP CODE 59624
406/442-1708

TESTIMONY OF DON JUDGE, ON SENATE BILL 273, BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR
AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS --- MARCH 8, 1983.

I am Don Judge, representing the Montana State AFL-CIO. We are opposed to Senate Bill 273, which will make some of the lowest paid workers in this state ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits.

Under current law, in order to be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits, an individual must have worked 20 weeks during the base period and have wages which total at least \$1,000 for a \$50 per week average. To determine the amount of the weekly unemployment insurance check, the total number of weeks in the base period is divided into the total reported wages, to obtain the average weekly wage. That average, times 50% is the amount the individual will receive.

If that calculation produces an amount less than \$39, that individual will still receive the \$39 current weekly minimum benefit. Allowing those workers to receive the minimum gives them at least some financial help during times of unemployment.

This bill would make ineligible for the minimum benefit, anyone whose base period earnings did not qualify them for that minimum amount. They would have to earn \$78 per week now and even more in the future. That would throw 1,247 unemployed workers off unemployment insurance benefits.

This bill is another unjust attempt to save money for the unemployment insurance trust fund at the expense of workers. No one would disagree that the

unemployment insurance trust fund must be made solvent. But methods which chisel away at the benefits workers should receive is totally unfair. And the workers which this bill would affect, are the ones who have the least. They have not earned enough to have any savings or property to fall back on when they are out of a job.

As the law is now, those workers have at least a little money to help tide them over. Without it, most will have to rely on some type of public assistance, which means the taxpayer, rather than employer contributions, will pay the bill.

In fiscal year 1984, a worker would have to earn an average of \$92 per week to qualify for the minimum of \$46 per week in unemployment insurance benefits. In fiscal year 1985, a worker would have to earn \$98 per week to receive the minimum benefit of \$49. In fiscal year 1984, 1,871 persons are project as being ineligible under this bill, and 2,807 in fiscal year 1985.

This bill places an increasing large burden on the people who can least afford it. In the long run, the only viable way to make the trust fund solvent is to change the economic course of the country, and get our people back to work again. In the short run, borrowing from the federal government, and increasing employer contributions is the only fair way to accomplish this goal.

Please help Montana's unemployed workers by voting against Senate Bill 273.

Thank you.

WOMEN'S LOBBYIST FUND

Box 1099
Helena, MT 59624
449-7917



TESTIMONY OF WOMEN'S LOBBYIST FUND OPPOSING SB 273 WHICH CHANGES MINIMUM QUALIFYING WAGE BEFORE HOUSE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

The Women's Lobbyist Fund opposes changing the minimum qualifying wage for unemployment insurance benefits as proposed in SB 273. This proposed change would nearly double the present qualifying wage of \$1000 to \$1700 -- a dramatic change.

In poor economic times this type of legislation would drastically hurt women, who presently make up the majority of those earning the minimum qualifying wage. It has been argued that those who earn minimum qualifying wage are not really attached to the labor force -- that they are working for "pin money". We maintain on the contrary that many are older women and displaced homemakers who find it difficult in these types of economic times to find jobs in any but seasonal high employment times.

The Women's Lobbyist Fund believes it is unfair to place the burden of balancing programs on those who can least afford it. We urge a do not pass for SB 273.

Exhibit #

Mister Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is George Allen and I represent the Montana Retail Association.

The Montana Retail Association would like to go on record as supporting the PACKAGE of four bills, Senate Bill 210, Senate Bill 213, Senate Bill 215, and Senate Bill 273.

We feel the package of the four bills addresses the problem in an equitable manner. It is important they be passed as a group.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

GEORGE E. ALLEN
Executive Vice President
Montana Retail Association

COMMITTEE REPORT

March 4, 1983

SPEAKER:

MR.

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

We, your committee on.....

SENATE
having had under consideration Bill No. 154

third reading copy (blue)
color

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AMENDING THE GRANDFATHER CLAUSE CONTAINED IN TITLE 39, CHAPTER 31, MCA, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, BY PROVIDING THAT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNITS RECOGNIZED BY THE GRANDFATHER CLAUSE MAY CONTAIN SUPERVISORY POSITIONS, MANAGEMENT POSITIONS, OR OTHER POSITIONS EXCLUDED FROM TITLE 39, CHAPTER 31, MCA, ONLY IF THE POSITIONS EXISTED ON JULY 1, 1973, AND THE EMPLOYEES OCCUPYING THOSE POSITIONS ON OCTOBER 1, 1983, CONTINUE TO OCCUPY THOSE POSITIONS OR OCCUPY OTHER POSITIONS CONTAINED IN THE UNIT ON JULY 1, 1973;

~~XX~~
Respectfully report as follows that.....~~Bill No.~~
~~AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF PERSONNEL APPEALS TO MAKE UNIT CLARIFICATIONS~~
~~OF BARGAINING UNITS RECOGNIZED BY THE GRANDFATHER CLAUSE; AMENDING~~
~~SECTION 39-31-109, WCA."~~

Respectfully report as follows: That Senate Bill No. 154

BE NOT CONCURRED IN

~~XXXXXX~~
DO PASS

STATE PUB. CO.
Helena, Mont.

.....J. MELVIN WILLIAMS.....Chairman.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 4, 1983

SPEAKER:
MR.

— We, your committee on **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS**

having had under consideration **SENATE** Bill No. **169**

third reading copy (**blue**)

**A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF
PERSONNEL APPEALS TO INVESTIGATE AND DISMISS COMPLAINTS OF UNFAIR
LABOR PRACTICES; AMENDING SECTION 39-31-405, MCA."**

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE** Bill No. **169**

BE CONCURRED IN

DO PASS**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 4

March 7,

19 83

SPEAKER:

MR.

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

We, your committee on

HOUSE

800

having had under consideration Bill No.

first

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color

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING A YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS; PROVIDING THAT THE PROGRAM BE ADMINISTERED BY AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; DEFINING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S POWERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION FOR ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 800

be amended as follows:

1. Title, lines 5 and 6.

Strike: "STATE LANDS"

Insert: "LABOR AND INDUSTRY"

2. Page 2, line 18.

Strike: "7"

Insert: "10"

3. Page 3, line 2.

Following: line 1

Insert: "(3) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of labor and industry as provided in 2-15-1701.

(4) "Department" means the department of labor and industry as provided for in 2-15-1701.

(5) "Supervisor" means a person in charge of corpsmembers and corps-member leaders at residential and nonresidential youth conservation corps centers."

DO PASS

March 7,

19 83

4. Page 3, line 4.
Strike: "of state lands"
5. Page 3, line 11.
Strike: "of state lands"
6. Page 3, line 14.
Strike: "of state lands"
7. Page 3, line 16.
Strike: "and"
Insert: ", "
Following: "leaders"
Insert: ", and supervisors"
8. Page 3, line 20.
Strike: ";"
Insert: ". At least one supervisor shall oversee each residential and nonresidential center."
9. Page 4, line 2.
Following: "(3)"
Insert: "establish an application procedure and"
10. Page 4, line 11.
Strike: "July"
Insert: "December"
11. Page 5, line 22.
Strike: "and"
12. Page 5, line 24.
Following: "disasters"
Insert: "; and (c) cleanup of litter and other debris in public recreation areas, fishing access sites, and campsites"
13. Page 5, line 25.
Strike: "May 15"
Insert: "June 10"
14. Page 6, line 1.
Strike: "September 15"
Insert: "August 31"

March 7, 1983

15. Page 6, following line 1.

Insert: "Section 5. Protection of regular employees.

A work project established under [section 3] may not:

- (1) be used to reduce the number of regular hours, wages, or employment benefits of or displace an individual who is employed, either directly or under a contract with a private contractor, by the employing agency;
- (2) result in the replacement of a regular employee who is in a layoff status and who customarily occupies the same or a substantially equivalent job within the employing agency;
- (3) impair an existing contract for services.

Section 6. Grievance procedure. An individual, labor organization, or business claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of [section 5] may file a complaint with the department. The department shall establish a grievance procedure for hearing such grievances that is substantially similar to the procedure established under the federal Job Training Partnership Act, 29 U.S.C. 1554."

Renumber: subsequent sections.

16. Page 6, line 4.

Strike: "be"

17. Page 6, line 5.

Following: "(a)"

Insert: "be"

18. Page 6, line 6.

Following: "(b)"

Insert: "be"

19. Page 6, line 7.

Strike: "not" through "age"

Insert: "have completed grade 9 but not yet begun grade 12"

20. Page 6, line 12.

Strike: "19" through "21"

Insert: "18"

21. Page 6, following line 12.

Insert: "(3) To the extent practicable, the program shall consist of equal numbers of male and female corpsmembers."

March 17, 1983

22. Page 6, lines 17 through 19.

Strike: "two" on line 17 through "]" on line 19

Insert: "one season"

23. Page 7, following line 6.

Insert: "Section 10. Union concurrence and consultation. Prior to commencement of a work project, the employing agency: (1) shall consult with appropriate labor organizations representing the same occupation in the geographical area in the planning, design, and content of the work project with respect to job descriptions, training standards and arrangements, safety requirements, and protection of all current employees in the public and private sector; and

(2) must, for jobs under the project that are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, receive written concurrence from the appropriate labor organization."

Renumber: subsequent sections

24. Page 7, lines 8 and 9.

Strike: "state lands"

Insert: "labor and industry"

25. Page 7, following line 10.

Insert: "Section 12. Appointment of initial director. The governor shall appoint the first director under [this act] not later than June 30, 1983."

Renumber: subsequent sections

26. Page 7, lines 11 through 14.

Strike: these lines in their entirety

Renumber: subsequent sections

AND AS AMENDED
DO PASS

INTENT STATEMENT ATTACHED

J. MELVIN WILLIAMS

Chairman.

MR. SPEAKER:

WE, YOUR COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS, HAVING
HAD UNDER CONSIDERATION HOUSE BILL NO. 800, FIRST READING COPY
(WHITE), ATTACH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF INTENT:

STATEMENT OF INTENT
HOUSE BILL NO. 800

A statement of intent is required for this bill because, in section 3, the executive director of the Youth Conservation Corps, in cooperation with the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, is given the responsibility of adopting rules for:

1. the recruitment and employment of corpsmembers and corpsmember leaders; and
2. a corpsmember code of conduct and a corpsmember grievance procedure.

In adopting rules, the executive director must conform to the purpose of implementation of a program, through labor-intensive projects normally subject to completion in a single working session, to maintain, protect, and conserve the resources of the state's public lands (including parks, rangelands, forests, wildlife habitat, fisheries, soils, and waters) for continued economic productivity and scenic beauty while providing an earning and learning opportunity for youth of this state who might otherwise be deprived of the benefits of income and of work experiences.

The rules adopted must provide for reasonable minimum mental and physical qualifications of a corpsmember to perform the required tasks without hazard to the individual or his or her co-workers and with the normal diligence and attention to duty necessary to satisfactory completion of assigned tasks within the allotted time frame.

J. KEVIN WILLIAMS

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 2, 19 83

MR. **SPEAKER:**

We, your committee on **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS**

having had under consideration **HOUSE** Bill No. **899**

First reading copy (**white**)
color

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AMENDING THE APPOINTMENT QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF PERSONNEL APPEALS TO REMOVE POTENTIALLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL APPOINTMENT QUALIFICATIONS; PROVIDING FOR A TRANSITION AND APPOINTMENTS SUBJECT TO THE NEW APPOINTMENT QUALIFICATIONS; AMENDING SECTION 2-15-1705, NCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

Respectfully report as follows: That **HOUSE** Bill No. **899**

be amended as follows:

- Page 2, line 5.**
Strike: "no such"
Insert: "general labor-management"

AND AS AMENDED
DO PASS

DO PASS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 17,

19 83

MR. **SPEAKER:**

We, your committee on **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS**

having had under consideration **SENATE** Bill No. **215**

third reading copy (**blue**)
color

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE A 1-WEEK WAITING PERIOD BETWEEN UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFIT YEARS WHEN THE CLAIMANT IS IN A COMPENSABLE STATUS AT THE END OF HIS OLD BENEFIT YEAR AND AT THE BEGINNING OF HIS NEW BENEFIT YEAR; AMENDING SECTION 39-51-2104, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE** Bill No. **215**

BE CONCURRED IN

XXXX
DO PASS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 17, 19 83

MR. **SPEAKER:**

We, your committee on **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS**

having had under consideration **SENATE** Bill No. **273**

third reading copy (**blue**)
color

**A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A CHANGE IN THE
MINIMUM QUALIFYING WAGES FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS;
AMENDING SECTION 39-51-2105, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."**

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE** Bill No. **273**
be amended as follows:

1. Page 1, line 20.
Strike: "with an"
Insert: "in which his"
Following: "wage"
Insert: "was"
Following: "to"
Insert: "10% of the average weekly wage calculated pursuant to
39-51-2201(3)"
2. Page 1, lines 21 and 22.
Strike: "The" on line 21 through "period" on line 22

AS AMENDED BE CONCURRED IN

~~XXXX~~
DO PASS