

HOUSE FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE

March 10, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Nilson in the Old Supreme Court Chambers of the Senate in the Capitol Building at 12:30 p.m., with all members present.

Chairman Nilson opened the meeting to a hearing on Senate Bill: 224.

SENATE BILL 224

SENATOR LARRY TVEIT, District 27, Fariview, opened by stating this bill is the outcome of an animal contest to name a state animal. 55,000 students participated, and the grizzly came out on top. I would like to introduce Jean Johnson, who will tell us about the program and the contest.

PROPOSERS

JEAN JOHNSON, Secretary of State's Office, said two years ago, Jim Waltermire, Secretary of State, initiated the student animal project. The major focal point of this project has been that the future voters of Montana are our school age children. If we can involve them in the electoral process at a young age, they will be more likely to participate when they are of legal age. In the general election, held on November 2, the grizzly defeated the elk by a 2 to 1 margin. Mr. Waltermire promised that the results of this election would be drafted in the form of a bill. This would enable the students to have a chance to follow the legislative process. Nearly 55,000 students in 425 schools in 55 of 56 counties participated. This is 1/3 of the public school population in the state. The students registered to vote and went through the voting process as if they were voting in a regular election. Many schools designated precincts. We in the Secretary of State's Office, have received letters from students expressing appreciation for the opportunity to experience this process in a way they will never forget. This experience will leave a lasting impression in their minds. The Historical Society has asked if they could choose some of the posters made by the students, to become part of the permanent record in the State of Montana.

SENATOR ROGER ELLIOTT District 8, Columbia Falls, said you may have heard that I was opposed to this bill in the Senate. With appropriate amendments, I will be able to give this bill my full support. I think it would be appropriate for each county to share the grizzly with all of the other people in Montana. I would like to propose an amendment to allow the grizzly to be shared by all Montanans. The Fish and Game Department traps approximately four bears per year. These bears could be dis-

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tributed to areas of Montana that currently do not have a bear population. With a program of this type, we could have a representative population of bears in all counties of Montana.

JIM FLYNN, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, submitted written copies of his testimony to committee members. (see exhibit 1)

Principal speakers representing schools from across the State of Montana, testified on behalf of their schools. A list of the order in which the students testified is attached. (see exhibit 2) Copies of the testimony of the students are also attached, and follow the order listed in exhibit 2. (see exhibit 3)

Senator Tveit introduced Mr. Jim Waltermire, Secretary of State, to committee members, and to all who were in attendance of the hearing on Senate Bill 224.

Senator Tveit closed by stating he would like to go on record in opposition to Senator Elliott's amendments. The grizzly needs a habitat in which he has rocks, mountains, and caves to live in. He must live in the habitat he has survived in for thousands of years.

Questions from committee. Rep. Mueller said in the history I have read in the past years, there was habitat suitable for the grizzly in eastern Montana. Senator Tveit replied that is correct, but at that time, there were not many people living in eastern Montana. A saturated human population does not agree with the grizzly bear.

Rep. Ream said Senator Elliott stated that there is an over population of grizzly bears. Biologically this is not so.

Chairman Nilson asked Senator Tveit how he would feel about amending the bill to state mammal rather than the state animal. The response was I would be in favor of leaving the bill as the state animal.

Chairman Nilson closed the hearing on Senate Bill 224 at 2:35 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SENATE BILL 224

Rep. Devlin moved Senate Bill 224, BE CONCURRED IN, the motion carried unanimously.

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SENATE BILL 336

Rep. Jensen said there was strong interest from the proponents to this bill, to instruct the court that one consideration ought to be impoundment of the air craft as a penalty. This would be subsequent to conviction.

Rep. Devlin said I believe the federal statutes already cover this area. I don't think we should infringe on this when they are already taking care of it.

Rep. Ream moved the amendments to Senate Bill 336. (see exhibit 4)

Rep. Jenson said I have problems with minimum mandatory sentencing in general. We are giving the Justice of the Peace Courts the instruction to say that in this case, \$500. is the minimum amount they may invoke as a penalty. We have to remember we have judges for a reason. I don't think this is fair.

Rep. Swift said I want it stated as a minimum so that they will know what they are facing.

Rep. Jensen commented we are giving more discretion to prosecutors and less to judges.

Rep. Spaeth made a substitute motion to restate the amendment to read not less than \$500., nor more than \$1,000. This only changes it to a cap of \$1,000. The motion carried 16 to 1, with Representative Jensen voting no.

Rep. Spaeth moved Senate Bill 336, BE CONCURRED IN as amended, the motion carried 16 to 1, with Representative Jensen voting no.

HOUSE BILL 891

Chairman Nilson asked what the feeling of the committee would be if the bill were to be amended to be funded from the license fees rather than the general fund budget.

Rep. Mueller said when the Health Department gets a red hot situation, and they are checking the water because of a particular problem, part of the process is to check the fish tissue. They do this if they have a crucial situation, and I don't think this is the time to be expanding programs.

Rep. Swift said I am concerned that the department already has the authority to form these tests and take the samples. They have the procedures and mechanisms already. I think we ought to leave it the way it is without expanding this program and cluttering it up with the license fee programs.

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Rep. Spaeth moved House Bill 891 be TABLED, the motion carried with Representatives Hart, Jensen, Veleber, and Nilson voting no.

Chairman Nilson adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.



LES NILSON, Chairman



Cheryl Fredrickson, secretary

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE Fish & Game COMMITTEE

BILL SB 224

DATE 3/10

SPONSOR Freit

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUP-PORT	OP-POSE
Chuck Dondiro	Box-30-A Geysere	Geysere High School	X	
Tim	Helena	DEPT FWDP	X	
Karl Martelius	Great Falls		X	
			X	
Bob	"		X	
Steve	"		X	
Cinda Tucker	Fast Hope	Main St. Sch	X	
Travis Van Der	Aranda	Main St. Sch	X	
			X	
			X	
			X	
			X	
			X	
			X	
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			X	
			X	
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			X	
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			X	
			X	
			X	
			X	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.
 WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE _____

COMMITTEE _____

BILL _____

DATE _____

SPONSOR _____

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
			X	
	Deer Lodge	Granville Stuart	X	
			X	
	Bozeman		X	
	Deer Lodge	Granville Stuart	X	
Bill Wilson	Deer Lodge	Granville Stuart	X	
Vicki Whitcomb	Green EG 115	Wittier	X	
	Deer Lodge	Granville Stuart	X	
	Deer Lodge	Granville Stuart	X	
	Bozeman	Bozeman	X	
Kathleen Mahoney	SE Montana	Bozeman		X
				X

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.
WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Testimony presented by Jim Flynn, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

March 10, 1983

In support of this bill designating the grizzly bear as the state animal, it is interesting to reflect on Lewis and Clark's description of their first encounter with the bear.

They had been hearing accounts of grizzlies as they ascended the lower Missouri, but remained skeptical of what they had been hearing. The accounting of their first meeting goes as follows:

"Then, not far up the river from winter quarters, they found the biggest bear tracks they had ever seen, footprints 11 inches long and 7½ inches broad. Lewis wrote in his journal that these bears must be 'extremely wary and shy' and the whole expedition was 'anxious to meet with some of these bears.'

"On April 29, 1805, Lewis and one companion, on shore alone, ran into two grizzlies. Overconfident, both men fired at once. Luckily, only one of the wounded bears attacked. The other fled. The two men ran for their lives, trying to get powder and ball into their muzzle-loading rifles. Finally they reloaded and killed the bear and found it was only a half-grown male. A few days later they saw a fully grown grizzly out on a sandbar where everyone could shoot at it. It took 10 bullets to knock it down and kill it. Then Lewis admitted that grizzlies were, as he put it, 'hard to die.'" (The History of Wildlife in America, National Wildlife Federation, 1975.)

That was a long time ago, and while many species of wildlife have vanished in that time, the grizzly is today what he was then - an animal "hard to die." The bear has numerous assets: it is a highly prized trophy, a fearful competitor, and at times a mystical presence that makes a wild place a very special experience. The largest population of grizzlies still occurring in the lower 48 states is found in Montana.

The presence of grizzlies here also says some things about us as a people. We are capable of respecting the bear for what he is and of doing what we must to preserve him. We do that for the bear because we like to characterize ourselves as somewhat like him - highly independent, sometimes a bit cantankerous, and always in need of space and freedom.

There is no better symbol for what we aspire to remain than the grizzly bear. What he needs is what we all want; namely, the preservation of what is best about the American West. His presence tells us that we are doing all right in pursuit of that goal. We can be equally proud of the way the grizzly was nominated for this distinction. It tells us all that the coming generation shares both our values and our aspirations.

We support the grizzly bear for designation as Montana's state animal.

Exhibit 2
1st speaker

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name Chuck Gordon Committee On Fish + Game
 Address Box 30-A Geyser Mt. Date 3/10/83
 Representing Geyser High School Support X
 Bill No. SB 224' Oppose _____
 Amend _____

AFTER TESTIFYING, PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

1. The Grizzly is a symbol of Montana, because it is unique to the State of Montana.
2. It's range needs to be preserved. If it were the state animal better conservation would be likely.
3. The Grizzly has always been a part of Montana's history.
4. The Grizzly is the most popular animal in Montana, as evidenced of public school students.

Itemize the main argument or points of your testimony. This will assist the committee secretary with her minutes.

THE GRIZZLY - GRANDEST ANIMAL OUR COUNTRY KNOWS

THE GRIZZLY BEAR IS LARGE AND TALL,

AS OUR "BIG SKY" ANIMAL HE SHOULD BE.

POWERFUL, STRONG, AND THAT'S NOT ALL.

OUR STATE SHOULD BE ^{*pictured*} PORTRAYED BY HE.

HE ALREADY FACES EXTINCTION YOU SEE.

SO LET'S NOT LET THE "QUEEN" VISIT OUR STATE PARKS,

AND BE TOLD THERE ARE NO GRIZZLY BEARS HERE!

AS ALREADY HAPPENED IN A CALIFORNIA PARK,

DON'T WORRY OUR LEGISLATORS GOT MORE SMARTS!

LET'S GIVE YOUR BALLOT A GRAND YES MARK,

THEN OUR SECOND GRADE WILL GIVE A GREAT BIG CHEER!

(EVERYONE) RAH! RAH! GRIZZLY!

WELCOME TO OUR STATE!

RAH! RAH! LEGISLATORS!

VOTE YES BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

My name is Robert Daley. I am in the eighth grade at Golden Ridge School which is located 15 miles west of Fairfield.

I am here to give testimony in favor of Senate Bill #224, sponsored by Senator Larry Tviet, naming the grizzly bear as Montana's state animal. I support this bill and urge you to support it as well.

A state should have as a state animal one that is unique to that state and that will give recognition to that state. I feel the grizzly bear stands for the people of Montana--proud, active and adventurous.

The characteristics of the grizzly bear remind one of Montana. For example, the largeness of the bear reminds one of the vast lands of Montana. The grizzly bear's coat color varies from creamy-brown to almost black. Montana's coat, its lands, vary from amber flatlands to grassy rolling hills to the majestic tree-covered mountains. The fur of many grizzlies is tipped with white. Our mountains are, too, tipped with white shiny snow.

Montana truly needs a state animal that will represent the state and its people. I hope in the future that the people of Montana who are now against the grizzly bear will really come to see how much the grizzly describes Montana.

Thank you for listening to my testimony. I will be glad to answer any questions you may wish to ask.

PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS SB 224

- 1. East Helena Elementary -- East Helena
Cindy Tusler Grade 2 Teacher: Connie Wheeler
Group size: 21
- 2. East Helena Elementary -- East Helena
Travis VanDerSand Grade 2 Teacher: Gay Amasolo
Group size: 21
- 3. Golden Ridge School -- Fairfield
Robert Daley Grade 8 Teacher: JoAnn Bryant
Group size: 17 (grades 1-8)
- 4. Linderman Elementary -- Polson
Amy Robinson Grade 4 Teacher: Mrs. Gessner
Group size: 11
- 5. Bigfork Elementary -- Bigfork
Bill Chrysler Grade 7 Teacher: Karen Kolar
Group size: 3 or 12
- 6. Whittier School -- Great Falls
Kerry Hartelius Grade 5 Teacher: Mrs. Livingston
Group size: 2
- 7. Sunnyside School -- Havre
Mark Green Grade 6 Teacher: Chuck Sheldon
Group size: 48
- 7. Broadwater School -- Helena
Tonya Easbey Grade 6 Teacher: Marsha Gray
Group size: 36
- 8. Franklin School -- Missoula
Mark Patrick Grade 6 Teacher: Don Phillips
Group size: 31
- 9. Ovando School -- Ovando
Cheryl Bush Grade 8 Teacher: Maureen Geary
Group size: 16 (grades 1-8)
- 10. Lima High School -- Lima
Sherri Stewart Grade 12 Teacher: Duane Denny
Group size: 22

PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS

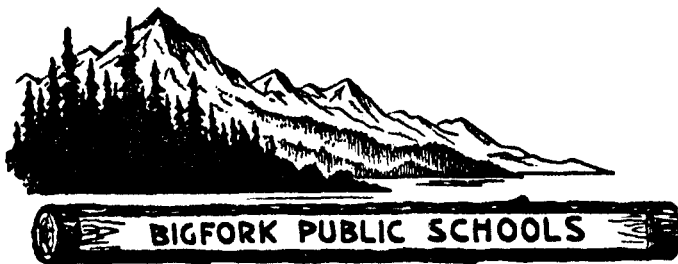
11. Granville Stuart Grade School -- Deer Lodge
three fifth grade classes Grade Teacher:
see below Group size: 90
12. McCormick School -- Troy
Chad Harper Grade 8 Teacher: Bette Sanders
Group size: 3
13. Jefferson School -- Helena
Lerria Rogers Grade 6 Teacher: Fred Stanaway
Group size: 18
14. Geyser School -- Geyser
Chuck Gondeiro Grade 11 Teacher: Beverly Kolar
Group size: 34
15. Trinity Lutheran School -- Billings
David Johnson Grade 7 Teacher: Kaarole Carlton
11. Granville Stuart
✓ Bobby Havens Grade 5 Teacher: Miss Palmer
✓ Steve Pearson Grade 5 Teacher: Mr. Wilson
✓ Cole Maxwell Grade 5 Teacher: Mr. Perkins

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee.

My name is Amy Robinson and I represent the Elementary school in Polson, Montana. I am in the 4th grade. I am here to speak for Senate Bill 224 sponsored by Senator Larry Tveit. Our students believe Montana should have a State Animal. During our election we voted by a 2 to 1 margin that our State Animal should be the Grizzly Bear. We feel the Grizzly Bear should be our State Animal because it is very strong, courageous, and beautiful. The Grizzly is also native to Montana.

The Grizzly Bear is an endangered species, and by making it the State Animal, we can help to protect it. Although people say that the Grizzly is mean, he seldom attacks unless threatened.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you today. If I can answer any questions I would be more than happy to at this time...I would like to give you this written testimony from my 4th grade classmates.



5

School District No. 38, Flathead & Lake Counties
BIGFORK, MONTANA

Members of the Legislature and fellow citizens, I am Billy Chrysler, a 7th grade student from Bigfork Junior High School, Bigfork, Montana.

I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill #224 sponsored by Senator Larry Tviet which designates the Grizzly Bear as the state animal.

I feel that since we have put time into voting for the state animal our opinion should be recognized even though some people did vote for other animals. I feel that if a few Legislators want another animal, fine, so did quite a few other people but still the majority voted for the Grizzly Bear. People also voted for the Buffalo, the Bobcat, and the Elk but again, the majority voted for the Grizzly Bear.

I myself voted for the Grizzly Bear in the primary and the final elections like many people in my class. Even though people voted all the way through the two elections for the Elk, it was not the majority and the majority is the one that should be respected. This same opinion is expressed by most of the Bigfork 7th graders. We feel that our opinion should be respected because the members of our State Legislature are supposed to convey what the constituents want.

Thank you and now I'd be happy to answer any questions that you may have concerning my speech.

February 17, 1983

Billy Chrysler

Billy Chrysler

TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 224

HELLO, MY NAME IS TONYA EASBEY AND I'M IN THE SIXTH GRADE FROM BROADWATER SCHOOL IN HELENA. I AM HERE TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 224.

THE GRIZZLY SHOULD BE MONTANA'S STATE ANIMAL BECAUSE MONTANA AND THE GRIZZLY HAVE MANY SIMILARITIES. FOR EXAMPLE, BOTH THE GRIZZLY AND MONTANA ARE MAJESTIC. MONTANA AND THE GRIZZLY BOTH LIKE A LOT OF SPACE AND BOTH ARE PROTECTIVE OVER THEIR "HOME". ALSO, MONTANA IS ONE OF THE FEW STATES THAT IS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE GRIZZLYS LIVING IN IT.

ANOTHER POINT, WERE NOT THE CHILDREN REQUESTED TO VOTE ON A STATE ANIMAL? AND DID NOT THE MAJORITY OF THE CHILDREN CHOOSE THE GRIZZLY FOR THE STATE ANIMAL? SO SHOULDN'T THE GRIZZLY BE THE STATE ANIMAL? DON'T YOU THINK SO? WE DO!

TO: House Fish and Game Committee
FROM: Mark Patrick, Franklin School, Missoula, MT
SUBJECT: Testimony on SB 224

My name is Mark Patrick. I am in the 6th grade at Franklin School. I'm from Missoula, MT. I'm here to support the bill SB 224 sponsored by Larry Tveit (Twite).

1. A lot of states have state animals and we would like one also.
2. Grizzly is powerful and beautiful like Montana.
3. The grizzly won in a state-wide election by students with a large margin and we hope this committee will pass SB 224.
4. Montana is lucky in that it is one of a very few states that have grizzlies.
5. We believe most of these students' parents also support SB 224.
6. SB 224 may help the grizzly from extinction in the U.S.A.
7. If the elk was to be chosen less people might be able to hunt them and few people hunt grizzly anyway.
8. The grizzly have been famous in Montana since Lewis & Clark.

I would like to thank the committee for listening to me.
Do you have any questions?

9

Cheryl Bush

Ovando School, Ovando, Montana

Grade 8

Age: 14

Dear Sirs:

I would like to express my opinion on S.B. 224 or otherwise known as the Grizzly Bear Bill. As a student in Montana, I have experienced a neat opportunity to know first hand how a law is made. Jim Waltermire, our Secretary of State, presented this project to us. We voted for the grizzly bear. We should keep it. If the legislators wanted to vote or name the state animal, they should have, but once we had the vote we don't want it taken away.

I reccommend this bill be taken out of committee and be presented to the house.

Thank-you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Bush
Cheryl Bush

10

Hi! I'm Sherrie Stewart from
Lima High School & we are
here to express our opinion
on the Grizzly Bear as the
Montana State Animal.

~~For two seasons we are the
Lima Bears & proud of it!!
(show print)~~

If the grizzly bear were to
be named as the state animal
for Montana, it would give him
an even better chance to be

2

immortal from extinction. Since
there are only approximately
500 in number, we feel
that he should be honored
in such a way & free from
hunters.

The grizzly exemplifies the traits
in Montanans. His courage, strength,
& he is powerful as we are. He
also ~~exemplifies~~ epitomizes the wild
& untamed qualities of Montana.
And ~~he~~ good looks to boot!!
he has ↓

3

With Montana being the last
strong home for the grizzly
in the lower 48 states,
we think that it would
only be proper of honoring
him.

Oh, ~~yes~~ ^{ya}! Since I am a Bear, coming from the home of the Line Bears I'm proud of them to say, ~~why~~ do lets get the grizzly as the state animal & we could ~~own~~ all be proud of the bear!

48

Finally I would like to point out that you gave the ^{high school} students of Montana the opinion we had on choosing a state animal. We chose the grizzly 4-1, and now, look what you are doing, making a mountain out of a mole hill & taking that choice away from us. If you had planned this in the first place, why did you give us the privilege of electing the state animal.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Committee.

I am Bobby Havens, I am in the fifth grade at Granville Stuart School in DeerLodge, Montana. H-A

I am speaking in favor of the Senate Bill number 224. Regarding the state animal.

The Grizzley bear is on the endangered species list, and what better way to keep it from becoming extinct, than to make it our state animal. The Grizzley bear is a massive animal native to western North America. Large numbers of these great beasts once roamed the western states but only a few hundred remain in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming.

Some people in Montana, like my family, rely on the elk for winter food. If the Bill is passed supporting the Elk, some people might not have meat in the winter.

Most people don't actually pay attention to the Elk unless it has prize antlers, but people always respect the Grizzley bear! So in behalf of the students of Granville Stuart School of DeerLodge, and through out Montana. I urge you to pass the Senate Bill number 224, naming the Grizzley bear as our state animal!!!!

Thank you for listening.

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members;

I am Steve Pearson from the fifth grade, Cranville Stuart School, Deer Lodge, Montana. I am speaking in favor of Senate Bill 924.

I am in favor of the grizzly bear becoming the state animal because the grizzly is a big strong animal and he symbolizes power and freedom. The bear will not attack unless he is cornered. The grizzly bear is the meanest bear when he is trapped, cornered, or aggravated. But, otherwise, he is harmless as a kitten. I think that says what Montana is: it is a strong state, and when it is trapped or in a bad situation, it fights back. A grizzly bear fights for survival, and most Montanans work hard for survival too.

The bad part is, that the grizzly bear is an endangered species. I think we should save the bear from poachers and other things that kill him. If we are going to have the grizzly bear as the state animal then we should save him so that we can see him. We wouldn't want an extinct state animal. There used to be hundreds of bear roaming in the United States. Now there are only 500 left in the whole country. Before he is gone, we should save him, and have him as our state animal. I want to see the grizzly bear roam the west again.

Thank you for listening.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, and others interested in Senate Bill 224. I am Cole Maxwell from Granville Stuart School in Deer Lodge. I'm here in support of ~~the~~ the Grizzly bear as our State animal. The Grizzly represents the beauty and strength of Montana. Since the grizzly is a true native of Montana and these huge beasts are ~~fast~~ fast becoming extinct, we should honor them by naming them our State animal.

Thank you for your time and patience. I ~~and~~ and the students of Deer Lodge, hope you'll give your support to Senate Bill 224 and make the grizzly bear our State Animal.

Hello,

My name is Chad Harper. I am in the eighth grade and I am from McCormick School, 13 miles Northwest of Troy.

I support the Grizzly because he is endangered and needs our help and protection. Did you know the only places the wild Grizzly lives are in parts of Montana, Western Canada, and Alaska?

Thank-you

Are there any questions?

GOOD AFTERNOON MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

MY NAME IS LERRIA ROGERS, I AM TWELVE YEARS OLD AND IN THE SIXTH GRADE AT JEFFERSON SCHOOL IN HELENA MONTANA. IT IS MY OPINION AND MANY OTHERS THAT SB 224 IS A GOOD ONE. SOME KIDS DIDN'T VOTE FOR THE GRIZZLY BEAR BECAUSE THEY'RE AFRAID OF THE BEAR. FOR THOSE WHO FEEL THE SAME AS THOSE KIDS THE BEAR WON'T HURT YOU UNLESS YOU HURT OR SCARE THEM. THE GRIZZLY BEAR IS AFRAID OF US JUST AS MUCH AS YOU MAY BE OF THEM. THEY WILL ALWAYS TRY TO KEEP THEIR DISTANCE FROM YOU. THE GRIZZLY BEAR REPRESENTS GREAT STRENGTH, WISDOM AND BRAVERY. THIS BEAR WOULD REPRESENT MONTANA VERY WELL. THE GRIZZLY BEAR IS A PROUD ANIMAL, AND YOU COULD BE PROUD TO HAVE THE GRIZZLY AS OUR STATE ANIMAL.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

Hello ladies and gentlemen. My name is David Johnson. I'm a seventh grader. But I guess that really isn't the point, is it? But what is? The montana state animal. In a while you will be voting on an animal and I hope I can enlighten you on the subject.

Did you know that in the continental United States elk are found in New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Michigan, South Dakota, New Mexico, Arizona, Yellowstone Park, and our own Montana's Sun River; also Washington's Olympic Mountains and most states west of the Rockies. That's a lot of elk, huh.

Elk surely aren't endangered or rare. That's why there's an elk hunting season. Why would you pick a state animal that is so adundant that they need to be hunted down each year to avoid an over population crises?

But on the other hand, the grizzly bear is only found in Idaho, Wyoming, Alaska, and ... Montana. Because grizzly bears are so rare and are such a unique animal, I feel that by instituting this monarch of an animal into Montana's beautiful heritage, by making it the state animal, would add a certain prestige, and show Montana's prominence. Because it is basically the king of the forest.

It would tell the people a little something about the land that we love so. It would add a lot to the already rich culture. In my opinion, and the people I've talked to, we emphatically believe that ^{because} the grizzly bear is such a marvelous animal it should undoubtedly represent Montana as the state animal.

And I thank you all for letting me take up your very valuable time. And I thank you for letting me voice my and other people's opinion...Thank you.

1

Do you know what animal
you want to represent our
State of Montana?

Well I know, I want the
Grizzly Bear. I want to persuade
you to feel the same way.

I believe that the Grizzly
Bear's characteristic roaring
will help us by the Grizzly's
strength and courage.

2

The Lewis and Clark transcontinental
expedition of 1804-1806 wrote in their
journals about this magnificent
animal.

Even some western Indian
tribes held the Grizzly sacred.

Today, many big game hunters
feel that a grizzly trophy is the
ultimate proof of strength and
courage.

3

Montana people in the 1800s
regarded the half-brown strength and
courage to survive.

To me the spirit of the
Montana people is best represented by
the strength and courage of the grizzly
bear.

I urge you to vote "yes" for
the B.B.M.

2nd group
①

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

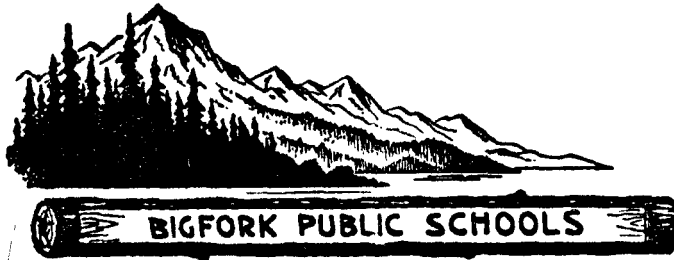
Hi! My name is Jennifer Boyer and I am in the Fourth Grade. I go to Linderman School in Polson, Montana. I'm here to support Senate Bill Number 224 sponsored by Senator Larry Tveit.

There are about one thousand Grizzly Bears in Montana. There are about seven hundred Grizzly Bears in Glacier Park and three hundred in Yellowstone Park. If the Grizzly should become the State Animal, maybe that number could increase.

I think the Grizzly Bear should become the State Animal because it is free and so are the people in Montana. It is also brave and beautiful.

Children from all over the state voted this fall for the Grizzly Bear to be the state animal and it won that election.

Thank you for allowing me this time to tell you how I feel about the Grizzly Bear becoming the State Animal. If there are any questions I will try to answer them.



2nd group
②

School District No. 38, Flathead & Lake Counties
BIGFORK, MONTANA

My name is Dan Schwennesen. I'm a fifth grade student. I go to Bigfork Elementary School in Bigfork, Montana. I support the Senate Bill #224 sponsored by Larry Tviet.

Mr. Chairman,

There are many reasons why the grizzly bear should be the state animal. It is an honor to be here to tell you some of these reasons.

The grizzly is a strong and handsome animal. It's like Montana, rugged and wild. Only a few states have them and Montana has the most grizzlies in the lower forty-eight states.

The grizzly is a threatened animal under the Endangered Species Act. Montanans should make it our duty to take care of the grizzly and if it is the state animal people will probably do more for it.

As you know, school children around the state voted for the state animal. The grizzly was chosen by a good margin. The vote shows what a lot of future Montana voters think.

The elk is more common, other states could claim the elk, Montana could also claim the elk, but Montana is really the only state that can claim the grizzly. Montana grizzlies are different from their Alaskan cousins. They deserve special recognition.

Some people say protecting the grizzly will hurt the timber industries. But, most of the wilderness areas that will be set aside are very high. The trees are not good and it would be expensive to get up there to log. Grizzlies need lower lands in the spring and fall, but the Forest Service and other land services are going to have to protect the lower lands because they are required to take care of the grizzly bear. Just because some lower lands are protected does not mean there can't be logging.

Thank you for listening to my speech. I'd be happy to answer any questions you have.

Dan Schwennesen
February 17, 1983
Dan Schwennesen

2nd group

(4)

Myrna

Grizzly Bear

The Grizzly Bear has been in danger of going extinct ~~in~~ for a long time. But they have fought for their survival courageously. In this way it is not only a symbol for Montana, but for the whole US. It signifies how we have fought for our freedom & freedom of religion. Some of these things have not come up yet as a real problem but the grizzly is a constant reminder for us to be alert constantly and remember the freedom that might not have been ours had it not been for brave people, who, just like the grizzly, fought for their survival and freedom.

Here are a few facts about the grizzly that might help you understand what I mean:

1. The grizzly has a population of only 1,000 in Montana. It has a range south of Canada, of less than 1 percent of what it was 200 years ago.

As a symbol of strength and fierce independence, the grizzly bear parallels the people of Montana's desire to remain ~~pretty~~ strong & free.

The grizzly bear, in my way of thinking, is big & rugged, ~~so~~ I think that is a good symbol for Montana. Montana is

a big state with many mountains
and other rugged lands.

These are some of my reasons
that I want you to vote for the
grizzly bear. Always remember the
pride it has in itself. In the same
way, we should have pride in our
big, rugged state.

2nd group
5

TO: House Fish and Game Committee

FROM: Shawn Monson, Franklin School, Missoula, MT.

SUBJECT: Testimony on SB 224

I am Shawn Monson from Franklin School. I am in the sixth grade and come from Missoula. I support the bill SB 224 and the sponsor is Senator Larry Tveit.

1. I support the legislation because few people hunt the grizzly and many hunt the elk.
2. The grizzly is large and beautiful, so is Montana.
3. Few states have grizzlies.
4. A vast amount of Montana students have shown their approval of the grizzly as the state animal.
5. These students are the ones who'll have to live with this state animal.
6. The grizzly symbolizes the people of Montana better.
7. One never knows what a grizzly will do nor a Montanan.

I thank you in the Committee for listening to me.

2nd group
⑥

Testimony for Senate Bill 224.

My name is Tracy Simkins. I am a sixth grader at Broadwater school in Helena.

We overwhelmingly voted the grizzly to be the state animal.

We should be very proud to have the grizzly for a state animal. Grizzlies are found in four states of the union.

It is said that the grizzly stakes a territory and will protect it at any cost. Montanans will protect our state from pollution and other dangers to the environment. *This*

Represents Montana.
Your vote for the grizzly will be greatly appreciated.

Greg Gehlen
Sunnyside School
Fifth grade
Havre

2nd group
⑦

In support of S.B. 224, sponsored by Senator Larry Tveit.

I feel that Montana should have a state animal. Animals played an important part in the early exploration and development of Montana. They lured the early trappers and traders to this country and provided a source of food for the many Indians, pioneers, and settlers.

I feel that the state animal should be the grizzly bear. In a poll of two-hundred and eighty five, kindergarten through sixth grade students at my school, about seventy percent voted for the grizzly bear. There were many different reasons given, but the fact remains that the greater majority were in favor of this magnificent animal. I know that as fair, considerate, and compassionate Senators and Congressmen you will fulfill the wishes of the young people of our state by selecting the grizzly bear as the state animal of Montana.

I respectfully submit this testimony and on behalf of myself and the students of my school I thank you for your time and attention.

2nd group
8

- I think the Grizzly Bear should
be named as such. The
the Grizzly bear is a Grizzly
is an endangered species and should
be a set, and is for
the Grizzly.
It is a bear of our
land.

- I think that because the
Grizzly is becoming endangered
that we should have a very large
park in the mountains that
we can have a very large
park for the Grizzly bear.

Lee H

Yonkers NY

Age

10/1/20

Grizzly

2nd group
9-a

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, I am Bill Sellars. I am in the Fifth Grade at Granville Stuart School in Deer Lodge, Montana. I am speaking in favor of Senate Bill 224. Our school feels that the grizzly bear should be the State animal. Some of our reasons are: the grizzly is found in fewer states than the elk; the grizzly is an endangered animal. He is often misunderstood.

The grizzly is also large and powerful, just like our State. Having the grizzly as our state animal might help people understand the habitat of the grizzly as well as help preserve the grizzly for future generations.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to present this view.

2nd group
9-b

Mr. Chairman, Committe Members:

I am Jimmy Winter from fifth grade at Granville Stuart School. Deer Lodge, Montana. I am speaking in favor of Senate Bill 224. I think the Grizzly Bear ~~was~~ a good choice for the state animal. It's a fighting animal when cornered or frightened. Doesn't that mean that we are fierce through storms or floods or fires? We pulled through that just like a Grizzly would. The Grizzly is tough and mean and skilled and isn't that like our football players? A Grizzly Bear has sharp claws just like the people had sharp minds that voted for the Grizzly. The Grizzly is becoming endangered, so are we from the Nuclear war. In a lot of ways, we are like the Grizzly Bear. Some of the people didn't vote for the Grizzly but we are all entitled to our own opinion. The Grizzly can run far, just like the runners from our state!

Thank You!



2nd group

9-c

Jeanne

Mr. Chivers, members of the committee, and others interested in Senate Bill 224 are Jeanne Dineen from Knoxville without school in the field, Mr. K are a fifth grader who is in favor of having the grizzly bear as Montana's state animal. Reason is that the grizzly bear should be the state animal here that the grizzly bear lives in Montana. Another reason is that the best grizzly bear experts live in Montana, namely they are Charles G. and Frank and John Craighead. Montana is also the world's center for grizzly bear research.

Now, I will tell you about the grizzly bear itself. I will admit that grizzly bears eat cattle, but don't they eat the cattle's hay? Yes. Despite their bulk, grizzly bears are very agile, even on very rough land. The Indians called the grizzly bear "King of Bears," and they had good reason, too, for the grizzly bear is only afraid of man and other grizzly bears. Wouldn't you like such a noble bear for Montana's state animal?

Not only that, you were voted here ^{by} to represent them as the majority of people voted for the grizzly bear as the state animal. ~~To do your job~~ - represent the people ~~of Montana~~ ^{of Montana} and

From our Montana's research on grizzly bears we are ^{now} learning what we do to endanger the whole species of grizzly bears. From ^{our} research on grizzly bears we are also learning what

endangers the very existence of man. Such as
polluting our natural resources, ^{that} will ruin them,
so we will starve. Building is another danger
to man that we are learning from research
on a island. It also ruins natural resources.

I believe the grizzly should be the state
animal because the grizzly resembles Montana.
The grizzly is a large, strong, rugged animal.
Montana ^{land} for a while is large and
rugged. The grizzly and Montana are both
good and beautiful in their own way. That is why
I believe Montana resembles the grizzly, and
vice versa.

I also believe the grizzly resembles
Montanans. Grizzlies don't live out, and display
the characteristics that Montanans like. Grizzlies
are very resilient. They are also highly protective
of their territory and children. They use their
territory wisely. The grizzly also values
privacy very highly. Grizzlies are very
fun loving, curious, warm, and loving.
They are very tough and intelligent. That are
the ways in

I thank you for your time.

Rep. Freshman

GENERAL ELECTION

STATE ANIMAL

Cascade COUNTY

SCHOOL

CANDIDATES	STATE ANIMAL											
	ELK	GRIZZLY	Buffalo	Fox	Horse (Wild)	Eagle	Bobcat	Wolf	Mtn. Goat	Whit-Tail Deer	Cotton-tail	Lynx Antelope
Russe 11 Elem.	71	191	1	1								
Sunnyside Elem.	29	56	2		1							
Meadow Lark El.	91	216										
Roosevelt (6th)	6	41										
Franklin	123	182			1							
Sacajawea	35	75	1			1						
River view	98	288	2		1		1	1	1	2		
Lincoln (5th)	9	42							1		1	
Mtn. View (5th)	65	190			1							
Morningside	119	213	16	1		1						
Chief Joseph	55	158	4					1				
Longfellow	39	74	1		3							
Valley View	63	166										
Ft. Shaw-Simms (Elem)	53	89		4		5						

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 336

1. Page 3, line 2.

Strike: "penalties--jurisdiction"

Insert: "Penalty"

2. Page 3, line 22 through page 4, line 25.

Strike: "(1)"

Strike: "violating"through "terms on page 4, line 13.

Insert: "convicted of violating a provision of this part is
punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 or more than \$1,000.
In addition, the permit, if any, of such person must be revoked
for such period as the court may determine"

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 10, 19 93

MR. **SPEAKER:**

We, your committee on **FISH AND GAME**

having had under consideration **SENATE** Bill No. **224**

third reading copy (blue)
color

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO DESIGNATE THE GRIZZLY BEAR, URSUS ARCTOS HORRIBILIS, AS THE OFFICIAL ANIMAL OF THE STATE OF MONTANA."

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE** Bill No. **224**

BE CONCURRED IN
XXXXX
DO PASS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 10, 19 83

MR. **SPEAKER:**

We, your committee on **FISH AND GAME**

having had under consideration **SENATE** Bill No. **336**

third reading copy (blue)
color

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE AERIAL HUNTING LAWS; INCLUDING A PROHIBITION ON HARASSMENT OF LIVESTOCK; PROVIDING FOR INCREASED PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL HUNTING OF WILD ANIMALS; AMENDING SECTIONS 81-7-501, 81-7-503, 81-7-505, AND 81-7-511, MCA."

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE** Bill No. **336**
be amended as follows:

1. Page 3, line 2.
Strike: "Penalties--jurisdiction"
Insert: "Penalty"
2. Page 3, line 22 through page 4, line 25.
Strike: "(1)"
Strike: "violating " through "terms" on page 4, line 13.
Insert: "convicted of violating a provision of this part is punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 or more than \$1,000. In addition, the permit, if any, of such person must be revoked for such period as the court may determine"

AND AS AMENDED
BE CONCURRED IN

XXXXXX
DO PASS