

HOUSE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 22, 1983

The House Labor and Employment Relations Committee convened at 4:40 p.m., March 22, 1983, in Room 224K of the State Capitol, with Chairman J. Melvin Williams presiding and all members present except Reps. Farris and Dozier, excused, and Reps. Seifert and Thoft, absent. Chairman Williams opened the meeting to an executive session on SB 273.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SENATE BILL 273 Chairman Williams said he had requested that this bill be returned to the committee so they could take another look at what they thought they did. He asked David Hunter, Department of Labor and Industry, to explain what the intent of the bill was and the problem with the amendment they had attached.

DAVID HUNTER passed copies of a suggested amendment, Exhibit 1, and a fact sheet, Exhibit 2, to the members. He said the amendment added by the committee on March 17 that the applicant had to earn only 10% of the average weekly wage opened the benefits up to more workers. He said 20% would be a better figure to use. He said with the 20% amendment they would not be cutting off people that are permanent part-time but the seasonal people who are not really attached to the labor market. The way the original amendment read some would be receiving more in weekly benefits than they did in weekly wages.

Rep. Driscoll expressed concern that this change would affect waitresses that work shifts. Mr. Hunter said the impact primarily is in the retail sector and not in the service sector.

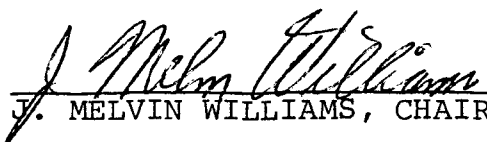
Rep. Driscoll moved to TABLE the bill. This motion failed with 10 voting no, 5 yes (Dozier, Bachini, Farris, Driscoll, McCormick), and 2 absent (Thoft and Seifert). Reps. Dozier and Farris had left their votes with the secretary.)

Rep. Miller moved the amendment which is Exhibit 1 and this motion carried with Reps. McCormick, Pavlovich, Bachini, Driscoll voted no.

Rep. Jones moved the bill AS AMENDED BE CONCURRED IN. This motion carried with Reps. Pavlovich, McCormick, Bachini, Driscoll, Dozier and Farris voting no. Reps. Dozier and Farris had left votes with the secretary.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


J. MELVIN WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

Emelia A. Satre, Sec.

AMEND SENATE BILL 273, Third reading copy (blue) with
House committee amendments of 3/17/83 as follows:

1. amend House committee amendment #1 as follows:

Following the third insertion.

Strike: "10%"

Insert: "20%"

Following: "39-51-2201(3)

Insert: "in subject employment in the base period"

*Does
As Amended*

39-51-2105 is now amended to read:

"39-51-2105. Qualifying wages. On and after July 1, 1983,
to qualify for benefits, an individual must have had at
least 20 weeks of work in which his average weekly wage
was equal to 20% of the average weekly wage calculated
pursuant to 39-51-2201(3) in subject employment in the
base period."

FACT SHEET PERTAINING TO SB 273

	<u>CY80</u>	<u>CY81</u>	<u>CY82</u>	<u>CY83</u>	<u>CY84</u>	<u>CY85</u>
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 241.32	\$ 262.62	\$ 282.32	\$ 303.49	\$ 326.25	\$ 350.72
Taxable Wage Base (75% Average Weekly Wage with \$200 limit)	7,600	7,800	8,000	8,200	8,400	8,600
Average Tax Rate(%)	2.9	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.1

FY82 FY83 FY84 FY85 FY86 FY87

Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount
(60% Average Weekly Wage)

\$145 \$158 \$169 \$182 \$196 \$210

Average Weekly Benefit Amount

\$120 132 144 157 169 180

Minimum Weekly Benefit Amount
(15% Average Weekly Wage)

\$ 36 39 42 46 49 53

Minimum Qualifying Wage
(Current Law)

\$ 50 50 50 50 50 50

Minimum Qualifying Wage
(Proposed Law)

(\$ 48) (52) 56 60 65 70

Number of hours at State
Minimum Wage to earn
minimum qualifying wage

19 hrs 19 hrs 20 hrs 22 hrs 24 hrs 25 hrs

Number of claimants who
would not qualify

1871 2807

Number of claimants who
would not qualify as amended

158 236

Exhibit 2

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 22, 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**

**Amend Senate Bill 273, Third Reading Copy (blue), with House Labor
and Employment Relations Committee Amendments of 3/17/83 as follows:**

1. Strike: House Committee Amendments 1 and 2

2. Page 1, line 20.

Strike: "with an"

Insert: "in which his"

Following: "wage"

Insert: "was"

Following: "to"

**Insert: "20% of the average weekly wage calculated pursuant to
39-51-2201(3)"**

3. Page 1, lines 21 and 22.

Strike: "the" on line 21 through "amount" on line 22

AS AMENDED

BE CONCURRED IN

XXXXX

DO PASS

J. MELVIN WILLIAMS Chairman.