

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HOUSE HIGHWAYS AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, APRIL 14, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Abrams on Thursday, April 14, 1983 at 1:10pm, in Room 129, State Capitol. All members were present with the exception of Representatives Brown, Harp, Kennerly, Keyser and Stobie, who were absent and Representatives Hemstad, Lybeck, O'Connell and Shontz, who were excused.

HEARINGS

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 22. SEN. MAX CONOVER, District 36, testified as chief sponsor of the bill and told the Committee government materials were stored near a chromium mine at Nye, MT at the end of World War II. He said the materials were later sold and trucked to the rail head at Columbus, MT, repurchased by the federal government and hauled back to the chromium mine, adding the transportation of the materials ruined the highway serving area residents. Sen. Conover explained it would cost \$5,279,000 to bring the right of way up to date and \$7,062,500 if it were to be fit for heavy truck use and told the Committee area residents believe the government is avoiding its responsibility in refusing to update the road. He said copies of the resolution are to be sent to President Reagan, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and the Montana Congressional delegation, adding language on page 2 lines 8-11 need to be changed to indicate State concern with the road. Sen. Conover advised committee members the only way to repair the road at present is raising property taxes, which area residents cannot afford.

PROPOSERS

There were no proposers of the bill.

OPPOSERS

There were no opposers of the bill.

QUESTIONS

REP. ZABROCKI asked Sen. Conover how he would change lines 8-11 on page 2 of the bill. Sen. Conover, replied the County Commissioners have never asked for road funds and have not worked with the State on the situation.

REP. UNDERDAL commented the Governor should be added to those receiving the resolution, on page 2, line 24.

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REP. SOLBERG asked when the road was torn up. Sen. Conover replied it took place between 1977 and 1982. Rep. Solberg commented the Department of Highways may have disaster funds which could be used to repair the road.

REP. KOEHNKE asked how many miles were involved, to which Sen. Conover responded, saying there were 26 miles.

REP. UNDERDAL asked if a study had been made. Sen. Conover replied a feasibility study had been completed by HKM Associates in the fall of 1982.

CHAIRMAN ABRAMS asked if the road in reference followed the Stillwater River and were a paved highway. Sen. Conover replied affirmatively to both questions, adding Secondary Highway 419 was constructed for the federal government when the chromium mine opened, at which time the government was also given a lot of right of way. He said area residents need to use the road and are asking that it be repaired.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

REP. UNDERDAL moved the bill Be Concurred In and then moved "Governor" be inserted on page 2, line 15, following "the", striking "both" on the same line, and that following "highway" on page 2, line 22, "the Governor" be inserted.

The motion was seconded by Rep. Zabrocki and unanimously approved by those present. Rep. Lybeck left a proxy vote in favor of the amendments.

Rep. Underdal's motion that the bill Be Concurred In as Amended was seconded by Rep. Spaeth and unanimously approved by committee members, to include Rep. Lybeck's proxy vote.

REP. SPAETH was asked to carry the bill.

CHAIRMAN ABRAMS advised committee members the Governor would sign House Bill 70 at 9am on April 15, 1983, if any of them were interested in attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.


REP. HUBERT ABRAMS, CHAIRMAN

Joann T. Gibson, Secretary



STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 14 19 83

MR. ~~SPEAKER~~

We, your committee on HOUSE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

having had under consideration SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 22

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color

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE MONTANAN DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS TO
COOPERATE WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF STILLWATER COUNTY IN
PROVIDING FUNDING TO REPAIR DAMAGES TO MONTANA SECONDARY
HIGHWAY NO. 419 CAUSED BY TRANSPORTATION OF CHROMIUM FOR THE
STRATEGIC MINERAL STOCKPILE PROGRAM OF THE UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT.

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION Bill No. 22

Be amended as follows:

1. Page 2, line 15
Following: "urges"
Strike: "both"
Following: "the"
Insert: "Governor,"
2. Page 2, line 16
Following: "Highways"
Insert: ", "
3. Page 2, line 21
Following: "to"
Insert: "the Governor;"

AND AS AMENDED

DO PASS

REP. HUBERT ABRAMS

Chairman.

STATE PUB. CO.
Helena, Mont.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY