

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES SUB COMMITTEE

BILL _____

DATE Feb 10, 1983

SPONSOR _____

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUP-PORT	OP-POSE
Gay Hoberty	Helena	Women's Lobbyist Fund	ADP	
Bob Walburn	Columbia Falls	LISCA	ADP LEAP	
WADE WILKISON	HELENA	LISCA	-	
Jack Sketon	Mslo	Citizen's Advocate	LEAP	
Gregg... Security Subcom Helena	Missoula Helena	Citizen MACO	LEAP	
James Smith	HELENA	REG. 8 CAR ASSOC.	LEAP	
Wesley Smith	Helena	Montana Senior Citizens Ass.	LEAP	
Russell Blanton	Missoula	HRDC II LEAP Coord.	LEAP	
Jane Steptoe	MISSOULA	CITIZEN	LEAP	
Perry Payne	Helena	League of Women Voters	ADP LEAP	

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
ON HUMAN SERVICES
February 10, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Shontz at 8:15 a.m. All subcommittee members were present.

Also present were: Mr. John LaFaver, Director of SRS, Mr. Ben Johns, Mr. Jack Lowney, Mr. Gary Walsh from SRS; Mr. Ron Weiss from OFPP and Peggy Williams and Mason Niblack, LFA's. and many others.

Begin Tape 36 Side two

AFDC

Peggy Williams, fiscal analyst, answered questions the committee had presented at yesterday's meeting. She explained a handout exhibit 1 first. In answer to Sen. Regan's question if the caseload had increased as much in neighboring states as it has in Montana, Peggy told her Montana's caseload increased 24% in calendar year 1982 and other states ranged from a decrease in Oregon to an 18% increase in Wyoming, so Montana is increasing a little bit faster rate than in other states.

The first chart that she presented showed the average of caseloads for the past five years. Mr. LaFaver felt however this was partly due to law changes, economic recoveries, etc. and was perhaps not a fair comparison. Peggy has called several other states with regards to their criteria for qualification in this program and has not received all the data yet but will be presenting it to the committee.

The second page dealt with the AFDC costs and the options of going with a caseload of 5800, 6315 or a caseload of 6315 with no inflation factor for FY84 and a caseload of 5800, 6315 or 6315 with no inflation for FY85 for the federal, state and county.

Page three explained the AFDC benefit amount and how the LFA arrived at the poverty level they figured and how SRS determined their poverty level. The LFA used the 1982 actual poverty index and the SRS used 1978 poverty index inflated by GNPD for 79, 80 and 81 so the SRS is figuring at a base which is equivalent to 51% of the poverty index. Therefore, the LFA average benefit in FY83 was increased 6.8% to reach the average payment for FY84 of \$313 and an additional 6.5% to reach the FY85 average payment of \$333.

Page four explained the additional cost of day care for the beinnium if the caseloads increase to 6315. The difference would be \$44,770 in FY84 and FY85, \$47,456.

Mr. LaFaver told the committee the only figures he was in total agreement with was the day care costs. Sen. Regan asked Mr. LaFaver if he disagreed with the poverty index and he explained that the methods used in the past established sort of a unique poverty index

for Montana. The department recommended continuing the method used in the past.

The committee asked for and received statistical reports from the Department of SRS and these were handed out to the committee members.

Mr. Jack Lowney explained the date the department had brought in response to a question from Sen. Story at yesterday's meeting which had a breakdown of the caseloads by county which showed on the average an increase of about 22%. see exhibit 2 The sheet on day care training was based on a caseload of 7305 versus the 6315 the LFA predicted. Pages 4 and 5 showed information on a breakdown of what the caseload looked like in January of 82 and January of 83. The breakdown showed the grant status, the case action, the marital status, the child deprivation reason, number in grant and the length of time on AFDC. The remaining pages were a graph of the past four years caseload and the last page was information stating that the counties are not required to reimburse the SRS for Indians in the aid to dependent children program.

Chairman Shontz asked if there was anything in the statutes that says the tribal governments couldn't participate or pay in the same fashion the counties do and the department said there was not.

Stacy Flaherty from the Women's Lobbyist Group testified they were strongly supportive of funding the AFDC program. She testified that 1/2 of the families below the poverty level are headed by females and 75% of these receive no child support. She felt that if the LFA budget is accepted the cuts would eliminate 1200 families. In view of the economic situation, they feel the program is needed now more than ever. See exhibit 3

Rep. Winslow wanted a clarification on Ms. Flaherty's statement that 1200 families would be cut from the program and Mr. LaFaver said that based on their projections that if their caseload were accurate something would have to give either the number of families or a substantial cutback in the payment that each family receives. Current level in Mr. LaFaver's mind is paying for people who are eligible for a program that is now in place.

Hearings were then closed on AFDC.

LIEAP PROGRAM

Mr. Gary Walsh made the presentation on the Low Income Energy Assistance Program to the committee. It is the department's contention that the LIEAP monies should be used for the intent that Congress appropriated the money for and that the primary

object of the program was to be for fuel assistance. The purpose of the program is intended to provide assistance to low income households to help them meet the cost of heating their homes. The payments are made in two ways either by paying directly to fuel vendors such as Montana Power and the other is for renters who have fuel costs included in their rent. The amount of the payment is based upon the region, state, type of fuel, and size of home. They pay 88% of what the fuel costs and this does not include the cost for cooking just for heating the home. There is a large group of people who qualify for this program and they include any household that qualifies for AFDC or receives general assistance from the county welfare department or is a recipient of SSI is automatically eligible for LIEAP. Households who have recipients who have income of less than 125% of the poverty level also qualify. There are 27,800 families that fall below this poverty level in Montana.

There were some changes in the past year where they changed it to a seven month program which begins the first of October and runs through April assuming these are the cold months of the year. Any applicant who applies during this time and is determined to be eligible that individual receives the full grant award.

Another change in the program was in how the program was administered. In the past it was administered by Human Resource Development Councils and during the current year the program is administered by HRDC, Department of Public Welfare and by other local government agencies.

The payments were made directly to the vendors last year by HRDC councils and this year the vendor payments are made by SRS. The payments this year are provided in installments instead of the full grant award. For regulated vendors there are 3 payments made and for non-regulated vendors they are reimbursed 1/7 of the full grant award at a time. During FY82 there were 14,800 households that were provided fuel assistance and the average amount of payments was \$412 dollars totaling \$6.3 million. During the current year FY83 as of February 3, there are 12,600 approved cases at an average of \$424 for a total expenditure of \$5,361,000 thus far. They anticipate serving 20,000 households during this current year and the total cost of expenditures of \$8.4 million. The reason they feel it will reach 20,000 is because they are receiving 200 applications a day and approximately 90% of these applications are eligible for fuel assistance.

A discussion on what income was considered poverty level ensued and Mr. LaFaver estimated it would be about \$6,900 per year for one person. Mr. Lowney said the income criteria was that you had to be under 150% with gross income and you still had to get down to 125% to be eligible for this program and you could do this by applying medical expenses. They will bring this information to the committee later.

In the President's budget proposal he has proposed cutbacks in the LIEAP program. One of the primary reasons is that states have been transferring money from the LIEAP program to Title XX to offset their general fund expenses. If we look at what President Reagan is proposing for the LIEAP program we are looking at a grant award of 7.7 million. It is their current conviction that \$1.7 million in LIEAP funds that was transferred by the special session to the general fund would be restored and they strongly support HB217 which would restore these monies to the LIEAP. They also feel that no money should be transferred to the Title XX program during the biennium to offset general fund expenditure.

The amount of money involved if you look at the restoration of these \$1.7 million, and looking at what would be their grant award from President Reagan's budget proposal, we would be talking about a total of \$3.4 million during the fiscal year. With this figure and the figures on the handout exhibit 2, it would show they would not have adequate monies to meet current level in the program and they would be faced with either cutting back with weatherization or need to cut back the benefit level.

As a further explanation of their worksheet, he said this identified the fact that for FY84 and FY85 they have used a grant award of \$7.7 million and this is based on President Reagan's budget recommendation and also a carryover from the previous year and also looking at replenishing the moneys that were transferred to Title XX back to LIEAP and have included \$500,000 that they anticipate receiving this fiscal year because of a settlement of an oil price overcharge. They are looking at carrying over both the restoration of the \$1.7 million from Title XX and the oil pricing overcharge into FY84.

On grants these figures reflect a 6% increase over the current level figure they had in FY83. For benefits for FY84 and FY85 they are looking at a cost to household figure of \$20,000 but the increase has to do with inflation of fuel costs, or a 13% inflation figure for FY84 and there is a 10% increase in inflation for fuel for FY85. Their projection for the LIEAP is that the caseload will remain constant but that they will experience an increase in costs because of inflated fuel costs. If what they do receive is the \$10.3 million the analysts is suggesting is current level they would need the restoration of \$1.7 million of Title XX in order to just break even in the next biennium.

Sen. Aklestad asked Mr. Walsh how the payments were determined by region or otherwise and the amount that is paid into the power company. Sen. Aklestad felt there might be a balance in a client's name which might be carried over from prior years say if one were to have a mild winter and the fuel bills were not as costly for example.
End of Tape 36 Side 2 Begin Tape 37 Side 1

Mr. LaFaver replied once the money is paid to the power company it is in the individual's account and the money is no longer the states. If a client should have a refund coming he could ask for it himself and receive it.

Sen. Story asked about the 125% poverty index to be able to qualify for this program. Mr. LaFaver said there was talk last fall of bringing it to 150% but it was not favored.

Rep. Winslow asked about the oil price overcharge amount they anticipate receiving. Mr. LaFaver told them they expect to receive \$500,000 to be earmarked for LIEAP and the remainder for weatherization of schools.

Sen. Aklestad asked about the inflation factor they were using for fuel increases and felt it was high but Mr. LaFaver feels the inflation factors they are using are actually lower than the inflation factors for fuel that were agreed upon by executive budget and LFA. They feel it won't account for all the increase in cost of power that will occur.

Chairman Shontz asked Ron Weiss a question concerning LIEAP in the executive budget proposal. In the proposal it says that the executive request under the LIEAP block grant request assumes that Montana will receive \$10,377,000 a year, and the sheet we were just presented with shows FY84 a grant award of \$7.712 million and also for FY85. He asked if this was a change and Ron explained it was a change because the book was published in November and this latter figure represents more current data. With these figures there shows a deficit of \$4,084,000 by the end of the biennium and Chairman Shontz wanted to know how the executive budget proposed to make up this deficit and how they proposed to fund the balance. He asked Ron to discuss this with the Governor's office.

Mr. LaFaver feels that if the federal government appropriates the present budget there will be a cutback in this program and what the department is trying to project is that if we use the \$10.3 million that the LFA suggests, they would still just break even if the transfer is restored and no further transfer is made. If restorations are not made then clearly the program will have to be cut back because there is no proposal to add general fund back into the program. Chairman Shontz expressed concern if we are going to accept the President's recommendations as a basis of where to start we need to be consistent and if we are going to do this in this case, then we will have to find some alternative source of funding to meet the needs.

Rep. Winslow wanted a clarification of figures. Mr. LaFaver stated that if you go with the \$10.3 million and 15% of the grant award goes for weatherization the budget will just break even. The choices are to either cut back in weatherization or cut back in the grant award

either in numbers of people eligible or cutback in benefits.

Sen. Aklestad asked when the payments were made and was told it was when they first applied, in mid-January and in mid-April. Sen. Aklestad asked how the consideration for benefits was made, if by number of bedrooms and the average amount of insulation that would be in a dwelling.

Public testimony was then heard on the LIEAP Program.

1. ROBERT WALTMIRE from Columbia Falls, Montana, representing the Low Income Senior Citizens of Montana, testified he very much objected to the requirement that they must go to the welfare office to get this assistance and many will refuse to go to the welfare office rather than going there and he feels this is wrong. He felt the \$1.7 million should be restored. He felt they should be paid by the local technicians not by computer as it done now. He felt the assets they have to declare in order to qualify for this program is too low. He felt that the seven month heating season was too short and not realistic for Montana. He felt the maximum dollars should be put into weatherization also. see witness statement
2. MR. JACK SKELTON from Missoula, Montana, then testified. A citizen's advocate, he has spent volunteer time in the courts for the past year and has seen examples of older people arrested for petty theft of food and it was because they had gotten to a point in their lives where it was either pay particular bills and forgo food. He feels this is a very sad situation. He feels cutting back would put those people who are in need in even more of a predicament than they were before. He himself had received some assistance from this program and felt very grateful for what he had received and he felt if there is some money that can be put back into this assistance program it should be done. see witness statement
3. MR. WADE LUCUS, Director of LISCA testified next. He stated LISCA went on record last session in objection of the transfer of the \$1.7 million out of LIEAP and they are very much interested in HB217 or whatever mechanism might be available to reinstate the \$1.7 million into this program and they very much support the maintenance of the amount of money for the LIEAP program this biennium. He pointed out that Sen. Max Baucus is currently conducting some hearings across the state and the point is always being brought up again and again by the senior citizens as to the dilemma they face of staying warm or eating. He wanted to bring out to the committee the fact that the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission is trying to stabilize the energy market and are seeking to maintain prices not increase them. He felt the 15% that goes into weatherization is very important and goes a long way towards solving the problem of keeping the homes properly heated.

4. MR. JIM SMITH, executive secretary of the Region 8 Community Action Agency Association testified he felt this particular program has grown bigger and faster than anyone could have predicted. It has gone from a \$400,000 program to nearly a \$12 million dollar program in 1983. It was first called EEP, SKIP, ECAP, and now LIEAP. It has gone from federal administration by the community services administration and then to the Department of Health and Human Services and finally to the states through block grant process. He felt a program that has grown this fast taxes the ability of the delivery system that are given the responsibility of administering this program on either the state or local level and there have been differences from time to time with the SRS. It has attempted somehow to stay in step with the rising cost of fuel.

End of Tape 37 Side One Begin Side Two Tape 37

The block grant allowed some flexibility and there were some transfers from the grant that went into programs other than direct payments. He feels it is fairly clear that the program isn't being utilized entirely for fuel assistance and this is causing a great deal of concern and hardship in the state. He feels that less and less people are being served by this program every year and feels that with more funds supposedly coming in and less people being served this is hard to understand. He urged the committee to think seriously about restoring the 10% fuel assistance back to the assistance program because the need is there.

5. JACKIE TRUJILLO from Missoula, citizen, told of her family having to use the fuel assistance program and how very grateful they were and how much they benefited from the aid. She worries about the older people and hoped the committee would consider funding. see witness statement

6. MR. JEFF RUPE, Director of HRDC for Montana and for the Board of Gallatin and Park Councils, stated he wanted to encourage the committee not to get into the easy way out of transferring a million dollars of low income energy assistance money to the general fund. He feels this block grant is a key source of trying to stabilize the income of the families in his area and any reduction would result in the reduction of many of the households from this program.

The only logical transfer that should be made if any is for the weatherization function. Sen. Story asked him how many homes they had weatherized. He feels one could easily make a projection that only about 40 to 45% of the homes have been weatherized throughout the state of Montana at the present time. With the \$1000 (\$500 for supplies) they are allowed per home they do weather stripping and put in storm windows, stopping air infiltration. Sen. Aklestad asked him if he felt a 12% administration cost was a bit too high and he felt it was not.

Rep. Winslow asked Mr. Waltmire about his feelings on the requirements for applying for LIEAP assistance. Mr. Waltmire stated you have to go down and apply and the local technician examines everything and then on the basis of assets they are then determined to be eligible or not. Rep. Winslow felt it appeared to him some that were eligible were not applying in view of the testimony that 90% of those who apply receive some assistance.

Mr. LaFaver closed by saying if they had the \$1.7million last time there very probably would have been two changes made; 1) that the payment standard could have been nudged upward and the 2) then looked at the people from a 125% poverty index to 150%. The fact that they served some 14,000 some people last year indicates that the eligibility standards were tighter last year than they were in previous times.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Tomorrow's meeting will begin at 8 p.m. and will begin with the LFA presentation on LIEAP and the Department of SRS will finish their presentations on the remainder of the programs in this area and will start looking at the social service block grant.

Tape 37 Side 2 to 113



John Shontz, Chairman



Carol Duval, Secretary

AFDC Costs - Options

Source of Funds	1 FY84		3		4 FY85		6	
	Caseload 5800	Caseload 6315	Caseload 6315 No Inflation	Caseload 5800	Caseload 6315	Caseload 6315 No Inflat.		
Federal	14,081,694	15,332,052	14,353,369	14,928,177	16,253,696	14,301,300		
State	6,300,602	6,860,051	6,421,708	6,746,796	7,345,865	6,463,479		
County	1,402,504	1,527,037	1,429,463	1,501,827	1,635,179	1,438,761		
	<u>21,784,800</u>	<u>23,719,140</u>	<u>22,203,540</u>	<u>23,176,800</u>	<u>25,234,740</u>	<u>22,203,540</u>		

Day Care

	<u>F484</u>	<u>F485</u>
LFA (caseload = 5800)	504,201	534,452

LFA (caseload = 6315)	548,971	581,908
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Increase

44,770

47,456

AFDC - Benefit Amount

Poverty Level

LFA looked at 1982 actual Poverty Index.

SRS used 1978 poverty index inflated by GNPD for 1979, 80, 81.

SRS pays benefits at 55% of their poverty index, which is equivalent to 51% of the actual poverty index.

Calculation of Payment

LFA continued benefits at 51% of the actual poverty index. To continue this level, the average benefit in fiscal 1983 was increased 6.8% to reach the 1984 average payment and an additional 6.5% to reach the 1985 average payment.

Average Payment

FY84 \$313

FY85 \$333

LIEAP

	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
GE - AWARD	11,107,295	11,717,517	* 7,712,796	* 7,712,796
PR & HEAL CAREWORK	829,260	3,879,416	2,138,080	838,707
REPLENISH XX		1,668,724	CARRY OVER } 1,668,724	
SPECIAL FUNDS		500,000	CARRY OVER } 500,000	
TOTAL	11,936,555	17,765,707	12,519,600	8,551,593
STATE ADM.	242,266	256,802	272,210	288,543
TRANSFER TO XX	834,362	834,362	-	-
DETERIALIZATION	461,383	** 2,852,867	1,156,919	1,156,919
GRANTS				
DC ADM	547,234	614,872	651,764	690,870
BENEFITS	5,971,844	8,400,000	9,600,000	10,500,000
TOTAL GRANTS	6,357,091	9,014,872	10,251,764	11,190,870
TOTAL EXPEND.	8,057,089	12,958,903	11,680,893	12,636,332
BALANCE	3,879,466	4,806,804	838,707	*** <4,084,842>

* AS REQUESTED IN THE PRESIDENTS BUDGET FOR NEXT YEAR.

Federal appropriation at 1.3 billion.

** 15% OF FFY83 GRANT (1,757,627) plus remainder of 15% OF FFY82 GRANT (1,556,623 - 461,383 = 1,095,240)

*** IF the 10,377,489 grant award is used the last year balance would be 445,189.

Day CARE TRAINING

	FY82	FY83	FY84	FY85
AFDC	* 362,862	383,317	468,241	516,832
WIN	* 85,875	91266	112,223	123,055
TOTAL	448,737	474,633	580,464	639,887

CASES *

	FY82	FY83	FY84	FY85
AFDC WIN	50	50	58	60
WIN AFDC	210	210	242	252
TOTAL	260	260	300	312

Unit Price

	FY82	FY83	FY84	FY85
AFDC	143.50	152.11	161.24	170.91
WIN	143.50	152.11	161.24	170.91
TOTAL	143.50	152.11	161.24	170.91

* FY83 average cases of 6329 is substantially the same as FY82 therefore no increase in cases is expected. FY84 estimated caseload is a 15% increase over FY83 therefore the daycare would increase the same percentage

** Unit price was increased by 6% each year.

1/9/83

AFDC INFORMATION SHEET

1) GRANT STATUS

	JAN 82	JAN 83
PAYEE NOT INCLUDED (INCAPACITATED)	0.6%	0.6%
PAYEE NOT INCLUDED (OTHER)	10.2%	7.3%
SINGLE - INCOME > 0	19.0%	14.5%
SINGLE OTHER	70.0%	77.6%

2) CASE ACTION

	JAN 82	JAN 83
ORIGINAL OPENING	68.1%	62.3%
REOPEN	31.9%	37.7%

3) MARITAL STATUS

	JAN 82	JAN 83
MARRIED	13.4%	12.9%
DIVORCED	32.6%	31.3%
SINGLE	32.3%	32.6%
SEPARATED	19.7%	21.7%
WIDOWED	2.0%	1.5%

4) CHILD DERIVATION REASON

	JAN 82	JAN 83
DIVORCE	31.4%	32.2%
UNWED	35.8%	37.2%
VIETNAMESE	2.7%	0.4%
INCAPACITATED	3.8%	4.0%
SEPARATED	20.6%	21.2%
DESERTION	0.9%	1.1%
OTHER	4.1%	3.8%

	JAN 82	JAN 83
5) NUMBER IN GRANT		
1	9.3 %	7.4 %
2	43.1 %	45.6 %
3	26.3 %	26.2 %
4	13.2 %	13.4 %
5	4.9 %	4.7 %
6	1.7 %	1.7 %
7	0.9 %	0.6 %
8	0.3 %	0.2 %
9	0.2 %	0.1 %
10	0.1 %	0.0 %
11	0.0 %	0.1 %

6) LENGTH ON AFDC

0-9 MONTHS	49.6 %	55.5 %
10-24 MONTHS	27.9 %	25.5 %
2 YRS AND MORE	22.5 %	19.0 %

AVERAGE TIME SINCE OPENED 17.7 MONTHS 15.6 MONTHS

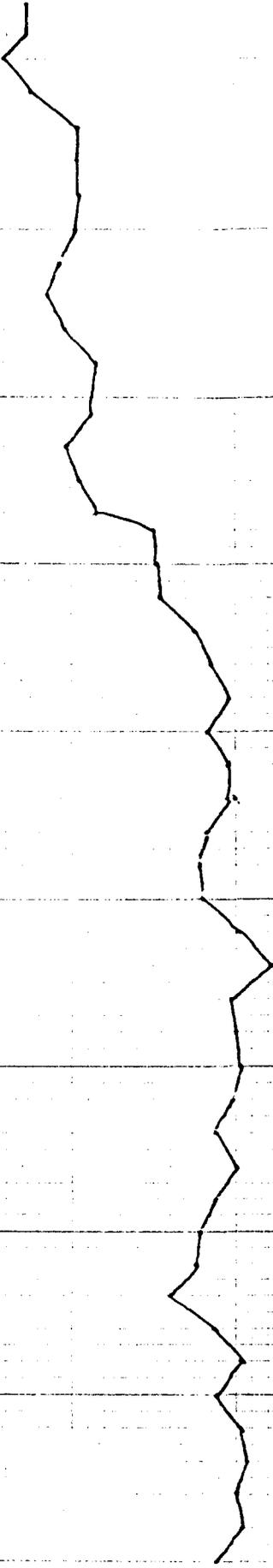
AFDC CASELOAD

Form 4256 Counties

State Publishing Co.
Helena, Montana

	NON-INDIAN JAN 82	NON-INDIAN JAN 83	% CHANGE	REGISTERED INDIAN JAN 82	REGISTERED INDIAN JAN 83	% CHANGE
Beaverhead	55	56	+2	-	-	-
Belt	21	19	-9	41	39	-5
Blaine	19	30	+58	100	101	+1
Broadwater	17	13	-24	-	-	-
Carbon	45	52	+16	-	-	-
Carter	6	5	-17	-	-	-
Cascade	532	655	+23	86	103	+20
Chouteau	15	21	+40	3	-	-100
Custer	43	82	+91	1	-	-100
Daniels	3	5	+67	-	-	-
Dawson	22	34	+55	1	2	+100
Deer Lodge	118	134	+14	1	4	+300
Fallon	10	6	-60	-	-	-
Fergus	44	47	+7	-	1	-
Flathead	308	470	+53	11	14	+27
Gallatin	111	138	+24	5	2	-60
Garfield	0	1	-	-	-	-
Glacier	37	35	-5	180	186	+3
Golden Valley	0	0	-	-	-	-
Granite	24	26	+8	-	-	-
Hill	67	95	+42	92	134	+46
Jefferson	35	30	-14	-	-	-
Judith Basin	6	5	-17	-	-	-
Lake	121	125	+3	13	101	+676
Lewis and Clark	266	366	+38	5	4	-20
Liberty	1	5	+400	-	-	-
Lincoln	170	217	+28	3	6	+100
Madison	11	10	-9	-	-	-
McCone	4	2	-50	-	-	-
Meagher	15	15	-	-	-	-
Mineral	31	42	+35	2	1	-50
Missoula	592	627	+6	23	46	+100
Musselshell	25	20	-20	-	-	-
Park	67	85	+27	-	-	-
Petroleum	0	1	-	-	-	-
Phillips	18	19	+6	4	3	-25
Pondera	26	17	-35	29	49	+69
Powder River	1	2	+100	-	-	-
Powell	56	76	+36	1	4	+300
Prairie	5	2	-40	-	-	-
Ravalli	130	121	-7	1	1	-
Richland	29	49	+69	1	1	-
Roosevelt	25	43	+72	52	109	+109
Rosebud	11	21	+91	12	13	+8
Sanders	36	42	+17	1	6	+500
Sheridan	8	17	+213	1	-	-
Silver Bow	331	409	+24	11	14	+27
Stillwater	15	20	+33	1	-	-
Sweet Grass	3	7	+233	-	-	-
Teton	25	23	-8	-	3	-
Toole	14	27	+71	3	10	+233
Treasure	1	1	-	11	1	-
Valley	38	49	+29	17	8	-53
Wheatland	6	7	+17	3	4	+33
Wibaux	4	7	+75	-	-	-
Yellowstone	592	680	+15	40	31	-22
None	4197	5113	+22	8	-	-
TOTAL				753	1001	+33

RFDC CASELOAD



FY 78

FY 79

FY 80

FY 81

53-2-609. Revocation of assistance. If the county department of social and rehabilitation services has reason to believe a reason of a complaint or otherwise, that public assistance under this title has been improperly granted, it shall have an investigation made. If it appears as a result of an investigation that the assistance was improperly granted, the department of social and rehabilitation services shall notify the county department that no further payments shall be authorized for such recipient. The right of appeal is granted recipients whose assistance has been revoked. History: En. Sec. 17, Part 1, Ch. 82, L. 1937; amd. Sec. 25, Ch. 121, L. 1974; R.C.M. 1974-228.

53-2-610. County to reimburse department. (1) On or before the 20th of each month, the department of social and rehabilitation services shall present a claim for reimbursement to each county department for its proportionate share of public assistance granted in the county to recipients during the month and for vendor medical payments made on behalf of recipients during the previous month. The county department shall make the reimbursement to the department of social and rehabilitation services within 20 days after the claim is presented.

(2) The counties shall not be required to reimburse the department of social and rehabilitation services for any portion of old-age assistance, medical assistance, aid to needy dependent children, aid to needy blind, or aid to the totally disabled paid to ward Indians or for any payment on behalf of any person in a state-operated medical institution. The federal government may reimburse the state of Montana in behalf of counties providing public relief to ward Indians a sum in lieu of taxes which the counties would otherwise receive if the lands of such ward Indians were not in trust status.

(3) (a) From the original date of entrustment or the original date of residency, whichever is earlier, recipients of public assistance who have wards or patients in a licensed nursing home or hospital, foster home, or private charitable institution shall be the financial responsibility of the appropriate county as provided in subsections (3)(b), (3)(c), and (3)(d) of this section.

(b) The county in which commitment of an adult is initiated is considered the county of financial responsibility except where court decree declares the residency to be otherwise. When an adult is transferred from a facility or institution to one of the above-mentioned facilities, the county which initiated the original commitment is considered the county of financial responsibility except in the case of an adult transfer from an out-of-state institution in which case the county in which the facility is located is considered the county of financial responsibility.

(c) In all cases where a minor patient or ward is involved, the county of financial responsibility is the county in which the parent or guardian resides. If the custody of a minor is entrusted to a state agency, the agency shall make a reasonable declaration of the county residency of its ward and applicable guidelines enumerated in this section.

(d) If a person is or becomes an adult while in an institution, he shall determine his own county of residence when he is restored to competency and released. Such a person becomes the financial responsibility of the county of residence.

History: (1)En. Sec. 19, Part 1, Ch. 82, L. 1937; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 71, L. 1957; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 121, L. 1974; R.C.M. 1974-228.

1977; Sec. 71-230, R.C.M. 1947; (2)En. Subd. (h), Sec. 7, Part 1, Ch. 82, L. 1937; amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 129, L. 1939; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 219, L. 1947; amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 199, L. 1951; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 1, L. 1953; amd. Sec. 12, Ch. 212, L. 1965; amd. Sec. 17, Ch. 325, L. 1967; amd. Sec. 4, Ch. 261, L. 1971; amd. Sec. 14, Ch. 37, L. 1977; Sec. 71-211, R.C.M. 1947; (3)En. 71-302.2 by Sec. 1, Ch. 1, L. 1974; amd. Sec. 25, Ch. 37, L. 1977; Sec. 71-302.2, R.C.M. 1947; R.C.M. 1947, 71-211(4)part; (4)Ch. 71-302.2(3); amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 450, L. 1979.

53-2-611. Recovery from recipient's estate. (1) Upon the death of a recipient of public assistance other than aid to dependent children or general relief, the department shall execute and present a claim against the estate of such person within the time specified in the published notice to creditors in the estate matter for the total amount of assistance paid under this title, separately stating therein the amount of all assistance paid from after July 1, 1953.

(2) The department shall not assert its claim during the lifetime and continued occupancy of any real estate of a deceased recipient's estate by the surviving spouse or dependent as a home or residence unless other claimants or persons shall have instituted proceedings for the probate of the estate of a deceased recipient, in which case the department shall file its claim hereafter.

(3) All sums recovered hereunder from any source shall be distributed to the county and to the general fund of the state of Montana as their interests appear. If the federal law so requires, the federal government shall be entitled to a share of any amounts collected hereunder in proportion to the amount which it has contributed to the grants recovered, and the amount the United States shall be promptly paid by the department to the United States government.

History: (1), (2)En. Sec. 7, Ch. 228, L. 1953; amd. Sec. 2, Ch. 299, L. 1973; amd. Sec. 49, Ch. 1, L. 1974; Sec. 71-247, R.C.M. 1947; (3)En. Sec. 10, Ch. 228, L. 1953; amd. Sec. 49, Ch. 121, L. 1974; Sec. 71-250, R.C.M. 1947; R.C.M. 1947, 71-247, 71-250.

53-2-612. Subrogation and third party liability for certain benefits. (1) The department is subrogated to the right of each needy person who is a recipient of medical benefits under Title XIX or XX of the Social Security Act to recover damages or compensation from a third party to the extent necessary to reimburse the department for medical benefits paid to or on behalf of the needy person. Upon determination that a third party is liable for the medical expenses of a needy person under this section, the department shall immediately notify the third party of the subrogation.

(2) The department may, in the name of the needy person to whom or whose behalf medical benefits have been paid and to whose rights the department has been subrogated, commence and prosecute to final conclusion any action which may be necessary to recover from a third party compensation or damages for medical costs incurred by the needy person. From the amount collected from legal proceedings or as a result of settlement, the department shall retain the full amount previously paid as medical benefits, plus any interest to the county and federal government a share proportionate to their contribution and, after deducting the costs of the proceeding, shall deliver the remainder to the needy person. The total amounts awarded as compensation

History: (1)En. Sec. 19, Part 1, Ch. 82, L. 1937; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 71, L. 1957; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 121, L. 1974; R.C.M. 1974-228.

WOMEN'S LOBBYIST FUND

Box 1099
Helena, MT 59624
449-7917



Exhibit 3

TESTIMONY OF STACY A. FLAHERTY, WOMEN'S LOBBYIST FUND, IN SUPPORT OF THE AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN'S PROGRAM, BEFORE THE HUMAN SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 10, 1983.

The Women's Lobbyist Fund strongly supports funding the Aid to Dependent Children program.

Poverty is overwhelmingly a women's issue. According to the National Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity, one half of the families below the poverty level are headed by females and 75% of those families receive no child support. If the LFA's budget is accepted the cuts will eliminate 1700 families from the present program.

In difficult economic times Aid to Dependent Children is needed more now than ever. I urge your support for a vital and effective program. Thank you.

Stacy A. van Hook
President

Sib Clack
Vice President

Connie Flaherty-Erickson
Treasurer

Celinda C. Lake
Lobbyist

Stacy A. Flaherty
Lobbyist

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Robert Waitmire BILL No. _____
ADDRESS Box 1456 DATE 2/10/83
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT LISCA 892 5340
SUPPORT X OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

1. No Welfare Office apps -
2. Return \$1,700.00 to fuel armature
3. pay by local terminal not State Computer
4. no assets test too low
5. no adjustments during year when
big jumps come during heating season
6. 7 months heating season not realistic
7. fat may dollars to weatherization

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Jack Skilton BILL No. Human Services Sub. Committee (217)
ADDRESS 1935 McDonald DATE 2-10-83
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Citizen's Advocate
SUPPORT LEAD OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

With energy costs increasing and the job market at an all time low in Montana, please be reminded that the citizens of our state need help with their energy. While we are seeing a new poor asking for help (those who lost jobs because of the slump in the economy) the majority are people on S.S., ADC, SSI. These are the most vulnerable people in our community, the old, infirmed, and very young. Energy costs keep going up. If you can't increase moneys for the LEAD program please fund it as is. We owe this group of people the right to keep warm. We owe the old for what they have given us, we owe the very young for what they will do and we owe the infirmed as they are our fellow human beings.

Jack Skilton

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Janine Stephen BILL No. _____

ADDRESS Gen. DEL. Msla DATE 2-10-83

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Citizen

SUPPORT LEAP OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: I believe that LEAP shouldn't be cut because, theres people out there who really need this kind of assistance. Theres people out there who need help. I'm having a very hard time understanding ~~just~~ why theres the question of whether or not to cut peoples heat & electricity off. I know theres not much money going around but theres gotta be a way somehow to at least keep the funds the way they are. I understand theres people out there who abuse these benefits but who's to say who does & who doesn't?!! If ya can't find any more money to put into it then at least find a way to keep it as it

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Irma Injilla

BILL No. 27-UEAP

ADDRESS #6 General, E. Mota, Mt.

DATE _____

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Citizen

SUPPORT UEAP

OPPOSE _____

AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

I'm hoping that funds for UEAP can be increased. At the very least to stay as they are. Who can really say who really truly needs it? My husband, a chemist, was out of work for nearly two years. We tried desperately to make it on our own without help from the state. Eventually, our savings were gone and we had no choice but to apply for financial aid. What would we have done to keep our children warm during a Montana winter if not for UEAP? There was no way we could pay Montana lower our monthly heating bill. Some people, especially the elderly, have no one else to lean & rely on. My husband is now working barely. We were granted \$237⁰⁰ this year. This helped us tremendously. It's a pretty scary feeling not to know if you'll be able to keep your family warm enough. True, some people take advantage of various benefits, but why punish those who are really in need?