

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
SENATE RULES COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 1983

The sixth meeting of the Senate Rules Committee was called to order by Chairman Frank W. Hazelbaker, at 6:30 P.M. on February 17, 1983, in Room 331 of the Capitol Building. All members were present.

The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing transmittal of House Bills as requested by Speaker Daniel Kemmis of the House.

In a letter dated February 17, 1983, Speaker Kemmis listed several bills which he wished the Senate to treat as appropriation or revenue measures, in order that they would not be subject to the 45th day transmittal rule.

After discussion by the members of the committee, Senator Jean Turnage moved that the request of the House contained in the Speaker's letter of February 17, 1983 relating to the following bills:

HB 23, HB 326, HB 392, HB 418, HB 471, HB 476 and HB 600


as being considered for the purpose of the rules as appropriation bills, be granted, and that the following bills:

HB 613, HB 682 and HB 767

be considered revenue bills. This action taken shall not constitute a precedent as to the definition of appropriation or revenue bills. Further, that the House be required to send the bill containing the schedule for the Foundation Program over to the Senate by the 45th day.

The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.



Frank W. Hazelbaker, Chairman
Rules Committee



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPRESENTATIVE DANIEL KEMMIS
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

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February 17, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Stan Stephens,
President of the Senate

FROM: Representative Daniel Kemmis,
Speaker of the House

RE: Transmittal of Bills

At your request, I am attaching a list of bills which the House needs to consider in conjunction with the general appropriation process. If it is necessary to transmit these bills now, it will result in exactly the kind of fragmentation of the appropriation process that we have tried very hard to avoid.

To accomodate the Senate, we will act immediately on eight bills which have been re-referred to the Appropriations Committee from other committees. The Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing tonight on four bills and another hearing on Sunday on nine more bills. We would then ask the Senate to classify as appropriations bills:

- HB 23 (Harper) This bill would provide an ad hoc cost of living increase in PERS benefits, to be paid by employer contributions. It would affect every part of the general appropriation bill, and clearly must be considered in conjunction with that bill.
- HB 326 (Bergene) This would remove the 50% restriction on the amount of state funds that can be appropriated for regional mental health service contracts. This would affect appropriations, and it is of substantial interest to large numbers of people

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- HB 326 Continued who should not be rushed in for a Sunday hearing. It has not previously been heard by another committee.
- HB 392
(D. Brown) This bill changes the handling of indirect cost reimbursements for university system research grants. It would have a major impact on the university system budget.
- HB 418
(Yardley) Along with HB 600, this bill establishes the Governor's block grant program for local governments. This bill earmarks a portion of the oil and gas severance tax for the block grant account. Whether designated a revenue or an appropriation bill, it has such far-reaching implications for the appropriations process that it cannot reasonably be dealt with apart from the rest of the budget.
- HB 471
(Yardley) This bill establishes the position of referee in certain judicial districts. Its \$264,000 impact would have to be built into the general appropriation bill, and it is not good policy to impose this impact apart from the consideration of the general appropriation bill.
- HB 476
(Pavlovich) This bill increases from \$10 to \$35 per day the amount to be paid by the highway patrol to counties for housing arrestees. The \$227,000 impact should be dealt with in the normal course of considering the highway patrol budget.
- HB 600
(McBride) This bill creates the local government block grant account and provides for the distribution of the funds. The bill must be considered along with the rest of the budget, for reasons set forth above in the discussion of HB 418.

Your rules committee has already approved for appropriation bill designation the following bills:

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HB 105

HB 112

HB 659

Finally, there are three bills now being considered by appropriations subcommittees which are more in the nature of revenue bills. All three seek to reduce the need for general fund appropriations by imposing certain fees. These bills are very much a part of the planning being done by the subcommittees as they structure their budgets. The bills are:

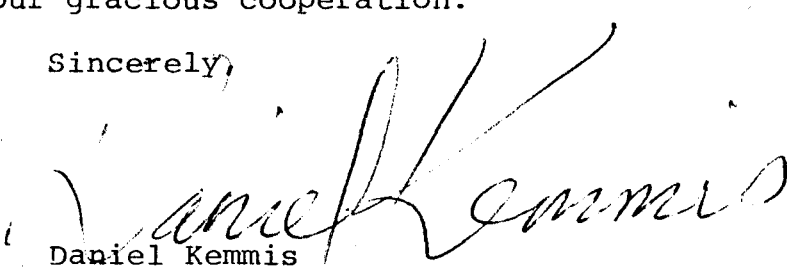
HB 613 (Lory)	Requiring deposit of subdivision fees in the state general fund.
HB 682 (Appropriations Com.)	Establishing a fee for an ambulance license commensurate with the cost of licensing.
HB 767 (Appropriations Com.)	Revising fees for health care facilities.

I appreciate your offer to cooperate with the House in assuring that the budget can be handled in a sound and orderly manner. The House, in turn, will hear and act immediately upon all the other bills contained in our previous list or introduced since that list was compiled.

For Chairman Bardanouve's sake, a response at your earliest convenience would be sincerely appreciated.

I thank you for your gracious cooperation.

Sincerely,


Daniel Kemmis
Speaker of the House

DK:wf