

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 21, 1985

The Education and Cultural Resources Committee meeting was called to order January 21, 1985 by Chairman Dan Harrington at 3:15 p.m. in Room 312-3 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present, with the exception of Roland Kennerly.

Chairman Harrington introduced Mr. Bob Stockton from the Office of Public Instruction who showed the Committee two video tape programs concerning the Foundation Funding Program and permissive budgeting.

After viewing the two instructional films, Chairman Harrington opened the hearing on H.B. 129.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. 129: Sponsor Les Kitselman, District #95, explained that the bill was an extension of work done last year. It calls for the equal sharing of the local impact and education trust fund account by post-secondary vocational technical centers and adult basic education programs. The reason being that there is larger demand for classes and space. Rep. Kitselman said these educational centers are a definite asset to each community.

PROPONENTS: Jim Reno from the Billings Public Schools and representing Montana Adult Education stepped forward and said that adult basic education serves those 16 and over who are no longer attending school. These students may include high school drop-outs, displaced homemakers, battered spouses, and layed off workers who wish to review and upgrade their basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills. Mr. Reno pointed out that there are 30 such facilities across the state and passed to the Committee Exhibit 1 giving total students, impact, and needs. He relayed that there is a two week waiting list for math classes at present and teaching positions have been dropped due to lack of funds.

Bill Shupe, 1984 President of the Montana Adult Education Association and a teacher at Helena Adult Learning Center, spoke in favor of H.B. 129. He said 30% of Montana's adult population, 20 years old and older, do not possess a high school diploma and need essential skills to succeed or survive. (See Exhibit 2)

Mr. Patrick O'Leary, Superintendent of the Helena Adult Learning Center relayed that covering the present needs of the Center is quite a task and urged support of this bill.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

January 21, 1985

Page 2

There being no opponents to this bill, Chairman Harrington called for questions and discussion from the Committee.

DISCUSSION OF H.B. 129: Rep. Sands posed the question of what is the budget figures for the State for these programs, to which Bill Cuneen from the Office of Public Instruction answered that there were three sources of funds. The Federal grant stands at \$250,000, the State appropriation is \$149,000 and the local input is generated by a one mil levy. The appropriated funding level last year was \$500,000. In answer to Rep. Peck's question of how the funds are divided between vo-tech and adult basic ed., Mr. Christiansen from the Office of Public Instruction answered that 82% goes to vo-tech (\$626,000) and 18% goes to adult basic ed. (\$140,000). Rep. Eudaily asked about the number of students educated to which Mr. Christiansen replied that there are 5,000 in adult basic ed. and 3,600 in vo-tech.

Rep. Kitselman made closing remarks pointing out that monies used by vo-tech are used for remedial services which is charged back under ANB by the State. Using these figures, Rep. Kitselman pointed out that it would be roughly \$16,000 for each of the 30 centers throughout the state.

There being no further questions or discussion, the hearing on H.B. 129 was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. 194: Representative Francis Koehnke, District #32, introduced this bill to Committee members saying that it affects 11 county high schools throughout the state. The law reads presently that the trustees of a county high school need 20% of the population's signatures on a petition before having a bond election. Rep. Koehnke felt the law was outdated and this bill would give the trustees a choice of whether to go directly to the county commissioners or have petition signing.

PROPOSERS: Floyd Larkin of Powell County High School in Deer Lodge spoke in favor of this bill as the method would then coincide with the elementary schools, whose law was changed in 1975.

John Ryan, Superintendent of Broadwater County High School in Townsend, spoke favorably of the bill as the board of trustees found a great misunderstanding in the community as to why a petition had to be signed. People thought they were voting for the bond issue, which was not the case. He stated that it was a very time consuming and difficult job.

Ann Rauser, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees from Broadwater County High School in Townsend reiterated support of the bill as it is an unnecessary burden on the Board.

Bill Anderson speaking for the Office of Public Instruction voiced support of the bill.

Chip Erdmann from the Montana School Board Association spoke for the bill as it would make consistent the county high schools with other school districts and does not take any of their power away.

Charles Plymale from the Board of Trustees of Broadwater County High School spoke about the handicap of having a petition signed and not realizing that it wasn't good after a certain time period and having to re-do it.

There being no opponents to the bill, Chairman Harrington called for questions and discussions.

DISCUSSION OF H.B. 194: Discussion ensued regarding the basis of designating a high school as "county" as brought out by Rep. Sands and answered by Bill Anderson with the O.P.I. Mr. Anderson said in the beginning they were set up separately and there has been some discussion to unifying them, but the process is lengthy.

Rep. Koehnke closed the hearing on this bill by saying that he could see nothing detrimental in its content.

ACTION ON H.B. 194: Rep. Hammond moved, Rep. Brandewie seconded, that House Bill 194 DO PASS. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ACTION ON H.B. 144: Rep. Mercer made a motion that H.B. 144 be amended as follows:

1. Title, lines 7 and 8.
Following: "PAID"
Strike: remainder of line 7 through "END"
on line 8
Insert: "BY JUNE 1"
2. Title, line 9.
Following: "MCA"
Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE"
3. Page 3, line 17.
Following: "paid"
Strike: "no later than the end"
Insert: "By June 1"
4. Page 5
Following: line 3
Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. This act is effective July 1, 1985."

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

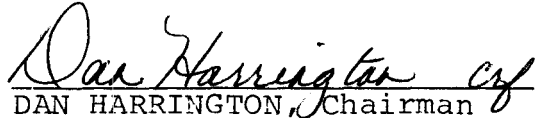
January 21, 1985

Page 4

The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Brandewie made a motion, Rep. Eudaily seconded, that House Bill 144 DO PASS AS AMENDED and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON H.B. 18 & 71: Chairman Harrington appointed the following committee members to serve on a subcommittee to study H.B. 18 and H.B. 71: Ted Schye, Chairman, Ray Brandewie, Ralph Eudaily, Joe Hammond, Tom Hannah, and Mel Williams.

There being no further business, the committee adjourned at 4:35 p.m.


DAN HARRINGTON, Chairman

crf

DAILY ROLL CALL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date January 21, 1985

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Dan Harrington	✓		
Ralph Eudaily	✓		
Ray Brandewie	✓		
William Glaser	✓		
Joe Hammond	✓		
Thom Hannah	✓		
Raymond Harbin	✓		
Roland Kennerly		✓	
Les Kitselman	✓		
John Mercer	✓		
John Montayne	✓		
Richard Nelson	✓		
Jerry Nisbet	✓		
Ray Peck	✓		
Jack Sands	✓		
Ted Schye	✓		
Fred Thomas	✓		
Mel Williams	✓		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 21 19 85

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 144

FIRST reading copy (WHITE)
color

TO PROVIDE THAT HIGH SCHOOL TUITION PAYMENTS BE PAID IN
DECEMBER AND JUNE

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 144

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Title, lines 7 and 8.
Following: "PAID"
Strike: remainder of line 7 through "END" on line 8
Insert: "BY JUNE 1"
2. Title, line 9.
Following: "MCA"
Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE"
3. Page 3, line 17.
Following: "paid"
Strike: "no later than the end"
Insert: "by June 1"

AND, AS
AMENDED
DO PASS

4. Page 5
Following: line 3
Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date.
This act is effective July 1, 1985."

AR 1/22/85
STATE PUB. CO.
Helena, Mont.

REPRESENTATIVE HARRINGTON

Chairman.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 21

19 85

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on EDUCATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 124

FIRST reading copy (WHITE)
color

ALLOWING COUNTY H.S. TRUSTEES TO CALL BOND ELECTION WITHOUT PETITION

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 124

DO PASS

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION
Example of Impact at Four Sites

1/21/85

H.B. 129**1-21-85**

Center	Total Students Served (FY 84)	Recent Cuts	Total Needy Population* (20+ Yrs., not H.S. Grad.)	Estimated No. Served w/HB 129
Billings	1,087	* .5 FTE English teacher * No new replacement of lost or stolen typewriters since 1978 * 1 FTE math teacher (waiting list for math day classes)	15,697	Yellowstone County 1,483
Great Falls	499	* Reduction of program operating hours	12,327	Cascade County 657
Helena	1,030	* 79-80 lost 1 FTE teaching position * 81-82 lost 1 FTE teaching position and 1 FTE counselor position (2-week waiting period for entry testing and placement in classes)	4,730 564 469	Lewis & Clark County Broadwater** County Meagher County**
Missoula	560	* Unable to replace 1 teacher aide in 1982 * Reduced 1 FTE English teaching position to .18 FTE * Reduced 1 FTE full-time math teaching position to .18 FTE * Unable to replace aging classroom typewriter (1980-84)	8,662	Missoula County 763
TOTAL	3,176		42,449 (124,246 statewide total)***	4,306

* 1980 Census figures

** Current ABE satellite locations

*** Total additional students would be distributed

if all ABE centers & satellites rather than just the four

EXHIBIT 2
H.B. 129
1-21-85

HB 129

1/21/85

TESTIMONY

PROPONENT

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bill Shupe and I've been a teacher at the Helena Adult Learning Center for the past twelve years. I'm also the past President of the Montana Adult Education Association.

At a time when excellence in education is a national priority and when the trend in the job market is toward increasingly technological jobs, fully 30 percent of Montana's adult population (20 years of age and older) do not possess a high school diploma. Functional illiteracy seems to be growing. A report issued in recent weeks by the Library of Congress expressed grave concern over this problem. But Montana's Adult Learning Centers have had reductions in staff at the same time demand for services has grown.

I strongly urge your support for this bill, House Bill 129. For people without the basic skills of a high school equivalency or external diploma, institutions like the university and vo-tech systems or the good-paying technical jobs are not possible. From electronics to word processing, to modern day-to-day life, basic reading and math are essential skills needed to succeed, or even survive. The 30 plus adult learning centers provide the opportunity to learn these skills. This bill will provide undereducated adults throughout the State of Montana the opportunity to achieve the basic skill knowledge needed for success.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Bill Shupe BILL No. 129
ADDRESS 529 N. Warren Adena, Mt. DATE 1-21-85
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Adult Basic Education MAEA
SUPPORT ✓ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Chip Erdmann BILL No. 194
ADDRESS Helena DATE 1/21/85
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT MSBA
SUPPORT X OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

This bill will merely update the school law and allow County H.S. Districts to have a bond election on both a voter petition (already provided for) and resolution of board (not currently provided for). Other school districts are already allowed to do this. This merely gives Co H.S. Districts the same flexibility that other districts already have.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE

EDUCATION

COMMITTEE

BILL 194

DATE 1-21-85

SPONSOR KOEHNKE

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
Chico Edwards	Helena	MSBA	✓	
Frank Larkin	Hees Lodge	Dowell C. H.S.	✓	
Bill Anderson	Helena	OPI	✓	
Linda Fursey	Townsend	Broadwater Co. High School	✓	
John R. Ryan	Townsend	Broadwater Co. High School	✓	
Carl E. Towner	Townsend	Broadwater Co. High School	✓	
Sharon Davis	Townsend	Broadwater Co. High School	✓	
Jack Tillinger	Townsend	Broadwater Co. H.S.	✓	
Frank Zschinke	"	"	"	
Charles Phynale	Townsend	Broadwater Co. H.S.	✓	
Mike KOEHNKE	Townsend	Townsend	✓	
Derek Christensen	Helena	Office of Public Inst.		

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE

EDUCATION

COMMITTEE

BILL 129

DATE 1-21-85

SPONSOR Kitselman

[illegible]

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.