

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

January 23, 1985

The Education and Cultural Resources Committee meeting was called to order January 23, 1985 by Chairman Dan Harrington at 3:35 p.m. in Room 312-3 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Ray Peck who was excused by the Chairman.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. 188: Representative Hal Harper, District #44, explained that this bill was introduced by him for the Montana Council of Teachers of Mathematics who brought to his attention the need for more in-service days (Pupil-Instruction-Related Days). The bill calls for increasing from seven to ten days per school year in-service days and would allow for addition preparation and planning needed by many instructors. Rep. Harper said the bill had funding implications and probably could not be acted upon until after the Foundation Program decision.

PROPONENTS: Dick Seitz, Montana Council of Teachers of Mathematics felt there is a strong need for additional in-service for teachers especially in the wake of new technology. There is a demand for curriculum development and adjustment. He relayed that the Helena area high school, elementary, and middle school teachers really did not want time off school, even though it was a suggestion of the superintendent, but felt a need for additional days for teacher instruction activities. He agreed with holding the bill for funding purposes.

Jack Cohn, Vice Principal of Helena High School, relayed that there was no intent to create funding problems with this bill, but rather to enable the administration to choose to have the extra in-service days if they were needed, and to fund them in whatever way was possible. Mr. Cohn asked that the bill be tabled for now.

Phil Campbell with the Montana Education Association spoke neither for nor against the bill and asserted that the bill as written has a pretty hefty price tag. He said the number one priority at this time would be the funding in the Foundation Program.

Terry Minow, speaking for the Montana Federation of Teachers, asked that the bill be held. (See written testimony)

Bill Anderson, Deputy Superintendent with the Office of Public Instruction, spoke of the cost factor involved with the bill and the problems delineating use of the extra days. The O.P.I. is currently emphasizing support of the proposed Foundation Program funding.

OPPONENTS: Wayne Buchanan from the Montana School Board Association spoke of the necessity of in-service training but felt the local school districts would feel a financial strain from paying teacher's salaries for three additional days. He also felt the present money in the program would chance a dilution with enactment of this bill.

DISCUSSION OF H.B. 188: Rep. Eudaily questioned Mr. Seitz of the state meetings being held during the Montana Education Association convention, to which Mr. Seitz answered that it was usually done during that time and at the same location, but next year it will also be held in Missoula at a time different from the convention. Rep. Eudaily pointed out that the instructions regarding PIR days say that there can be two days before school starts and one day after school closes which may be negotiated with the school board to be used for curriculum study. Mr. Seitz replied that there currently is a great demand on those days. Two of those days are used for parent/teacher conferences at the elementary and middle schools. In Helena two of the days are used for preparation. Science, English, and math teachers especially are feeling the need for additional time. To Mr. Cohn, Mr. Eudaily asked of the provision of "other days" in the PIR application which may be taken without funding or limitations. Mr. Cohn replied that the boards could give these days now, if needed, but if the legislature would approve these three extra days it would be a statewide decision and would more than pay for itself by improving the quality of education. Rep. Nelson remarked that this was mainly being proposed by math teachers, but wanted to know if it were supported by other types of staff. Mr. Cohn said that the Montana Council of Teachers of Mathematics were the most active regarding this bill. Rep. Hammond wanted to clarify the fact of school leave for conferences, to which Mr. Seitz replied that there is some money available in some districts for this purpose. Rep. Harper stated that the intent of the bill was for it to be discretionary. This bill could have a separate appropriation aside from the Foundation Program. Rep. Thomas asked Mr. Anderson if there were any way to apply additional in-service days to only math teachers. The Board of Education decides how PIR are used, and it would have to be considered by them.

Representative Harper closed the hearing on H.B. 188.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. 192: Representative Tom Asay, District #27, gave opening remarks as sponsor of this bill. The bill

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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provides that out-of-county elementary tuition be paid by the basic tax. He said that there is inconsistency as the high school tuition for these students is paid from the basic school money. The effect on the general fund would be \$450,000. In small counties the present system creates a hardship on the tax base.

PROPONENTS: Richard Trerise from the Montana Board of County Superintendents spoke for the bill as it would be a relief to the small counties. These placements, he explained, take place as a forced court placement or special education needs are being met. Some families living closer to the district lines can choose to send their children to the nearer school. As an example, in his county he explained that one mill equals about \$700 and the average price of tuition is \$7,000 or ten mills. (See written testimony)

Bill Anderson spoke from the Office of Public Instruction saying that the proposal would cost approximately \$440,000 in State money but it would reduce the local property tax. It was estimated that 10% to 20% of the school population falls in this category.

Wayne Buchanan from the Montana School Board Association spoke support for the bill.

OPPONENTS: None

DISCUSSION OF H.B. 192: It was explained by Mr. Buchanan in response to a question of clarification of the issue by Rep. Sands, that these tuitions are paid out of the county high school general funds. At the elementary level, the tuition is paid by a direct levy. Rep. Mercer questioned why the tuition should be paid by the State. In the majority of the counties the levies are not adequate to fund the Foundation Program requirements. The State makes up the difference to bring it up to 100% funding levels. It was generally agreed that it would make no difference to enact an effective date on this bill. Rep. Williams asked how many districts were affected and was told by Mr. Buchanan that the majority of districts pay some tuition this way--the average tuition rate is \$750 and about 300 students are attending out of district programs.

There being no further questions, Representative Asay closed the hearing on H.B. 192.

ACTION ON H.B. 129: Representative Hammond made a motion of DO PASS to H.B. 129.

Discussion ensued beginning with Rep. Eudaily stating that the bill would lock both programs into a funding situation. Either could build a surplus of funds.

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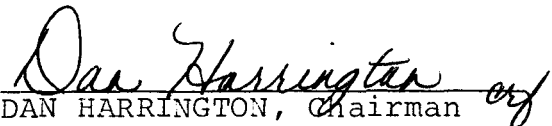
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Rep. Kitselman stated that vo-tech centers have a disproportional share of the funds besides doing remedial services which are charged back. Adult Basic Education is willing and capable of doing this remedial work.

Rep. Sands voiced opposition to such a large increase and questioned why the money was not appropriated last session. It was brought out that perhaps if the bill goes through the appropriation process a more fair allocation would be made. Rep. Kitselman said the voice for Adult Basic Education is small when compared to the universities but there is an increasing need for people who want to learn the fundamentals. Rep. Hannah pointed out that there would be a loss to vo-tech of \$55,000 to \$60,000 and the net gain by the ABE Centers would be about \$16,000 each. Rep. Brandewie made comment that the Adult Basic Education services give a return to the dollars spent as people re-trained can be taken from the welfare and unemployment roles and put into jobs.

Rep. Harbin seconded the motion of DO PASS to House Bill 129 and a roll call vote showed 11 in favor and 6 against.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.


DAN HARRINGTON, Chairman

crf

DAILY ROLL CALL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date 1-23-85

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

HOUSE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

DATE _____ H.B. Bill No. 129 Time _____

NAME	YES	NO
x Dan Harrington		
Ralph Eudaily		✓
Ray Brandewie	✓	
William Glaser	✓	
Joe Hammond	✓	
Tom Hannah	✓	
Raymond Harbin	✓	
Roland Kennerly	✓	
Les Kitselman	✓	
John Mercer	✓	
John Montayne	✓	
Richard Nelson	✓	
Jerry Nisbet		✓
Ray Peck ABSENT		
Jack Sands		✓
Ted Schye		✓
Fred Thomas		✓
Mel Williams	✓	
Dan Harrington		✓

Secretary _____ Chairman _____

Motion: DO PASS, MOTION BY REP. HAMMOND, SECOND
BY REP. HARBIN

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 23 19 25

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 129

FIRST reading copy (WHITE)
color

EQUAL SHARING OF LOCAL IMPACT TRUST INCOME BY VO-TECH AND ADULT-ED

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 129

DO PASS

RC 1/24/55

STATE PUB. CO.
Helena, Mont.

REPRESENTATIVE HARRINGTON Chairman.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
H.B. 188
1-23-85



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

STATE CAPITOL
HELENA, MONTANA 59620
(406) 444-3095

Ed Argenbright
Superintendent

January 23, 1985

TO: Education and Cultural Committee
FROM: Bill Anderson, Deputy Superintendent *WRA*
RE: H.B. ~~192~~

This bill has a cost factor of about \$10,000,000. Because of the high priority, The Office of Public Instruction places on funding the Foundation Program at 7% for each of the next two years, we cannot support H.B. 192 at this time

WRA:lab

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name Terry Minnow Committee On House Education
Address Box 1245 Date 1-23-85
Representing MT Ed Teachers Support X
Bill No. HB 188 Oppose _____
Amend _____

AFTER TESTIFYING, PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

1. We support the concept of more P.T. days
2. We're concerned about the funding source.
3. We ask the committee to defer action on the bill until the consultation program is decided.
- 4.

Itemize the main argument or points of your testimony. This will assist the committee secretary with her minutes.



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

STATE CAPITOL
HELENA, MONTANA 59620
(406) 444-3095

Ed Argenbright
Superintendent

January 23, 1985

TO: Education and Cultural Committee

FROM: Bill Anderson, Deputy Superintendent *BA*

RE: H.B. 192

This bill would transfer the costs of tuition for elementary children going to a school other than their home school and crossing county lines from the local district to the State. It would reduce the local property tax and replace it with State dollars. The guess would be that approximately 10% to 20% would fall into this category. It is estimated that it would cost in State dollars \$440,000 for the biennium.

WRA:lab

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name Richard Trerise Committee On Ed
Address P.O. Box 1725 Date 1-23-85
Representing MACSS Support ✓
Bill No. HB 192 Oppose _____
Amend _____

AFTER TESTIFYING, PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

1. This bill would ~~allow~~ ^{allow} elem. tuition to be handled some way as H.S. tuition
2. Provide fiscal relief to small districts
3. Provide relief for out of county forced placement
4. The majority of districts sending elem students over county lines are doing so because they don't have the resources to have a school bus. additionally court placements and special ed placements that the district has no control over impact this also.

Itemize the main argument or points of your testimony. This will assist the committee secretary with her minutes.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

HOUSE

EDUCATION

COMMITTEE

BILL 188

DATE 1-23-85

SPONSOR Hal Harper

[illegible]

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 192 DATE 1-23-85

SPONSOR Tom Asay

[illegible]

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

WHEN TESTIFYING PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.