

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 13, 1985

The meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Sales on the above date in Room 317 at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Seventeen members were present with Rep. Janet Moore absent.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 603: Rep. Bob Pavlovich, District #70, sponsor, said this bill would establish an age restriction for firefighters of 40 years of age or younger at the time of his original appointment. A lot of men are joining the forces after the age of 50 basically for the purpose of retirement.

PROPOSERS: Dave Fisher, stating that he had been involved with firefighting for 35 years of which he was chief for 29 years, said the paid firefighters have an age limit of 34. After age 40 the insurance is very expensive and now that there is a pension system there is no trouble recruiting members. He said that for health reasons and insurance reasons they support the bill.

There were no further proponents.

OPPOSERS: Lyle Nagel, Simms Volunteer Firefighters, opposed the bill because of areas in the state that are made up primarily of retired persons who are qualified to do the job. He also stated that the chief from the Malmstrom Air Force Base joined at age 47 and certainly was qualified to do the job. They said that this should be a local option whether they want to accept a person or not.

Jim Lofftos, Missoula Rural Fire District, opposed HB 603. He also stated it should be a local option of the fire districts or departments if they want to restrict this.

R.A. Ellis, West Helena Valley Volunteer Firefighters, said they already have this restriction in the by-laws for age 18-45 and he was opposed to the bill.

Tom O'Hara, Cascade Rural Firefighters Coordinator, said in Cascade County they are moving into the emergency medical service as well as firefighting and said they would not want to disqualify a nurse or doctor just because they were over the age limit, therefore, they opposed the bill. He also gave the committee a letter signed by the member departments of the Cascade County Rural Fire Council opposing the bill.

Rep. Ray Harbin, District #53, opposed the bill saying they have adequate local options to deal with the problem. He said they have to take people irregardless of their age.

Rep. Bob Thoft said that most rural firefighters and residents are over the age of 40 and was opposed to the bill.

There being no further opponents, the hearing was open to questions from the Committee.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 603: Rep. O'Connell asked if this could be amended to the local jurisdiction. Rep. Nelson asked if the retirement problems couldn't be handled in the retirement bill itself. Rep. Pavlovich replied that this could be possible. Rep. Cody asked if there was a required retirement age. Dave Fisher said that there was no required age and that the secretary/treasurer is 70 years of age.

Rep. Pavlovich said that the purpose of the bill is because of the insurance premiums and the people drawing on the retirement fund.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 629: Rep. Bob Pavlovich, District #70, sponsor, said this bill would provide that any fines collected by the sheriff or deputy sheriff would go to the county where the apprehension was made rather than to the state treasurer like the fines collected by the highway patrolmen.

PROPOSERS: John Scully, representing the Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, said it would be appropriate when you look at the funding of the counties that this money go to the county governments rather than the state treasurer.

Marie McAlear, Montana Association of Counties, Madison County, said they supported the bill for obvious reasons.

OPPOSERS: There were no opponents.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 629: Rep. Phillips said the bill is clear on the fines collected by the highway patrolmen but not clear on the county fines.

Chairman Sales asked if any of these fines and forfeitures go into the retirement funds. Mr. Scully said he didn't think they did, however, Rep. Phillips said there was a Senate bill that would do just that.

There were no further questions.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 576: Rep. Harry Fritz, District #56, sponsor, said this bill would provide meeting compensation for the State Library Commission. The Library Commission was amended into HB 394, however, if this bill does not pass (394) HB576 would provide for this compensation.

He did say that the bill would need a new section stating that if HB 394 becomes law this bill would become null and void.

PROPOSERS: Sara Parker, State Librarian, told the Committee that the Legislature created the Library Commission and they are statutorily charged with a number of duties. These members work conscientiously and with great concern for the libraries across the state. This bill would enable them to recoup some of their costs incurred in serving on the Commission.

Nellie Sullivan said she had served on the State Library Commission when she was a resident of Glendive and felt this is a very important commission for the citizens of Montana. These people must be dedicated in order to accept these appointments and it would have been helpful to her if there had been some compensation. The lack of compensation sometimes makes a difference in who can serve on the Commission.

Brenda Schye, Montana Arts Advocacy Council, supported the bill and read her prepared testimony, Exhibit #2.

C.E. "Abe" Abramson, Missoula, said he was a member of the Library Commission and would benefit from HB 576. After serving on other boards and commissions he said he was surprised when he found out that there was no compensation for the Library Commission.

OPPOSERS: There were no opposers.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 576: Rep. O'Connell asked if this bill could be held until the outcome of HB 394 or did it have to be transmitted by the 45th day.

Rep. Fritz closed without further comment.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 601: Rep. Bob Thoft, District #63, said this would relieve small irrigation districts from the expense of having the State audit their books. This expense is way out of line with the income and disbursements of these small districts.

PROPOSERS: Jim McKinley, Sec./Treas. of the Tiffin Tracts Water Users Association of Stevensville, Montana, read his prepared testimony which is attached as Exhibit #3.

Julie Wallace, Secretary of Sunset Irrigation District, said this district was formed in 1945 and she was now on page 46 in her ledger. She said that a real busy year would be 40 checks. She showed the committee one book for the minutes from April, 1959 to the present. She said the last audit cost them \$516 and believed the smaller districts should come out of this bill.

OPPONENTS: There were no opponents.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 601: There were no questions from the Committee.

Rep. Thoft closed without further comment.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 524: Rep. Kelly Addy, District #94, sponsor, said this would allow the department of state lands to reduce existing overriding royalties that cause premature abandonment of marginal wells and would encourage the drilling of oil and gas leases.

PROPOSERS: Dennis Hemmer, Department of State Lands, appeared in support of the bill and read his testimony to the Committee which is attached as Exhibit #4.

Darwin VanDeGraaf, Executive Director of the Montana Petroleum Association appeared not as a proponent or opponent. They do think the problem of overriding royalties can impede production and proposed an amendment to the bill. Page 2, line 2 would read "The board of land commissioners may require that an agreement which" and page 2, line 12 strike "must". With these amendments they would endorse the bill.

OPPONENTS: There were no opponents.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 524: Rep. Jenkins asked Rep. Addy to explain what overriding royalties are. Rep. Compton asked how high the percentage would be under this bill. Mr. Hemmer said there is no limit. Leases can be moved around with each one keeping 1-2% and this erodes the profitability for the operator.

Rep. Addy closed saying that he had no problem with the amendments suggested by Mr. VanDeGraaf.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 570: Rep. John Mercer, District #70, sponsor, said the bill would change the existing fire inspection requirement from 6 months to at least once each 12 months for school buildings and all other buildings at least once each 18 months. They don't have the manpower to cover them all in the 6 month period. These would be mandatory inspections but it would not prevent them from making inspections at other times as well.

PROPOSERS: Bruce Houston, Deputy State Fire Marshal, said the majority of the communities were not complying with the statutes and this bill was proposed by the paid fire chiefs throughout the state.

Mike Walker, Montana State Fire Marshal's Advisory Board, said that under the current statute there must be an inspection of every building every 6 months.

It has become impossible to get through the districts in that period of time. In Billings it took three years to get through all the buildings with the personnel available.

Bob Knutson, Fire Marshal of the City of Helena, supported the bill.

Bob Johnson, Missoula Rural Fire Districts, said he had been with the fire districts for the past 20 years and said they could not do inspections every 6 months on every place of business.

Bill Verwolf, City of Helena, said the City Commission reviewed the bill and said they didn't have the manpower to do the inspections every 6 months. The 18 months would allow for inspections and for those inspections to be done right.

OPPONENTS: There were no opponents.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 570: Rep. Cody asked what guarantee there would be that they would get the inspections completed in 12 or 18 months. Mr. Wallace said the 18 months would give them time to get them done. He said that Great Falls could complete them in 12 months because they have more manpower and less buildings to inspect whereas Missoula has more buildings and less manpower and would need the 18 months.

Rep. Cody asked if something happened in a building that had not been inspected in the required time interval if they were liable. Mr. Wallace said they would be liable.

Mr. Houston said the Fire Marshal Office adopted the Uniform Fire Code as the State Fire Code. The rules would be set out in 50-3-103. Rep. Harbin asked where it was defined what is strictly a place of business and public buildings. Mr. Houston said this could be found in the same section of the codes and it lists buildings that are to be inspected. This does not include residences and private dwellings.

Rep. Harbin asked why the material was deleted on page 2, lines 2, 3, and 4. Mr. Houston said they have so much paperwork in the State office they wanted this left at the local level for inspection by anyone that is interested. This should be kept at the fire station or with the secretary or chief.

Mr. Walker told the committee that these are minimum standards and communities are free to adopt additional standards that may be more stringent than State standards.

Without further comment, Rep. Mercer closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 761: Rep. Tom Jones, District #4, one of the sponsors of the bill said that the changes would be in the rates that are paid for meals and lodging in-state and out-of-state so they are the same. Out-of-state would be lowered to \$35 per day for lodging, the mid-day meal would be lowered from \$6.50 to \$5.50. In-state lodging would be increased from \$24 to \$35, breakfast would be increased from \$3 to \$5 and the mid-day meal would be \$5.50.

Lois said there was some drafting errors in the bill that would have to be amended also.

PROPONENTS: Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association, told the committee that following the first hearing on this subject he did a survey of State employees. Their number one priority would be lodging and said if they couldn't have both increases they would take an increase in lodging. They could adapt their meals. He also cautioned the committee that this can pass only if it can come out of the present budget and if this is too much of an increase the agencies will ask for more money and it will kill the bill.

OPPONENTS: There were no opponents.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 761: Chairman Sales said that if these figures are amended into the bill he thought there would be less travel by State employees. Rep. Harbin asked if the motels would automatically raise their rates to \$35 if this is what the State was authorized to pay. Mr. Schneider said that perhaps this would happen in smaller places but not where there is competition for the State employees.

There were no further questions from the Committee.

In closing, Rep. Jones said he agreed with Chairman Sales - there would be less state travel.

RECONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 623: Rep. Cody moved that the Committee DO NOT RECONSIDER HB 623, seconded by Rep. Garcia.

Rep. Smith said that Don Allen had informed him that he had not done a very thorough job of explaining what the problem was and they would like to have another chance at presenting the bill.

Rep. Cody said she didn't have any problem understanding the bill, however, Rep. Harbin stated he did not fully understand the bill and was opposed to the motion. The motion FAILED on a voice vote, therefore, the bill was reconsidered.

In the absence of Rep. Wallin and Don Allen, Mary D. Munger, Chairman of the Montana Health Facility Authority, spoke to the Committee and explained the purpose of HB 623.

She said this Authority was created by the Legislature in 1983 as a means of trying to control health care costs. This is done by issuing bonds or notes and using the proceeds for loans at a rate of interest much lower than commercial sources. One of the greatest needs was for equipment so a pool was formed for the use of the smaller hospitals. The changes being made by HB 623 would allow the Authority to accept applications from all health care facilities whether or not they need or have received a Certificate of Need (CON). The Authority cannot loan any money unless they have met all requirements and have approval by the appropriate agency. This would make it easier to accept applications from these health care agencies and it would facilitate the work that the Authority is trying to do.

She told the Committee there are many different arrangements besides the pool for equipment. It is also possible to sell separate bonds such as for Billings Deaconess Hospital in Billings. She also said that the authority to build, remodel, etc. must receive approval by the Department of Health - the Authority does not supercede that requirement. The Authority is made up of appointees by the governor interested in the area of health care. Presently they have an attorney, two bankers, nurse, the former administrator of the Department of Natural Resources, etc.

Rep. Jenkins asked what the interest is on these loans. Mrs. Munger said the pool equipment fund is a variable rate. The first loans were about 8.5 but the rate on February 12, 1985 was 7.5% which is considerably lower than elsewhere.

Rep. Peterson said it was her impression at the first hearing that this bill would allow every hospital administrator to go right out and start building or remodeling because he would not need a CON, however this is not so. Mrs. Munger said that everyone is very concerned about health care costs and the CON is a safeguard in that area. They are also concerned about duplication of services. She said the facility can make application for the money before the CON but they cannot loan any money before it is approved.

Mrs. Munger explained how money is also applied for that does not require a CON such as the Habilitation Service facility with Westmont Home Health Care in Helena.

Rep. Cody was concerned about the hospitals paying the interest on these loans and that it is really the people who use the facilities that pay the interest. Mrs. Munger said the justification is the difference in the interest charged as compared to other financial institutions.

Regarding the treatment center at Glasgow, this money was loaned to them for construction of the unit because FmHA does not loan money for construction, however, they will assume the loan after the construction is complete. This all had to be approved before construction began. After construction the Health Facility Authority will be repaid by FmHA.

There being no further questions concerning HB 623, the Committee went into executive session.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 623: Rep. Phillips moved HB 623 DO PASS AS AMENDED with an effective date of 1983. Motion seconded by Rep. Smith. Motion CARRIED with Reps. Peterson, Cody and Fritz voting "no".

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 603: Rep. Peterson moved that HB 603 DO NOT PASS, seconded by Rep. Cody. Motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 629: Rep. O'Connell moved that HB 629 DO PASS, second received.

Chairman Sales again asked if any of these fines are going into retirement funds. Mr. Schneider said there is a Senate bill that says highway patrolmen retirement fund will get 1% of all fines only from fines of no proof of insurance.

Rep. Holliday said she didn't like the bill as in her area the county officers were making it a fund raiser and said this bill would increase and encourage that. Reps. Campbell and Smith agreed with Rep. Holliday.

Rep. Phillips said that in the bill it does not preclude giving the money to the counties.

Motion being called for the motion CARRIED with Reps. Campbell, Holliday, Phillips, Hayne and Peterson voting "no".

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 576: Rep. Fritz moved the ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS, seconded by Rep. Nelson. Motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Rep. Fritz then moved that HB 576 DO PASS AS AMENDED, seconded by Rep. Nelson. Motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 601: Rep. Cody moved that HB 601 DO PASS, seconded by Rep. Peterson. Motion CARRIED with Rep. Harbin voting "no".

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 524: Rep. Harbin moved the ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS, seconded by Rep. Garcia.

Rep. Cody then moved that HB 524 DO PASS AS AMENDED, seconded

by Rep. O'Connell. Motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 570: Rep. Nelson moved the ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS, seconded by Rep. Fritz. Motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Rep. O'Connell then moved that HB 570 DO PASS AS AMENDED, seconded by Rep. Campbell. Motion CARRIED with Reps. Harbin and Peterson voting "no".

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 761: Rep. Phillips moved that HB 761 DO NOT PASS, seconded by Rep. Sales.

Rep. O'Connell made a SUBSTITUTE MOTION DO PASS, seconded by Rep. Pistoria.

Rep. Phillips said he didn't think they realize the impact of the bill. He said that many motel people have told him that \$27 is ample. He felt that jobs would be lost by cutting down on money so it could be used for travel and that paying actual expenses on page 3, lines 3 through 5 would really be "opening a can of worms". He recommended \$27 for lodging. Rep. Harbin pointed out that out-of-state was cut by \$15 and this would be a savings.

The substitute motion FAILED 8-7 with Reps. Phillips, Holliday, Campbell, Smith, Sales, Compton, Peterson and Fritz voting "no".

Rep. Peterson asked if this bill limits the out-of-state or just in-state. Rep. Phillips replied that it limits both.

Rep. Phillips moved ADOPTION OF THE AMENDMENTS stating that the bill would be returned to its original form with the \$35 lodging figure being amended to \$27. All other figures would be returned to the original figure. Motion CARRIED 9-7. (See attached Roll Call Vote)

Rep. Phillips then moved HB 761 DO PASS AS AMENDED, seconded by Rep. Hayne. Motion CARRIED with Reps. Hayne, Nelson, Peterson, O'Connell, Smith and Pistoria voting "no".

The meeting adjourned at 11:11.



WALTER R. SALES, Chairman

(Type in committee members' names and have 50 printed to start).

DAILY ROLL CALL

State Administration COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date 2/13/85

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Chairman Walter Sales	/		
V-Chairman Helen O'Connell	/		
Campbell, Bud	/		
Compton, Duane	/		
Cody, Dorothy	✓		
Fritz, Harry	/		
Garcia, Rodney	/		
Hayne, Harriet	✓		
Harbin, Raymond	✓		
Hollicay, Gay	✓		
Jenkins, Loren	✓		
Kennerly, Roland	✓		
Moore, Janet		/	
Nelson, Richard	/		
Peterson, Mary Lou	/		
Phillips, John	✓		
Pistoria, Paul	/		
Smith, Clyde	✓		

Kennedy

H B - 623

Re Law - yes

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 13

1935

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 524

First reading copy (White)
color

TO ALLOW STATE LANDS COMMISSIONER TO LIMIT OVERRIDING ROYALTIES

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 524

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Page 2, lines 9 and 10.

Strike: "All" on line 9 through "that" on line 10

Insert: "The board of land commissioners may require that an agreement which"

2) Page 2, line 12.

Strike: "must"

AND AS AMENDED

~~DO-PASS--~~

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 13

1985

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 576

First reading copy (White color)

COMPENSATION FOR STATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 576

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1) Page 2

Following: line 2

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 2. Coordination instruction.
If House Bill No. 394 is passed and approved, this act is
void."

Renumber: subsequent section

AND AS AMENDED

DQ.PASS.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 13 1935

MR. **SPEAKER**

We, your committee on **STATE ADMINISTRATION**

having had under consideration **HOUSE** Bill No. **761**

First reading copy (**White** color)

REVISING LAW ON TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT FOR PERSONS IN STATE SERVICE

Respectfully report as follows: That **HOUSE** Bill No. **761**

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Title, line 5.

Strike: "AMOUNTS"

Insert: "AMOUNT"

2) Title, line 7.

Strike: "AND MEALS"

3) Title, lines 7 through 11.

Strike: "PERMITTING" on line 7 through "1" on line 11

4) Page 2, line 4.

Strike: "\$35"

Insert: "\$27"

XXXXXX
DO PASS

Continued on Page 2

State Administration
HB 761

February 13 19 85

5) Page 2, line 5.

Strike: "\$6.50"

Insert: "\$3"

6) Page 2, line 6.

Strike: "\$4"

Insert: "\$3.50"

Strike: "\$12"

Insert: "\$8"

7) Page 3, lines 2 through 6.

Strike: ":" on line 2 through "(b)" on line 6

AND AS AMENDED
DO PASS

(Type in committee name, committee members' names, and names of secretary and chairman. Have at least 50 printed to start.)

ROLL CALL VOTE

HOUSE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

DATE 2/13/85 4 Bill No. 761 Time 11:10

NAME	YES	NO
Sales, Walter	/	
O'Connell, Helen		/
Campbell, Bud	/	
Compton, Duane	/	
Cody, Dorothy	/	
Fritz, Harry		/
Garcia, Rodney		/
Havne, Harriet	/	
Harbin, Raymond		/
Holliday, Gay	/	
Jenkins, Loren	/	
Kennerly, Roland		
Moore, Janet		
Nelson, Richard		/
Peterson, Mary Lou		/
Phillips, John	/	
Pistoria, Paul		/
Smith, Clyde	/	

Louise L. Sullivan
Secretary

Walter Sales
Chairman

Motion:

Adoption of Amendments
Carried 9-7

(Include enough information on motion -- put with yellow copy of committee report.)

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 12 13 19 35

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 623

First reading copy (White)
color

REVISE PROCEDURE FOR ISSUING HEALTH FACILITY AUTHORITY BONDS

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 623

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1) Title, line 9.

Following: "MCA"

Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN
APPLICABILITY DATE"

2) Page 2.

Following: line 18

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date -- applicability.
This act is effective on passage and approval and applies
retroactively, within the meaning of 1-2-189, to any health
facility financing undertaken after October 1, 1983."

AND AS AMENDED

--DO PASS--

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 13

19 85

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 570

First reading copy (White color)

REVISION OF FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 570

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1) Page 1, line 18.

Following: "adopted"

Insert: "under 50-3-103"

AND AS AMENDED

DO PASS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 13 19 85

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 629

First reading copy (White)
color

ALLOCATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATION FINE MONEY

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 629

DO PASS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 13 19 35

MR. **SPEAKER**

We, your committee on **STATE ADMINISTRATION**

having had under consideration **HOUSE** Bill No. **601**

First reading copy (**White**)
color

SMALL IRRIGATION DISTRICTS EXEMPT FROM AUDIT

Respectfully report as follows: That **HOUSE** Bill No. **601**

DO PASS

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February XX 13 19 35

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 603

First reading copy (Waits)
color

**AGE RESTRICTION ON ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT AS A VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER**

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 603

DO NOT PASS

~~XXXXXX~~
~~DO PASS~~

**CASCADE
RURAL**



**COUNTY
COUNCIL**

Ex #
HB-603
2/13/85

February 11, 1985

TO: HOUSE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

RE: HOUSE BILL 603

THE MEMBER DEPARTMENTS OF THE CASCADE COUNTY RURAL FIRE COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO GO ON RECORD IN OPPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL 603.

- BELT RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DISTRICT
- BLACK EAGLE RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- CASCADE RURAL AND FARMER RANCHER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- FORT SHAW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- GORE HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- MONARCH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- NEIHART RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- SAND COULEE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- SIMMS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- STOCKETT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- SUN RIVER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- ULM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
- VAUGHN, MANCHESTER, SUN PRAIRIE, NEUMANN
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION IN THIS MATTER.

Very truly yours,

T.W. ("Tom") O'HARA
President

TWO:jbs

EX #2
HB-576
2/13/85

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Mrenda Schye BILL NO. HB 576
ADDRESS North Star Pk. Glasgow DATE 2-13-85
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT? Montana Arts Advocacy
SUPPORT ✓ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

I represent The Montana Arts Advocacy, a 700-member cross-section of Montanans who are committed to the development of Montana's cultural resources.

Libraries play a central role in that development, and the work of the Library Commission is critical to the planning and coordination of library services across the state.

We believe it is only fair to acknowledge their valuable contribution in the same manner that we do for other boards and commissions.

I hope that you will give a favorable recommendation to HB 576.

HB-601
Ex. #3
2/13/85

Feb. 13, 1985

Gentlemen:

We are representing Tiffin Tracts Water Users Association of Stevensville, Montana. I am Jim McKinley, Sec. Treas., and this is Tom Myers, President of our Association.

Our Association has decreed water rights out of Kootenai Creek dating June 1, 1885 and April 1 1898 for 260 inches of water. Before subdivision these water rights were held by three small farms. Now we serve 28 seperate parcels.

The Association with legally adopted rules and regulations now has the responsibility to distribute the water and pay the costs of the Association.

The Tiffin Tract Water Users Association was audited by the State of Montana for 1982 and 1983. We believe that the cost was excessive and the results far less than should have been expected.

During 1982 and 1983 we had a total of 12 items of income and 13 items of expense or a total of 25 entrys. The audit of these 25 items cost ~~us~~ a total of \$259.88. \$208.00 for the Audit, \$40.00 for typing and \$11.88 for printing. During this two year period we spent a total of \$1294.48. \$259.88 of this was for the audit.

In addition when the auditor found that we had a Bank Account in Stevensville plus money held for us by the County Treasurer he did not complete the financial audit. All records were in his hands and could have been completed in a matter of hours.

We were billed for and paid for the audit on Dec. 15, 1983. The Audit Report Letter of Transmittal to us was written on July 17, 1984. OUR letter outlining the action we planned to take was sent to the Audit Bureau on Sept. 6, 1984. We have not recieved a reply.

Ex. # 4
HB-524
2/13/85

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 524

DENNIS HEMMER, COMMISSIONER OF STATE LANDS

The Department of State Lands supports the passage of House Bill 524 regarding the limitation of overriding royalties and payments out of production on state oil and gas leases. The purpose of the bill would be to encourage the drilling of state oil and gas leases by allowing the Department the flexibility to reduce excessive overriding royalties when they impede legitimate development attempts. The bill would also increase the state production of stripper oil and gas by allowing the Department to reduce existing overriding royalties that cause premature abandonment of marginal wells due to the raising of the economic cutoff created by the overriding royalty interest. The procedure that would be followed when overriding royalties are a problem could be a negotiated overall reduction of the overriding royalties or elimination of the overriding royalties in reverse order of the acquisition until a satisfactory level is reached. Ideally the negotiation would involve only the operator and the override owners. The Department would however have the power to intervene to insure that the development of the state's oil and gas interests are not impeded. Without this ability a potentially paying well may not be drilled at all or the economic cutoff of marginally producing wells may be increased thus causing a loss of revenue to the school trust. By requiring the operators to report their overrides, the Department will be able to monitor the overriding royalty interests on thousands of leases on file. The bill will not affect old leases already granted by the Department.

Ex #
HB623
2/13/85

MONTANA HEALTH FACILITY AUTHORITY
BOND AND NOTE ISSUANCE
ACTIVITY TO DATE
FEBRUARY 13, 1985

<u>Bond or Note Issuance</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
\$ 1,200,000	Provide short term construction financing for Frances Mahon Deaconess Chemical Dependency Center, Glasgow.
\$ 23,500,000	Provide seven-year financing to a pool of twenty health care facilities. Loans will be disbursed over a three year period. Five loans (*) are currently closed. Participants include: * West-Mont Community Care, Inc., Helena \$ 126,169 * West-Mont Habilitation Services, Inc., Helena 280,000 * North Valley Hospital, Whitefish 1,100,000 Northern Montana Hospital, Havre 2,781,278 Frances Mahon Deaconess, Glasgow 521,300 Holy Rosary Hospital, Miles City 300,587 Bozeman Deaconess Foundation, Bozeman 1,000,000 Pondera Medical Center, Conrad 84,642 Livingston Community Hospital, Livingston 540,314 * Columbus Hospital, Great Falls 1,600,000 Missoula Community Hospital, Missoula 2,251,993 Townsend Health Center, Inc., Townsend 200,000 St. Peter's Community Hospital, Helena 1,556,407

Montana Health Facility Authority
Page two

Glendive Community Hospital and Nursing Home, Glendive	1,202,400
Community Memorial Hospital of Richland County, Sidney	864,726
St. Luke Community Hospital, Ronan	565,703
Mission Valley Central Hospital, St. Ignatius	168,800
Northwest Health Care Corp., Kalispell	2,234,883
St. Patrick Hospital, Missoula	563,000
Sweetgrass Community Hospital, Big Timber	120,000

\$ 18,000,000	Provide long term financing to Billings Deaconess Hospital, Billings.
\$ 515,000	Provide permanent financing for a portion of the cost of construction at West-Mont Community Care, Inc., Helena. All parties have committed to this financing. Transaction will be completed in April 1985.
\$ 890,000	Application outstanding for short term construc- tion financing at Big Sandy Medical Center, Big Sandy.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 761:

1. Page 2, line 5.

Strike: "\$6.50"

Insert: "\$4"

2. Page 2, line 6.

Strike: "\$4"

Insert: "\$6.50"

St. Admin

BILL NO. HB 576

DATE 2-13-85

SPONSOR Rep Fritz

[illegible]

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

COMMITTEE

BILL NO. 570

DATE _____

SPONSOR _____

[illegible]

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

COMMITTEE

BILL NO.

603

DATE

SPONSOR

NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
TOM O'HARA	CASCADE COUNTY FIRE		✓
Lyle Nagel	Simms		—
JAMES A LOFFTOS	MISSOULA		✓
R.A. Ellis	West Helena Valley Fire Dist		✓

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

COMMITTEE

BILL NO.

DATE _____

SPONSOR

[illegible]

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

St. Admin. COMMITTEE

BILL NO. 761

DATE 2/13/85

SPONSOR Smith

[illegible]

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Dave Fisher BILL No. HB 603
ADDRESS 1908 S. Washington St. DATE 2/13/85.
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Silver Bow Fire Council & others
SUPPORT ✓ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: