

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 22, 1985

The meeting of the Appropriations Committee was called to order by Chairman Bardanouve on March 22, 1985 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 104 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present except Representatives Spaeth and Menahan, who were absent.

(Tape 55:A:487)

HOUSE BILL 614: "AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 7-4-2503, MCA, TO RAISE THE BASE PAY OF COUNTY OFFICIALS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

Representative (Dave) Brown (491), sponsor of the bill, proposed to the committee some alternatives; one is to cut the requested increase in half and send it to the Senate or table the bill in Appropriations Committee so it is accessible if funds become available.

Proponents:

John Scully (529), Montana Sheriff and Peace Officers, explained the amount of \$17,000 in the bill; he said they took the budget request and added a 4 percent increase since 1981. During the last two years of the biennium they received a cost-of-living increase of 2.28 percent and 2.4 percent. They concur with a reduction in the base they have presented and leave it to the committee's discretion. They would like to see the bill kept alive and he asked the committee to give it the kind of consideration the people deserve for their pay increase.

Chuck O'Reilly (566), Montana Sheriff and Peace Officers, said this year, already we have had two officers killed in the line of duty; there are many other officers who put their life's on the line in the same circumstances for \$15,000, \$16,000 and \$17,000 a year. Their wages hinge on our wages and he asked the committee to keep this in mind before they make their decision on this bill.

Richard Trerise (581), Montana Association of County School Superintendents, said we would like to go on record as supporting this bill.

Mike Stephen (587), Montana Clerk and Records Association, and Clerk of District Courts, said they support the bill. They support the mechanism of a base salary plus the increments as far as the 70 percent of the consumer price index. He said it has been four years since any alteration or increase has been given as far as the base.

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Gloria Paladichuk (605), President, Montana County Treasurers' Association, said we go on record as supporting House Bill 614.

Opponents:

Gordon Morris (627), Montana Association of Counties, said the County Commissioners have had a very difficult time with this bill. The association is in direct odds with all the other elected officials in the courthouse in regard to this bill. He went on record to say county commissioners and locally elected officials and responsible elected officials are opposed to this from the standpoint this means a property tax increase. He asked the committee not to pass the bill.

Bob Decker (652), Chairman, Lewis and Clark County Commission, said they are concerned too many statutes tie deputy and administrative aides salaries to the elected officials salaries. They oppose the bill.

(Tape 55:B:000)

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Committee Discussion:

Chairman Bardanouve asked why House Bill 75 was killed in the Senate. John Scully said that bill would have given the county commissioners the authority to set base salaries across the state. At the hearing, every elected official association of the state appeared in opposition to that bill. He said the county commissioners did not take a position for the record on that bill, but in their opinion House Bill 75 would not give the flexibility in regard to salaries that they preferred.

Dave Brown (057) said there are two separate statutes; one that sets the base pay and one that provides for the cost-of-living increase. The cost-of-living does not change the base.

Representative Quilici (130) asked how much it would cost an individual taxpayer if they cut the raise in half. Bob Decker said it would cost about \$2.565 per mill.

Representative (Dave) Brown (152) closed by saying this is a difficult situation, but people are putting their life on the line every single day. This bill came out of Local Government Committee, a conservative committee, with strong support. He urged that, in light of the budget situation, the subcommittee at least table the bill to see if there is something that can be done.

HOUSE BILL 632: "AN ACT PROVIDING A COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE IN SERVICE AND DISABILITY RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE AND SURVIVORSHIP ALLOWANCES FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES; PROVIDING A MINIMUM MONTHLY BENEFIT ALLOWANCE FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE SYSTEM AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES; INCREASING THE EMPLOYER'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE SYSTEM; AMENDING SECTION 19-4-605, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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Representative Eudaily (171), sponser of the bill, said the Retired Teachers' Association for the last two sessions has not asked for an increase, rather they have been working with the other retirement systems trying to arrive at the single approach for the increase in the cost-of-living. He said we think the retired teachers have not kept up with the increases allowed in some of the other retirement systems. He said there was a small increase in 1977 and again in 1981, but all the retirement systems received the same increases. By contrast, Public Employees Retirement System has received an increase every session of the Legislature since 1971.

Representative Eudaily said the Montana Retired Teachers' Association, which represents 5,000 retired teachers, feels House Bill 632 is a modest request that is designed to provide the largest increase to those who need it the most. The bill does two things. It is a cost-of-living adjustment on a graduated scale for teachers who retired before July 1, 1983. It also establishes a minimum retirement allowance for teachers who retired prior to July 1, 1971. There are 371 teachers who receive \$1,000 or more, there are 1,168 teachers who receive over \$500 but less than \$1,000, and there are 3,126 teachers who receive \$500 or less. In the bill, the bottom of page 2 and the top of page 3 explains who will pay for the increase.

Proponents:

Bob Johnson (250), Administrator, Montana's Teacher Retirement System, said we support House Bill 632.

Eric Feaver (254), President, Montana Education Association, said he hopes the committee will give the bill a Do Pass.

Terry Minow (258), Montana Federation of Teachers, said they would like to go on record as supporting the bill.

Jesse Long (258), Executive Secretary, School Administrators of Montana, said they support this legislation and ask the committee's Do Pass.

Opponents: None

Committee Discussion:

Representative Nathe (303) asked if the amount of money will be built up over the years because gradually the amount of these retired teachers will decline and the contributions will continue to grow. Representative Eudaily said more money will be paid out of the system for the teachers retiring right now, so you have to carry this program out over a forty-year period to keep it actually sound.

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Representative Thoft (365) asked how much it will cost the individual districts. Representative Eudaily said it amounts to about a 2.4 percent increase in the employer benefits. Representative Donaldson said it will depend on the district.

Chairman Bardanoue (380) asked how many of these teachers are covered by social security. Representative Eudaily said he could not answer that question because he didn't know the answer.

Representative Eudaily (416), closed by saying the Retired Teachers' Association wants to be included with the other retired people who are receiving the committee's consideration, and we think it is a justified request.

HOUSE BILL 572: "AN ACT TO FREEZE THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN ELECTED EXECUTIVE BRANCH, JUDICIAL BRANCH, AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OFFICIALS OF THE STATE FOR 2 YEARS AT JULY 1, 1984, LEVELS; AMENDING SECTIONS 5-2-310 AND 5-2-302, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

Representative Donaldson (425), sponsor of the bill, said it basically deals with a pay freeze for elected officials. His rationale for the bill is to get the attention of the legislators that indeed we have a problem and they are going to have to share in the solution. He also said other states have used freezing salaries as a way of balancing the budget. He asked that the bill be tabled in case we need to use it.

Proponents:

Representative Moore (515) said he was a proponent of this bill.

Representative Miller (519) said he would like to go on record as a proponent to this bill.

Representatives Rehberg and Swift also are proponents for the bill.

Opponents: none

Committee Discussion:

Chairman Bardanoue (529) asked if the amendments by Representative Donaldson were removing the legislators from the pay freeze. Representative Donaldson said no, the amendments would keep the legislators on the pay-plan, but the effective date of the raise would be delayed until the next Legislature starts.

Representative Quilici (625) asked how much money would be saved by this bill. Representative Donaldson said about \$220,000 annually.

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Representative Donaldson (646) closed by saying he urged the committee to put the bill in the best possible shape, he is hopeful the bill will never be used. He then asked the committee not to throw the bill away as we may need it, and said I will be the first to step forward and say--if we have to balance the budget, I think we as legislators better take the first bite.

SENATE BILL 161: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO EQUALIZE THE FINANCING OF THE RETIREMENT FUND LEVY REQUIREMENTS OF ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS; REQUIRING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO DISTRIBUTE THE FUNDS TO EACH COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT ON THE BASIS OF A DOLLAR AMOUNT PER AVERAGE NUMBER BELONGING; AMENDING SECTIONS 20-3-106 AND 20-9-501, MCA."

(Tape 13:A:000)

Senator Brown (002), sponsor of the bill, said the levies are imposed on a county level, and Teachers' Retirement is paid on a county level by property tax. The idea is, if you put money into education, sometimes school boards will just waste the money. He said what you want to do, is put more money into education through these property taxes then buy back the Teachers' Retirement levy, and you will have dollar for dollar property tax reduction. This bill would create a mechanism for state government to do that if it should chose to do so.

Senator Brown said he had a brilliant funding mechanism for this bill, which is now languished in the Senate Business and Industry Committee, trapped behind the transmittal deadline. It was to increase the taxes on a pack of cigarettes, \$.05 a pack, which would have raised \$9 million over the course of the biennium. He said he would have used that to reduce property taxes, averaging out across the state to 2 mils, so it would have been a tax shift, but the Senate decided it was a tax increase rather than a tax shift.

Senator Brown asked the committee to wait for awhile before they take action on the bill. He said there is a codification instruction amended into the bill, which ties it to Senate Bill 442, which is the \$.05 tax on cigarettes. He said if you find favor with the bill, and you do find this is a good public policy even if there is no money to use, the bill can still be passed even if we would have no money to use to reduce property taxes. The codification instruction would have to be amended off the bill.

Proponents:

Chip Erdman (044), Montana School Board Association, said we rise in support of Senate Bill 161. He said the state has mandated the retirement programs that school districts live with and how much we contribute, the state has never funded those programs, it goes back on the local property taxpayer.

We see this as an excellent way of relieving local property taxes to a certain extent, having the state buy back, not a particular amount, but whatever type of money is available. He said there may not be any money this year, but we think the mechanism is sound and should be passed for future sessions to consider. He said this is a good way of equalization, it is not a major effort, but it is a good step forward.

Eric Feaver (059), Montana Education Association, said we rise also in support of Senate Bill 161. We think it is an excellent concept, even if no money can be put into it this session; and we ask the committee to give it a Do Pass.

Opponents: None

Committee Discussion:

Representative Moore (078), asked Senator Brown if he has hopes of Senate Bill 442 passing. Senator Brown said strange things can happen, but the chances are little.

Representative Moore (077), asked why this bill could not wait until next session. Senator Brown said for those who are involved in education, it might be easier to get levies passed, many are going to be voted down, or alternatively many property taxes are going to be increased this spring; so if we could pass this bill, and we would have some money to fund it, we could reduce the mills. It would be at least some comfort if this bill was passed and some mechanism established. He said it can't possibly do any harm to pass the bill, it won't have any effect on reducing property taxes, but I can't see any benefit in waiting those years.

HOUSE BILL 376: "AN ACT PROVIDING STATE EMPLOYEE PAY INCREASES FOR FISCAL YEARS 1986 and 1987; PROVIDING SHIFT DIFFERENTIALS FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES; INCREASING THE EMPLOYER'S CONTRIBUTION FOR GROUP BENEFITS; APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR; AMENDING SECTIONS 2-18-301, 2-18-303, 2-18-305, 2-18-315, AND 2-18-703, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

Representative Driscoll (200), passed out (EXHIBIT 1) to the committee. His plan will give \$400 to everybody, the executive proposal gives a percentage to everyone. The compression in the pay plan occurs between grade 12 and 17, but not all the way to the top.

Representative Manuel (311) asked when was the last flat-rate increase. Representative Driscoll said it was around 1979.

HOUSE BILL 473: "AN ACT REQUIRING CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYERS TO USE SCORED PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING PERSONS FOR APPOINTMENT TO CERTAIN POSITIONS; GRANTING PREFERENCE TO CERTAIN MILITARY VETERANS AND THEIR ELIGIBLE RELATIVES IN APPOINTMENT TO THESE POSITIONS AND IN RETENTION DURING REDUCTIONS IN FORCE; ELIMANTING THE PREFERENCE PROVIDED TO VETERANS AND THEIR

ELIGIBLE SPOUSES UNDER THE MONTANA VETERANS' AND HANDICAPPED PERSONS' EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE ACT AND REVISING THE PREFERENCE PROVIDED TO HANDICAPPED PERSONS AND THEIR ELIGIBLE SPOUSES UNDER THAT ACT; AMENDING SECTIONS 10-2-402, 39-30-101 THROUGH 39-30-103, 39-30-201 THROUGH 39-30-203, 39-30-207, 49-2-405, AND 49-3-103, MCA."

The date for this hearing had been moved up to March 25, 1985. Because of the confusion, some people from out-of-town came to testify. Chairman Bardanouve allowed these people to testify for the committee so they would not have to come back to Helena.

Representative Moore made a motion to hear all testimony from out-of-town people who could not come back for the hearing. No action was taken on this motion.

Representative Waldron (463), said some people probably had to take time off from their jobs to be here today that live in town, and they should be able to testify if they want.

Chairman Bardanouve suggested giving the people the courtesy so they do not have to come back.

Proponents: none

Opponents:

Mary Vant Huss (480), Bozeman City Commissioner, opposed House Bill 473 (EXHIBIT 2).

Mike Ward (524), County Government Study Commissioner, Bozeman, opposed the bill (EXHIBIT 3).

(Tape 13:B:000)

#### E X E C U T I V E   A C T I O N :

Chairman Bardanouve asked Representative Manuel what bills came out of his subcommittee.

HOUSE BILL 671: Representative Manuel (071) made a motion to TABLE the bill, which was the subcommittee's decision. A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 672: Representative Manuel (083) said Representative Harper wanted this bill killed. Representative Waldron made a motion that House Bill 672 DO NOT PASS. Representative Lory said if that motion passes the bill can be brought back on the floor. Representative Waldron withdrew his motion.

Representative Hand made a motion to TABLE House Bill 672. A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

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HOUSE BILL 740: Representative Manuel (101) made a motion to TABLE House Bill 740 by Representative Grady. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 876: Representative Manuel (109) said this bill by Representative Abrams had no hearing at the sponsor's request. Representative Manuel made the motion to TABLE the bill. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 886: Representative Manuel (121) made a motion to TABLE the bill, which was the subcommittee's request. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 909: Representative Manuel (130) said this bill did not carry any appropriations and he is the sponsor of the bill. It is a bill for the Department of Natural Resources which requests authority to retrofit state building. Representative Manuel made a motion to have a full committee hearing on this bill. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 761: Representative Moore (273) made a motion to TABLE the bill at the request of Representative Smith. The committee took no action on this motion.

(End of Executive Action)

Judy Ripplingale (326), Legal Fiscal Analyst, reported to the committee that it appears they added \$2.7 million of General Fund, the ending fund balance using HJR 2 revenues before any ending fund balance would be a -\$33.3 million. She said if you wanted to leave a \$15 million dollar fund balance that would be -\$48.3 million to be concerned about. This is before any tax policy changes or fundings other than the 6 mil levy. It is based on the consistant amount presented all along, a 4-4 school foundation program, and a 17.4 for the pay plan which was the original governor's pay plan.

HOUSE BILL 754: AN ACT PROVIDING AN ALLOWANCE ADJUSTMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM RETIRED ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1975, BUT BEFORE JULY 1, 1985, OR THEIR BENEFICIARIES; PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE ADJUSTMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

Representative Fritz (455), sponsor of the bill, said the problem with the Municipal Police Officers' Retirement Fund is that people who retired after July 1, 1975 are not entitled to a cost-of-living increment. Their retirement is frozen, while all officers who retired before that date are given an automatic cost-of-living increment which has kept their retirement income up with inflation. It will cost about \$120,000 a year, and that is the maximum. That sum will decrease over time as the officers in that time category pass away.

Proponents:

Bill Steele (535), President, State Retired Officers Association, supports House Bill 754. There are a number of retired officers or widows in the state that are receiving take home pay of less than \$400 a month, and it isn't enough.

Larry Conner (608), Montana Police Protective Association, said they support the bill.

Bill Ware (615), Helena Chief of Police, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police, said we support House Bill 754.

Representatives Moore, Miller and Peck said they also are proponents of this bill.

Opponents: none

Committee Discussion:

Representative Waldron (660) asked if anyone was going to work on a proposal that would resolve this issue and not have to use General Fund money. Bill Steele said in future meetings they will address the problem.

(Tape 56:A:000)

E X E C U T I V E   A C T I O N :

SENATE BILL 161: Representative Moore (076) made a motion to TABLE Senate Bill 161. A voice vote was taken with Representatives Connelly and Miller voting no, and Representative Lory abstaining from the vote because he wasn't at the hearing. The motion carried.

HOUSE BILL 614: Representative Waldron (112) made a motion DO NOT PASS for House Bill 614. Representative Miller made a substitute motion to TABLE the bill. A voice vote was taken with 15 members voting yes and Representatives Quilici, Hand and Connelly voting no. The motion carried.

Representative Nathe made a motion to call off the vote and send a letter back up to the Senate and ask them to reconsider their action on killing House Bill 75 that allowed the county commissioners to set those salaries. No action was taken on this bill.

Representative Waldron made a motion to reconsider our tabling action on House Bill 614 because by tabling the bill we have kept it alive, if we kill the bill the Senate will know we are serious about it. A voice vote was taken and carried unanimously.

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Representative Waldron made a motion that House Bill 614 DO NOT PASS. A voice vote was taken with 15 members voting yes and Representatives Quilici, Hand and Peck voting no. The motion carried.

Representative Nathe moved that this Appropriations Committee send a letter to the Senate asking them to reconsider the action they have taken on killing House Bill 75. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Waldron suggested when Judy Rippingale writes this letter, she strongly emphasize that we killed this bill.

HOUSE BILL 632: Representative Nathe (177) requested to hold the bill awhile longer.

HOUSE BILL 754: Representative Moore (187) made a motion that this bill DO PASS. Representative Bardanoue asked how many of these people also receive social security. None of these people are on social security unless they worked a second job that made it possible for them to claim it.

Representative Waldron suggested no action be taken on any of these types of bills until they can all be looked at together. Representative Moore withdrew his motion.

(End of Executive Action)

Representative Moore (151) made a motion to request all bills with appropriations in other committees be moved from the house floor to the Appropriations Committee and those bills be considered by the full committee at the same time. No committee action was taken on this motion, but they subsequently agreed to the policy.

Recess: The meeting recessed at 11:15 a.m.

Reconvene: The meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

HOUSE BILL 909: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND AWARDING OF GRANTS TO STATE GOVERNMENTAL UNITS FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES; AMENDING SECTIONS 90-4-102, 90-4-104, AND 90-4-106, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

Representative Manuel (344), sponsor of the bill, said this bill deals with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and it doesn't cost any general fund.

Proponents:

Bob Robinson (360), Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, said this proposal was recommend by Larry Fasbender. He said what we are proposing, in addition to the grant and loan programs,

is to expand this kind of program to include grants or repayable loans to public buildings, primarily state government buildings. We would work with the state architect office, who has already conducted a feasibility analysis of the energy conservation potential of public buildings. He said there are over 1,000 buildings in state government, all of which could use some energy conservation measures. We would find the buildings that waste the most energy and provide them with repayable grants so they will retrofit the buildings. The grants will be paid back over the useful life of the energy conservation retrofit activity. The money repaid from the grants will go back into other grants for future use. He said we feel we can run this program at about \$1.5 or \$1.7 million a year opposed to what we are currently budgeted at which is \$2.3 to \$2.4 million a year. The extra money could be used by the legislature in some other manner.

Representatives Quilici and Thoft are also proponents of this bill.

Opponents: none

Committee Discussion:

Representative Hand (470) asked what is the source of the money. Bob Robinson said it is 2½ percent of the 50 percent left over from the coal severance tax.

Representative Quilici said you can start the retrofitting here at the capitol by putting thermal window panes, and the cost wouldn't be too much.

Representative Thoft (504) asked if all the money available could be used. Bob Robinson said yes.

Representative Donaldson (580) asked if these proposals were sophisticated enough so the amount of actual savings can be determined. Bob Robinson said the engineering studies done have a calculated payback which should be close.

(Tape 56:B:000)

E X E C U T I V E   A C T I O N :

HOUSE BILL 38: Representative Winslow (008) said the subcommittee's report was to table the bill. Representative Winslow said that Representative Brown would like to have a hearing for the full committee. Chairman Bardanoue said he could have a short hearing.

HOUSE BILL 433: Representative Quilici asked to postpone executive action until a later date because he wanted to ask the sponsors if they wanted a short hearing in the full committee.

HOUSE BILL 490: Representative Waldron (079) had amendments for the bill. He said he didn't feel that internal service in line 15 was proper because it would mean all equipment would have to be sold to get down to \$50,000. He said he felt proprietary fund was more appropriate.

Representative Donaldson (140) is concerned too much authority would be given; possibly, the fund could be built up too high if suddenly there is a good livestock year.

Representative Waldron made a motion to amend the bill as follows:

1. Page 1, line 15  
Following: "the"  
Strike: "internal service"  
Insert: "proprietary "

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Waldron made a motion that House Bill 490 DO PASS as amended. A voice vote was taken and with 15 members voting yes and Representatives Donaldson and Moore voting no. The motion carried.

Judy Ripplingale (261) said according to the law the internal service fund is the appropriate fund. She read the definition to the committee.

Representative Waldron (270) made a motion to reconsider action taken on the amendment for House Bill 490. A voice vote was taken and carried unanimously.

Representative Waldron made a motion that House Bill 490 DO PASS. A voice vote was taken with 16 members voting yes and Representative Donaldson voting no. The motion carried.

HOUSE BILL 572: Representative Donaldson (290), sponsor of the bill, said he had amendments (EXHIBIT 4), that basically establish a method for setting future legislative compensation.

Representative Moore (325) said he also had an amendment for the bill. He made a motion to amend the bill as follows:

1. Page 1, lines 5,17,24  
Following: "elected"  
Insert: "and appointed"

Judy Ripplingale (338) said by doing this, more statutes may have to be changed than the title of the bill because of conflicts with other laws. The committee voted on the motion with the intent they were voting on the merit of the amendment and assuming the legal problem can be solved. A roll call vote was taken with 11 members voting yes and Representatives Bardanouve, Bradley, Hand, Lory, Quilici and Waldron voting no. The motion carried.

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Representative Donaldson (463) made a motion to accept the amendments on (EXHIBIT 4) for House Bill 490. A voice vote was taken with 16 members voting yes and Representative Waldron voting no. The motion carried.

Representative Donaldson made a motion to TABLE the bill with the amendments if they are legal. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 589: Representative Quilici made a motion to TABLE the bill. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously. Representative Quilici said it was a good bill, but the subcommittee felt there was not enough funds this biennium.

HOUSE BILL 669: Representative Donaldson (522) said the subcommittee felt this bill had merit, but it was using part of the impact money, so they requested the bill be tabled.

Representative Bradley (530) said she felt the program was justifiable because it would give the Legislature an idea of what education programs are actually working. She said it would also give innovation to districts and individuals in the educational community a chance to get money from this program to see if they can get matching funds from their districts and do something to prove their points.

Representative Donaldson (599) made a motion to TABLE House Bill 669. Representative Peck said there is no organized educational research like this in Montana. It has the provision that provides Scholarship funds for attracting high quality people into the educational sectors in teaching. He said he feels this bill has potential and he opposes the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 members voting yes and Representatives Bradley, Lory and Peck voting no. The motion carried.

(Tape 57:A:000)

HOUSE BILL 909: Representative Thoft made a motion to accept the amendments found on (EXHIBIT 4A). A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 805: Representative Winslow (029) made the motion to TABLE this bill, which was the subcommittee's request. A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 810: Representative Winslow (047) said the subcommittee had a tie vote, 3-3 for this bill. Representative Donaldson said last session the lobbying group assured the Representatives the Five Valley Health Center would absolutely be self-supporting.

Representative Bradley (077), sponsor of the bill, said they have made good attempts at becoming self-supporting through grants and help from physicians.

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Representative Winslow made a motion to TABLE House Bill 810. A roll call vote was taken with 12 members voting yes and Representatives Bardanouve, Bradley, Lory, Quilici and Waldron voting no. The motion carried.

HOUSE BILL 835: Representative Winslow (120) made a motion to TABLE this bill, as recommended by the subcommittee. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 850: Representative Moore (144), co-sponsor of the bill, made a motion to TABLE the bill. A voice vote was taken with 15 members voting yes and Representatives Quilici and Miller voting no. The motion carried.

HOUSE BILL 897: Representative Winslow (167), sponsor of the bill, made a motion that House Bill 897 DO PASS. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 927: Representative Winslow (188) said the subcommittee requested this bill be tabled. Representative Winslow is trying to get a bill through that would exempt people in group homes such as child-care, delinquent, and foster care homes, from wage and hour laws at the state level.

Representative Winslow made a motion to TABLE House Bill 927. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 931 AND 932: Representative Thoft (263) said the subcommittee came to a compromise that they would pass one of the bills. Representative Thoft made a motion to amend House Bill 932 as shown on (EXHIBIT 5). A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Thoft made a motion that House Bill 932 DO PASS as amended. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Thoft made a motion to TABLE House Bill 931. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 933: Representative Thoft made a motion that this bill be TABLED. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 934: Representative Winslow (360) made a motion to TABLE House Bill 934. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 205: Representative Thoft (390) made a motion to TABLE House Bill 205. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

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HOUSE BILL 920: Representative Thoft (405) made a motion to TABLE House Bill 920. A voice vote was taken with 14 members voting yes and Representatives Swift, Quilici and Miller voting no. The motion carried.

House Bill 936: Representative Thoft (430) made a motion to TABLE House Bill 936. A voice vote was taken with 14 members voting yes and Representatives Quilici, Waldron and Hand voting no.

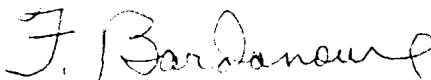
HOUSE BILL 224: Representative Thoft (542) made a motion to amend House Bill 224 as shown on (EXHIBIT 6). A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Representative Thoft made a motion that House Bill 224 DO PASS as amended. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 731: Representative Winslow (572) made a motion to TABLE House Bill 731, which was the subcommittee's request. A voice vote was taken with 15 members voting yes and Representatives Quilici and Hand voting no. The motion carried.

HOUSE BILL 219: Representative Donaldson (625) made a motion that House Bill 219 DO NOT PASS. A voice vote was taken with 16 members voting yes and Representative Hand voting no. The motion carried.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



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FRANCIS BARDANOUE, Chairman

DAILY ROLL CALL

APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date March 22, 1985

| NAME                         | PRESENT | ABSENT | EXCUSED |
|------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| BARDANOUE, FRANCIS (CHAIR)   | X       |        |         |
| DONALDSON, GENE (VICE CHAIR) | X       |        |         |
| BRADLEY, DOROTHY             | X       |        |         |
| CONNELLY, MARY ELLEN         | X       |        |         |
| ERNST, GENE                  | X       |        |         |
| HAND, BILL                   | X       |        |         |
| LORY, EARL                   | X       |        |         |
| MANUEL, REX                  | X       |        |         |
| MENAHAN, WILLIAM             |         | X      |         |
| MILLER, RON                  | X       |        |         |
| MOORE, JACK                  | X       |        |         |
| NATHE, DENNIS                | X       |        |         |
| PECK, RAY                    | X       |        |         |
| QUILICI, JOE                 | X       |        |         |
| REHBERG, DENNIS              | X       |        |         |
| SPAETH, GARY                 |         | X      |         |
| SWIFT, BERNIE                | X       |        |         |
| THOFT, BOB                   | X       |        |         |
| WALDRON, STEVE               | X       |        |         |
| WINSLOW, CAL                 | X       |        |         |
|                              |         |        |         |
|                              |         |        |         |
|                              |         |        |         |

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 23

19 85

**SPEAKER**

MR. ....

## APPROPRIATIONS

We, your committee on .....

HOUSE

having had under consideration ..... Bill No. 219

**First**

**White**

reading copy ( ..... )  
color

**Cooperative Extension Service to provide forest resource education.**

HOUSE

Respectfully report as follows: That ..... Bill No. 219

**DO NOT PASS**

**DO PASS**

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

227

March 23 19 85

MR. SPEAKERWe, your committee on APPROPRIATIONShaving had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 224First reading copy (White  
color)

Appropriate \$1.7 million LRBP funds to DOA for airport improvement loans.

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 224**BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Page 1, line 16  
Strike: "BPICA"

**AND AS AMENDED****DO PASS**

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

490

March 23

19 35

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on APPROPRIATIONS

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 490

First reading copy (White  
color)

**No reversion to General Fund of excess Prison Industries Program funds.**

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 490

DO PASS

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

614

March 22

1955

**SPEAKER**

MR. ....

**APPROPRIATIONS**

We, your committee on .....

**HOUSE**

**614**

having had under consideration ..... Bill No. ....

**SECOND**

reading copy ( **YELLOW** )  
color

**Raising the base pay of some county officials.**

**HOUSE**

**614**

Respectfully report as follows: That ..... Bill No. ....

**DO NOT PASS**

**DO PASS**

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

897

March 23

19 95

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on APPROPRIATIONS

having had under consideration HOUSE Bill No. 997

First reading copy ( White )  
color

Tax levy for state-assumed general assistance to go to state General Fund.

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 997

DO PASS

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

932

March 23 19 35

SPEAKER

MR. ....

APPROPRIATIONS

We, your committee on .....

HOUSE

932

having had under consideration ..... Bill No. ....

First reading copy ( White )  
color

Appropriate recreation fees to Cooney Dam loan repayment.

Respectfully report as follows: That ..... HOUSE ..... Bill No. 932

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Page 1, line 14  
Following: "Parks"  
Strike: "state parks"  
Insert: "license"
2. Page 1, line 15  
Strike "earned"  
Following: "No."  
Strike: "02411"  
Insert: "02409"

AND AS AMENDED

DO PASS

# ROLL CALL VOTE

HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROPRIATIONS

DATE March 22, 1985 BILL NO. House Bill 572a TIME \_\_\_\_\_

| NAME                            | AYE | NAY |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
| BARDANOUVE, FRANCIS (Chairman)  |     | X   |
| DONALDSON, GENE (Vice Chairman) | X   |     |
| BRADLEY, DOROTHY                |     | X   |
| CONNELLY, MARY ELLEN            |     |     |
| ERNST, GENE                     | X   |     |
| HAND, BILL                      |     | X   |
| LORY, EARL                      |     | X   |
| MANUEL, REX                     | X   |     |
| MENAHAN, WILLIAM                |     |     |
| MILLER, RON                     | X   |     |
| MOORE, JACK                     | X   |     |
| NATHE, DENNIS                   | X   |     |
| PECK, RAY                       | X   |     |
| QUILICI, JOE                    |     | X   |
| REHBERG, DENNIS                 | X   |     |
| SPAETH, GARY                    |     |     |
| SWIFT, BERNIE                   | X   |     |
| THOFT, BOB                      | X   |     |
| WALDRON, STEVE                  |     | X   |
| WINSLOW, CAL                    | X   |     |
|                                 |     |     |

~~JEAN MARX~~ Kathy Mackay  
Secretary

FRANCIS BARDANOUVE  
Chairman

Motion: Representative Moore made a motion to amend the bill as

follows: Page 1, lines 5,17,24

Following: "elected"

Insert: "and appointed"

The intent of this motion is the merit of the amendment and  
assuming the legal problem can be solved.

# ROLL CALL VOTE

HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROPRIATIONS

DATE March 22, 1985

BILL NO. House Bill 669

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

| NAME                            | AYE | NAY |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
| BARDANOUVE, FRANCIS (Chairman)  | X   |     |
| DONALDSON, GENE (Vice Chairman) | X   |     |
| BRADLEY, DOROTHY                |     | X   |
| CONNELLY, MARY ELLEN            |     |     |
| ERNST, GENE                     | X   |     |
| HAND, BILL                      | X   |     |
| LORY, EARL                      |     | X   |
| MANUEL, REX                     | X   |     |
| MENAHAN, WILLIAM                |     |     |
| MILLER, RON                     | X   |     |
| MOORE, JACK                     | X   |     |
| NATHE, DENNIS                   | X   |     |
| PECK, RAY                       |     | X   |
| QUILICI, JOE                    | X   |     |
| REHBERG, DENNIS                 | X   |     |
| SPAETH, GARY                    |     |     |
| SWIFT, BERNIE                   | X   |     |
| THOFT, BOB                      | X   |     |
| WALDRON, STEVE                  | X   |     |
| WINSLOW, CAL                    | X   |     |
|                                 |     |     |

~~JEAN CARROLL~~ Kathy Mackay  
Secretary

FRANCIS BARDANOUVE  
Chairman

Motion: Representative Donaldson made a motion to TABLE  
House Bill 669.

# ROLL CALL VOTE

HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROPRIATIONS

DATE March 22, 1985 BILL NO. House Bill 810 TIME \_\_\_\_\_

| NAME                            | AYE | NAY |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
| BARDANOUVE, FRANCIS (Chairman)  |     | X   |
| DONALDSON, GENE (Vice Chairman) | X   |     |
| BRADLEY, DOROTHY                |     | X   |
| CONNELLY, MARY ELLEN            |     |     |
| ERNST, GENE                     | X   |     |
| HAND, BILL                      | X   |     |
| LORY, EARL                      |     | X   |
| MANUEL, REX                     | X   |     |
| MENAHAN, WILLIAM                |     |     |
| MILLER, RON                     | X   |     |
| MOORE, JACK                     | X   |     |
| NATHE, DENNIS                   | X   |     |
| PECK, RAY                       | X   |     |
| QUILICI, JOE                    |     | X   |
| REHBERG, DENNIS                 | X   |     |
| SPAETH, GARY                    |     |     |
| SWIFT, BERNIE                   | X   |     |
| THOFT, BOB                      | X   |     |
| WALDRON, STEVE                  |     | X   |
| WINSLOW, CAL                    | X   |     |

~~JEAN CARROLL~~ Kathy Mackay  
Secretary

FRANCIS BARDANOUVE  
Chairman

Motion: Representative Winslow made a motion to TABLE House Bill 810.



STATE OF MONTANA  
*Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst*  
STATE CAPITOL  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620  
406/449-2986

JUDY RIPPINGALE  
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST

March 21, 1985

Representative Jerry Driscoll  
Montana House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59602

Dear Representative Driscoll:

As you requested, we have estimated the cost of the pay plan you proposed. Giving each FTE an increase of \$400 in fiscal 1986 and an additional \$400 in fiscal 1987 and increasing the state's insurance contribution to \$1,260 per full-time employee in fiscal 1986 and \$1,320 in fiscal 1987 would cost \$21.7 million during the 1987 biennium, of which \$13.3 million would be general fund. The executive proposal is estimated to cost \$26.6 million for the 1987 biennium, of which \$16.3 million is general fund.

These estimates are based on 14,372.56 FTE in fiscal 1986 and 14,376.65 FTE in fiscal 1987. These FTE's were the numbers in the LFA current level analysis presented to the legislature in December 1984 and do not include the additional FTE added by the full Appropriations Committee this week. Excluded from the total are legislators whose salaries would be covered in the feed bill for a legislative session; all other state employees, including state elected officials and those employed by the university system, are in our FTE totals.

Our estimates are also based on vacancy savings equal to 2.97 percent of personal services costs. Appropriations Committee actions have changed the vacancy savings factors for some agencies from those in our original analysis. Those changes will alter the cost of any pay plan from our estimates.

If I can provide additional information, please contact me again.

Sincerely,

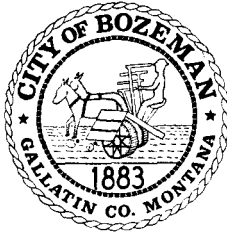
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Curtis Waldron".

Judith Curtis Waldron  
Senior Analyst

3/22/85

MARY VANT HULL

## MEMORANDUM



From the Office of  
The City Commission  
Bozeman, Montana

Date .....March..22,....1985

TO OPPOSE H.B. 473, VETERANS PREFERENCE

Local governments -- already desperately pressed to have the best personnel doing the most work for the least amount of money -- when our sources of revenue have not even kept up with inflation -- and, indeed, in property valuations, etc. have decreased -- cannot -- cannot -- live with H.B. 473 unless the Legislature also gives us the money to live with it!

First of all, the cost of administering the program would be exorbitant. Those cities which do not now have full-blown personnel departments, classification schedules, and the paraphernalia to cope with a five-to ten-point bonus for veterans, in order to measure as fairly as possible, would have to set up such expensive departments. Where are we going to get the money? In Bozeman, it would certainly cost the taxpayer AT LEAST another three mills per year -- and perhaps more.

Secondly, H.B. 473 would almost certainly guarantee that we would not feel free to hire the most qualified person for fear of being sued -- which also is very expensive and will happen frequently, given our & law-suit-prone society.

Thirdly, we will -- despite our best efforts -- be sued regularly with the passage of this bill.

The present compromise worked out by the last legislative special session is a law that we can all live with. Let us not tamper with it.

But if you must, give us the money with which to do it.

*Mary Vant Hull*

Mary Vant Hull, City Commissioner  
416 E. Story, Bozeman 59715

MIKE WARD

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB-473

I'M MIKE WARD, A COUNTY GOVT. STUDY COMMISSIONER FROM BOZEMAN.

THOUGH I HAVE A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC PROBLEMS WITH THIS BILL, THERE IS ONE FUNDAMENTAL --AND I BELIEVE OVERRIDING -- OBJECTION, WHICH YOU, AS ELECTED LAWMAKERS, SHOULD FACE SQUARELY. IT STEMS FROM MY CONVICTION--AND IT SHOULD BE YOURS TOO--THAT THE JOB SHOULD GO TO THE BEST QUALIFIED APPLICANT, PERIOD.

ACCORDING TO YOUR BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES, JUST OVER ONE-THIRD OF YOU ARE VETERANS -- FEWER THAN THAT WHEN RETIREES ARE DISALLOWED. THERE ARE 22 WOMEN. ONE REPRESENTATIVE IS LISTED AS DISABLED AND ONE SERVED IN THE PEACE CORPS.

EACH OF YOU HAD TO MEET MINIMUM STANDARDS TO FILE FOR OFFICE -- AGE, RESIDENCY, ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE. THEN YOU HAD TO DEMONSTRATE -- IN INTENSE COMPETITION AND AT SUBSTANTIAL COST IN MONEY, TIME, ENERGY AND MORE -- THAT YOU WERE QUALIFIED TO REPRESENT YOUR DISTRICT. YOUR OPPONENTS FOR THE MOST PART WERE ALSO WELL QUALIFIED AND MET ALL THE SAME CONDITIONS -- AND ALSO PAID THE FULL PRICE. YOU ALL ACHIEVED MINIMUM SCORES OF 70.

HOW MANY OF YOU WOULD BE HERE IF YOUR OPPONENT HAD BEEN AWARDED 500  
OR 1,000 VOTES AFTER NOVEMBER 4TH?

WOULD THE VETERANS IN THIS LEGISLATURE HAVE FELT RIGHT ABOUT ACCEPTING THOSE 500 OR 1,000 VOTES? WOULD THE NON-VETERANS OR NON-HANDICAPPED OR OTHER "INELIGIBLES" HAVE HAPPILY ACCEPTED THIS HANDICAP IMPOSED ON THEM AND RUN ANYWAY? WOULD THE VOTERS HAVE PERCEIVED THE WHOLE SITUATION DIFFERENTLY -- PERHAPS DECIDED THAT THE ADVANTAGE TO THE "PREFERENCE ELIGIBLE" CANDIDATE WAS TOO GREAT TO OVERCOME, AND STAVED AT HOME? WOULD THERE HAVE BEEN A BACKLASH EFFECT AGAINST THE "PREFERENCE ELIGIBLE" CANDIDATES?

WHO AMONG YOU CAN SAY WITH HIGH CONFIDENCE THAT YOU KNOW?

I SUBMIT THAT THIS ANALOGY IS NOT FAR-FETCHED -- THAT IT IS REMARKABLY RELEVANT. WHY NOT MAKE THIS KIND OF PREFERENCE APPLICABLE TO STATE AND LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS? WHY NOT FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS, COLLEGE PRESIDENTS, MAYORS, CITY MANAGERS, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS? IF THERE ARE SOUND REASONS WHY NOT, THEN THERE ARE EQUALLY SOUND REASONS TO REJECT THIS BILL . . . AND I DO RECOMMEND THAT YOU REJECT IT, HERE AND NOW.

[illegible]

DURING THE LAST SPECIAL SESSION, THIS SINGLE SUBJECT WAS DELIBERATED EXTENSIVELY AND A LAW REFLECTING MANY COMPROMISES WAS ENACTED. THERE WERE NO DISTRACTIONS SUCH AS THE HUNDREDS THAT FACE YOU NOW. THIS BILL OF 22 PAGES IS ITSELF FORMIDABLE AND ELABORATELY PADDED WITH LEGALESE. IT WILL BE DISCRIMINATE AGAINST WOMEN -- THAT IS OBVIOUS ON ITS FACE. IT WILL BE ~~VERY~~ COSTLY; IT WILL PROVE TO BE A NIGHTMARE TO ADMINISTER AND A COMFORTABLE LIVING FOR MANY ATTORNEYS. IT WILL GUARANTEE THAT EVERY MARGINAL PERFORMER PROTECTED BY PREFERENCE HANGS ON TO A JOB THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD.

IT IS, IN BRIEF, A DESERVING CANDIDATE FOR YOUR "DO NOT PASS" VOTE. AS A DISABLED VETERAN, I URGE YOU TO TRASH IT NOW.

\*\*\*\*\*

Proposed amendments to HB 572

Purpose: to put the Legislature on a constitutionally sound basis for its compensation.

1. Title, line 7.

Following: "LEVELS;"

Insert: "ESTABLISHING A METHOD FOR SETTING FUTURE LEGISLATIVE COMPENSATION;"

2. Page 2, line 10.

Following: "employee"

Insert: "in effect the day before the regular session convenes"

3. Page 2, lines 11 through 13.

Following: "session" on line 11

Strike: the remainder of line 11 through "level" on line 13

4. Page 3, line 23.

Following: "employee"

Strike: ", "

Insert: "in effect the day before the regular session convened, as"

5. Page 4, lines 1 through 3.

Following: "business" on line 1

Strike: the remainder of line 1 through "level" on line 3

19 **85** .....

STATE PUB. CO.  
Helena, Mont.

March 31 19 85

4. Page 6.

Following: line 5

Insert: "(2)(a) After June 30, 1987, the department may award grants from the alternative energy and energy conservation development and demonstration account to such state governmental units that have had projects approved by the legislature.

(b)(i) State governmental units must apply to the department for grants.

(ii) The department shall prescribe the form for applications and develop criteria for prioritizing grants.

(iii) The department shall prioritize grant applications submitted to it and shall submit its recommendations on the granting of awards to state governmental units with its budget request as provided in 17-7-111. The recommendations must include the names of proposed projects, their cost, and the expected annual energy savings, if any, resulting from the grant.

(c) Each agency awarded a grant by the legislature under the provisions of subsection (2) will have its budget reduced commensurate with the estimated energy savings resulting from the grant."

AND AS AMENDED,  
DO PASS

Amended 3-22-85

EXHIBIT 5

3/22/85

HB 932

AMENDMENT TO HB932

Page 1, line 14  
Following: "Parks"  
Strike: "state parks"  
Insert: "license"

Page 1, line 15  
Following: "No."  
Strike: "02411"  
Insert: "02409"

EXHIBIT 6

3/22/85

HB 224

Proposed Amendment to HB224

Page 1

Following: Line 15

Strike: (BPICA)

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION

ENERGY DIVISION

3/22/85

HB 909

Fasbender



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

32 SOUTH EWING

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 444-6697 ADMINISTRATOR & PLANNING AND ANALYSIS BUREAU  
(406) 444-6696 CONSERVATION & RENEWABLE ENERGY BUREAU  
(406) 444-6612 FACILITY SITING BUREAU

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 909

My name is Larry Fasbender, Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. The Department supports HB 909.

This bill will permit funding of energy conservation retrofits of state buildings through the Renewable Energy and Conservation Program (RECP), provide for repayment of the funds while preserving the research, demonstration, commercialization and information aspects. Adding conservation retrofit grants will strengthen the current program (RECP) and provide long term energy and cost savings to the state and therefore, the taxpayers in Montana.

Last year, state agencies paid over \$12 million dollars for electricity and natural gas in its facilities. The state owns over 1,000 buildings larger than 4,500 square feet and literally hundreds of smaller ones. State buildings include offices, warehouses, dormitories, retail stores, food services and hospitals. Retrofits of these buildings would demonstrate the cost effectiveness of conservation and its applicability to similar commercial buildings throughout the state.

Under this proposal Renewable Energy funds will be awarded in FY86 and 87 to reduce the energy needs of state buildings in the future. State agencies will repay the grants in regular scheduled payments based on the expected energy savings, or payback potential of the retrofit. Thus, not increasing the agencies projected energy bills. These funds will be returned to the account and reused to provide more retrofits which will provide additional energy and subsequent dollar savings. While some retrofits may pay for themselves quickly the primary benefit of this program will be long term energy cost savings.

In 1975, when the Legislature created this program, it anticipated a future in which energy was a critical concern. The Legislature envisioned renewable energy and conservation as the most viable long-term solution to these energy problems. Their vision was accurate. Energy costs have increased in the past ten years placing economic hardships on agricultural and other businesses, industry, local government and residential consumers. Montana is heavily dependent on fossil fuels. Even today, with a relative abundance of electricity and natural gas available to us, the nation still imports a significant amount of its energy needs. It would only take one international incident, or the failure to complete planned generating units in the Northwest, or even the strong development of new industries for the current energy surplus to evaporate.

It is clear that the development of conservation and renewable energy technologies is vital to the well being of this state. Maintaining a diversity among our energy sources is tremendously important. The Legislature allocated a portion of the coal severance tax to develop these renewable technologies.

g

March 11, 1985  
Page Two

This set a policy to use proceeds from coal, a finite resource, to develop new energy resources and energy industries. This was a wise and prudent decision. Montana needs to continue to promote a forward looking energy policy.

During this time of relative energy surplus it is critical not to lose the capability to effectively deliver programs. Conservation is the most cost-effective energy source that can be acquired to serve future energy needs. For a conservation program to be successful, the commercial or residential energy consumer must be aware of the significance of conservation and knowledgeable of the ways to conserve. HB 909 will further educate and demonstrate these techniques to the public.

Unlike a street lighting program that can be developed and put on hold, public education, information and current state-of-the-art technologies cannot be turned off during an energy surplus and expected to be effective and current when it is turned on again several years later.

The program will continue to award grants for research into new technologies that show promise in Montana and make more efficient use of Montana's existing agricultural and timber resources. Loans to establish and foster new businesses and activities to inform consumers about renewable energy and conservation will also be continued.

The Renewable Energy and Conservation Program's purpose has been examined and reexamined by every legislature since it was established in 1975 when the 44th Montana Legislative Session passed Senate Bill 86. Almost every session since has attempted to improve the program by amending various sections to accommodate for changing technologies, or emerging new businesses or encouraging commercialization or some other factor associated with the agonizing growing pains of a maturing new industry. But the subsequent amendments including the one we are supporting today are fine tuning measures to keep a tremendously important program running. After countless hours of debate and discussion over the years the decision has always been that the original intent of the program is still sound; that the wisdom of the 44th Legislature was indeed commendable and that while legislative priorities and membership might change over the years, legislative wisdom does not. It is still wise to plan for the future and to learn from the past. The RECP is and continues to be a cornerstone to Montana's energy future. It forms the foundation for future generations to build upon.

I have no crystal ball or special knowledge of circumstances that have yet to occur. But I believe we cannot afford to be a "now" Legislature concerned only about our immediate needs and shortcomings. We have always had a sense of continuity and concern for future generations. HB909 and the expansion of the Renewable Conservation and Energy Program reaffirms that commitment and concern.

## VISITORS' REGISTER

COMMITTEE

BILL NO.

DATE

SPONSOR

| NAME (please print)                                | RESIDENCE                     | SUPPORT               | OPPOSE |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Flora H. Martin                                    | 225 Mat Ave. Helena           | Yes <sup>632</sup>    |        |
| Rhonda Boyle                                       | Helena                        | HB 761                | HB 473 |
| Lloyd Skar   | 925 Hollins, Helena           | Yes <sup>HB 632</sup> |        |
| Helena Henry <sup>MRTA</sup> Jorgensen             | 733 6th Helena                | Yes <sup>632</sup>    |        |
| Mary Lou GARRETT (ICCW)                            | Helena                        | <del>HB 473</del>     | HB 473 |
| Mary Lou GARRETT                                   | ICCW                          | HB 761                |        |
| Helenie S. Adair                                   | 10141 Bedford                 | HB 632                |        |
| Chuck O'Reilly                                     | Ad. Shuff's Peace Officers    | HB 614                |        |
| Bob Decker   | Lewis & Clark Co.             |                       | HB 614 |
| Lyane Chamberlain                                  | Lewis & Clark Co              |                       |        |
| Kerrin M. Prater                                   |                               |                       |        |
| Bob Johnson  | Teachers' Retirement          | HB 632                |        |
| Mike WARD  | Bozeman                       |                       | HB 473 |
| MARY VANT HULL                                     | Bozeman                       |                       | HB 473 |
| KATHY XARP- <sup>MONT LEAGUE</sup> OF WOMEN VOTERS | HELENA                        |                       | HB 473 |
| Gloria Palatichuk                                  | Co Treasurers Assoc<br>Sidney | HB 614                |        |
| Mike O'Leary                                       | At Clark & Leach              | HB 614                |        |
| Mike O'Leary                                       | Clark & Leach                 | HB 614                |        |
| M. Morris  | MAC                           |                       | 614    |

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.

## 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.

## VISITORS' REGISTER

Appropriations COMMITTEE

BILL NO. Various

DATE 3/22/85 a.m.

SPONSOR Various

[illegible]

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

## VISITORS' REGISTER

COMMITTEE

BILL NO. HR. 754

DATE 3/22/03 a.m.

SPONSOR Scit

[illegible]

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.