

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 9, 1985

The meeting of the Business and Labor Committee was called to order by Chairman Bob Pavlovich on April 9, 1985 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 312-2 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present, with the exception of Representative Stella Jean Hansen, who was excused by the chairman.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 49: Hearing commenced on House Joint Resolution 49. Representative Joe Quilici, District #71, sponsor of the resolution, stated this is requesting a study of the methods by which an unemployed individual and his dependents may be provided with coverage for medical costs incurred during the wage earner's unemployment and requiring a report of the findings to the 50th legislature.

Proponent Dave Wanzenried, Commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry, offered his support of the resolution and stated a recent survey showed the top two concerns of the unemployed are finding employment and providing health insurance for their families. Only Oklahoma has this type of legislation, but it has not been implemented yet. Many decisions need to be made and the department will participate in every way they can.

Proponent Judy Olson, representing the Montana Nurses Association, stated across the state there are many problems due to lack of health insurance. A delay of necessary health care is evident, due to this.

There being no further discussion by proponents and no opponents present, all were excused by the chairman and the hearing on House Joint Resolution 49 was closed.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 51: Hearing commenced on House Joint Resolution 51. Representative Bob Bachini, District #14 opened the bill for Representative Mary Ellen Connelly, District #8, sponsor of the bill. Representative Bachini explained this resolution is requesting the Bonneville Power Administration to establish reasonable power rates for the northwest aluminum industry to allow the industry to meet competition in the world market. This industry is

vital to Montana as it employs a number of workers.

Proponent Jack Cannon, an employee of the ARCO aluminum plant, explained that ARCO is getting out of the aluminum business and either sell out or close. There has not been a time limit set, but will probably close if money is not made within a reasonable time. This is not a subsidy, consumer rates will be up by at least 50% should the plant close.

Representatives Ray Brandewie, Fred Thomas and Tom Jones wished to go on record as proponents to the bill.

In closing, Representative Connelly, stated this is a result of a problem in Flathead County with ARCO. This will help put pressure on the Bonneville Power Administration. A local group has been formed and will meet with BPA. Should the plant close 390 families will lose jobs in Columbia Falls, 272 in Kalispell, 100 in Whitefish and 32 in Bigfork.

Proponent Forest Boles, President, Montana Chamber of Commerce offered his support and stated he had been contacted by the Columbia Falls and Whitefish Chambers concerning this resolution.

Representative Kadas asked Jack Cannon how much of the plant is currently producing and if it shuts down how much operation will cease. Mr. Cannon explained that the plant is producing at 100% and should it close, the full 100% would shut down. Representative Kadas questioned Mr. Cannon further, who explained that that rates in the northwest are higher than all others, they are currently operating at 19.8 mills and are on a ragged edge, relief is needed. Mr. Cannon explained 3/4 percent of the power is firm power and the rate for interrupt is the same.

Representative Schultz asked Jack Cannon what the price for aluminum is world wide. Mr. Cannon stated it is 50 cents compared to 70 cents one year ago.

Representative Brandewie asked Jack Cannon what percent of aluminum is produced in the northwest and how many jobs are provided in the northwest. Mr. Cannon explained that approximately 1/3 of all aluminum produced is produced in the northwest and approximately 11,000 jobs are provided with an average wage earned of \$30,000.

Jim Murry, Executive Secretary, Montana State AFL-CIO

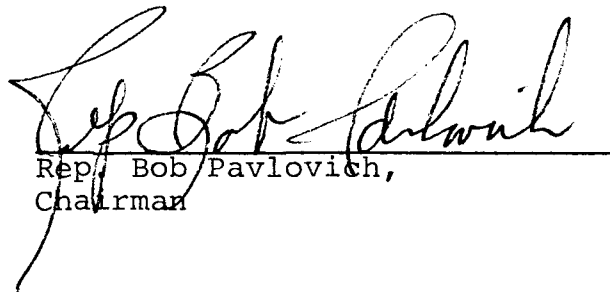
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was present and offered his support of House Joint Resolution 49 and 51.

There being no further discussion by proponents and no opponents present, all were excused by the chairman and the hearing on House Joint Resolution 51 was closed.

ACTION ON HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 51: Representative Ellerd moved DO PASS on House Joint Resolution 51. Second was received, House Joint Resolution 51 will be adopted with all but Representative Kadas voting yes.

ADJOURN: There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.



Rep. Bob Pavlovich,
Chairman

DAILY ROLL CALL
BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date April 9, 1985

| NAME | PRESENT | ABSENT | EXCUSED |
|--------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Bob Pavlovich | ✓ | | |
| Les Kitselman | ✓ | | |
| Bob Bachini | ✓ | | |
| Ray Brandewie | ✓ | | |
| Jan Brown | ✓ | | |
| Jerry Driscoll | ✓ | | |
| Robert Ellerd | ✓ | | |
| William Glaser | ✓ | | |
| Stella Jean Hansen | | | ✓ |
| Marjorie Hart | ✓ | | |
| Ramona Howe | ✓ | | |
| Tom Jones | ✓ | | |
| Mike Kadas | ✓ | | |
| Vernon Keller | ✓ | | |
| Lloyd McCormick | ✓ | | |
| Jerry Nisbet | ✓ | | |
| James Schultz | ✓ | | |
| Bruce Simon | ✓ | | |
| Fred Thomas | ✓ | | |
| Norm Wallin | ✓ | | |
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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 9

1935

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on BUSINESS AND LABOR

having had under consideration HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 51

first reading copy (white)
color

REQUESTING THE BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION TO
ESTABLISH FAIR POWER RATES FOR THE NORTHWEST
ALUMINUM INDUSTRY

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 51

DO-PASS
BE ADOPTED

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 9

19 35

MR. SPEAKER

We, your committee on BUSINESS AND LABOR

having had under consideration HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 49

first reading copy (white)
color

INTERIM STUDY ON PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION Bill No. 49

~~DO PASS~~
BE ADOPTED

STATE PUB. CO.
Helena, Mont.

Rep. Don Pavlovich, Chairman.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

BUSINESS AND LABOR

BILL NO. House Joint Res. 51

DATE April 9, 1985

[illegible]

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

COMMITTEE

DATE _____

SPONSOR Representative Quilici

[illegible]

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.