



## VISITORS' REGISTER

## INSTITUTIONS AND CULTURAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE February 7, 1985

SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
CRAIG J. ANDERSON	GLENDIVE, MT.	✓	
ALLEN HORSEFALL	HAMILTON, MT.	✓	
GARY LOSHESKY	ANACONDA, MT	✓	
Dave Demmons	Hamilton, MT	✓	
KEN LINDELL	HELENA		
Tom Doty Jr	Helena	✓	
Jeremiah F. Johnson	MISSOULA	✓	
Floyd Mathiasen	Lincoln	✓	
Jim Bauch	GREAT FALLS	✓	

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
INSTITUTIONS AND CULTURAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
49TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
February 7, 1985

Tape 29, Side B

The meeting of the Institutions and Cultural Education Subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Steve Waldron on February 7, 1985, at 8:00 a.m. in the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services Auditorium.

ROLL CALL: All members were present. Also present were Keith Wolcott of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Office (LFA), George Harris of the Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP), Carroll South, Director of the Department of Institutions, and Dan Russell, Administrator for the Corrections Division.

YOUTH EVALUATION PROGRAM

Mr. South gave the history of the Youth Evaluation Program (YEP). This program was started in 1975 after the closure of the Twin Bridges institution. It has a capacity of eight and an average daily population of six. The program is not established by law and the same services are provided at both Mountain View School and Pine Hills School. (The YEP provides 45-day evaluations on status offenders.)

(038) Mr. Wolcott outlined the current level budget for YEP (Exhibit 1). The Governor's budget does not include funding for this program because they feel it is an unnecessary duplication of services. Mr. Wolcott then outlined the cost comparison of evaluations at YEP versus Mountain View and Pine Hills (Exhibit 2). The total savings if this program is closed would be \$304,233 for the biennium.

(076) Mr. Harris said this is a good program but the Executive Branch feels the work is being done in duplication.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: (096)

Craig Anderson, Chief Probation Officer for the Seventh Judicial District, said he has used YEP 21 times. He said they perform comprehensive evaluations. He noted that he would not have sent any of those 21 youths to Mountain View or Pine Hills because they were younger status offenders and they were confused. Mr. Anderson did not feel Mountain View or Pine Hills could absorb these kids.

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He said that, if this legislature closes YEP, we should also increase funding for the out-of-state contracts because he would not send any kids to Mountain View or Pine Hills because he did not feel those institutions provide a good environment for these younger status offenders.

(137) Allen Horsfall, probation officer for the Fourth Judicial District, noted that the Corrections Association has sent every member of this subcommittee a letter supporting YEP. He said YEP serves a purpose and the kids do not have to leave the community setting. He did not like having to send children to an institution because there is a stigma attached to the institutions and he would push for this program before he would push for the institutions.

(193) Dave Demmons, juvenile probation officer for the Fourth Judicial District, said he was once employed at Pine Hills and he thought both it and Mountain View are both excellent facilities. But he said the children at YEP are not a risk to themselves or others. They simply have troubling behavior. He said the children in the other two institutions are sophisticated delinquents and he did not feel it would be right to put the two different types of children together.

(238) Gary Loshesky, Chief Probation Officer for Powell and Deer Lodge Counties, agreed and concurred with the previous testimony. He reiterated earlier testimony that, if YEP is closed, he still would not put youths in Mountain View or Pine Hills.

(258) Jeremiah Johnson, President of the Montana Parole Officers Association, spoke for the association in support of YEP. He said the rural areas use YEP often and they want to keep it open. He noted that the kids at YEP are younger and it would be detrimental to their behavior if they were sent to Pine Hills; that they would get worse instead of better. At YEP, the youth are turned around and become better people.

(323) Tom Drooger, Montana Residential Child Care Assn., asked that funding for YEP be put back into the Governor's budget. He reiterated previous testimony that the kids do better in a community setting.

(358) Ken Lindell, father of a graduate of YEP, said his son made a remarkable change after his 45-day evaluation

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at YEP. Mr. Lindell said, if his son had been sent to Pine Hills, he would probably be in prison today. He felt very strongly that his son changed because of the program at YEP.

(418) Floyd Mathiason, probation officer from Lewistown, said he did not feel YEP and Mountain View and Pine Hills were duplicating services. He stressed that these kids (at YEP) are not juvenile delinquents but status offenders. They don't need to be in a secure setting. He noted that one out of every six kids evaluated at YEP end up in Mountain View.

(460) Jim Bauch, Director of the Youth Evaluation Program, said he has been in the institutional field for 13 years. He was a social worker at Pine Hills. He said these last five years have been the best experience in his life. He believes YEP to be an excellent and worthwhile program.

Mr. Bauch noted that YEP serves 55-60 kids a year. These kids are immature and usually have emotional problems. Most of them are 9 and 10 years old but there are 10-12 year olds. He did not feel there was any duplication because of the differences in the clientele. YEP offers a homelike setting with lots of recreational activities. The kids can walk to the public schools and they have various chores to do around the home.

Mr. Bauch read a letter from Valerie Savage who was in YEP in 1979 and is currently attending school at Boston University. Ms. Savage was a victim of sexual and physical abuse by her father. After her father deserted the family, the family fell apart and Ms. Savage began running away from home. She was sent to YEP and she said she felt she was a better person for having lived at YEP because she was shown a lot of love there.

Mr. Bauch said this is an example of the kind of work done at YEP. He did not feel money should matter when it came to saving kids like this from trouble down the road. He said they don't spend a dime they don't really need; that there is no fat in their program. He said the kids at Pine Hills are too far gone to be helped. In closing, Mr. Bauch said he would hate to see YEP closed.

Rep. Ron Miller, House District #34 in Great Falls, voiced his support for the continued funding of YEP and also offered the support from the other 10 representatives from Great Falls.

Being no further proponents and no opponents, the hearing was closed to public testimony.

Tape 30, Side A

There was discussion regarding the need for having a program in the community. The question was raised as to how many of these kids end up back in other institutions. This question is really hard to answer because sometimes the kids leave the state and we don't know what happens to them. Mr. Demmons said, out of the eight kids he has sent from Ravalli County, 1 was placed in Mountain View 1 in an institution in Idaho, 2 went to Pine Hills, and 1 was in group care in Missoula.

Regarding mixing the kids with the populations at the schools (Mountain View and Pine Hills), Mr. South said the 45-day evaluations are not mixed in with the rest of the population except in school, which would be the same as mixing within the public school system.

Sen. Bengtson asked why this program was started when we already had Mountain View and Pine Hills. Mr. South responded that YEP started when the Childrens' Center in Twin Bridges was closed and they needed a facility for hard-to-place kids. Sen. Bengtson asked why community programs, like Big Brothers and Sisters, were not used more. She felt the school systems should have more money for counseling so these kids would not get to the point where they have to go to institutions. Mr. Horsfall said some of the kids at YEP are referred from the schools. Chairman Waldron noted that Mountain View has a big sister program.

(207) There was discussion regarding the population. There are now 20 judicial districts. The largest number of kids at YEP are sent from Billings, Great Falls, and Cut Bank.

(280) Mr. Bauch outlined the typical daily schedule for the kids. They all have to walk to the junior high which is a mile away. They all help out with the housekeeping including dishes, cleaning up, keeping their room clean, etc. After school, they have time to relax before dinner. After dinner, they have a tutor come in and help them with their homework.

Sen. Bengtson asked when the evaluation took place. Mr. Bauch said the evaluating takes place every minute

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the kids are in the home. A social worker comes in and each child has to spend some part of their time in counseling.

Being no further business to come before this committee, the hearing was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Steve Waldron, Chairman

SW/lt

CORRECTIONS DIVISION  
YOUTH EVALUATION PROGRAM

<u>PERSONAL SERVICES</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>
Executive FTE	0.0	0.0
LFA Current Level FTE	<u>6.0</u>	<u>6.0</u>
Difference	<u>(6.0)</u>	<u>(6.0)</u>
Executive	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
LFA Current Level	<u>121,933</u>	<u>122,168</u>
Difference	<u>\$(121,933)</u>	<u>\$(122,168)</u>
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>
Executive	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
LFA Current Level	<u>31,728</u>	<u>33,690</u>
Difference	<u>\$(31,728)</u>	<u>\$(33,690)</u>
<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>
Executive	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
LFA Current Level	<u>13,798</u>	<u>33,690</u>
Difference	<u>\$(13,798)</u>	<u>\$(33,690)</u>
<u>FUNDING</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>
Executive	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
LFA Current Level	<u>167,459</u>	<u>155,858</u>
Difference	<u>\$(167,459)</u>	<u>\$(155,858)</u>



COST COMPARISON OF EVALUATIONS  
AT YEP VERSUS MOUNTAIN VIEW & PINE HILLS

<u>Youth Evaluation Program</u>	<u>Fiscal 1986</u>	<u>Fiscal 1987</u>	<u>Biennium</u>
FTE	6.0	6.0	6.0
Personal Services	\$121,933	\$122,168	\$244,101
Operating	29,090	29,090	58,180
Inflation	<u>2,638</u>	<u>4,600</u>	<u>7,238</u>
Total Operating	\$ 31,728	\$ 33,690	\$65,418
Equipment	<u>\$ 13,798</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$13,798</u>
Total Program	\$167,459	\$155,858	\$323,317
<u>Evaluations at Institutions</u>			
Pine Hills 3 ADP			
Operating	\$ 4,832	\$ 4,832	\$ 9,664
Inflation	<u>217</u>	<u>470</u>	<u>687</u>
Total	\$ 5,049	\$ 5,302	\$ 10,351
Mountain View 3 ADP			
Operating	\$ 4,077	\$ 4,077	\$ 8,154
Inflation	<u>183</u>	<u>396</u>	<u>579</u>
Total	\$ 4,260	\$ 4,473	\$ 8,733
Total Institutions 6ADP	\$ 9,309	\$ 9,775	\$ 19,084
Savings	<u>\$ 158,150</u>	<u>\$146,083</u>	<u>\$304,233</u>