

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HUMAN SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 8, 1985

The meeting of the Human Services Subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Cal Winslow on March 8, 1985 at 8:08 a.m. in Room 108 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present, with the exception of Senator Christiaens and Senator Story.

Peter Blouke discussed the action that the subcommittee has taken thus far in response to Representative Bardanouve's request to cut \$2 million from the total budgets heard. He gave the committee a handout listing the adjustments made (EXHIBIT 1).

Chairman Winslow announced the subcommittee will meet next Wednesday, March 13, at 7:00 p.m. to hear the remainder of the bills before this committee.

Peter Blouke discussed the issue of the change made in GA to take \$100,000 for contract. There may have to be a motion to insert language in the appropriations bill that would specify that these funds were to be used for all SSI clients and there was to be at least 180 GA clients removed from the rolls.

Senator Manning made a motion to that effect.

The motion PASSED.

HOUSE BILL NO. 252

Hearing commenced on HB 252. Representative Waldron, District #58, sponsor of the bill, stated that this bill was introduced to direct money from the general fund for this bill's purpose from SB 19 and the money it raised. His recommendation to the committee is that the bill be tabled until SB 19 is heard and acted upon. The purpose of HB 252 is because there can be no appropriation from a senate bill.

There were no further proponents and opponents present.

There being no further discussion on HB 252, the hearing was closed.

ACTION ON HOUSE BILL NO. 252

Senator Manning made a motion to table HB 252.

The motion PASSED.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 897

Hearing commenced on HB 897. Representative Winslow, District #89, sponsor of the bill, stated that this bill puts the 12 mills that comes in from the assumed counties into the general fund.

There being no further discussion on HB 897, the hearing was closed.

ACTION ON HOUSE BILL NO. 897

Representative Rehberg made a motion that HB 897 DO PASS.

The motion PASSED.

Dr. Drynan discussed the receipt of \$95,000 of federal dollars for the Cabin Creek resource, which is a coal mine going into the north fork of Flathead Lake. He requested of the committee the authorization of DHES to expend these dollars in the water quality management program.

Chairman Winslow asked if the department minded this being line itemed; it would be line itemed in the budget anyway because it will have to be identified, and then contracted with the governor's office.

Representative Rehberg made a motion to give the department the authority to expend these federal dollars as a biennial appropriation of \$95,000.

The motion PASSED.

HOUSE BILL NO. 927

Hearing commenced on HB 927. Representative Bergene, District #41, sponsor of the bill, stated that HB 927 is asking for a flat rate for adolescent group homes. This is primarily room & board, and supervision for the young person, and could be at least minimum wage for the house parent for around-the-clock work, and could reduce the turnover of group home employees. She gave everyone a memorandum in regard to flat rates for child care (EXHIBIT 2).

PROPONENTS

Tom Drooger (68:A:338), administrator of the Deaconess Home for Children in Helena, said HB 927 addresses the issue of underfunding of group homes in Montana. He gave everyone a list of the facilities in Montana that are the subjects of this issue (EXHIBIT 3).

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Tom Drooger said that the basic care cost must be \$33 per day. He also said that some facilities do not have the money to afford the shift staff they must provide. His association does support HB 927, but does not feel that the \$25 flat rate is adequate.

Jan Shaw (68:A:501) spoke from her prepared testimony (EXHIBIT 4).

Dan Sullivan, representing the Rocky Mountain Development Council in Helena, discussed the cost of running The Attention Home in Helena and the need for more money to run it adequately. They need \$60 per day to run The Attention Home. He also discussed the wage and hour laws in Montana and said that group home parents should be exempt from the wage and hour law. He said the Salt Lake City federal branch told him that group home parents are not covered under the federal law, and was told by the State of Montana that group home parents are covered to pay a minimum wage. He also pointed out that there are approximately twenty million dollars worth of law suits out there, because SRS and the legislature are not dealing with this situation.

There were no opponents.


Senator Christiaens had questions about the SRS contract rate and how it compares, and the reason for the drastic difference. He also asked why the difference in the state and federal laws concerning group home parents being exempt from the wage and hour law.

Representative Rehberg asked what percentage of kids in the youth homes are orphans, what percentage of those kids' parents do not visit them, and do the parents support these schools and have any financial obligation to these children.

Chairman Winslow asked Dan Sullivan who he talked to in SLC concerning group home parents being exempt from the federal law; he talked to Dick Perkins in Salt Lake City and also talked to Dick Kane from the Labor Standards Division of the Department of Labor & Industry and he told him they are covered under the state law.

In closing, Representative Bergene expressed her thanks to the committee for asking such good questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.



CAL WINSLOW, Chairman

Subcommittee Action

General Fund Savings

	<u>Fiscal 1986</u>	<u>Fiscal 1987</u>	<u>Biennium</u>
<u>Dept. of Health and Environmental Sciences</u>			
Clinical Bureau	\$ 56,190	\$20,791	\$ 76,981
Subdivisions	11,036	11,831	22,867
Scobey Air Monitoring	<u>-0-</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>
Total Savings	<u>\$ 67,226</u>	<u>\$47,622</u>	<u>\$114,848</u>
<u>Department of Labor and Industry</u>			
Labor Standards Division	\$ 7,754	\$ 7,757	\$ 15,511
JTPA Grants	<u>41,000</u>	<u>41,000</u>	<u>82,000</u>
Total Savings	<u>\$ 48,754</u>	<u>\$48,757</u>	<u>\$ 97,511</u>
<u>Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services</u>			
Social Service Block Grant	\$200,000	\$220,000	\$420,000
Adjustments for 47% poverty	293,968	306,145	600,113
Unemployed Percent	338,006	(13,001)	325,005
Inflation	68,450	127,494	195,944
Home & Community Based	<u>200,198</u>	<u>247,123</u>	<u>447,321</u>
Total Savings	<u>\$1,100,622</u>	<u>\$887,761</u>	<u>\$1,988,383</u>
Total Subcommittee	<u>\$1,216,602</u>	<u>\$984,140</u>	<u>\$2,200,742</u>

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

Exhibit 2
3-8-85
HB 927
Bergene



TED SCHWINDEN GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 4210

STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59604

January 21, 1985

TO: Representative Bergene

FROM: John Bebee, Chief *Bebee*
Budget/Contracts/Payments Bureau

RE: Flat Rates For Basic Child Care

The following table indicates the type and amount of additional funds required for group, attention and receiving homes to receive a flat rate of \$25/day/child for SFY86 & SFY87. It is assumed that the flat rate would go toward basic child care. These funds are ~~are~~ additional to the executive request for SFY 86 and SFY 87. The same number of days as were contracted for in SFY85 were used for this estimate.

	SFY86	SFY87	Biennium Total
Total	\$330,698	\$330,698	\$661,396
General Fund	\$197,186	\$196,748	\$393,934
County	\$ 57,248	\$ 57,120	\$114,368
Federal	\$ 76,264	\$ 76,830	\$153,094

The general fund changes from SFY86 to SFY87 because the federal matching rate is different each year.

JB:dh

FOSTER CARE CONTRACTS
FY 1985
AS OF SEPTEMBER 19, 1984

Exhibit 3
3-8-85
HB 927
Drooger

	Contract Amount	Contract Days	SRS Daily ¹ Cost	SRS Contract Rate	Full-Tim Clients
<u>Foster Care Group Homes</u>					
Bear Paw YGH	\$ 52,020	1,405	\$ 37.02	\$ 12.69	3.85
Big Sky Christian Y Ranch	46,323	2,240	20.68	20.68	6.13
Butte Silver Bow YGH	52,816	1,685	31.34	11.05	4.62
Central Mt. Achievement Home	60,382	1,970	30.65	30.65	5.40
Eighth Judicial District YGH	52,399	1,724	30.39	10.56	4.72
Flathead District YGH	63,067	2,271	27.77	12.71	6.22
Wild Horse Youth Ranch	22,000	836	26.32	26.32	2.29
Gallatin/Park County YGH	55,984	1,848	30.29	11.79	5.06
Helena Achievement Place	49,148	1,582	31.06	31.06	4.33
Lake County YGH	56,717	2,080	27.27	10.83	5.70
Last Chance Group Home ²	81,571	2,555	31.92	31.92	7.00
Missoula YGH	77,037	2,249	34.25	25.69	6.16
Tom Roy Group Home	61,929	1,839	33.67	23.20	5.04
Ninth Judicial District YGH	42,663	1,139	37.45	7.44	3.12
Riverview Home	7,469	500	14.94	14.94	1.37
South Eastern Mt. Group Home	49,607	1,152	43.06	13.38	3.16
TOTAL	\$ 831,132	27,075			74.17

² Managed by Rocky Mountain Development Council

RECEIVING HOMES

Billings Youth Home	\$ 85,897	3,164	\$ 27.15	\$ 20.36	8.67
Great Falls Receiving Home	39,630	2,176	15.21	9.12	5.96
Watson's Receiving Home	45,422	1,469	30.92	23.20	4.02
TOTAL	\$ 170,949	6,809			18.65

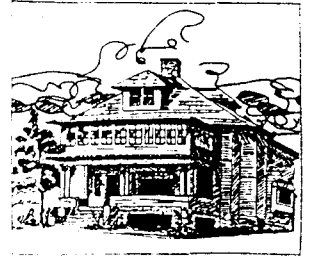
ATTENTION HOMES

Discovery House	\$ 29,290	1,596	\$ 18.35	\$ 13.84	4.37
Kairo's Youth Services Inc. (Runaway Attention Home)	50,480	2,380	21.21	13.53	6.52
Helena Attention Home	38,892	1,620	24.00	18.00	4.44
Missoula Attention Home	94,416	3,008	31.39	24.98	8.24
White Buffalo	60,250	2,500	24.11	24.11	6.85
TOTAL	\$ 273,328	11,104			30.42

ACHIEVEMENT PLACE

626 Harrison Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
443-4386

Exhibit 4
3-8-85
HB 927
Shaw



Program Director
Jan Shaw

March 8, 1985

Teaching Parents
Marilyn & Richard Hull

Board of Directors
Tom Armbruster
Sharon Berger
Dennis Clark
Neil Connole
Kathleen Harrington
Sandi Hjort
Janice Hollow
Eileen Kelleher
Babs Leaphart
Kerene McGuire
Jeanie Morrison
Donald Sterhan
Bill Unger

Advisory Board
Joe Mazurek
Jean Herron

I am Jan Shaw, Director of the Helena Achievement Place which is a group home serving troubled teenagers.

We were informed of this morning's meeting last night and Board members were unable to adjust their schedules to attend the hearing. Therefore, I have been instructed by my Board to express their concerns in regard to the houseparent wages. Group home parents are hired on a 24 hour live in situation to provide a loving stable environment for youth. SRS rates have never allowed group homes to pay equitable salaries to these trained professional youth care workers.

Salaries across the state range from \$14,000 to \$21,000 paid to a couple. These salaries are illegal as they do not meet the minimum wage requirements.

We urged your support to raise SRS rates for salaries in order for us to fairly and legally compensate our employees for their services.

*min wage 3.35/hr.
16 hrs = 25,728 A couple*

min wage. 25,728 - couple

16 hrs/week

VISITORS' REGISTER

Human Services Sub COMMITTEEBILL NO. HB 927DATE 3-8-85SPONSOR Bergene

NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Judy Carlson	HELENA - NASW	✓	
Tom Dierger	Helena - MRCRA	✓	
JAN Shaw	Helena, Achievement	✓	
Judy Olson	MT Nurses' Assoc. PLACE	✓	

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

Human Services Sub COMMITTEE

BILL NO. _____

DATE 3-8-85

SPONSOR _____

NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Dr. John Dryman	ANES		

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.