

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

FEBRUARY 11, 1985

The meeting of the Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee was called to order by Chairman Judy Jacobson on Monday, February 11, 1985 at 12:30 in Room 410 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Senator Newman, who was excused. Senators Norman and Towe arrived late. Karen Renne, staff researcher, was also present.

There were many visitors in attendance. See attachments.

ACTION ON SENATE BILL 254: This bill sponsored by Senator Doroty Eck is an act requiring fines imposed for unlawful transactions with children to be used to fund alcohol and drug abuse programs for persons under the legal drinking age.

A motion was made by Senator Hager that SB 254 be amended on page 3, lines 2 and 3. Following: "more" in line 2, strike: the remainder of line 2 through "government" in line three. Following: "programs" in line 3, insert: "in the county." Motion carried.

Senator Lynch asked how passage of this bill will affect the Children's Trust Fund bill which he sponsored. If both bills pass, some amendments would be needed to be offered to make the bills compatible.

A motion was made by Senator Lynch that SB 254 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried. Those voting "yes" were: Senators Jacobson, Hager and Lynch. Those senators voting "no" were: Senators Stephens and Hims1.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 311: Senator Mike Halligan of Missoula, the sponsor of SB 311, gave a brief resume of the bill. This bill is an act to provide staggered terms for the members of the advisory council on aging; and providing an immediate effective date.

Charlie Briggs, representing the Office of the Govenor, stood in support of the bill. He stated that this bill is a minor housekeeping bill.

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Tom Ryan, representing the Montana Senior Citizens Association, stood in support of the bill. He stated that if this bill were to pass it would give continuity to the Advisory Council. The members would also be able to benefit from experience.

Earl Reilly, representing the Montana Seniouir Citizens, stood in support of the bill.

With no further proponents, the chairman called on the opponents. Hearing none, the meeting was opened to a question and answer period from the Committee.

Senator Hager asked about the effective dated in the bill.

ACTION ON SENATE BILL 311: A motion was made by Senator Lynch that SB 311 receive a DO PASS recommendation from the Committee. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 312: Senator Dorothy Eck of Senate District 40 in Bozeman, the cheif sponsor of SB 312, gave a brief resume of the bill. This bill is an act requiring the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services to provide information about local day-care facilities to parents and others and assistance to licensees and prospective licensees, and providing an effective date.

Senator Eck stated that the number of working parents is growing rapidly and they are needing the services offered by day-care centers. This bill would help new people to set up day-care centers and provide more local information. It would also provide information to the parents.

Funding was cut off to the 4-C's program several sessions ago. This could be handled out of the local extension offices.

Katherine Campbell, representing the Montana Association of Education of Children, stood in support of the bill. She stated that she has been a day-care center operator for quite some time. This bill would create a resource and referral service to meet the growing need. There are 43,000 children in Montana with working parents. Only 7,000 children are in licensed day-care centers.

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Billie Warford, representing the Montana Association for the Education of Young Children, stood in support of the bill. Child care is a critical issue for many working parents who need assistance in making appropriate child care arrangements. Mrs. Warford handed in many sheets of information to the Committee for their consideration. See attachments.

Norma Harris, representing the SRS, stood in support of the bill. She stated that this is a good bill which is needed.

Jim Jensen, representing the Montana Day-Care Providers Association, stood in support of the bill. He stated that he realizes that this is not the only bill involving children this session, however, his group would like to urge the Committees support of this bill.

With no further proponents, the chairman called on the opponents. Hearing none, the meeting was opened to a question and answer period from the Committee.

Senator Stephens ask if this legislation is really necessary.

Senator Towe asked if there are regional or district SRS offices in most towns in Montana, or could this possibly handles in the local welfare offices. Mrs. Harris stated that it would be a real burden for the local offices. They are presently distributing a pamphlet regarding the same.

Senator Eck closed. She stated that this legislation is necessary for the welfare of the children of our state, and hoped that the Committee would also view it the same way. This bill would give the department flexibility.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 296: Senator Larry Stimatz of Butte, the chief sponsor of SB 296, gave a brief resume of the bill. This bill is an act to revise the examination grade requirements and reexamination procedures for a license to practice medicine.

Senator Stimatz stated that, if passed, this bill would become effective on passage.

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Jerome Loendorf, representing the Montana Medical Association, stood in support of the bill. He stated that the reason for the bill is that the board is now using a new examination and it is not known what the recommended passing grade will be at this time. The test could be taken a total of three times. The board would like to be able to use the test this summer if this bill passes if the reason for the effective date.

With no further proponents, the chairman called on the opponents. Hearing none, the meeting was opened to a question and answer period from the Committee.


Senator Towe asked about the effective date. Mr. Loendorf stated that the board would like to use the new test this summer, is the reason for the immediate effective date.

Senator Stimatz closed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next meeting of the Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 13, 1985 to consider SB 282, 310, 329.

ADJOURN: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

eg


SENATOR JUDY JACOBSON,
CHAIRMAN

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date 2/11/85

SENATE
SEAT
#

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
6 SENATOR JUDY JACOBSON, CHAIRMAN	✓		
5 SENATOR J. D. LYNCH, V. CHAIRMAN	✓		
42 SENATOR TOM HAGER	✓		
30 SENATOR MATT HIMSL	✓		
17 SENATOR TED NEWMAN			✓
45 SENATOR BILL NORMAN	<i>Late</i>		
14 SENATOR STAN STEPHENS	✓		
26 SENATOR TOM TOWE	<i>Late</i>		

Each day attach to minutes.

VISITORS' REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Oppose
Tom Ryan	MONT SR City	311	X	
EARL REILLY	Mont. Senior Citizens	311	X	
NORMA HARRIS	SRS	312	X	
Billie Wapfel	MT. Association for GC	312	X	
James Salo	Gov Advisory Council on Aging			
Charles Bopp	Governor's Office	311	X	
Gene T. ...	MT. Medical Assn	296	✓	
Katherine Campbell	Montana Assoc. of ...	312	✓	
Connie Flaherty Erickson	Women's Lobbyist Fund	312	✓	
Les Larry Strutz	Sponsor	SB 296	Sponsor	
Shirley ...	Montana Nurses Assn	312	✓	

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretariat)

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 11, 1935

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

having had under consideration SENATE BILL No. 311

FIRST reading copy (WHITE)
color

STAGGERING THE TERMS OF MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE BILL No. 311

DO PASS

~~DO NOT PASS~~

SENATOR JUDY JACOBSON

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

.....February 11..... 19.95....

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on.....Public Health, Welfare and Safety.....

having had under consideration.....Senate Bill..... No.....254....

Introduced..... reading copy (white)
color

FUND CHILD ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PROGRAMS WITH FINES

Respectfully report as follows: That.....Senate Bill..... No.....254....

Be amended as follows:

1. Page 3, lines 2 and 3

Following: "more" in line 2

Strike: remainder of line 2 through "government" in line 3

Following: "programs" in line 3

Insert: "in the county"

AND AS AMENDED

DO PASS

~~DO NOT PASS~~

.....
Senator Judy Jacobson

Chairman.

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: Tom Ryan DATE: 2/11/85

ADDRESS: 1057 Phillips Haven

PHONE: 442-8999

REPRESENTING WHOM? Mont. Fr. College / Mont. People's Forum

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 311

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENT:

Continuity to AN Advisory
Council is one way to
provide Experience to AN Office.
There will probably be
more turnover in this
Office due to Natural
causes causing vacancies —
I hope the committee will give
this bill a do pass —

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

MtAEYC



Montana Association for the Education of Young Children

MONTANA CENTER FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

Herrick Hall

Montana State University

Bozeman, Montana 59717

February 4, 1985

Senator Hager
Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Senator Hager:

As member of the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Safety, I would like to urge your support for SB312 sponsored by Dorothy Eck. This bill authorizes SRS to provide information about day care to parents in their communities and to provide assistance to day care providers.

Child care in Billings is a critical issue for many working parents who need assistance in making appropriate child care arrangements. I am enclosing a fact sheet on the long-range benefits of quality care for children and society. Quality child care is a cost-effective investment in the future of young children.

I am sending along some other items of information. I hope these are helpful. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Billie Warford,
President
994-3241

BW:jj
Enclosure

CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL FACT SHEET

Rationale:

Child care is an economic consideration for families throughout Montana. Based on 1980 Census projections, approximately 40,000 children under the age of 6 have parents who work outside the home. In a survey conducted by the Women in Employment Advisory Council to the governor, child care was listed as the number one concern among working women. Montana currently has approximately 7,000 registered or licensed day care slots available in day care homes or centers. A shortage of an estimated 33,000 child care places reflects a critical need for Montana families. A system of child care resource and referral with state leadership would help meet this need.

Legislative Request:

In response to parent and community needs for a source of updated information about child care services available in their community a new type of child care assistance program is proposed. Child Care Resources and Referral (CCR&R) services will be based on the assumption that parents can make good child care arrangements for their children if they are presented with a range of alternatives and encouraged to work out child care suited to their family needs.

To develop the child care resource and referral system, one full-time state coordinator will be needed. In order to provide services to meet diverse community needs and be as cost effective as possible, interagency cooperation will be stressed. Contracts will be made with various programs currently providing some child care services: Child care food programs; Day care associations; County Extension agents (especially in eastern Montana) and other programs communities decide are appropriate. Child Care Resources and Referral programs will maintain up to date information about the supply of child care services available in their community and provide a unique documentation of child care needs.

The supply of child care in most communities is inadequate to meet the diverse needs of the parents. Frustration with the inadequate supply of child care leads to the second major focus of Child Care Resources and Referral services: provision of information, technical assistance, and training to potential and existing providers of care. This assistance helps to stimulate the development of new sources of care in the community, and to maintain and improve existing services.

Senator Dorothy Eck will be sponsoring legislation relative to this issue.

LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEET

MONTANA CENSUS INFORMATION - 1980

Total population: 786,690

Total number of children 5 and under: 86,416 (50% of whom live in families where mothers work outside the home)

Total number of families: 207,525

Total number of female headed households: 20,117
(no husband present)

Total number of male headed households: 6,201
(no wife present)

Median Income

All married couples \$19,558

All families \$18,413

Families with children \$19,130

Female headed households
with children under 6 \$ 4,931

In the Labor Force

Female headed household
employed or in labor force 4,704

Married couples with children
under 18 with working mother 220,504

Married couples with children
under 6 with working mothers 47,231

Poverty Level

All families below poverty
level 19,019

Families with children
under 18 24,241

Female headed household
with children under 18 5,483

Female headed household
with children under 6 3,074

Determining Poverty Level

2 person family \$5,000

3 person family \$5,844

IMPLICATIONS FOR MONTANA:

- Female head of households with children under 6 often live below the poverty level. (25% of total.)
- Approximately 50% of female head of households have mothers who work outside the home. These wages are often at poverty level.
- Approximately 50% of married couples with children under 6 have mothers who work outside the home.

Estimates indicate as many as 50% of the children under 6 in Montana (43,208) may be involved in some kind of day care situation. These placements must be supervised and regulated to protect the health, safety and future of Montana's children.

Prepared by: Billie Warford, Montana Association For The Education of
Young Children

What are the Benefits of Quality Child Care for Preschool Children?

Quality child care benefits to children, their families, and the community are well documented by research. These quality child care programs provide a safe and caring environment for children, are developmentally based and educational in nature, employ trained staff, involve parents, and use community resources.

How does Quality Child Care Benefit Children?

Children enrolled in quality child care programs tend to be more successful in later schooling, are more competent socially and emotionally, and have improved opportunities for good health than children who are not enrolled in quality child care. (The numbers in parentheses refer to the research references listed at the end.)

School Success

Children who attended quality early childhood education programs:

1. were better able to meet the requirements of primary school (7);
2. functioned at an increased intellectual capacity during their initial years of primary schooling (7);
3. maintained IQ gains three to four years after the program ended (5, 6, 8);
4. exhibited increased fourth grade mathematics achievement test scores (6);
5. were assigned to special education programs less frequently (3, 6, 9); and
6. were retained in grade less often (6).

Social and Emotional Competence

Children who attended quality early childhood education programs also:

7. experienced no significant disruption in attachment to their mothers (4);
8. rated themselves more competent in school (7);
9. were more likely to give achievement-oriented reasons for being proud of themselves (6);
10. were rated by teachers as being more motivated in school (9); and
11. exhibited more appropriate classroom and personal behavior during the primary and secondary years (9).

Improved Opportunities for Good Health

In addition, children who attended quality early childhood education programs:

12. had greater access to health care (5); and
13. demonstrated improved nutritional status and better nutritional practices (5).

How does Quality Child Care Benefit Families?

The families of children participating in a quality early childhood program have been found to benefit in the following ways:

1. mothers viewed themselves and their children as more competent (8);

2. the parent's involvement in the program led to changes for other children in the family similar to benefits found for enrolled children (8); and
3. mothers' earning power was increased due to availability of relief time from child care responsibilities (3).

How does Quality Child Care Benefit Communities?

The benefits of quality child care to the community include the following:

1. more expensive special education program costs were saved because fewer children were assigned to such programs (3);
2. children with early childhood program experiences had greater lifetime earning potentials (3);
3. mothers were able to increase their earning power through released time from caregiving (3);
4. participants in early childhood programs exhibited more appropriate personal and classroom behavior (9);
5. children who had been enrolled in early childhood programs showed lower rates of delinquency during their teens (9).

Most parents and teachers of young children in quality early childhood education programs will be happy to share their personal experiences about the values of quality care for children. Their experiences, and research such as that summarized here, can be valuable background information for all who wish to contribute to quality child care, whether it is through enrolling a child, starting a center, advocating for children, seeking community support for a center, or in other ways helping to ensure that quality child care is available for those families who choose to use it.

Selected Research Documenting the Benefits of Quality Child Care

1. Children at the Center, Executive Summary. Final report of the National Day Care Study. Cambridge, Mass: Abt Associates, 1979.
2. Early Childhood and Family Development Programs Improve the Quality of Life for Low-Income Families. Washington, D.C.: U.S. General Accounting Office, 1979.
3. An Economic Analysis of the Ypsilanti Perry Preschool Project, by C.U. Weber, P.W. Foster, and D.P. Weikart. Ypsilanti, Mich: High/Scope Press, 1978.
4. "The Effects of Day Care: A Critical Review," by J. Belsky and L. Steinberg. Child Development 49, no. 4 (December 1978): 929-949.
5. Head Start in the 1980s: Review and Recommendations. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1980.
6. Lasting Effects after Preschool, by R. Darlington and I. Lazar. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1977.
7. The Persistence of Preschool Effects: A Long-Term Follow-Up of Fourteen Infant and Preschool Experiments. Summary, by I. Lazar, V.R. Hubbell, H. Murray, M. Rosche, and J. Royce. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children, Youth and Families, 1977.
8. A Report on Longitudinal Evaluations of Preschool Programs. Vol. II: Is Early Intervention Effective? edited by U. Bronfenbrenner. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1974.
9. Young Children Grow Up, by D.P. Weikart and L.J. Schweinhart. Ypsilanti, Mich: High/Scope Press, 1980.



Ellen Goodman

Child care a continuing dilemma

BOSTON — We are told by the experts that new mothers forget the pain of childbirth almost instantly. The theory is that they are so enamored with the product they blank out the process. They develop delivery-room amnesia.

Well, I don't know about that. But I do think that working mothers develop another sort of amnesia: child-care amnesia. By the time the preschoolers become teen-agers we have forgotten the old anxieties, the panic when a babysitter gave us notice, the stress when we had to research a new place, the unease when we were not quite sure whether this person, this home, this center, was just right.

I had a refresher course in child-care crisis this fall when a friend of mine was, as they say, between babysitters. Being "between babysitters" is a lot like being between jobs. It's an optimistic description of a terrifying condition. You don't really know you are "between" jobs or child care until you find the next one.

What you do know is that suddenly the life of the most carefully planned family is revealed at its most vulnerable point. Everything — from the mortgage to the career to the happiness of the children — hangs by the thin thread of child care.

My friend's stress brought it all back to me. The ads in the paper, the interviews, the visits to nursery schools, the uncertainty, the readjustments — even the time I came home to find that my missing 4-year-old had been allowed to walk to the supermarket alone by a new sitter.

It's easier to talk about it all now. The 4-year-old is 16 and has no memory of the events that worried me. She is not, in any notable way, lopsided. It is her policy, I believe, to refuse to allow me to invent childhood traumas to feed my working-mother guilts.

But I was struck again by how little, how truly little has changed in the way we deal with child care. Today 45 percent of the mothers with infants and 60 percent of those with kids between 3 and 5 are working outside the home. We have more day-care suppliers and many more day-care needers. Finding care for children is the same frantic, fractured experience; success still hinges on luck and money.

I know this has an enormous effect on working couples with children. But I suspect that it also colors the lives and minds of young couples, and especially young career-minded women, who do not yet have children.

The old conflict in the career woman's life was between love and work. The current conflict is between children and work. You cannot talk to a woman of 30 or more without touching on the fear of or desire for children.

The issue is important to men as well, but not as vital. If you follow the bottom line of most two working-parent marriages — whose salary pays the babysitter? who chooses the day care center? who worries the most about the latchkey child? who gets custody? — you find that child care is most often on the female side of the ledger.

So these young women who have inher-

ited the much lauded "new choices" of our era experience these choices as conflicts. The decision to have or to have not a child is often framed in personal, even psychological, terms. Am I ready? Can I cope? But in reality they hinge on something quite objective: child care. I wonder how different would the decision-making process would be if the women knew there was reliable, high quality, affordable — name the other adjectives — child care?

At the beginning of the women's movement, there was a popular slogan: The personal is political. Issues like those of balancing work and family life were not just private problems but also public ones. Today we plant every tub on its own bottom. Each family is expected to seek out its own child-care solutions — not from a range of enhanced and attractive possibilities but from limited options and chaos. We do this thwarted by the waiting lists at the best centers, fearful of sex abuse or neglect, skeptical about finding a Mary Poppins, and fiercely protective toward our children's own well-being.

My own child-care anxieties are behind me. My friend's crisis is in remission. The worst is over by the time our children are 5 or 6 years old. It's no wonder that child-care amnesia sets in so quickly. But if we forget, nothing changes. And right behind us is another wave of women on the brink of motherhood whose eyes are wide open.

Ellen Goodman's column is distributed by The Washington Post Writers Group.



Ellen Goodman

Day care: What's not going on

BOSTON — Sometimes the State of Day Care is like a distant third-world country. It only gets into the paper when something has gone wrong there.

This time it was a study in the Journal of the American Medical Association pointing to child-care centers as a new source of infections and disease. An editorial in the same issue went so far as to warn that the hygiene situation in these centers is "reminiscent of the pre-sanitation days of the 17th century."

It took a few days for coolness to prevail as other doctors turned off the alarm. The increased risk of such diseases as dysentery and hepatitis, it turns out, are real, but small.

Following the course of this story, from the crisis to the calm, I noted how much attention we focus on the relatively minor problems germinating in the lives of those who do have access to day care. By comparison, we easily overlook the problems of those who don't have access.

I am not talking about the horror stories of children without care, although the Children's Defense Fund has collected some pretty grisly ones. There were the two children, 3 and 4 years old, left in a car in a plant parking lot in Wichita because their mother lost day care and was faced with losing work. There were also the children left alone in Michigan who set fire to the house.

I am referring this time to the big picture. As Helen Blank of the Children's Defense Fund

says, "The story of day care is what's not going on."

There are currently 8½ million children under 6 whose mothers are in the work force. These are numbers that have doubled in the past twenty years.

The Department of Health and Human Services says that in 1981, 1.9 million children were in small and large day-care centers and over 5 million were cared for privately in homes other than their own. But behind those neat figures is a rag-tag system of chance and chaos. As Blank notes, "We know that people are doing catch as catch can."

For those families who can afford day care the issue is one of quality and caring. No one who has watched friends agonize about their decisions could read Deborah Fallows' careless observations in last week's Newsweek without a few gasps. Are these people, as she wrote, imparting a message that "working parents can buy a parent-substitute as easily as they can buy a frozen dinner"? Hardly.

But it's the poor, especially the working poor, who face an increasingly grim picture. In the past year, between the cuts in federal funding and state budgets, families have lost subsidies and centers have lost funds. The single largest day-care program, Title XX, was cut from \$3.1 billion to \$2.4 billion.

We are now witnessing what the National Council of Churches described in its study of church-related day care as the "gentrification" of day care. In many centers, the children of low-income families are being replaced by middle- and upper-income families.

In Grand Rapids, for example, an inner-city center that had 55 low-income children a year ago, now has 31 children, none of whom is

subsidized. In Wilmington, Del., a Salvation Army center has just about halved the proportion of children with Title XX subsidies.

What has happened to the low-income families? The CDE, which is preparing a report on the effects of day-care cuts, says that in Johnson County, Kan., 17 percent of the parents who lost day-care subsidies quit work. 10 percent of the children were in unlicensed day care, and 7 percent were in no day care at all.

Even the problems of day-care disease, which figured so prominently in the news last week especially with the call for better hygiene, are related to money. Many states with financial woes have increased the ratio of children to staff, and cut back on staff training and wages. The same states have slashed their own supervisory and licensing staffs. As Blank says the medical concerns "aren't an excuse for limiting child care but for supporting the system."

Since the end of World War II, the day-care issue has been a pawn in the debate over whether mothers of young children should or shouldn't work. We have left each family to its own hassle.

Today, the economy has wiped out choice for millions of mothers. Should or shouldn't they simply must work. By 1990 it's predicted that half of all the pre-school children, 11 million, will have mothers in the work force. Will we still be saying, "The story of day care is what's not going on"?

Ellen Goodman is a Boston Globe writer whose column is distributed by the Washington Post Writers Group.

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Rob Dean Managing Editor
Eric Withe City Editor

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The Chronicle encourages readers to express their opinions on issues of the day. Letters should be no more than 300 words and must include the writer's signature and street address. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit all letters for length, grammar, good taste and libel.

NAME Jerome T. Loendorf Bill No. S 296
ADDRESS Helona, Wt. DATE 2-11-85
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Wt. Medical Ass'n
SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐ AMEND ☐

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: