

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

February 25, 1985

The thirty-fourth meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Jack Haffey in Room 331, Capitol, at 8 a.m. on Monday, February 25, 1985.

ROLL CALL: All the members were present with the exception of Senator Hirsch who was excused.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 463: Senator Haffey asked Senator Mohar to chair the meeting so he would sponsor this bill entitled, "AN ACT TO EXTEND TO 8 YEARS THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES; AMENDING SECTION . . . , MCA; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE." Senator Haffey told the Committee that they all knew the background of how this bill came into the Committee. He said Peg Krivec felt that there might be some merit for having an 8-year term of office. He said that they had finally received the 3/4thsmajority needed to have a Committee bill printed. Senator Haffey said that this was a good thing because now the issue would be discussed.

PROPOSERS: Peg Krivec, Commissioner of Political Practices, supports this bill. She felt that one 8-year or two 4-year terms might be better. However, Ms. Krivec felt that four years was not really long enough to learn a complicated office. She didn't really know which would be better. Ms. Krivec said that she was being selfish and would like two more years. She told the Committee about how she had kept her budget low and had less than a \$2700 increase in non-personnel costs over the years. She has hired no new FTE's, and felt that they had done a good job of keeping expenses down. Ms. Krivec told the Committee that they made money off their copies. She said the Governor has the power of appointment for this job and it is a political plum.

OPPOSERS: There were no opposers.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS: Senator Conover asked why it refers to "he" all the way through the bill. Valencia explained that in the Codes "he" also means "she." Senator Haffey felt that it would be good for the Committee to have a more substantial reason for this bill. He felt that a compelling reason was needed. Senator Manning said that he didn't know why two 4-year terms wouldn't be good. Ms. Krivec said that two 4-year terms would be all right and if the Commissioner was doing a good job, the Governor could automatically appoint for another four years. However, she felt four years was a short time to learn that office.

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Senator Harding said that in administrative jobs it takes a while to learn these and eight years would be good if there was some way to get rid of the person that is not doing a good job. Senator Farrell asked if she kept the staff or hired a new staff. Peg Krivec said that she had the same staff, but new direction has to come from her. Senator Haffey said that he felt that if there were two 4-year terms, she might not be eligible. Otherwise, he said, you would be eligible for 6 years, plus 4 years, plus 4 years. Ms. Krivec said that she hadn't thought of that, but that could be. Valencia Lane, staff Attorney, said she would have to have something to pattern it after, but she thought they could limit her to two terms. Peg Krivec said that this job had originally been four years and had been changed, but no-one seemed to know the answer. Senator Manning asked when her term expired. Ms. Krivec said it expired the last day of 1986. Senator Mohar said maybe it would be better to have her term expire in July and then the new person wouldn't be thrown right into the middle of the legislature. Senator Haffey said he was still struggling for a compelling reason. He said if anyone had a reason, he would be happy to carry it out on the floor.

SENATE BILL 463 is closed.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SENATE BILL 463: Most of the arguments and discussion by the Committee are listed above. Senator Anderson said that it was going to be difficult to carry this on the floor and find a compelling reason. Senator Conover made a motion that SENATE BILL 463 do pass. Senator Lynch called question. Senator Haffey asked Senator Conover why he thought this bill should pass. Senator Conover said that to him he thinks Peg Krivec has done a good job. He feels that Ms. Krivec will be going out at the same time the Governor is coming into office and it will give him a good selection. Senator Tveit said that he could not think of one good reason for it. Senator Manning said that he felt that an 8-year term may be advantageous and disadvantageous. He said if a governor only serves one term, he has someone picked by the governor before him and vice versa. Senator Haffey called for a roll call vote. The Committee voted 5 yes and 4 no, so SENATE BILL 463 DO PASS. (See Exhibit "1" for the roll call vote attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



SENATOR JACK HAFFEY CHAIRMAN

DATE:

COMMITTEE ON State Administration

VISITORS' REGISTER

[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

Exhibit "a"
S B-463
2-25-85

ROLL CALL VOTE

SENATE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

Date 2-25-85 Bill No. 463 Time 8:45

NAME	YES	NO
SENATOR ANDERSON		✓
SENATOR CONOVER	✓	
SENATOR FARRELL		✓
SENATOR HARDING	✓	
SENATOR LYNCH	✓	
SENATOR MANNING	✓	
SENATOR MOHAR		✓
SENATOR TVEIT		✓
SENATOR HIRSCH, Vice-Chairman		
SENATOR HAFHEY, Chairman	✓	
	5	4

Glenda Pennington Secretary, Glenda Pennington
J. K. Haffey Chairman, Senator Jack Haffey

Motion: Senate Bill 463 do pass.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 25, 1983

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on **STATE ADMINISTRATION**

having had under consideration **SENATE BILL** No. **461**

first reading copy (**white**)
color

EXTEND TERM OF COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES TO 8 YEARS.

Respectfully report as follows: That **SENATE BILL** No. **463**

DO PASS

DO NOT PASS

Chairman.