

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

April 23, 1985

The Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Committee meeting was called to order on the above date in Room 325 (Old Supreme Court) of the Capitol Building at 8:45 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Senator Conover excused. All other members present.

HJR 57. Representative Gaye Holliday, HD 31, Roundup, chief sponsor of the bill said the Resolution came about because of forums that panel members in the House held during the session. Testimony attached as Exhibit #1.

PROPOSERS: Russ Brown, Northern Plains Resource Council, on behalf of the Council supported the Resolution.


Carol Mosher, Montana Cattle Feeders, Montana Cattlemen, Grange and Cowbells supported the Resolution.

Lorna Frank, Montana Farm Bureau, strongly supports Resolution 57.

OPPOSERS: None.

DISPOSITION OF HJR 57: Senator Hammond moved HJR 57 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried. Senator Lane will carry the Resolution on the Senate floor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


PAUL F. BOYLAN, Chairman

ROLL CALL

AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date 4-23-85

SENATE
SEAT

#

NAME		PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
1	SENATOR GARY AKLESTAD	✓		
27	SENATOR ESTHER BENGSTON	✓		
35	SENATOR JACK GALT	✓		
34	SENATOR H. W. (SWEDE) HAMMOND	✓		
10	SENATOR ALLEN KOLSTAD	✓		
38	SENATOR LEO LANE	✓		
48	SENATOR RAY LYBECK	✓		
31	SENATOR ELMER SEVERSON	✓		
39	SENATOR BOB WILLIAMS	✓		
29	SENATOR MAX CONOVER, V. CHMN.			✓
50	SENATOR PAUL BOYLAN, CHAIRMAN	✓		

Each day attach to minutes.

HIR 57

DATE Apr 23, 1978

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY

TESTIMONY BY REPRESENTATIVE GAYE HOLLIDAY
SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
APRIL 23, 1985

Maybe we're wrong in calling HJR 57 a study of problems facing Montana agriculture.

The history of agriculture is instability, and we know at this time that the problems are a combination of low commodity prices, high interest, deflated land values, taxes, the national debt and Mother Nature.

When you take all of that into consideration, you know there is very little state government can do to alleviate the problems.

But I think that we, as the 49th Legislature, owe it to the number one industry in the state, to continue our focus and attention on agriculture and the impact it has on everyone in this state.

We are rather certain that the Federal Government participation in the Farm Program will be phased out and we must be in a position to deal with and face that withdrawal, that means millions of dollars to the state. We won't be in that position 2 years from now if we don't have the means to continue the dialogue and this resolution, HJR 57, could be the tool to address the possibilities.

An interim committee would be the only visible expression to the agriculture community that this state is really serious about taking the lead and because of agricultural's vital role in Montana economy, we cannot afford to do nothing.

Therefore,

I think that if there was one thing we learned from the three CARE Forums, it was the desire by those involved in agriculture in Montana for us to take a leadership role in doing whatever is possible to prove that we are advocates and are genuinely concerned.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 23

1965

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on **Agriculture, Livestock & Irrigation**

having had under consideration **HJR** No. **57**

third reading copy (**blue**)
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Holliday (Lane)

INTERIM STUDY OF PROBLEMS FACING MONTANA AGRICULTURE

Respectfully report as follows: That **SJR** No. **57**

AZ CONCURRED IN

~~XXXXXX~~
DO PASS

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
DO NOT PASS

PAUL F. BOYLAN,

Chairman.