

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 4, 1987

The 24th meeting of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee met on the above date in room 108 of the State Capitol. The meeting was called to order by Senator Regan, Chairman, following roll call for the purpose of hearing House Bills 20, 373 and 460.

ROLL CALL: Senator Tveit being excused the remaining members of the committee were present.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 20: AN ACT CREATING A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS; PROVIDING FOR THE COMMITTEE'S TERMINATION IN 1989; APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMMITTEE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Representative Marian Hanson, House District 100, and chief sponsor of House Bill 20 said this was a bill to continue the Indian Affairs Committee and was introduced at the request of the committee. There is an appropriation of \$4500 in it now instead of the \$6,000 it started out with. She said this was the first interim she had served on the committee, they had 7 meetings and spent a little over \$4,000. She said Senator Gage could answer any questions she couldn't since he is the chairman of the committee.

PROponents TO HOUSE BILL 20: Senator Gage said, I served on that committee for 4 years. The last interim the bill indicates what studied. The previous interim, we think, we were instrumental in getting the Reserve Water Rights Compact Commission and the Tribes back together after the compact that had been negotiated fell through due to some action by the Governor and the Attorney General's office. With the continuation taxation proposals by the various Indian tribes in the state of Montana, we feel this committee is perhaps more necessary than ever in keeping dialogue going between the tribes and the various state people. It is the only forum presently that the state of Montana, other than the Indian Affairs Coordinator to the Governor, has for dialogue between the Legislature and the various Indian tribes in the state of Montana.

There were no further proponents, no opponents, and Senator Regan asked if there were questions from the committee.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE: Senator Harding said, we received on our desk a resolution from the state of North

Dakota, and I would like to ask someone to answer that -- involved all the states that have reservations -- and I wondered if there is just one state that has done that or if it is all the states, or what? Senator Gage answered, to my knowledge, this is the only one that we have received a copy of, however the National Association of Counties have had a similar resolution sent to Congress for about 10 years now with no results whatsoever, except theirs requested the Department of Interior to look into taxation matters in regard to tribes. This particular one requested the President to set up a commission to do that same thing, and to my knowledge it is the only state that has done that.

Senator Boylan asked, is it pretty well attended by the tribes or is it just a few of them. Representative Hanson answered, yes it has been, almost every tribe has been represented each time we have had a meeting.

Senator Harding asked, I would like to know if the tribes have been represented, and on page 4 it says the local governments. I am wondering if you have met with all the local governments where there is a tribe, or what has been done to coordinate these local governments with the tribes. Representative Hanson said, there have been very few local government people in to our meetings. I presume the staff has notified them.

Senator Harding said she would like to ask Senator Gage a question in regard to Senate bill 47. She said, I think that the local governments need to be represented, and if we pass a resolution where we keep the committee going to communicate with the Indian people, that's only half of it. We need to have that communication with the local governments or there is still going to be a lot of strife.

Senator Gage said, from your area Mike Hutchens has been to several of our Indian Affair committee meetings, and those who have indicated a desire to be on our mailing list get notices of all of our meetings, where, when, and the subject matter of those meetings. We have a limited area involved since there are just 7 reservations in the state. I fear that part of the problem is the same one we have had for years. If too tough an issue, sweep it under the rug and forget about it if it will go away. That seems to have been the attitude of most local governments over the years. Since the Blackfeet tribe was the first to start taxing in 1982, and just in the last few months other tribes are starting to tax, now these local governments are getting concerned. I would anticipate that during the next interim there will be a lot of county commissioners at these meetings.

Senator Harding said, I would like to make the suggestion that all of the Senators and Representatives of these

reservations be notified of these meetings so they can be aware of what is going on also.

Senator Bengtson asked Senator Gage if he would give an example of some of the work plans you have had and what the agenda will be for the interim, and as you look to the next couple of years what do you think will be the main issues.

Senator Gage answered that he felt taxation would be the major issue as it had been in the past couple months. He said last session they addressed 2 major items since they felt that was all they had the time and resources to do. They worked with the Indian Child Welfare Act which to the state of Montana is a relatively new thing, passed in the late '70's, and they worked with the alcoholism problem. He said the previous session they worked on water issues for one. He said they take input from the tribes and all those present on what is felt necessary to work on and then try to work them down to the two they feel the most needy.

Senator Bengtson asked, what sort of liaison do you have with the Congressional delegation? Do you compare notes etc. You get a lot of information, but what good does it do? Senator Gage said very little so far as getting Congressional action. We have in the past had tremendous liaison with Congress because Senator Melcher was head of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. He no longer serves on the committee, but is not head of it at the present time. We have had a lot of input there, we have had contact with that committee, and was in Washington D. C. twice and talked with the legal representative for the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. The legal representative told him if they were there to talk Congress into doing something they were wasting their time. He said they were willing to let these things happen on a case by case basis, through the Supreme Court. They don't want to get involved in minority matters and this is a minority matter.

Senator Keating said, we had the water rights resources bill in our Natural Resources committee which was well attended by members of the various tribes in the state plus the water development people and it became quite apparent during that hearing that it is very necessary that the state have some committee or some board that is in contact with those tribes as a conduit for dialogue between the Indian Nation and the state, and I think this committee is our best bet for communication and we simply have to have it if we are going to work out some of those problems on a state level.

Senator Harding said the most important thing she would like to do is to discuss with Representative Hanson and Senator Gage, that she would not want to increase the amount of money in the bill, but would like to have another emphasis in the bill that the Senators and Representatives of these

tribal areas be notified of these meetings. Senator Regan suggested addressing this when the committee takes executive action.

Senator Hammond asked if the committee moved from one reservation site to another for these meetings, or where do you hold them? Senator Gage said most of them have been held in Helena but some in Billings because of the Bureau of Indian Affairs headquarters for Montana is in Billings. He said the cost of moving staff for the meetings was a cost they tried to avoid, and since the staff was in Helena it was less costly to do it there. Senator Gage said, In 1979 the tribes had been contacted to see about holding a meeting on each reservation but were not invited by the tribes to come to the reservation. To show how far that has turned around, in the '83 session the first thing the tribes requested was that the committee hold one meeting on each reservation. Our funding has been cut down to where it is very difficult to move around the state.

Representative Hanson said in closing that the committee had been formed in 1979 with \$40,000 and 8 members. It is now down to \$4500 with 4 members, Senators Pinsonneault and Gage, Representatives Howe and Hanson.

Senator Regan declared the hearing on House Bill 20 closed and said we would take up House Bill 373.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 373: AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION TO EMPLOY NECESSARY STAFF TO ENSURE TIMELY PROCESSING OF CLAIMS; PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING STAFFING NEEDS, etc.

Representative Darko, House District 2 and chief sponsor of House Bill 373 said, this was an idea of some people who have been real active on the Workers' Compensation issue in my area. They were working with me prior to the session on the act itself, and this is one of the things they came up with. It was determined from talking and visiting with people that one of the problems with the division is a lack of adequate staff, and because people did not get answers to their phone calls they could not get their problems solved, and when they could not get someone working on their case their next step was to go to an attorney, and this would increase the cost.

Representative Darko said there had been figures bandied around that attorney involvement in cases it cost an extra \$9 million to fund. She said this bill when the case load goes above a certain number it automatically triggers staffing. She said it was a minimum of 300 and there was also a maximum. She said in looking at the surrounding states Montana has about the highest caseload per caseworker of open files. This would only be used when the caseload

got too high, and it is my intention to try to circumvent some of the problems we have with the fund, and it could prevent some of the problems we have been having for the past several years.

PROPOSERS TO HOUSE BILL 373: Bob Robinson, Administrator of the Workers' Compensation Division said, the bill will allow the division to respond to the work load as the work load changes. If the Workers' Compensation state fund is to be run as a business, one of the things that is necessary is to allow the Bureau Chief down there to adjust his staff based upon work load so they can in fact serve the injured workers, and most importantly make sure the costs are under control. This was initiated as a result of an idea from a real tense meeting we had up in Libby when we were asked to come up and explain why a rate increase on the first of January.

There were no further proponents, no opponents, and Senator Regan asked if there were questions from the Committee.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE: Senator Smith asked Bob Robinson, isn't your work load going to decrease because I understand the cities and counties are out of the program. Schools definitely are looking for a way out, businesses leaving the state, less people employed, why is there a need for that many more employees. Bob Robinson answered, we don't know how many more employees at this point. Basically the guidelines would not be the number of employees, but the number of open cases. The number of accidents that occurred. In subsection 2 it basically states that the open case files will be the guideline, so if in fact cities, counties, school districts and everybody else quits the Workers Compensation this would automatically trigger a forced reduction in staff because you would not be able to have more claims examiners than you had open cases of 300. If number of claims drop, staff would drop, and the reverse if the number of claims increased the staff could increase accordingly so you could eliminate a lot of the litigation.

Senator Boylan said, I didn't read the audit report. Did they suggest this? Bob Robinson said they didn't suggest this, however the 2nd and 3rd portions of the audit effort are looking at work loads and staffing patterns and bottlenecks and everything else.

Senator Bengtson said, I have a little problem understanding how you can hire this kind of temporary help for claims examiners. Are there a lot of floating people out there who would be willing to take a job on an 18 month or year or whatever time? Bob Robinson said, as we looked at these they are not quick in-quick out positions. I think we have to be very careful that we don't have people that we just drop them as the work load drops. The work load doesn't

drop that fast. There's a gradual increase since 1985 through now; there's been an increase from 5,000 to 8,000 open claims based on a lot of things. Court decisions keeping claims open for a long period of time, etc. It will grow for a little while. It is 3 or 4 years at least until the worker goes off the cycle.

Senator Bengtson asked, and this sort of trigger mechanism that would allow you to hire help is something that you can predict and you feel there are people that would be willing to take this kind of a job on a temporary basis because when the work load eases off they wouldn't be on board. Mr. Robinson answered, there is enough turn over in state government so if you brought someone on and then saw yourself trailing out as someone left you would not fill that position, but as the trigger works when you've got 300 cases and nobody had left, you would have to lay someone off, and I think you would lay off the last person on.

Senator Hammond said, following that, you go before the Legislative Finance Committee whenever you want to increase this. Doesn't it seem a little cumbersome to have to go before them in order to lay anybody off? Mr. Robinson said, I don't think they want us to worry about coming to see them to lay someone off. Senator Hammond said, it is in here -- increase or decrease. Mr. Robinson said, we would probably just inform them at that point. We get approval from the budget office and inform the Legislative Finance Committee.

Senator Keating said, it would probably be that B312 that we were talking about. If you are going to change your budget plan you file that B312 with the Department and the Legislative Finance Committee. The Administrator still has the authority to do it, it is notification.

There were no further questions and Representative Darko in closing said she would like to remind the committee that the caseload has been very high for several years. She said she had been told that at one time we had over 9,000 open cases which was upward of 500 per caseload.

Senator Regan declared the hearing closed and said we would take up House Bill 460.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 460: AN ACT PERMANENTLY INCREASING THE FEE FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE; PROVIDING FOR FEE DISPOSITION; amending and repealing sections and providing an effective date.

Representative Keenan, House District 66 and chief sponsor of House Bill 460 said, I would like to give you a little history so you would know how it all started out. I had come in with a bill requesting additional monies to fund the displaced homemakers program in the state and Representative

Winslow came with the same piece of legislation raising the divorce fees to receive money to fund the Big Brothers and Sisters Program. At that point we put our heads together and decided we may as well go about this together, and consequently a revised House Bill 460. We raised the petition for dissolution of marriage to a fee of \$100. That is broken out -- you take \$25 immediately to maintain district courts. There was a lot of discussion in House Appropriations and it was their decision to leave that \$25 in. \$35 goes to the Big Brothers and Sisters Program and the remaining \$40 goes to the displaced homemakers. When you break out the \$40, there was a base of \$5 that was earmarked for the Displaced Homemakers Program.

Representative Keenan said she had a bit of back ground on Montana statistics and a sheet of statistica information was passed out and is attached as exhibit 1, House Bill 460. She said also, we have 12 programs in the state for displaced homemakers and this past year they served about 774 clients and placed 429 of those women in jobs. Of those served 206 were receiving welfare. The program not only reduces public assistance but in essence has kept many women off the public assistance roles.

PROPOSERS TO HOUSE BILL 460: Barbara Archer, Womens Lobbyist Fund said, we support House Bill 460. This bill will provide funding to meet the needs of various important and efficient programs. Ms. Archer gave statistics, told how efficient the displaced homemakers program was in placing women in jobs, etc.

There were no further proponents, no opponents, and Senator Regan asked if there were questions from the committee.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE: Senator Hammond asked, how do the Carl Perkins funds become eligible? Representative Keenan said, I think there are some Carl Perkins funds. When they have state monies they can get federal match. They receive JTPA, federal funds and I believe they do receive some Carl Perkins funds.

Senator Hammond said, You mentioned that, but it surprised me since that is usually vo-ag, vo-tech, that sort of thing. Representative Keenan said it is vocational training that they are doing. I don't think it is substantial but they do receive some.

Senator Himsel said, mine is on the construction of the bill. Why on page 1 is this whole structure temporary and then the effective date on the rest of it is 1990. Is there an explanation for that? Representative Keenan said, I believe the date is July 1 because that is when they can get federal money. Senator Himsel said, on page 1 it starts out with temporary fees, a temporary section of the statute and then

it becomes permanent on page 3, and the effective date is 1990. I am wondering why that is structured that way. Representative Keenan said, I believe the District Court is the \$25 that I referenced to, and that is the same problem the House Appropriation committee was having with that, to figure out where that money goes and why it was temporary. The answer, Senator Himsl, the drafter and the staffer insisted to the Appropriations committee that that has to be in there because of other codifications. For some reason they thought it had to be that way because of the court section.

Senator Bengtson said, I can see the disposition of the funds in the statutes. Where do we find that -- the district court and Big Brothers and Sisters, etc. Representative Keenan said that also happened in the House Appropriation committee that they deleted all of the statutory appropriation, it just goes to the general fund and then in House Bill 2, it is directed for so much for each.

Senator Bengtson said, I know we established the Displaced Homemakers to be a statute, but Big Brothers and Sisters -- I don't know how that gets in. I don't remember ever addressing the support and endorsement for Big Brothers and Sisters Program. Is that true, or what? Representative Keenan said, the Displaced Homemakers Program was statutorily appropriated. This session with this bill, we have decided to delete the statutory appropriation and put it in the big bill, but we raised the fees almost twice as much and shared the money.

Senator Bengtson asked, isn't that a rather strange way for a program to wriggle their way in for state appropriations?

Senator Himsl said he would like to request an answer from a gentleman who was present. Jim Murphy said, I am a director for Big Brothers and Sisters here in Helena. Big Brothers and Sisters across the state have always received money from the state to support their budgets. I am not sure of the exact figures, but it is a substantial part of their budget. Senator Regan said it is 15%. Mr. Murphy said that money is no longer going to be available because of the budget problems, and this will put money into the general fund to continue the money to the Big Brothers and Sisters.

Senator Bengtson asked, that then came about through cat and dog appropriation? Mr. Murphy said it appropriates through SRS.

Senator Story asked, how many divorces do you anticipate? Ms. Archer said she did not have the figures with her but could get it for them. Senator Story asked how many replacements? Senator Gage said 419. Senator Story asked

how many centers? Ms. Archer said 12 centers in the state, 8 of them receiving state funds. Senator Story asked how much money do they anticipate getting and was told about \$200,000. Senator Story asked, how many people have they placed? Ms. Archer answered 429 clients of the 774 clients. 200 of those were on welfare.

Senator Jacobson asked, Representative Keenan, what happens to the funding for the Childrens' trust? Representative Keenan said, there is another bill that Representative Bradley has tagging along that came out of House Appropriations when we realized the \$5 childrens trust was taken out. Representative Bradley has a bill on the Appropriations side that takes care of that.

Senator Keating said, I notice that most of the displaced homemakers centers are in areas that have job service, JTPA, WIN etc. that serve to obtain jobs and train people to get jobs, etc. How does the displaced homemakers differ from job service and WIN programs in helping to train them to look for jobs and that sort of thing? Ms. Archer said, at the last hearing, a number of people who took part in the displaced homemakers program came forward and testified. What the Displaced Homemakers Program does, is to provide a lot more support and individual attention to people who have often been through extremely traumatic experiences. For instance a woman who had been married 40 years and had 7 children, her husband left her and she had never been out in the job market, and had no self confidence. The Displaced Homemakers Program helps people to pick up their lives when they have been in a fairly middle class situation and have had a huge shock to their lives.

Senator Hammond asked if the big bill says where this money is supposed to go and was told, yes.

Senator Gage said, I am assuming the fiscal note is somewhat in line with what is happening. According to that they indicate 5419 dissolutions of marriages per year according to an average of the judicial system in the past. If each of those have to pay \$100 and this program gets \$75 of that. Representative Keenan said that was as introduced and it has been amended so many times, maybe you want to request a new fiscal note. Senator Gage said that would indicate they get about \$406,000 a year. Representative Keenan said 1/2 to Big Brothers and Sisters and 1/2 to Displaced Homemakers.

There were no further questions and Representative Keenan said in closing she thanked the committee and would urge passage of the bill.

Senator Regan said she would close the hearing and the committee had 10 minutes and perhaps could take some executive action.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL 460: Motion by Senator Manning that House Bill 460 be concurred in.

Senator Bengtson said, I would like to see an updated fiscal note on this. Senator Regan said, we can ask for one. I am somewhat concerned about the time frame in getting one back. We have a deadline in getting these out.

Senator Gage said, I just gave you one. Using their assumptions and the bill, if the \$75 would bring in \$406,000 a year, the \$25 will bring in 1/3 of that. Senator Regan said, the Displaced Homemaker takes 40% of that. 25% goes to district court, 35% to Big Brothers and Sisters. That is not spelled out in the bill but it is addressed in the way they apportion the anticipated revenue in House Bill 2.

Senator Story said, in House Bill 2, instead of setting an amount for these people say it depends on this bill? Senator Regan said, no, they have anticipated an average and appropriated the money. Senator Story said, but that money is appropriated even if we kill this bill and Senator Regan said yes, unless you bring the bill over here and take it out.

Senator Story said, there is no boiler plate language saying that whatever this raises they get. Senator Regan said, that is correct.

Senator Keating said, I believe this bill is an increased tax on the citizenry out there, and that is exactly what it is. It isn't a fee, it is a tax. If somebody is going to get a divorce they have to pay a tax.

Senator Harding said, on the other hand divorce creates the childrens' problems so we have Big Brothers and Sisters and they also create the problems for displaced homemakers. I think that is the reason for this bill.

Senator Hammond said, I can see the relationship just as Senator Harding has stated here, but it looks to me like we have to pass this bill or we will have to amend those monies out of the big bill.

Question was called, voted, passed. Senators Smith, Keating, Story and Boylan voting no, the remaining voting yes, the motion has carried.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL 20: AN ACT CREATING A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS. Motion by Senator Gage that House Bill 20 be concurred in.

Senator Jergeson asked Senator Gage, are you satisfied with \$4500? Is it adequate to try to handle the job? I have reservations that I share with Senator Hammond about meeting

on the reservations. Each of the 7 are just not to be dealt with, I suppose.

Senator Bengtson said, I agree with Senator Jergeson. I really think you should meet on the reservations, and I think you should have more money. Senator Regan said I don't know, but I would remind you of what is happening to the Big Bill over in the House, and if you really want to send it back or do you want one meeting less and then travel further on some of them -- I don't know.

Senator Hammond said I have two reservations, part of one and then another one and I was just talking to Senator Gage. It looks to me like if they did meet on the reservations, and I know it costs more to get the help from Helena there, but then the Legislators from those areas could go to meet on their own time and their own money at those places so I think they could still get the job done.

Senator Gage said in effect we funded only 2 members of that committee last time and the staff because one member served with no expense and the other attended only 1 of our 7 meetings. In effect we operated on less than \$4500 with half cost to a 4 member committee.

Senator Smith said, how much staff do you have? Senator Gage answered, last time we had a research person a secretary and Brenda Desmond was our legal person. Those people traveled to one meeting. The only cost we had for them was travel to Billings for one meeting. The rest of the meetings were in Helena and they were paid whether they were at our meeting or what they were doing.

Senator Smith said he would comment that if you are going to have all your meetings in Helena and not hold them on any of the reservations so your local legislators can participate and the local people can participate, both Indian and non Indian, I think you've just waisted your money.

Question was called, voted, motion carried unanimous.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL 373: AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION TO EMPLOY NECESSARY STAFF.
etc.

Motion by Senator Manning that House Bill 373 be concurred in.

Senator Gage said, I talked a little bit with Madalyn about the mechanism for getting their increases, and I assume with sub 4 on line 17 and 18 on page 2 that that would be sufficient to authorize a budget amendment. I am not that up on budget amendments but it was my understanding that a

Finance and Claims

April 4, 1987

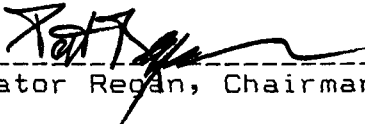
Page 12

budget amendment could only be used when funds that are not anticipated when the Legislature is here is available.

Madalyn Quinlan, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, said that is true of budget amendments, but I believe the spending authority for this is established on line 17 and 18.

Question was called, voted, passed, Senators Boylan, Smith voting no, the remainder voting aye.

The meeting was adjourned.



Senator Regan, Chairman

ROLL CALL

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1987

Date 4-4-87

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
SENATOR REGAN	✓		
SENATOR HIMSL	✓		
SENATOR JACOBSON	✓		
SENATOR BENGTON	✓		
SENATOR STIMATZ	✓		
SENATOR HARDING	✓		
SENATOR HAFNEY	✓		
SENATOR SMITH	✓		
SENATOR KEATING	✓		
SENATOR STORY	✓		
SENATOR BOYLAN	✓		
SENATOR JERGSON	✓		
SENATOR TVEIT			✓
SENATOR MANNING	✓		
SENATOR HAMMOND	✓		
SENATOR GAGE	✓		

COMMITTEE ON

Finance & Claims

DATE 4-4-89

HB 20, 373 + 460

VISITORS' REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Oppos
Barbara Archer	Women's Lobbyist Fund	460	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Statistics concerning HB to increase divorce fee for Displaced Homemakers Programs.

Montana Statistics:

Female head of households in Montana (no husbands present) = 20,117 (1980 Census).

Medium income of female headed households with children under 6 is \$4,931 which is below the poverty level (1980 Census).

There are 9,173 families on AFDC in Montana (1986 SRS).

In 1986, there were 4,704 women in the Montana workforce (DOL).

This leaves over 15,000 single female head of household as discouraged workers (using the above statistics).

Displaced homemaker Centers have been serving this population for 8 years in Montana. The Displaced homemaker numbers are increasing due to unemployment, divorce rates and single women choosing to keep their children.

Some specifics: There are 12 Displaced Homemaker Centers in Montana as of 1986. Not all centers receive State Funding due to the shortage of money; ONLY, 9 centers receive State Funds.

Some Local Statistics: (clients served)

1. Bozeman Center: Serves average of 200 per year / Positive placement 75-80%
2. Great Falls Center: Serves average of 550 per year / Positive placement 65-80%
3. Butte Center: Serves average of 125 per year / Positive placement 80%
4. Billings Center: Serves average of 250 per year / Positive placement 65-80%
5. Missoula Center: Serves average of 100 per year / Positive placement 65-80%
6. Helena Center: Served 213-over 2 years / Positive placement 65-80%
7. Miles City Center: Serves average of 25 per year / Positive placement 65-80%
8. Havre Center: Serves average of 45 per year / Positive placement 65-80%

U.S. Statistics:

(Fact Sheet on U.S. Working Women 1986) The number of families maintained by women grew almost 90% between 1970 and 1985. The growth is attributed largely to more marriages ending in divorce and more women having children without marrying.

(Fact Sheet 1986) In March 1985, there were more than 10.5 million families principally supported by women who were divorced, separated, widowed, or never married. These families accounted for almost 17% of all families in the U.S. compared with 13% in 1975.

(Fact Sheet 1986) Mothers raising children by themselves often receive no support from the absent father. In 1983, only 1/2 of the women with dependant children were awarded child support or had an agreement to receive it.

(Fact Sheet 1986) The majority of women work because of economic need. Nearly 2/3 of all women in the labor force in March 1985 were either single (25%), divorced (12%), widowed (5%), separated (4%), or had husbands whose 1984 earnings were less than \$15,000 (17%).

24
14 13 400

SENATE FINANCE AND CLAIMS
EXHIBIT NO. 1
DATE 4-4-87
BILL NO. HB 460

Divorce Statistics: Rationale for Fee Increase

(1986 Montana Department of Vital Statistics) The number of divorces for Montana in 1985 equalled 4,258, which funded \$106,450 into the General Fund. HB 400 guaranteed \$150,000 each year to Montana Displaced Homemakers Centers. This is the only State Funding for Displaced Homemaker Centers. When this is broken down into dollars spent for training, it looks like this:

*9,173 numbers on AFDC equals \$11.60 spent on each for training.

*20,117 numbers of female head of household \$5.29 spent for training

*15,000 female head of households not working (discouraged workers) equals \$7.09.

Presently \$75 per displaced homemaker is being used for training service number of 2,000 with State Funding at \$150,000 per year.

Increasing the Divorce Fee would bring in an estimated \$212,900 or \$220,000 per year for Displaced Homemaker Centers Training.

This is important funding for Displaced Homemaker Centers because many Federal Grants requires State Match in order to secure Federal money-without State money, little Federal Match money can be secured.

Since most Displaced Homemaker Centers are small service agencies this small amount of money from State Funding may seem insignificant but is, in fact, vital because it usually means a dollar for dollar Match by Federal, so actually it is double the amount received.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 4

1987

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on..... **FINANCE & CLAIMS**

having had under consideration..... **HOUSE BILL** No. **20**

Third reading copy (blue)
color

CREATING AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

HANSON, M. (Gage)

Respectfully report as follows: That..... **HOUSE BILL** No. **20**

BE CONCURRED IN

~~XXXXXX~~
~~DO PASS~~

~~XXXXXX~~
~~DO NOT PASS~~

.....
PAT REGAN,

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 4 19 87

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on FINANCE & CLAIMS

having had under consideration HOUSE BILL No. 373

Third reading copy (blue)
color

CLAIM LOAD TO DETERMINE STAFFING FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION

DARKO (Manning)

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE BILL No. 373

BE CONCURRED IN

~~XXXXXX~~
~~DO PASS~~

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
~~DO NOT PASS~~

.....
PAT REGAN,

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

.....April 4..... 19 87.....

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on.....FINANCE AND CLAIMS.....

having had under consideration.....House Bill 460..... No.....

third reading copy (blue)
color

PERMANENTLY INCREASE MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION FEE; PROVIDE FOR FEE
DISPOSITION

KEENAN (Regan)

Respectfully report as follows: That.....House Bill..... No..... 460.....

BE CONCURRED IN

XXXXXX
DO PASS

XXXXXXXXXX
DO NOT PASS

.....
SENATOR REGAN

.....
Chairman.