

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

April 7, 1987

The meeting of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee was called to order by Chairman Dorothy Eck on April 7, 1987 at 1 P.M. in 410 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members of the committee were present, except Sen. Darryl Meyer.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 878: Rep. Kelly Addy, District # 94, sponsor of the bill, stated that this is a non-controversial bill dealing with SO<sub>2</sub> monitoring stations. Billings has been recognized as having an SO<sub>2</sub> problem, but the monitoring sites are now located in the areas of heaviest concentration. That is not always the case in other cities, nor do the present sites help Billings residents know what the SO<sub>2</sub> concentration levels are in other parts of the city. The bill calls for a \$50,000 appropriation from the DHES with a three/one match from Billings area industries to move two of the present monitoring stations and establish two others to monitor SO<sub>2</sub> levels in several key parts of the city. Industries have agreed to come up with the matching funds. Through these additional monitoring stations, industries hope to provide more information for all sides in disputes and to make public policy decisions. The bill deals with one of the classic environmental questions.

Exhibit # 1.

PROONENTS: Kay Foster, Billings Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Billings Chamber of Commerce has worked with a variety of groups to develop SO<sub>2</sub> monitoring of air quality and they support this bill and the better placement of monitoring stations.

Claudia Massman, MEIC, stated that they encourage the effort of industry to clean up air quality.

Mary Westwood, lawyer for Montana Sulphur and Chemical Company, stated that they are one of the emitters of gas in Yellowstone Co., but they also produce sulphur from recycled sulphur products, including SO<sub>2</sub>. In the past the lack of accurate data has hampered the negotiation of settlements. From other bills, industry knows that it is necessary to monitor air quality and they are ready to come up with the money. The monitoring is needed to determine who is responsible for the emissions. Passing this legislation will give more impetus to solving matters in the best way.

DISCUSSION OF H.B. 878: Sen. Hager: One of the present locations is a carbon monoxide monitoring site; another source site might be the Hardin interchange because it is downwind.

Mary Westwood: The industries are agreeable to the Hardin Interchange and the Colter road site at the Grand Avenue school.

Sen. Hager: That would be good because the brown cloud is also in these areas.

Rep. Addy: That includes other polluted air, because SO<sub>2</sub> is colorless.

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Sen. Himsel: Why aren't these stations where people are?

Rep. Addy: The money from this bill will be used to establish such sites.

Sen. Himsel: Why were the monitors so close to the industrial sites?

Robert Raisch, DHES: One reason for the placing the original sites so close to the industrial sites is that if you show compliance at these sites, then you should be in compliance elsewhere. The EPA requires the first, then goes out into the population area.

Sen. Eck: Will there be any in the area of maximum concentration?

Robert R : The Lockwood site will be that one, then Laurel, the Hardin Interchange and Grand Avenue.

Rep. Addy closed by stating that everything had been covered.

ACTION ON H.B. 878: Sen. Hager moved that H.B. 878 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried unanimously. Sen. Hager will carry the bill.

There being no futher business, the meeting adjourned at 2 P.M.

Dorothy Eck

CHAIRMAN

ROLL CALL

Public Health, Welfare and Safety COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1987

Date 5-7-87

Each day attach to minutes.

DATE 4-7-87

COMMITTEE ON

VISITORS' REGISTER

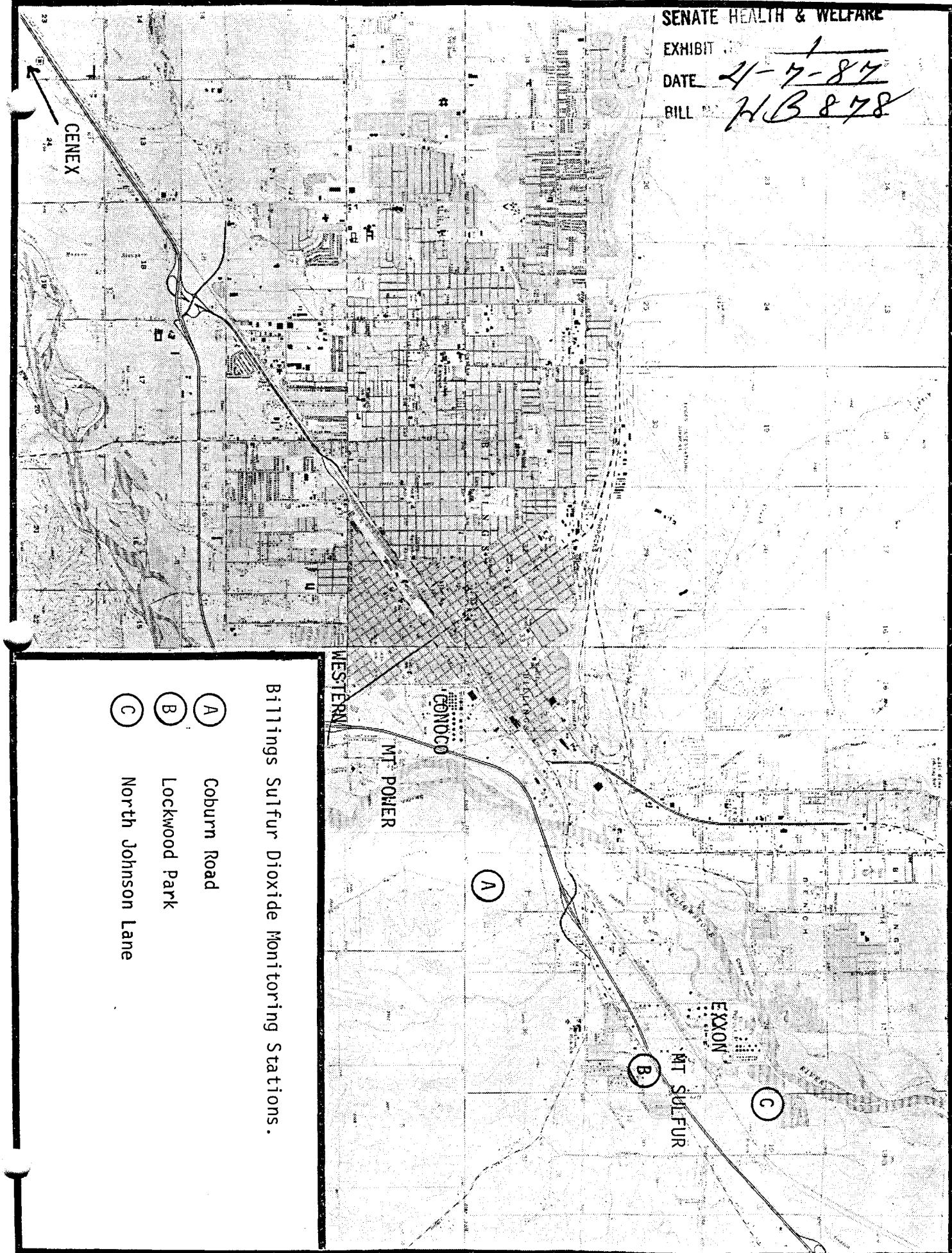
(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT 1

DATE 4-7-87

BILL HB 878



Billings Sulfur Dioxide Monitoring Stations.

- (A) Coburn Road
- (B) Lockwood Park
- (C) North Johnson Lane

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

APRIL 8, 1967

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on **SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**  
having had under consideration.....

**HOUSE BILL**

No. **878**

**THIRD** reading copy ( **BLUE** )  
color

**APPROPRIATION FOR AIR QUALITY MONITORS IN YELLOWSTONE COUNTY**

**ADDY (HAGER)**

Respectfully report as follows: That.....

**HOUSE BILL**

No. **878**

**EC CONCURRED IN**

DO PASS

DO NOT PASS

**SENATOR ECK**

Chairman.