

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 51ST LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chairman William "Red" Menahan, on January 3, 1989, 10:00 a.m. on Room 420.

Members Present: Representatives Red Menahan, John Vincent, Mike Kadas, Ed Grady and Bud Campbell.

Representative Jan Brown entered after roll call.

Members Absent: Representative Robert Marks

Others Present: Representative Jack Ramirez  
Representative Wm. E. Boharski  
Christen Obresley, Intern-NMC

Press: Ian Marquand  
Tobby Hatley  
Jay Kohn

Staff Present: Larry Fasbender, Chief Clerk  
Joyce Andrus, Asst. Chief Clerk  
Margaret Regan, Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms  
Bobby Spilker, Aide to Minority Leader  
Bob Person, Executive Director,  
Legislative Council  
Amy Grant, Legislative Council

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### House Bill No. 48

Chairman Menahan opened discussion on HB 48 (An Act to Authorize Legislators to Select an Alternative Method of Renumeration During a Legislative Session; etc.) Representative Jack Ramirez, chief sponsor of the bill, acknowledged

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Representative Bill Boharski, who explained his situation and how he would be affected by the passage (or non-passage of this bill).

Representative Boharski explained that by accepting legislative expense money for attending a Caucus in November, Social Security officials had informed him that his federal medical benefits would be jeopardized. Because of his medical expenses, he cannot afford to lose this benefit. As a result, the Legislative Council was contacted to research the matter and draft a bill to address this particular problem. Bob Person, Executive Director of the Legislative Council, told the committee the bill would redefine expense money in a way that would satisfy the Social Security Administration. House Bill 48 - Section 1 (7) classifies the expense reimbursements as salary which is subject to FICA and addresses the problem for Representative Boharski.

Representative Ramirez then indicated that it is essential that something along this line is done or Representative Boharski would be forced to resign his seat.

Chairman Menahan asked for further discussion--no further discussion.

#### **MOTION:**

Speaker John Vincent moved that the Committee recommend that HB 48 DO PASS and further, that the rules be suspended to hear HB 48 on second and third reading this date. Motion was seconded by Representative Ed Grady. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Joint Employee Resolution**

Chairman Menahan asked Chief Clerk Larry Fasbender to address the committee on the draft Joint Resolution regarding employees. Mr. Fasbender indicated that there were few changes from the draft discussed on December 17, 1988, other than a few more positions had been filled. He also indicated that the positions filled in the House varied little from the Senate -- the Senate may have different titles and positions filled from the House.

Representative Grady inquired of the status on the Joint Legislative Administration meeting. Speaker Vincent indicated that Chairman Menahan should consult with the Chairman of the Senate Administrative Committee and if there were any problems, the chairmen could put together a meeting.

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Speaker John Vincent commented further on the pay freeze for House employees and reiterated that the house legislative employees should be treated the same as regular state employees. Chairman Menahan suggested that the resolution be adopted and if the Senate so chooses to amend, then the House could either accept or reject the Senate amendments.

#### **MOTION:**

Speaker John Vincent moved that the (Draft) House Employee Resolution be adopted and that the resolution be printed in bill form and introduced by request of the House Legislative Administration Committee. Motion seconded by Chairman Menahan and passed unanimously.

At this time, Chairman Menahan inquired of Bobby Spilker whether Minority Leader Jack Ramirez, was in agreement with the House Employee Joint Resolution. Ms. Spilker indicated that she couldn't speak for Representative Ramirez but that Representative Bob Marks was in agreement with the committee.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Parking**

Chairman Menahan mentioned that the parking for Representatives has not been resolved but that he and Senator Crippen were working out the details and hoped to have it resolved by the end of the week.

##### **Letterhead**

Chief Clerk Larry Fasbender distributed examples of letterhead for representatives and then explained to the committee how the new process would work. In the past, legislators have had their own personal letterhead printed. Legislative Council has experimented with a more cost-effective process involving lazer printing for letterhead. The letterhead would be in the feed bin and the individual representatives' names, etc. would be printed as that representative's work request is indicated to the steno pool. The letterhead would be in black as the printer does not have the capability of printing

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with blue ink. Some members expressed a desire to have personal letterhead available for their own use and that it be printed in blue. Margaret Regan, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, indicated that letterhead paper and envelopes could be ordered. She said that a cost comparison would be done on different bond paper and generic vs. personalized letterhead.

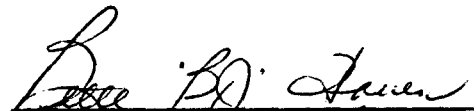
### Shelving

Representative Ed Grady inquired on the status of shelves for representatives. Speaker Vincent commented that shelves would be installed, but that he wanted to make sure they were functional and not open shelving. Chairman Menahan informed the committee he would check with Jack Campbell of General Services on this matter.

As there was no further discussion or business, the Legislative Administration Committee meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Chairman Menahan adjourned the meeting at 10:30 A.M.

  
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William "Red" Menahan, Chairman

  
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Bette "BJ" Hoven, Secretary

# DAILY ROLL CALL

## LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE

51st LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1989

Date \_\_\_\_\_

January 3

[illegible]

*Secretary*

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 3, 1989

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Legislative Administration  
report that House Bill 48 (first reading copy -- white) do  
pass.

Signed:

*Wm. Red Menahan*  
William (Red) Menahan, Chairman

## LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

DATE 1/31/89 BILL NO. HOUSE NUMBER 48

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Secretary

Wa Menahan  
Chairman

MOTION: DO PASS MOTION BY. REP. J. VINCENT;  
SECONDED BY REP. GRADY. - PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.