

MINUTES  
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
51ST LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION  
HEARING ON HOUSE BILLS 496 AND 729

Call to Order: By Chairman Wm. T. "Red" Menahan, on adjournment,  
February 15, 1989

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Representatives Menahan, Kadas, Brown, Campbell  
and Marks

Members Excused: Speaker Vincent and Representative Grady

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 496, "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A MECHANISM  
FOR COORDINATED COMPUTER SYSTEM PLANNING IN THE LEGISLATIVE  
BRANCH," INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JERRY NISBET

Presentation and Opening Remarks by Sponsor:

Representative Jerry Nisbet explained the bill, indicating that House Bill No. 65 provided for an appropriation for the expansion or enhancement of computer equipment or systems in accordance with a plan developed jointly the House of Representative and the Senate and other agencies of the legislative branch. The plan is to be developed in cooperation with the Dept of Administration to enhance compatibility with the long-range plan for state government. This bill provides for that mechanism.

Representative Nisbet handed out to the committee members a copy of amendments that Bob Person had prepared which were not incorporated in the bill prior to introduction. He went on to explain in detail these amendments, which basically made clarifications in the bill.

Opponents to the Bill: NONE

Proponents for the Bill: Bob Person, Executive Director of  
the Montana Legislative Council.

Bob addressed the committee and indicated that he had recommended such a measure be considered by the legislature. Representative Nisbet had contacted him and indicated he would be willing to carry the bill. The bill provides for a coordinated and more compatible computer system, and in the long term, should result in less expenditures.

Discussion:

Representative Kadas inquired of Representative Nisbet if this would eliminate the two separate houses from purchasing or implementing different computer systems or making major changes. Mr. Nisbet indicated that it would prevent either house from purchasing or implementing any changes that were not compatible with the plan or standards established by this bill.

Representative Marks inquired about Section 2, Subsection (1) "the president of the senate or his designated representative"; and (2) "the speaker of the house of representatives or his designated representative". He indicated that it should be clarified as to the intent -- would it be another legislator or someone else. Representative Nisbet indicated that the President of the Senate would designate the Secretary of the Senate and the Speaker would designate the Chief Clerk, but neither would be bound by that.

Representative Marks expressed some concerns about that designation and indicated that the bill should be amended to clarify who the designated person would be. Bob Person commented that he would prepare an amendment to subsections (1) and (2) which would clarify the designation (amendments attached).

MOTION: Representative Marks moved that subsection (1) and (2) be amended. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Further Discussion: Representative Marks indicated the same concern for subsection (3) "or their designated representatives." Bob Person indicated that he would include an amendment for this subsection.

As there was no further discussion, question was called for on the amendment to subsection (3).

MOTION: Representative Kadas moved the amendment. (This includes the amendment prepared by Representative Nisbet and Bob Person to the introduced bill). Motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

No further discussion on the bill.

MOTION: Representative Jan Brown moved HB 496 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Legislative Administration  
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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 729, "AN ACT TO REVISE THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES ALLOWED TO LEGISLATORS WHILE IN SESSION," INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE TOM HANNAH

Presentation and Opening Remarks by Sponsor:

Representative Tom Hannah explained that this bill increases the per diem and trips to home base -- beginning with the next session, that the legislature increase the per diem to the maximum allowable amount under the federal deduction from the IRS, which is currently \$66. In the past, this has been changed as needed, but it has been difficult to reach a consensus. This bill will target the legislators per diem to that which is allowed under the federal guidelines for deductibility. Section 2 allows for the a legislator to receive remuneration for services in lieu of salary and expenses.

Opponents to the bill: NONE

Proponents to the bill: NONE

Discussion:

Representative Marks inquired of Representative Hannah if this deduction would change from time to time, consistent with whatever 26 U.S.C. 162h(1)(A)(i) changes to. Representative Hannah replied in the affirmative.

Representative Marks expressed concern with this bill in that this would provide for an automatic pay increase for legislators, which this branch has just recently criticized Congress for. Representative Hannah replied by clarifying that this was not really a pay increase, but an increase in per diem.

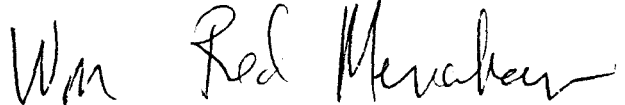
Representative Kadas indicated that he favored the bill because the legislature continually puts off giving an increase and it is justified.

Further Discussion: NONE

MOTION: Representative Kadas moved the bill DO PASS. Motion was seconded. Motion passed with members Menahan, Kadas and Brown voting aye and Marks and Campbell voting nay.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Approved:

  
Chairman Wm. T. "Red" Menahan

## DAILY ROLL CALL

## LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE

51st LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1989

Date FEBRUARY 15, 1989

[illegible]

### ROLL CALL VOTE

## LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FEB 15

BILL NO.

House

NUMBER

496

[illegible]

TALLY

BQ Haven  
Secretary

Wm Menahan <sup>5</sup> <sup>0</sup>  
Chairman

MOTION: REP. JAN BROWN MOVED TO PASS AS AMENDED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

## LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

2/15/89

BILL NO.

House

NUMBER

729

**TALLY**

2

2

BG Haven  
Secreta

Secretary

2 2  
Wm Menahan  
Chairman

Chairman

**MOTION:**

REP. KNOX MOVED DO PASS: PASSED

Unanimously

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 1989

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Legislative Administration report that HOUSE BILL 496 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended .

Signed: William (Red) Menahan  
William (Red) Menahan, Chairman

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, line 6.

Following: "BRANCH"

Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE"

2. Page 2, line 19.

Strike: "his"

Insert: "another member of the senate"

3. Page 2, line 20.

Strike: "representative"

Insert: "by him"

4. Page 2, line 21.

Strike: "his"

Insert: "another member of the house"

5. Page 2, line 22.

Strike: "representative"

Insert: "by him"

6. Page 2, line 24.

Following: "or"

Strike: "their"

Insert: "another member of the respective house"

7. Page 2, line 25.

Strike: "representatives"

Insert: "by the respective chairman"

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8. Page 3, line 6.

Following: "council;"

Strike: "and"

9. Page 3, line 7.

Following: "counsel"

Insert: "; and

(9) a person designated by the director of the department of administration to represent the data processing policy and planning functions of the department who shall serve as a nonvoting member of the council"

10. Page 3, line 13.

Following: "review"

Insert: "or have reviewed"

11. Page 3, line 21.

Following: "legislature"

Insert: ", legislative agencies,"

12. Page 4, line 7.

Strike: "immediate"

Insert: "current"

13. Page 4, line 12.

Following: "branch"

Insert: "established under 2-17-501 through 2-17-503"

14. Page 4, line 20.

Following: "developing"

Insert: "or having developed"

15. Page 5, line 14.

Following: line 14

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 1. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval."



STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 1989

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Legislative Administration  
report that HOUSE BILL 729 (first reading copy -- white) do  
pass .

  
Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

William (Red) Menahan, Chairman