

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 51st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By Chairman Ted Schye, on March 6, 1989, at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: All

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dianne McKittrick, Committee Secretary, Andrea Merrill, Legislative Council Researcher

Announcements/Discussion: Chairman Schye announced to the committee an offer from the Daly Mansion for a trip, tour and potluck dinner. He said he would check to see if it could be arranged for a Friday in March and would inform the committee as soon as possible as to a definite date.

HEARING ON SJR 15

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Ralph Eudaily, District 60, Missoula introduced SJR 15 for Sen. Elmer Severson, District 32, Stevensville who could not be in attendance at the hearing as scheduled. Rep. Eudaily said SJR 15 is a resolution encouraging the inclusion of firearm safety training in all elementary schools in Montana.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

Gary Marbut, Montana Rifle and Pistol Association, Missoula
Lyle Nagel, Hunters Safety Instructor, Simms
J. Henry Badt, Montana Association of County School Superintendents (MACSS)
Alfred M. (Bud) Elwell, Montana Weapons Collector, Hunters Safety Instructor, Clancy
John Foster, Competitive Shooter, Bozeman
Lenora Houldson, Competitive Shooter, Missoula
John Hackwith, Competitive Shooter, Great Falls

Proponent Testimony:

Gary Marbut said a suitable firearm safety training program could easily be implemented into the elementary schools in Montana

with no cost to the districts, in much the same manner as bicycle and fire escape programs are done. He said this would not be mandatory or binding on any school district but a very necessary consideration in light of the many children who become ignorantly injured by firearms each year. Mr. Marbut said he communicated with Superintendent Nancy Kennan (EXHIBIT 1.) who also supports SJR 15. Mr. Marbut concluded his testimony by stating people from the shooting community could combine forces with Hunters Safety Instructors, National Rifle Association of America (NRA) Instructors and other experienced people to promote the program on the local level.

Lyle Nagel said he receives a report each year on firearms casualties and fatalities in Montana and finds a number of them are due to the lack of education of education in the handling of firearms by the young. Mr. Nagel stressed that Hunters Safety Programs reach a small percentage of the youth and SJR 15 provides a sensible attempt at providing this necessary education to the majority of Montana students.

J. Henry Badt said a great majority of households in the State of Montana have guns available and it is of vital importance to provide safety instruction. Mr. Badt added that with the increase in playground shootings perhaps it would also be wise to include instruction on how children could take cover.

Alfred M. (Bud) Elwell said it is almost an impossibility for a Montana youngster to be raised totally free of contact from firearms and since they are a fact of life students should have the opportunity to be instructed on what to do or not to do in a given situation. He said with a combination of peer pressure and excitement about guns children who are not educated as to their potential danger are left open to tragedy.

John Foster said with the television industry showing the glory in using firearms the vast majority of children unfortunately never see the proper methods for safe firearm handling. He said even a small amount of instruction beginning at the earliest possible age can reap large benefits in reducing accidents and deaths.

Lenora Houldson said we live in a state where firearms are a fact of life. She urged support for SJR 15 saying children are curious by nature and education is seriously needed to halt many of the catastrophic injuries related to firearms.

John Hackwith said proper training at a young age would be of great benefit and reduce accidents.

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

Horacio G. Vales, M.D., National Coalition to Ban Handguns

Opponent Testimony:

Horacio G. Vales, M.D., (EXHIBIT 2.).

Questions From Committee Members: Rep. Nelson said in elementary schools at present information goes out to students and parents concerning baseball, soccer and other activities handled by independent organizations outside the school setting. He said perhaps this could be handled and promoted in much the same manner to encourage participation outside the school itself. Gary Marbut remarked each school would need to make the decision how to approach implementing the program but said since fire and bike safety training takes place in school this would be the best place for firearms training also.

Rep. Harrington said schools in Butte are already involved in this type program and Mr. Marbut replied that is the exception. He also said having the sportsmen of the community organize and promote a program on Saturdays, while being a worthwhile effort, leaves large numbers of students ignorant of firearm safety.

Rep. Wallin asked Mr. Marbut if he knew how many other states have such programs in the schools and he replied he did not know.

Closing by Sponsor: Sen. Severson was in attendance at this time but allowed Rep. Eudaily to close the hearing since he had presented SJR 15 to the committee. Rep. Eudaily said this is a totally optional program for the school districts and not out of line with other types of safety courses taught in Montana schools. He said SJR 15 is concerned with the safety of all children and if it helps save one life it will be well worth the effort.

HEARING ON SJR 16

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Elmer Severson, District 32, Stevensville said SJR 16 is a resolution to support shooting competition in secondary schools in Montana and will encourage acceptable intramural and interscholastic sport in these schools. He said school districts would rely on the shooting community rather than public funding for implementation of the program. Sen. Severson closed his opening remarks by saying since our high schools have various other competitive sports this would include another sport near and dear to the heart of many Montanans.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

Gary Marbut, Montana Rifle and Pistol Association, Missoula
Alfred M. (Bud) Elwell, Montana Weapons Collectors, Clancy
Lyle Nagel, Hunters Safety Instructor, Simms
Jeane Foster, Competitive Shooter, Bozeman
John Foster, Competitive Shooter, Bozeman
Natasha Houldson, Competitive Shooter, Missoula
John Hackwith, Competitive Shooter, Great Falls
Heather O'Hara, Competitive Shooter, Fort Benton
Lenora Houldson, Helgate Civilian Shooter, Missoula
Lones Wigger, Sr., Competitive Shooter, Carter

Proponent Testimony:

Gary Marbut said rimfire shooting competition would be a suitable sport in high schools since shooting is a way of life for many in the state. He said shooting competition is very popular in the Olympics and it is a sport where barriers such as gender and being handicapped make no difference. He also said that while there are numerous injuries in many high school sports there has not been a single injury found after two years of researching organized shooting activities.

Alfred M. (Bud) Elwell said academics also enter into the picture in that many of the qualities making a person excellent on the shooting range carry over into academic life such as concentration, focused determination and pride in achievement.

Lyle Nagel said safety is a result of competition and allowing rimfire competition in the high schools will make these youth safer and more competent gun handlers.

Jeane Foster said competing in this sport promotes safety and opens the door to the Olympics and better academic concentration. She also said many high school students are not team players preferring an individual sport.

John Foster said the shooting sports are the third most popular in the Olympics and that shooting is a worldwide sport. He said it is also a lifetime sport where a person can participate over the great span of years regardless of physical condition.

Natasha Houldson said rimfire competition is very suitable for high school since there has been competition shooting in Montana since the 1800's. She said competitive shooters face very strict safety rules and there are few accidents as a result.

John Hackwith said in high schools there is a problem with substance abuse and the serious minded competitive

shooter would refrain from taking these substances since it would greatly hamper his or her performance on the shooting range.

Heather O'Hara said competition shooting teaches concentration and the respect for firearms.

Lenora Houldson said this is a sport providing for equality between the sexes and requiring great skill, high concentration and muscle development. She also said there are three Montanans at the present time attending service academies due to their excellence in shooting.

Lones Wigger, Sr. said he has been competing in shooting since 1933 and finds it a very enjoyable sport. He said passage of SJR 16 would do the young people of Montana a great service.

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

Horacio G. Vales, M.D., National Coalition to Ban Handguns

Opponent Testimony:

Horacio G. Vales, M.D. spoke in opposition to SJR 16.

Questions From Committee Members: None

Closing by Sponsor: Sen. Severson thanked all those who testified in behalf of SJR 16 saying shooting is sport with no barriers as to age, sex or physical handicap. He stressed the fact this is not mandatory but an encouragement for school systems who can draw from the community for the necessary resources to implement the programs.

DISPOSITION OF SB 136

Motion: Rep. Darko made the motion that SB 136 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion: Rep. Harrington said he feared diminishment of salaries beginning with administrators would eventually open the gates for teacher reduction with resulting problems involving teacher tenure laws.

Rep. Zook said he viewed SB 136 as a positive approach since when the administrator is moved back to the classroom his responsibilities are reduced and therefore a reduction in salary is fair. He said in response to Rep. Harrington's comments that he didn't see where a reduction in teacher salary would necessarily follow.

Rep. Johnson said to his knowledge principals are under teacher tenure laws since they are considered to be teachers. He also said the administrator is also losing accumulated years service and seniority.

Rep. Zook once again said the administrator is a teacher with additional duties and once these additional duties are removed and he resumes his former role as a teacher his salary should be on that schedule.

Rep. Simpkins spoke in opposition to SB 136 saying the administrator will be "rewarded" for a loss of seniority by also receiving a reduction in salary. He said this is obviously unfair.

Rep. Daily said the opportunity for increase in salary and perhaps better working conditions is an enticement for a teacher many times to go into administration. He said it is very important to fill these administration positions from the ranks within the school and to also encourage good administrators. Rep. Daily said a person always performs better on the job knowing there is opportunity for promotion somewhere down the road. He also said families are depending on this salary and cutting pay could be devastating. He said this is a bad bill for educators in Montana in general.

Rep. Daily then made the Substitute Motion that SB 136 BE NOT CONCURRED IN.

Rep. Zook said he opposed the Substitute Motion saying there is a definite need in many districts due to tremendous loss in enrollment for removing some of the financial burdens. He stated he views SB 136 as a humane way to handle a difficult situation.

Rep. Darko said administrators bumping into the classroom oftentimes remove tenured teachers lower on the seniority scale and that an experienced teacher is bumped and replaced with an administrator who has not taught for quite some time. She said if this former administrator continued his salary scale at the higher level there would be great morale problems within the teaching ranks. Rep. Darko said administrators have made the decision to become administrators and that when they move back to the classroom should do so with the corresponding cut in pay or move on to a new position elsewhere.

Chairman Schye said he is aware of districts where a person is an administrator one-half time and teacher one-half time. He questioned how this would work out under SB 136 saying it could be confusing being paid proportionately for services rendered.

Rep. Johnson said he could understand economic conditions and enrollment decline but taking away seniority that has been built up is absolutely unfair.

Rep. Eudaily raised the possibility of putting something in statute requiring districts to recognize seniority and asked if this protection of seniority could be worked out through teacher collective bargaining laws. Rep. Johnson replied under present Montana law administrators can not form collective bargaining units and also can not join the teacher union. Andrea Merrill also said this would be difficult to accomplish because it would be interfering with the collective bargaining laws.

Rep. Davis agreed with Rep. Daily that SB 136 is a bad bill saying a good principal is a good principal and a good teacher is a good teacher. He said he views moving the administrators back to the classroom with a reduction in pay as a means of moving them completely out of the system.

Rep. Daily also said this could become a popularity contest and if the superintendent did not like the principal he could state a declining enrollment to get rid of him. He said there is also a question of appropriate severance pay.

Roll Call Vote taken on Rep. Daily's motion that SB 136
BE NOT CONCURRED IN FAILED 7 yes, 13 no.

Amendments, Discussion, and Votes: Chairman Schye then distributed proposed amendments to SB 136 (EXHIBIT 4.) saying the Montana School Boards Association had no problem with #2. Rep. Nelson moved Amendment #2 and the motion CARRIED upon unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Schye then explained his Amendments #1 and #3 saying administrators have invested in their communities and have come to depend on a certain salary. He said administrators before the date of this bill would be grandfathered in and any administrator hired after would know of the possibility of being cut back to a teacher salary. He also stated that in his view there is too great a spread between administrator and teacher salary.

Rep. Darko then said the teacher bumped out of his or her job by the administrator is completely forgotten. Chairman Schye then replied whether SB 136 passes or not administrators can bump teachers at the present time.

Rep. Daily said he too is concerned with teachers being bumped because this becomes a convenient way of disposing of administrators. He said if the administrator has six years experience and the teacher has ten they both have tenure, however the administrator with six years can bump the teacher with ten and there is something

terribly wrong with this logic. Rep. Daily said SB 136 is an anti-labor bill aimed primarily at cutting salaries and if this is a convenient way to cut administrator salaries teachers will be the next target.

Rep. Eudaily said he felt these amendments were a good and appropriate approach in trying to solve this problem.

Chairman Schye said the real problem is that school boards have brought this upon themselves by not paying their teachers higher salaries. However, those that became administrators in the past were playing under one set of rules and thus there is the need for amendment. He then moved Amendments #1 and #3.

Roll Call Vote taken on Chairman Schye's motion to amend SB 136 CARRIED 20 yes, 0 no. Chairman Schye said now we are back to the motion BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.

Rep. Harrington and Rep. Daily tried once again to block passage of SB 136 saying it allowed for the diminishment of salaries and the setting of precedence. Rep. Harrington said in the last Legislative Session Ed Argenbright brought a bill before the committee that was a straightforward attack on the tenure laws.

Rep. Daily then moved to TABLE SB 136. Motion to TABLE FAILED 10 yes, 10 no.

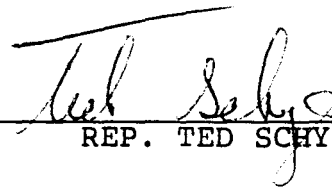
Rep. Cocchiarella then said there wasn't enough understanding of all the legal ramifications of SB 136 as to what the bill would really do if implemented. She said in all good conscience she could not vote positively on SB 136.

Rep. Spring said after twenty years on his school board everything done is subject to law suit and much of that fear is unfounded.

Recommendation and Vote: Motion was made that SB 136 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Motion FAILED upon Roll Call Vote 10 yes, 10 no. Rep. Simpkins then changed his vote to "yes" and motion CARRIED 11 yes, 9 no. (See Roll Call Vote #4)

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 6:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ted Schye", is written over a horizontal line.

REP. TED SCHYE, Chairman

TS/dlm

5204.min

DAILY ROLL CALL

EDUCATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE March 6, 1989

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Ted Schye, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Fritz Daily, Vice-Chairman	✓		
Rep. Vicki Cocchiarella	✓		
Rep. Paula Darko	✓		
Rep. Ervin Davis	✓		
Rep. Ralph Eudaily	✓		
Rep. Floyd Gervais	✓		
Rep. Bill Glaser	✓		
Rep. Dan Harrington	✓		
Rep. John Johnson	✓		
Rep. Tom Kilpatrick	✓		
Rep. Richard Nelson	✓		
Rep. John Phillips	✓		
Rep. Richard Simpkins	✓		
Rep. Wilbur Spring, Jr.	✓		
Rep. Barry "Spook" Stang	✓		
Rep. Fred Thomas			
Rep. Norm Wallin	✓		
Rep. Diana Wyatt	✓		
Rep. Tom Zook	✓		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 7, 1989

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Education and Cultural Resources report that SENATE BILL 136 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in as amended.

Signed: _____
Ted Schye, Chairman

[REP. _____ WILL CARRY THIS BILL ON THE HOUSE FLOOR]

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, line 6.

Strike: "AND"

Following: "MCA"

Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE"

2. Page 2, line 10.

Strike: "financial exigency"

Insert: "economic conditions of the district"

3. Page 4.

Following: line 17

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 5. Applicability. [This act] does not apply to a person who was employed in an administrative position prior to [the effective date of this act]."

Gary S. Marbut

EXHIBIT #1
DATE 3-6-89 731
HB SJR 15

May 11, 1988

Nancy Keenan
1421 W. 3rd
Anaconda, Montana 59711

Dear Mrs. Keenan,

I am writing on behalf of the Montana Rifle and Pistol Association, the Montana branch of the National Rifle Association. The NRA has about 22,000 members in Montana. For the MRPA, I am Director, Vice President, and, important to this letter, I am the Chairman of the MRPA's Public Relations committee.

The MRPA would like to see the various shooting sports more widely established in the schools of Montana. Specifically, we would like to see a firearms safety program established in the elementary schools - basically how to avoid misadventure with firearms. We would like to see competitive shooting established in the high schools as an established sport, available to those students who would like to pursue inter-school competition. We imagine the various shooting disciplines that utilize small-bore, rimfire firearms as being suitable for high school competition. For your information, the NRA has established curricula available for these endeavors.

The MRPA would like to hear your response, as a candidate for the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, concerning the possibility of common access to the shooting sports in Montana schools. The MRPA will be evaluating the responses of the several SPI candidates on this issue, and will make its members aware of MRPA's evaluation.

Since time before the primary is brief, we hope that you can return your response as quickly as possible. Please return your response to the address on this letterhead.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely yours,

Gary S. Marbut, Chairman
MRPA Public Relations Committee

cc: All SPI candidates
MRPA Files

Nancy Keenan

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Democrat

May 31, 1988

KEENAN CAMPAIGN
STEERING COMMITTEE

Ted Schye
Farmer, Glasgow

Donna Metcalf
Helena

Don Williamson
Businessman, Hamilton

Kathy Kelker
Chair, School Board, Billings

Kay Turman
Consultant, Helena

Dr. Richard Solberg
Retired UM Admin., Whitefish

Don Peoples
City-Co. Chief Exec., Butte

Pep Jewell
Principal, Havre

John Vincent
House Minority Leader, Bozeman

Gay Holliday
Rancher, Roundup

Dick Bennett
Businessman, Great Falls

Darrell Layman
Teacher, Glendive

Harriet Meloy
Former Board of Public Ed., Helena

Jerry Driscoll
Labor Leader, Billings

Sherlee Graybill
Demo. Nat'l Committee, Great Falls

Tom Thompson
Board of Public Ed., Heart Butte

Mary Moe
MT Teacher of the Yr., Columbia Falls

Paula Darko
Teacher/Legislator, Libby

Mr. Gary S. Marbut
P.O. Box 4924
Missoula, Montana 59806

Dear Mr. Marbut,

Thank you for your letter dated May 11 with regard to issues of concern of the Montana Rifle and Pistol Association.

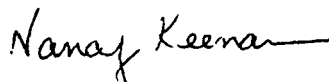
I share your concern about a firearm safety program in our elementary schools. Since safety issues are addressed through various programs, ie: American Heart Association/Lung Association on hazards of smoking; National Forest Service on playing with matches and fires; Local Police Department on dangers of drugs, as well as safety on bikes etc.; and Montana Power on safety/dangers of electricity. I believe your organization would be welcomed into schools to present firearm safety programs. Since I strongly believe in local control by school districts, I think a program such as yours should be handled the same as other safety programs within our districts. Usually those organizations contact local districts and request a time for their program's presentation.

With regard to your second question on establishing competitive shooting in our high schools, I would note that the Office of Public Instruction does not approve, fund, or regulate sanctioned competitive sports. As I am sure you are aware, the Montana High School Association since the 1930's has been responsible for competitive sports in our high schools. It is my understanding that they, and they alone, make recommendation and set guidelines for which sport will be sanctioned and recognized as a competitive sport in our schools. It is also my understanding that a proposal for a new sport must be submitted to all the members of the Montana High School Association. Following that initial application it takes a year of review and then is voted on at the next meeting. Again, the Office of Public Instruction does not financially support, regulate, or advise school districts with respect to competitive sports. Local

school districts are responsible for paying a fee to the Montana High School Association for participation in sanctioned sports and they are also responsible for funding those programs from the local level.

I appreciate the opportunity to address your questions. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Keenan". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Nancy Keenan



Montana High School Association

1 South Dakota Avenue Helena, MT 59601 (406) 442-6010

February 3, 1989

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Dan L. Freund
Executive Director
James C. Haugen
Assistant Executive Director
Bill Sprinkle
Assistant to the
Executive Director

BOARD OF CONTROL

Supt. Tom Warwick, Pres.
Ennis
Supt. Tony Tognetti, Vice Pres.
Stevensville
Prin. Bill Vogt
Flathead (Kalispell)
Supt. Jim Anderson
Circle
Tammy Hall
Bozeman
(Mont. School Boards Assoc.)

Gary Marbut, Vice President
Montana Rifle and Pistol Association
PO Box 4924
Missoula, MT 59806

Dear Gary:

Please be advised that I made available the information given to me concerning the concept of rimfire competition in Montana high schools along with the joint resolution that is to be presented to the House of Representatives in the Montana Senate.

The MHSA Board of Control reviewed these as you had suggested. You may wish to discuss this further in depth as the concept develops somewhere down the road.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the MHSA office.

Sincerely,

MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Dan L. Freund
Executive Director

DLF/jls

HOUSE COMMITTEE IN EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Hearing regarding bills SJR 15 and 16

March 6, 1989

Sirs:

The issue of teaching gun safety in the school is nothing short of the same broader subject of gun control.

I am here to speak against such an intention. We do not want to mix guns with teaching.

Why?

Because we want to keep violence out of our schools.

Guns are not a subject to be discussed over the diner table.

Some people like to give us the impression that guns are a trivial thing to be talk over the table or that guns are such a inherent part of our lives that its use is inevitable.

That is the teaching of violence; to be suspicious of our community. "Guns are for self defense", they say. Then they contradict themselves when they do not even want to ban assault rifles, which are the paramount exemple of mass destruction.

Well, schools are to teach LIFE to induce our children to love one another; to be succesful in a community, not defending from it..

And the violence in our community is not going to decrease with the proliferation of guns or any kind of arms.

If there is any dcubt that violence is tied to this, the statistics can prove it. In 1985 U.S. was at the top of handgun murder rate, more than any industrialized country

CANADA had 75

JAPAN 129

SWEDEN 25

Great BRITAIN 8

and the Unitedd States? 9,985

Only one place can be worse than ours and that is LEBANON.

Of course in LEBANON you have to teach gun safety to the infants; there are machine guns everywhere. But we have the choice of not being like LEBANON.

And the simple thing to do is, Just like we handle drugs. Just say NO to them.

You do not want to teach the children in the school how to be safe with drugs. Likewise you do not want to teach how to be safe with guns.

If we want for our children a kinder, gentler NATION then let's teach them to love and help the neighbor, their classmates.

We should spend more time decreasing the fears of isolation; to trust more our

society and give our children a fair view of JUSTICE. Social justice.
This is the only way to decrease crime.

NO to drugs

NO to violence

NO to guns, arms or instruments of violence.

Horacio G. Vales, MD

Gary S. Marbut

EXHIBIT #2 pg 1
DATE 3-6-89
HB STR 15

December 16, 1988

Mr. Dan Freund, Executive Director
Montana High School Association
1 South Dakota Street
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Dan,

I appreciated the opportunity to talk with you on the phone this morning about the Montana Rifle and Pistol Association's interest in getting rimfire shooting competition into Montana high schools as an acceptable interscholastic sport. You may be aware that the MRPA is the in-state arm of the National Rifle Association of America. Your suggestion that I put this idea in writing for your consideration and distribution to your organization is appropriate and welcome.

As I mentioned on the phone this morning, the MRPA will seek a nonbinding, advisory resolution of the Legislature this session endorsing the concept of rimfire competition in Montana high schools. Our intent with this resolution is to offer a green light to Montana high schools and the MHSA for adoption of shooting sports. A copy of a draft of the proposed legislative resolution is enclosed for your review and consideration. When this resolution appears before the Legislature, we would like to be able to say that the measure has the tentative blessing of the MHSA.

Also mentioned on the phone this morning was our assumption that if shooting sports can be introduced into high schools, it would need to be done with heavy reliance on the private sector and Montana's community of competitive shooters and shooting organizations, as opposed to any reliance upon Montana's taxpayers or public funds. When individual high schools become involved in shooting sports, they will need to develop relationships with local organizations and local shooters who operate shooting ranges and who have expertise and equipment available.

You will be interested that the MRPA has a number of measures pending before the upcoming legislative session, including a bill that would allocate some funds derived from hunters' license fees to fund development of shooting ranges in Montana. The implementation of this measure should help insure adequate range facilities for schools getting involved in rimfire competition.

There are several other points about this concept that are worth noting. Historically, Montana has produced a number of Olympic shooters that is wholly disproportionate to the size of Montana's population. Montana is known for producing good shooters. Also, the shooting sports have an excellent safety record, perhaps the best safety record of any organized sport in Montana. For example, during the 1988 shooting season, there were approximately 100 organized shooting matches among the various shooting disciplines in Montana, with an average of perhaps 30 to 50 competitors per match. In that season (and the previous several seasons, to the best knowledge of the MRPA) there was not a single injury to any competitor, as far as the MRPA has knowledge.

We believe that the shooting sports are an area of competition where the smaller, sometimes rural, high schools can compete on an equal footing with the larger schools. This may provide a Montana sport that does not require classes for different sized schools. Also, the shooting sports do not require brawn or macho, but, rather, shooting ability requires intense personal discipline, so the shooting sports are one where gender is not nearly as important as in many other sports. For example, the 1987 Montana Champion in the shooting discipline of action pistol was a Judy Woolley, a housewife from Plains. The shooting sports also allow competition by some who have physical handicaps.

This constellation of advantages, together with Montana's long and honorable history of appropriate firearms' use, we believe, makes the shooting sports a very desirable potential addition to the array of sporting competition among Montana's high schools. We believe that Montana's community of sporting shooters would work energetically with high schools to get shooting programs going, and to maintain such programs. Every Montana community contains a reservoir of able people who have been involved in shooting competition, and who's resources, expertise and interest are waiting to be tapped.

Ex. #3

pg 3

We would be pleased to discuss this idea with the MHSAA in greater depth as the concept matures. In the meantime, I hope you will expose this idea to your Board and your Interscholastic Activity Committee. I will include a list of MRPA officers, Directors and contacts throughout Montana, if any of your members wish to develop a local dialog about the feasibility of shooting competition in high schools.

Thank you for your interest and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Gary S. Marbut, Vice President
Montana Rifle and Pistol Association

Enclosures, Draft Legislative Resolution
MRPA Contacts

cc: MRPA Files

Amendments to SB Bill No. 136
3rd Reading Copy

Requested by Chairman Schye
For the House Committee on Education

Prepared by Andrea Merrill
March 6, 1989

1. Title, line 6.

Strike: "AND"

Following: "MCA"

Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE"

2. Page 2, line 10.

Strike: "financial exigency"

Insert: "economic conditions of the district"

3. Page 4.

Following: line 17

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 5. Applicability. [This act]
does not apply to a person who was employed in an
administrative position prior to [the effective date of this
act]."

VISITORS' REGISTER

House Education COMMITTEEBILL NO. 5JR 15DATE 3-6-89SPONSOR Severson

NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Jeane Foster	Bozeman	✓	
Kellie Butler	Carter	✓	
Thaina O'Hara	Fort Benton	✓	
Natasha Houldson	Missoula	✓	
John Hackwith	Great Falls	✓	
Donald N. Hackwith	Great Falls	✓	
James W. Wiegger Sr	Carter Mt.	✓	
Horacio C. Vales	Helena MT		X
John Butler	Carter MT	✓	
Lyle Nagel	Simms MT	✓	
John B. A.	Mass	X	
John S. Harbitt	Missoula	✓	
Lenora Houldson	Missoula	✓	
John Foster	Bozeman	✓	
A.M. (Bud) Ellwell	Clancy	✓	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

House Education COMMITTEE

BILL NO.

SJR 16

DATE

3-6-89

SPONSOR

Severson

NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Kellie Butler	Carter	✓	
Heather O'Hara	Fort Benton	✓	
Jeanne Foster	Bozeman	✓	
Matasha Houldson	Missoula	✓	
John Hackwith	Great Falls	✓	
Louise W. Wiegner Sr	CARTER MT.	✓	
Lyle Nagel	Simms MT.	✓	
Donald N. Hackwith	Great Falls	✓	
Horacio G. Vales	HELENA MT		X
John Butler	CARTER MT	✓	
G. H. [unclear]	MACSS	✓	X
GARY S. MARBUR	MISSOULA	✓	
Lenora Houldson	Missoula	✓	
John Foster	Bozeman	✓	
H. M. (Bud) Elwell	Clancy	✓	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

ROLL CALL VOTE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

DATE 3-6-89

BILL NO. SB 136

NUMBER #1

NAME	AYE	NAY
Rep. Ted Schye, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Fritz Daily, Vice-Chairman	✓	
Rep. Vicki Cocchiarella		✓
Rep. Paula Darko		✓
Rep. Ervin Davis	✓	
Rep. Ralph Eudaily		✓
Rep. Floyd Gervais	✓	
Rep. Bill Glaser		✓
Rep. Dan Harrington	✓	
Rep. John Johnson	✓	
Rep. Tom Kilpatrick		✓
Rep. Richard Nelson		✓
Rep. John Phillips		✓
Rep. Richard Simpkins	✓	
Rep. Wilbur Spring, Jr.		✓
Rep. Barry "Spook" Stang		✓
Rep. Fred Thomas		✓
Rep. Norm Wallin		✓
Rep. Diana Wyatt		✓
Rep. Tom Zook		✓

TALLY

7 13

Channe McKittrick
Secretary

[Signature]
Chairman

MOTION: By Daily Substitute Motion
BE NOT CONCURRED IN FAILED
7 yes, 13 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

DATE 3-6-89

BILL NO. SB 136

NUMBER #2

NAME	AYE	NAY
Rep. Ted Schye, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Fritz Daily, Vice-Chairman	✓	
Rep. Vicki Cocchiarella	✓	
Rep. Paula Darko	✓	
Rep. Ervin Davis	✓	
Rep. Ralph Eudaily	✓	
Rep. Floyd Gervais	✓	
Rep. Bill Glaser	✓	
Rep. Dan Harrington	✓	
Rep. John Johnson	✓	
Rep. Tom Kilpatrick	✓	
Rep. Richard Nelson	✓	
Rep. John Phillips	✓	
Rep. Richard Simpkins	✓	
Rep. Wilbur Spring, Jr.	✓	
Rep. Barry "Spook" Stang	✓	
Rep. Fred Thomas	✓	
Rep. Norm Wallin	✓	
Rep. Diana Wyatt	✓	
Rep. Tom Zook	✓	

TALLY

20 0

Shianne McKittrick
Secretary

[Signature]
Chairman

MOTION: Motion on amendment by
Chairman Schye 143 Motion
CARRIED unanimously.

ROLL CALL VOTE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

DATE 3-6-89 BILL NO. SB 136 NUMBER #3

NAME	AYE	NAY
Rep. Ted Schye, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Fritz Daily, Vice-Chairman	✓	
Rep. Vicki Cocchiarella	✓	
Rep. Paula Darko		✓
Rep. Ervin Davis	✓	
Rep. Ralph Eudaily		✓
Rep. Floyd Gervais	✓	
Rep. Bill Glaser		✓
Rep. Dan Harrington	✓	
Rep. John Johnson	✓	
Rep. Tom Kilpatrick	✓	
Rep. Richard Nelson		✓
Rep. John Phillips		✓
Rep. Richard Simpkins		✓
Rep. Wilbur Spring, Jr.		✓
Rep. Barry "Spook" Stang	✓	
Rep. Fred Thomas		✓
Rep. Norm Wallin		✓
Rep. Diana Wyatt	✓	
Rep. Tom Zook		✓

TALLY

Ann McKittick
Secretary

Ted Schye
Chairman

MOTION: Motion by Rep Daily to TABLE
SB 136 FAILED 10 yes, 10 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

DATE 3-6-89 BILL NO. SB 136 NUMBER #4

NAME	AYE	NAY
Rep. Ted Schye, Chairman		✓
Rep. Fritz Daily, Vice-Chairman		✓
Rep. Vicki Cocchiarella		✓
Rep. Paula Darko	✓	
Rep. Ervin Davis		✓
Rep. Ralph Eudaily	✓	
Rep. Floyd Gervais		✓
Rep. Bill Glaser	✓	
Rep. Dan Harrington		✓
Rep. John Johnson		✓
Rep. Tom Kilpatrick	✓	
Rep. Richard Nelson	✓	
Rep. John Phillips	✓	
Rep. Richard Simpkins	✓	✓
Rep. Wilbur Spring, Jr.	✓	
Rep. Barry "Spook" Stang		✓
Rep. Fred Thomas	✓	
Rep. Norm Wallin	✓	
Rep. Diana Wyatt		✓
Rep. Tom Zook	✓	

TALLY

Deanne McKittick
Secretary

10
11
Chairman

10
9 *

MOTION: SB 136 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED 10 yes, 10 no → Simpkins *
changed vote to 11 yes, 9 no
SB 136 to the floor 11 yes, 9 no.