

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 51st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING

Call to Order: By Chairman Stella Jean Hansen, on April 6, 1989,
at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: All except:

Members Excused: Rep. Gould

Members Absent: Reps. Strizich, Blotkamp, Good

Staff Present: Mary McCue, Legislative Council

Announcements/Discussion: None

HEARING ON HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 40

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Dorothy Bradley stated that this is a resolution requesting an interim study on Alzheimer's disease and requiring a report for the next legislature. Montana needs to know the number of people afflicted with this disease as well as a need to find a place where Alzheimer's victims can be given care. It requests that an interim committee examine the problems, assess the adequacy of current programs and determine the need for policies or programs within the state. The disease is devastating both emotionally and financially. There is an estimate of 2.5 million victims being cared for in their homes. Many insurance companies are not extending coverage to these victims and those companies should be encouraged to do so.

Testifying Proponents and Who They Represent:

None.

Proponent Testimony:

None.

Testifying Opponents and Who They Represent:

None.

Opponent Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members: Rep. Boharski asked if he understood correctly that private insurance is not covering victims of this disease. Rep. Bradley stated that that was her impression.

Rep. Hansen asked Rep. Bradley if she was aware of the state facility at Galen. One wing at that hospital is dedicated entirely to the care of these victims. The usual commitment process is used because many of these victims are dangerous to themselves. Rep. Bradley was not aware of this facility. Rep. Hansen thought the population in that wing was about 40 to 45 people during the summer months but some victims were on extended visits to their homes.

Rep. Russell asked what the cause of Alzheimers was and would some of those causes be highlighted. Rep. Bradley responded that genetic problems are suspected but was not sure. Rep. Russell mentioned that high aluminum concentration in the victim's system. Perhaps the study could include information such as this in its report to the Legislature because some causes may be able to be corrected.

Closing by Sponsor: Rep. Bradley closed.

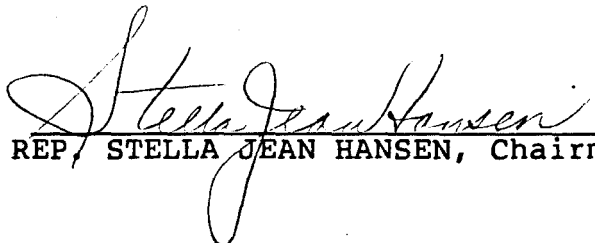
DISPOSITION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 40

Motion: Rep. Simon made a Motion to DO PASS. Rep. Boharski seconded.

Recommendation and Vote: A vote was taken and all voted in favor to DO PASS.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 4:45 p.m.


REP, STELLA JEAN HANSEN, Chairman

SJH/td

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DAILY ROLL CALL

HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE

51st LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1989

Date 4/6/89

| NAME | PRESENT | ABSENT | EXCUSED |
|--------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Stella Jean Hansen | X | | |
| Bill Strizich | | | |
| Robert Blotkamp | | | |
| Jan Brown | X | | |
| Lloyd McCormick | X | | |
| Angela Russell | X | | |
| Carolyn Squires | X | | |
| Jessica Stickney | X | | |
| Timothy Whalen | X | | |
| William Boharski | X | | |
| Susan Good | | | |
| Budd Gould | | | |
| Roger Knapp | X | | |
| Thomas Lee | X | | |
| Thomas Nelson | X | | |
| Bruce Simon | X | | |
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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 10, 1989

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Human Services and Aging
report that HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 40 (first reading copy --
white) do pass.

Signed: _____
Stella Jean Hansen, Chairman