

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE  
51st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: By Senator McLane as Acting Chairman in the absence of Vice Chairman Rasmussen in order for Chairman Hager to present his bill, on January 13, 1989, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 410.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Five members present.

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Senators Himsl and Norman.

Staff Present: Tom Gomez, Legislative Council.

HEARING ON SENATE BILL 63

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor: Sen. Hager, District #48, chief sponsor of the bill, introduced the bill at the request of the board of medical examiners and provides for the hiring of an executive secretary of the board and sets up the duties. Section 2 is a new section which contains the requirements that an executive secretary must meet. Sen. Hager also noted under item #4 of the fiscal note that no license fee increase would be required as the board has sufficient revenue for the increased costs.

List of Testifying Proponents and What Group they Represent:

Jerome Loendorf, Montana Medical Association;  
Jim Ahrens, President, Montana Hospital Association;  
Gene Huntington, Montana Dietetic Association.

List of Testifying Opponents and What Group They Represent:

None.

Testimony:

Jerome Loendorf of the Montana Medical Association said they are concerned that they have the resources to enforce

their duties and it is their understanding from the fiscal note that no additional monies will be required although they do have the authority to increase licensing fees. There would be a savings in travel expenses as the current secretary resides in Glendive.

Jim Ahrens, President of the Montana Hospital Association urged the support of the committee and said that properly functioning and properly licensed physicians are a benefit to the people of the state and a blessing to the hospitals.

Gene Huntington of the Montana Dietetic Association said his members feel that the addition of an executive secretary would improve the services they receive from the board.

Questions From Committee Members: Sen. Lynch asked Sen. Hager, since this was denied by the former governor, if Governor Stephens might veto the bill should it be passed by the legislature. Sen. Hager responded that he would certainly try to convince the governor not to veto it.

Sen. Rasmussen asked if the fees would be going up and Mr. Loendorf said they would not as they had recently been increased to \$150 per year.

Closing by Sponsor: Sen. Hager closed his presentation of SB 63.

Sen. Hager noted to the committee members that no action would be taken on SB 63 this date because of the absence of two members. Also, concerning SB 74, Sen. Story and Sen. Regan were working on some amendments to the bill and they would be presented to the committee at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 1:15 p.m.

  
SENATOR HARRY H. McLANE, Acting Chairman

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC HEALTH

COMMITTEE

51st LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1989

Date 1/13/89

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Sen. Tom Hager	X		
Sen. Tom Rasmussen	X		
Sen. Lynch	X		
Sen. Hims1		X	
Sen. Norman		X	
Sen. McLane	X		
Sen. Pipinich	X		

Each day attach to minutes.

