

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 52nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION ON SENATE BILL 171

Call to Order: By Chairman Paul Svrcek, on April 6, 1991, at
9:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Senator Paul Svrcek (D)
Senator Cecil Weeding (D)
Senator David Rye (R)
Representative Fred Daily (D)
Representative Ted Schye (D)
Representative Ed Grady (R)

Members Excused: None

Staff Present: Dorothy Quinn, Committee Secretary
Janean Meacham, Secretary to Majority Whip

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Announcements/Discussion:
None

FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION ON SENATE BILL 171

Discussion:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Svrcek. In addition to copies of the proposed amendments (Exhibit #1), Chairman Svrcek distributed two handouts prepared by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. He stated the yellow handout indicates in a simple manner the levels at which Rep. Daily and he have been talking. He indicated where Resident Licenses are concerned three changes were made in the House - Antelope, Elk and Deer A. The amendments that are proposed would phase in increases, as indicated on the sheet (Exhibit #2). The Department has also agreed to increase out-of-state licenses, and that is the reason the Free Conference Committee meeting was called. The original amendments in the House did not deal with out-of-state licenses. Those changes are also indicated in Exhibit #2.

He referred to the reference sheet (Exhibit #3) which indicates how the Department would be affected under two pay plan options - the Governor's pay plan they would be held neutral;

under a 65 cent per hour pay increase they would have to "eat" about \$461,000 per year.

Rep. Fred Daily advised that he was the person who put the amendments in on the House floor. His reasoning behind that was he felt the increase was way too much for in-state residents and there was no way he could justify doubling in-state resident fees and not raising out-of-state fees. He also believes antelope, elk and deer are the animals which hunters in Montana shoot - they are generally not trophy hunters, and that is another reason he pursued the amendments. He does not like the new amendments suggested by the Fish and Game, but if nothing else happens to these amendments, he will consent to accepting them.

Senator Weeding asked for the figures contained in the original bill, as a point of clarification. Antelope was \$9.00 and \$12.00, Deer A was \$15.00, and Elk was \$20.00.

Senator Rye asked how Montana stacks up to neighboring states in terms of out-of-state fees, with Rep. Daily's amendments added. In response, K. L. Cool, Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, advised that they would be above on some. He pointed out that the phase-in does not take place until 1994, and their expectation is that by the time this hits some of them will be comparable. He advised they are okay on antelope, but are over on the deer combo by a healthy margin. However, their expectation is that those fees will rise in other states. He stated they are high on moose, sheep and goat, but there is not enough volume in those licenses, and residents are really restricted in their ability to get them. He informed that the fees are acceptable to Commissioner Stratton, Billings, who believes they are realistic. The main thing the Department did was allow them to phase on two, and they didn't touch it, and they believe that by 1994 they can satisfy the higher fees that are here. They may be a little higher, but not enough to stop people.

Rep. Daily added that the phase-in does not take effect until 1994, and if the fees generate more revenue than they say they are going to, it can be looked at in 1994 and the Legislature will have an opportunity to look at it.

Rep. Grady commented there is no new funding for hatcheries and dams. He stated he is concerned about dams, and expects to see some expenditures will have to be made in that area. He asked how the Department expects to address that.

Mr. Cool advised that these calculations do not take that in to account, but those would be capital expenditures and if they were a higher priority than other capital programs, they would be dealt with on a priority basis. The other thing is that there is a study underway, or will be, because the executive reorganization of those agencies in Natural Resources failed, and will come back to the next session of the Legislature and one of

the strong recommendations was that all dams fall under the management of one entity, which would have been State Lands. If that occurs, it would be their expectation that they would be contributing a sum of money to overall dam repair for recreational purposes but major repairs would be borne by the state. It was the only area of Fish, Wildlife and Parks operations that the Executive Branch decided should be transferred to another entity and that was because of the poor record of the state in terms of coordinated repair and maintenance of dams in the past.

Rep. Grady commented that looking at the fishing licenses that is where it really would relate to - hatcheries, dams, and maybe all recreation. It is his opinion that is pretty reasonable for a fishing license today in this state.

Senator Svrcek asked if the assumption referred to new dams and hatcheries. Mr. Cool stated he wished it did, but its on present dams and hatcheries. He added that they are not concerned with that right now. He stated this fishing license will be the highest - no one has a higher fishing license. He stated that people forget fishing is a high volume license that produces a great deal of money for the Department because they sell approximately 120,000 of them and about another 100,000 of the two-day type to non-residents. However, when the Conservation license is added to that, the total fishing license is higher than is reflected here - it would be \$13.00 and \$4.00.

Representative Daily stated he looks at it from a different perspective. He buys five fishing licenses, so his license fees are being increased by \$40.00. He believes it is a substantial raise for a family.

Mr. Cool stated the last thing the Department wants to do is price anyone out, and he pointed out that of all the figures they see here, the hardest figure for them to increase was for fishing licenses, yet that is where the criticism comes from the Conservation community, who believe fishermen are not paying enough. The Department's view is that fishermen are paying their fair share and that on a comparative basis, they cannot be hit higher. He added that was the last figure that went in to this calculation, and that was needed in order to arrive there. They believe since it does not hit until 1994, they feel they will be in the ballpark in 1994.

Senator Weeding asked if a cost analysis has been done on the amounts spent on fisheries and related projects, and do they spend disproportionately in that area. Mr. Cool responded by stating that depending on how you analyze the figures, their budget would indicate other sporting revenues subsidize fish management and hatchery management. Probably the biggest disparity is in the Conservation license itself. They intend to eventually go back and plug in the Conservation license fees that were paid when fishing licenses were bought, and bring those up

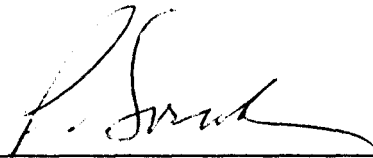
to date. They believe fishing will come closer to paying for itself, but probably will not completely pay for its operations. This is not a situation found only in Montana - it is everywhere. The whole inland fishery industry is in the same position. The big advantage to fishing, however, is that therein lies the greatest return from state dollar with the use of federal dollar. It is greatly subsidized on a national basis.

Amendments, Discussion, and Votes:

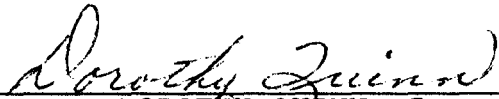
Representative Daily moved that the proposed amendments for Senate Bill 171 be adopted. Those in favor - 6; opposed - 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 9:35 A.M.



PAUL SVRCEK, Chairman



DOROTHY QUINN, Secretary

PS/dq

ROLL CALLTree Conference COMMITTEEDATE 4/6/9152nd LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
<u>Sen. Svrcek</u>	X		
<u>Sen. Weeding</u>	X		
<u>Sen. Rye</u>	X		
<u>Rep. Daily</u>	X		
<u>Rep. Scheye</u>	X		
<u>Rep. Grady</u>	X		

Each day attach to minutes.

Free Conference Committee
on Senate Bill No. 171
Report No. 1, April 9, 1934

Page 1 of 3

Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

We, your Free Conference Committee on Senate Bill No. 171, met and considered Senate Bill No. 171.

We recommend that Senate Bill No. 171 (reference copy - salmon) be amended as follows:

1. Page 1, line 9.

Strike: "\$12"

Insert: "\$13"

2. Page 3, line 16.

Following: "\$40"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1932, and \$45 beginning March 1, 1934,"

3. Page 7, line 2.

Following: "~~1994~~"

Insert: ", and \$13 beginning March 1, 1934"

4. Page 7, line 5.

Following: "\$15"

Strike: "\$12"

Insert: "\$13"

5. Page 7, line 6.

Following: "~~1994~~"

Insert: ", and \$16 beginning March 1, 1934"

6. Page 7, line 9.

Following: "\$15"

Strike: "\$12"

Insert: "\$13"

7. Page 7, line 10.

Following: "~~1994~~"

Insert: ", and \$16 beginning March 1, 1934"

8. Page 8, line 20.

Following: "\$462"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1932, and \$475 beginning March 1, 1934,"

9. Page 8, line 21.

Following: "\$472"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1932, and \$485 beginning March 1, 1934,"

ADOPT

REJECT

740648000 344

10. Page 9, line 14.

Following: "\$373"

Strike: "\$385"

Insert: "\$399"

11. Page 9, line 15.

Following: "fee of"

Strike: "\$395"

Insert: "\$408"

12. Page 10, line 22.

Following: "\$238"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1992, and \$245 beginning March 1, 1994,"

13. Page 10, line 23.

Following: "\$248"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1992, and \$250 beginning March 1, 1994,"

14. Page 11, line 16.

Strike: "\$213"

Insert: "\$220"

15. Page 11, line 17.

Strike: "\$223"

Insert: "\$225"

16. Page 12, line 15.

Following: "\$450"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1992, and \$475 beginning March 1, 1994"

17. Page 12, line 16.

Following: "\$450"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1992, and \$475 beginning March 1, 1994"

18. Page 12, line 21.

Following: "\$450"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1992, and \$475 beginning March 1, 1994"

19. Page 12, line 22.

Strike: "\$8"

Insert: "\$9"

20. Page 12, line 23.

Following: "1994"

Insert: ", and \$11 beginning March 1, 1994"

21. Page 12, line 24.

Following: "\$145"

Insert: "beginning March 1, 1921, and \$150 beginning March 1
1924"

22. Page 13, line 19.

Strike: "\$430"

Insert: "\$455"

23. Page 14, line 21.

Strike: "\$430"

Insert: "\$455"

24. Page 13, line 23.

Strike: "\$430"

Insert: "\$455"

25. Page 13, line 24.

Strike: "\$8"

Insert: "\$11"

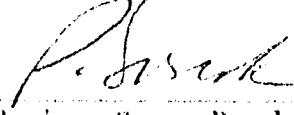
26. Page 13, line 25.

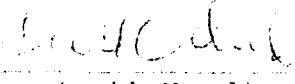
Strike: "\$125"

Insert: "\$130"

And that this Free Conference Committee report be adopted

For the Senate:

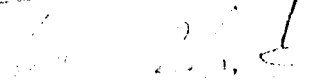

Chair, Sen. Paul Sycock



Sen. Cecil Weeding


Sen. David Rye

For the House:


Chair, Rep. Fred Dwyer


Rep. Ted Schye


Rep. Ed Grady


Sec. of Senate

4/8/21 10:30
Sec. of Senate

AMENDMENT TO SB 171
REFERENCE (SALMON) COPY

Conf. Com.
SENATE ~~LEGISLATURE~~
EXHIBIT NO. #1
DATE 4/6/91
BILL NO. SB 171

1. Page 3, line ⁹10.
Following: "AND"
Strike: "\$12"
Insert: "\$13"
2. Page 3, line 16.
Following: "40"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1994, AND \$45 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994," ^{q2 p.5.}
3. Page 7, line 2.
Following: "~~1994~~"
Insert: ", AND \$13 BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1994"
4. Page 7, line 5.
Following: "\$15"
Strike: "\$12"
Insert: "\$13"
5. Page 7, line 6.
Following: "~~1994~~"
Insert: ", AND \$16 BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1994"
6. Page 7, line 9.
Following: "\$15"
Strike: "\$12"
Insert: "\$13"
7. Page 7, line 10.
Following: "~~1994~~"
Insert: ", AND \$16 BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1994"
8. Page 8, line 20.
Following: "~~462~~"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1992, AND \$475 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994,"
9. Page 8, line 21.
Following: "\$472"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1992, AND \$485 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994,"
10. Page 9, line 14.
Following: "\$373"
Strike: "\$385"
Insert: "\$398"

11. Page 9, line 15.
Following: "fee of"
Strike: "\$395"
Insert: "\$408"
12. Page 10, line 22.
Following: "\$238"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1992, AND \$245 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994,"
13. Page 10, line 23.
Following: "\$248"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1992, AND \$250 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994,"
14. Page 11, line 16.
Following: "\$175"
Strike: "\$213"
Insert: "\$220"
15. Page 11, line 17.
Following: "fee of"
Strike: "\$223"
Insert: "\$225"
16. Page 12, line 15.
Following: "\$450"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1992, AND \$475 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994"
17. Page 12, line 18.
Following: "\$450"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1992, AND \$475 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994"
18. Page 12, line 21.
Following: "\$450"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1994, AND \$475 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994"
19. Page 12, line 22.
Following: "\$9"
Strike: "\$8"
Insert: "\$9"
20. Page 12, line 23.
Following: "~~1994~~"
Insert: ", AND \$11 BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1994;"
21. Page 12, line 24.
Following: "\$145"
Insert: "BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1992, AND \$150 BEGINNING
MARCH 1, 1994"

22. Page 13, line 19.
Following: "\$300"
Strike: "\$430"
Insert: "\$455"

23. Page 13.
Following: Line 20.
Strike: "\$430"
Insert: "\$455"


24. Page 13, line 23.
Following: "\$300"
Strike: "\$430"
Insert: "\$455"

25. Page 13, line 24.
Following: "\$12"
Strike: "\$8"
Insert: "\$11"

26. PAGE 13
Following: LINE 24

amends 171/mp

Strike: \$125
Insert: \$130



Conference Committee
Proposed Amendments
SB171 (Reference Copy)

Exhibit #2
SB 171
4/6/91
Free Conf. Com

<u>License Name</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>March 1, 1992</u>	<u>March 1, 1994</u>
RESIDENT			
Antelope	\$ 6.00	9 \$8.00 9.00	12 \$ 8.00 11.00
Black Bear	8.00	11.00	15.00
Conservation	2.00	4.00	4.00
Elk	10.00	15 12.00 13.00	20 12.00 16.00
Deer A	9.00	12 11.00	75 11.00 13.00
Deer B	6.00	7.00	8.00
Fishing	9.50+	11.00+	12.00 13.00
Goat	50.00	60.00	75.00
Moose	50.00	60.00	75.00
Mountain Lion	10.00	13.00	15.00
Paddlefish	3.00	4.00	5.00
Sheep	50.00	60.00	75.00
Sportsman	45.50	54.00	64.00
Turkey	3.00	4.00	5.00
NONRESIDENT			
Antelope	120.00	145.00	145.00 150.00
Bird	53.00	55.00	55.00
Conservation	2.00	5.00	5.00
Deer Combo	200.00	238.00	238.00 245.00
Deer Combo, Outfitter	200.00	248.00	248.00 250.00
Deer Combo, Landowner	200.00	248.00	248.00 250.00
Elk Combo	450.00	462.00	462.00 475.00
Elk Combo, Outfitter	450.00	472.00	472.00 485.00
Fish, 2 day	8.00	10.00	10.00
Fish, Season <i>Highest in State</i>	36.00	40.00	40.00 45.00
Goat	320.00	450.00	450.00 475.00
Moose	320.00	450.00	450.00 475.00
Paddlefish	10.00	15.00	15.00
Sheep	320.00	450.00	450.00 475.00
Drawing Fee	2.00	3.00	3.00
Elk Permit	0.00	2.00	3.00
Archery	7.00	8.00	8.00

31.67B
April 5, 1991

Exhibit #3
SB 171
4/6/91
Free Conf. Com.

Conference Committee Amendments
SB 171

Conclusion

With the Governor's pay plan FWP would not have to cut any programs.
With the 65 cent pay plan the department would reduce expenditures by approximately \$461,000 per year for the next 5 years.

Assumptions

1. The House approved budget will pass the Senate.
2. Pay Plan-- Two options
 - A. Governor's pay plan
 - B. 65 cent per hour pay increase
3. Inflation beyond 1993 funded at 4%
4. 4% vacancy savings continues through 1996
5. No new funding of programs (such as hatcheries and dams) beyond 1993

Amount and Distribution of Cuts

Prorated	Base Budget	Option A Gov's pay plan	Option B 65 cents pay plan
Management Services	\$602,142	\$0	\$18,490
Field Services	\$2,196,066	\$0	\$67,434
Fisheries	\$2,579,245	\$0	\$79,200
Enforcement	\$3,762,581	\$0	\$115,537
Wildlife	\$2,453,444	\$0	\$75,338
Parks	\$560,958	\$0	\$17,225
Con Ed	\$1,200,994	\$0	\$36,879
Administration	\$1,657,507	\$0	\$50,897
	-----	-----	-----
	\$15,012,937	\$0	\$461,000
	=====	=====	=====

sb171ame

ROLL CALL VOTE

SENATE COMMITTEE Free Conference Committee

Date 4/6/91 Bill No. SB 171 Time 9:25 A.M.

NAME	YES	NO
S. Cecil Wszedung	✓	
S. David Rye	✓	
H. Fred Dickey	✓	
H. Ted Lakey	✓	
H. Ed Grady	✓	
S. Paul Szwed	✓	

Secretary

Chairman

Motion: Sen Rye made a motion
that the amendments be
adopted. In favor - 6; opposed - 0.
MOTION CARRIED.