

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 52nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By CHAIR JAN BROWN on April 23, 1991, at 11:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Jan Brown, Chair (D)
Beverly Barnhart (D)
Gary Beck (D)
Ernest Bergsagel (R)
Ervin Davis (D)
Jane DeBruycker (D)
Roger DeBruycker (R)
Gary Feland (R)
Patrick Galvin (D)
Harriet Hayne (R)
Betty Lou Kasten (R)
John Phillips (R)
Jim Southworth (D)
Wilbur Spring (R)

Members Excused:

Vicki Cocchiarella, Vice-Chair (D)
Fred "Fritz" Daily (D)
Carolyn Squires (D)

Members Absent:

Gary Forrester (D)
Richard Simpkins (R)

Staff Present: Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Council
Judy Burggraff, Committee Secretary

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

HEARING ON SJR 30

Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. ETHEL HARDING, Senate District 25, Polson, said the pause for the Pledge of Allegiance was started in 1980. Fifteen high school students from across the State of Montana drafted the Resolution.

Proponents' Testimony:

Nancy Coopersmith, Administrator, Curriculum Services Department, Office of Public Instruction (OPI), said Superintendent Keenan supports SJR 30. The Office has been involved with the Flag Day program for several years. It is important because the program teaches students the importance of our state and federal Constitutions and teaches the meaning of liberty, justice and equality for all people. It also helps them to recognize the importance of the privilege to vote when one is old enough and to exercise that privilege. It teaches respect for the minority rights under majority rule.

Opponents' Testimony: None**Questions From Committee Members:**

REP. ROGER DEBRUYCKER asked SEN. HARDING why are just the years 1991 and 1992 included. SEN. HARDING said she carried this same Resolution two years ago, which was the idea of a constituent. It is a national program that began in 1980 that brings unity for everyone and involves kids in a patriotic gesture. They have been participating in this program for five years in Montana. It involves high-school seniors. OPI sends out information, and students who want to participate write essays. Fifty essays were written this year, and fifteen students came to Helena. They drafted their own resolution under the direction of Greg Petesch, Code Commissioner, Legislative Council.

REP. SOUTHWORTH said he didn't see the need of the Resolution. Isn't there a Flag Day now? SEN. HARDING said yes. That is the purpose. There will be a pause on Flag Day at 7:00 p.m. to salute the Flag. It is the kids' Resolution.

REP. KASTEN said perhaps another "Whereas" could be inserted to include the students from throughout the state who participated to give the resolution more meaning. SEN. HARDING presented the list of the students that drafted the Resolution. EXHIBIT 1. The Senate was in favor of the Resolution because they had students from their areas that had participated in the program. They took part not only in a Flag Day ceremony but in the legislative process.

REP. SPRING said when he first saw the Resolution, he questioned the need for it. He has changed his position since it was indicated that the students were involved. "We certainly need more patriotism."

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. HARDING said she understood the line of questioning since the members of this Committee weren't "pulled" into the process by these young people. REP. ERVIN DAVIS will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 30

Motion: REP. ROGER DEBRUYCKER MOVED SJR 30 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

REP. PHILLIPS said the school kids are involved, but school won't be in session on June 14. The students should be polled to determine if they would like to say the Pledge of Allegiance every morning -- let the students vote and not the teachers.

CHAIR BROWN said he could propose that next session. REP.

PHILLIPS said if they could support it one day, then they should support it every day.

REP. KASTEN asked if it would be a great deal of trouble to pass the bill with an amendment. How much more time would it take?

CHAIR BROWN said the rules have been suspended to accept this.

If the Committee amended the Resolution, then it would have to go back to the Senate. Time is running short.

REP. BARNHART said if a bill isn't necessary, it shouldn't pass. It doesn't teach children a good lesson to vote for the bill for the reasons given. REP. SOUTHWORTH said he agreed; it is unnecessary.

REP. DAVIS said other bills that these kids have initiated have been supported. I would hate to send out a bad message saying that what is extremely important to these kids is completely unnecessary to us. He urged support of the bill even if some people think it is unnecessary. CHAIR BROWN said last session it was introduced earlier. The student who initiated the drafting of the bill attended the hearing.

SEN. HARDING said Terry Teichrow from OPI advised that one of the students who participated in writing the essays was now attending Eastern Montana College. Prior to being involved in this process, this student had never planned to go to college. Being part of the process gave the students a feeling of importance. He felt it was very good and that most of the kids do go on to higher education.

Vote: HJR 30 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried 17 to 2 with Reps. Barnhart and Southworth voting no.

HOUSE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:25 a.m.



JAN BROWN, Chair



JUDY BURGGRAFF, Secretary

JB/jb/jt

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL

DATE 4/23/91

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
REP. JAN BROWN, CHAIR	✓		
REP. VICKI COCCHIARELLA, VICE-CHAIR			✓
REP. BEVERLY BARNHART	✓		
REP. GARY BECK	✓		
REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEL	✓		
REP. FRED "FRITZ" DAILY			✓
REP. ERVIN DAVIS	✓		
REP. JANE DEBRUYCKER	✓		
REP. ROGER DEBRUYCKER	✓		
REP. GARY FELAND	✓		
REP. GARY FORRESTER		✓	
REP. PATRICK GALVIN	✓		
REP. HARRIET HAYNE	✓		
REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN	✓		
REP. JOHN PHILLIPS	✓		
REP. RICHARD SIMPKINS		✓	
REP. JIM SOUTHWORTH	✓		
REP. WILBUR SPRING	✓		
REP. CAROLYN SQUIRES			✓

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

11:25
4/23/91
me

April 23, 1991

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State Administration report that Senate Joint Resolution 30 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in .

Signed: _____

Jan Brown
Jan Brown, Chairman

Carried by: Rep. Davis

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 4/23/91
HB SJR 30

1991 FLAG DAY SEMINAR

STUDENT

PRINCIPAL

PARENT

ARA SMITH
RT 1 BOX 72
JOLIET MT 59041

RIXON RAFTER
JOLIET HIGH SCHOOL
DRAWER G
JOLIET MT 59041

BARRY & PEGGY SMITH
RT 1 BOX 72
JOLIET MT 59041

KEVIN FORD
BOX 222
GILDFORD MT 59525

CAL WEARLEY
KG HIGH SCHOOL
BOX 166
GILDFORD MT 59525

BRADLEY & SANDRA FORD
BOX 222
GILDFORD MT 59525

ANDY LARSON
104 DUNCAN DIST RD
SHERIDAN MT 59749

LARRY KICKBUSCH
SHERIDAN HIGH SCHOOL
107 MADISON
SHERIDAN MT 59749

DAVID & FRANCES LARSON
104 DUNCAN DIST ROAD
SHERIDAN MT 59749

HEATHER STRAWN
3600 MORRIS ROAD
CHARLO MT 59824

DAVE HERRIES
CHARLO HIGH SCHOOL
BOX 5
CHARLO MT 59824

CHERYL STRAWN
3600 MORRIS ROAD
CHARLO MT 59824

SARA SCHMIDT
ROUTE 1 BOX 140
FAIRFIELD MT 59436

WAYNE STIFFLER
FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
BOX 99
FAIRFIELD MT 59436

ARTHUR & JOAN SCHMIDT
ROUTE 1 BOX 140
FAIRFIELD MT 59436

NAN ZHENG
506 GARNET COURT
MISSOULA MT 59801

JON FIMMEL
HELLGATE HIGH SCHOOL
900 SOUTH HIGGINS
MISSOULA MT 59801

YOULU & LI SUN ZHENG
506 GARNET COURT
MISSOULA MT 59801

JENIFER HENDRICK
BOX 262
SUPERIOR MT 59872

ALLAN LABBE
SUPERIOR HIGH SCHOOL
BOX 400
SUPERIOR MT 59872

GORDON/VICKY HENDRICK
BOX 262
SUPERIOR MT 59872

AMIE E McKEEVER
BOX 882
FORT BENTON MT 59442

DAVID K MEISSNER
FORT BENTON HIGH SCL
1820 WASHINGTON ST
FORT BENTON MT 59442

ED McKEEVER
BOX 882
FORT BENTON MT 59442

BARBARA SCHNUR
16 NORTH FORK ROAD
TOWNSEND MT 59644

JOHN RYAN
BROADWATER COUNTY HS
BOX N
TOWNSEND MT 59644

LAMONTE & MARY SCHNUR
16 NORTH FORK ROAD
TOWNSEND MT 59644

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845 WEST GRANITE
BUTTE MT 59701

DAN PETERS
BUTTE PUBLIC HIGH SCL
401 SOUTH WYOMING
BUTTE MT 59701

LARRY H GRUEL
845 WEST GRANITE
BUTTE MT 59701

JENNIFER COCHRAN
1817 FOREST PARK DRIVE
BILLINGS MT 59102

MR. RICKARD
BILLINGS SENIOR HS
425 GRAND
BILLINGS MT 59101

KENNETH/DONNA COCHRAN
1817 FOREST PARK DRIVE
BILLINGS MT 59102

ELISA FOSTER
2707 N 30th ST #3
BILLINGS MT 59102

BOB EHLL
BILLINGS CENTRAL
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
3 BROADWATER AVE
BILLINGS MT 59101

ROSALIE & DON FOSTER
2707 N 30th ST #3
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MARIE PHILLIPS
FLORENCE CARLTON HS
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FLORENCE MT 59833

MELVIN & JANE FINLAY
5628 LWR WOODCHUCK RD
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JESSICA R E LOFTUS
678 STAR RTE HWY 214
CUT BANK MT 59427

DENNIS ROSELEIP
CUT BANK HIGH SCHOOL
310 1st STREET SE
CUT BANK MT 59427

DOUG & MARLA EMBODY
678 STAR RTE HWY 214
CUT BANK MT 59427

KIM SCHELLIN
RT 71 BOX 48
CHINOOK MT 59523

GARY SMITH
CHINOOK HIGH SCHOOL
BOX 1059
CHINOOK MT 59523

KAY & BJ SCHELLIN
RT 71 BOX 48
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