MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS & CULTURAL EDUCATION

Call to Order: By Rep. Ed Grady, Chairman, on January 7, 1993, at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ed Grady, Chair (R)

Sen. Eve Franklin, Vice Chair (D)

Sen. Gary Aklestad (R)

Sen. Tom Beck (R)

Sen. J.D. Lynch (D)

Rep. Red Menahan (D)

Rep. Linda Nelson (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sandra Whitney, Legislative Fiscal Analyst

Mary LaFond, Office of Budget & Program Planning

Judy Murphy, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Executive Action: NONE

Questions, Responses, and Discussion:

The schedule for the subcommittee was discussed by the committee members. Changes will be worked out by committee members.

Rick Day, Director of the Department of Corrections and Human Services, was introduced and asked how he would like the agencies presented, as groups or by their superintendents. He would like all the division administrators and the agency budget office to be prepared to address all the programs and then respond to the questions of the subcommittee. Mr. Day stated that superintendents would be brought in if the subcommittee wanted them present. Mr. Day said they would accommodate any schedule the subcommittee desires.

SEN. GARY AKLESTAD suggested if more details were needed then call in the proper people.

Cat and dog bills were discussed. SEN. TOM BECK asked about the Cat & Dog bills being in the subcommittees for the first time this session and what action the subcommittee will take on these bills.

CHAIRMAN GRADY stated action will be taken by the subcommittee on the Cat & Dog bills. The bills will have a recommendation from the subcommittee on whether they should be passed. The bills will then go to the full Appropriations Committee. There will not be full hearings on all the bills in the Appropriations Committee.

SEN. BECK suggested the Cat & Dog bills be handled as they come up.

REP. RED MENAHAN stated his concerns regarding the prison. How many people are going to be placed in the communities; who will be in charge of these people; what role will the Parole Board have; and what type of screening process will be used?

SEN. BECK stated the subcommittee needs to be aware of all the problems in dealing with the prison issue.

CHAIRMAN GRADY discussed travel for the subcommittee. Money has been appropriated for travel. Members have been to most facilities so discussion is still pending.

Joy McGrath, Mental Health Association, invited the committee to visit the Warm Spring and Galen facilities.

SEN. EVE FRANKLIN said if there was a purpose then travel could be arranged.

Kathy McGowen, Montana Council for Mental Health Centers, invited the subcommittee to visit the Butte facility, Ihler Project. She stated this may be used as an alternate trip to Warm Springs/Galen. This community program deals with patients who have been released from Warm Springs.

HEARING ON MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tape No. 1:A

Questions, Responses, and Discuss:

Ward Shanahan, Vice President for the Montana Historical Society, stated that the Society (MHS) is 125 years old and is the first institution created by the people of Montana. It is a post graduate educational institution which provides outreach to primary and secondary education and local historical societies of Montana. MHS is active in Native American history. They operate the state archives, state historical library and publish the Montana Magazine of Western History,

Brian Cockhill, Director of the Montana Historical Society, five programs: administration program, library archive program, museum program, publications program and the historic sites preservation program. The society is funded by the general fund, federal funds, donations and proprietary funds. The MHS has two main emphasis, collecting history of the state and the tourist industry. The resources have diminished and the services have increased. Concern: .5% FTE reduction. They have no positions to Capital tours are a very important part in the state's tourism and the MHS feel they should remain. Of the touring initiative they want 1.0 store clerk position to remain and they would pay for it with the proprietary funds. When a position goes, services go. The Acountant I half-time position was filled on December 28, 1992. If the half-time position is lost they will have to pay someone overtime to make up the work. They need the tour guide summer position. Modifications; return the .5% position the governor's budget office allowed, and approve the weekend security modification to allow them to open their building on the weekends. They ask for the support of the subcommittee. Accommodation tax revenue would help with touring, exhibits, historic sites maintenance and could be called Tourist Services as opposed to Tourist Promotion.

SEN. AKLESTAD wanted to know if funds could be transferred around to keep a position.

Mr. Cockhill stated that federal funds cannot be used and donations do not amount to very much.

CHAIRMAN GRADY stated the MHS needs a fiscal person within the agency because Mr. Cockhill was moved from that position to director and the position was not filled.

SEN. LYNCH questioned the use of the bed tax.

CHAIRMAN GRADY stated the bed tax is locked up in promotion. The statute would have to be changed.

REP. LINDA NELSON asked if the facility could be open on weekends and closed on two week days. Mr. Cockhill said this is not allowed according to law.

SEN. FRANKLIN suggested trying to think of some creative ideas to help the MHS in generating funds.

Mr. Cockhill stated that the state parks budget could use the help from tax for tourism.

CHAIRMAN GRADY asked if MHS charges user fees.

Mr. Cockhill stated if they did charge, they would lose their tax- exempt status. The Society does charge for some services, and will take donations.

HOUSE INSTITUTIONS & CULTURAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE January 7, 1993 Page 4 of 5

A motion was made to adjourn.

HOUSE INSTITUTIONS & CULTURAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

January 7, 1993

Page 5 of 5

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:30 A.M.

REP. ED GRADY, Chair

JUDY MURPHY, Secretary

EG/jm

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

INSTITUTIONS/CULTURAL EDU. SUB-COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL

DATE	1-1-93	
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NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
SEN. GARY AKLESTAD			
SEN. TOM BECK			
SEN. EVE FRANKLIN, VICE CHAIRMAN			
SEN. J.D. LYNCH			
REP. RED MENAHAN	/		
REP. LINDA NELSON	/		
REP. ED GRADY, CHAIRMAN			

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VISITOR REGISTER

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DEPARTMENT(S)	DIVISION			
PLEASE PRINT	PLEASE PRINT			
NAME	REPRESENTING			
Arryn Lishbay	Aligan Gish raun	ia. M		
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PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED TESTIMONY WITH SECRETARY. WITNESS STATEMENT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU CARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY.