

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** By CHAIRMAN DICK KNOX, on January 11, 1993, at 3:00 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Dick Knox, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Rolph Tunby, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Vivian Brooke (D)  
Rep. Russ Fagg (R)  
Rep. Gary Feland (R)  
Rep. Mike Foster (R)  
Rep. Bob Gilbert (R)  
Rep. Hal Harper (D)  
Rep. Scott Orr (R)  
Rep. Bob Raney (D)  
Rep. Dore Schwinden (D)  
Rep. Jay Stovall (R)  
Rep. Emily Swanson (D)  
Rep. Howard Toole (D)  
Rep. Doug Wagner (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Jody Bird (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Todd Everts, Environmental Quality Council  
Michael Kakuk, Environmental Quality Council  
Roberta Opel, Committee Secretary

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

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing: HB 98  
Executive Action: HB 98

#### **HEARING ON HB 98**

##### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

REP. JOE QUILICI, HD 71, Butte, told the committee that HB 98 repeals the law authorizing the National Energy Conservation Policy Act of 1978. The federal government repealed this Act in 1989, REP. QUILICI said, and the legislative auditor recommended removal of this legislation in its 1991 audit. The enabling legislation for the National Energy Act is no longer needed. This bill simply repeals four sections of the Policy Act.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

Tom Livers, Department of Natural Resources (DNRC), stated that this bill was a piece of clean-up legislation and offered to answer questions regarding the bill.

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Questions From Committee Members and Responses:**

REP. RANEY asked Mr. Livers what the National Energy Conservation Act had ever accomplished, i.e., were there standing committees or interim committees? Mr. Livers stated the key provision of the existing law was designed in 1978-79 to get private utilities involved in conservation programs. He noted that after the programs were established, the department played a minimal role. He noted that the four utilities involved are still active in these conservation programs.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

REP. QUILICI stated that under the national energy strategy, all types of conservation are considered. He indicated many utilities in various states are evaluating conservation.

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ON HB 30:**

CHAIRMAN KNOX told the committee he felt HB 30 should be heard a second time. He said inadequate public notification may have prevented some interested parties from testifying.

REP. HARPER also suggested that the hearing on HB 30 which was held on January 8 be re-opened. REP. HARPER said he had received several phone calls from constituents who were told HB 30 had been passed out of committee. Due to the large number of individuals interested in this bill, REP. HARPER stated he felt the committee owed it to themselves and to the House to hear additional testimony.

CHAIRMAN KNOX concurred.

REP. GILBERT added that he agreed with REP. HARPER'S request to reopen the hearing to better serve the public.

CHAIRMAN KNOX stated HB 30 would be re-scheduled for hearing, Friday, January 15, with executive action to be taken on the bill Monday, January 18.

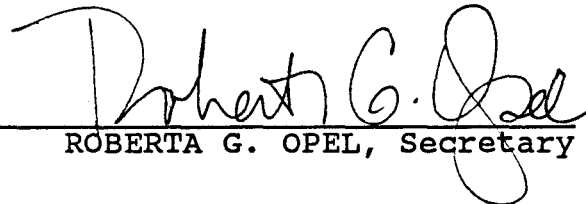
EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 98

Motion/Vote: REP. HARPER MOVED HB 98 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:45 pm

  
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DICK KNOX, Chairman

  
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ROBERTA G. OPEL, Secretary

DK/ro

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Natural Resources

COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL

DATE

1-11-93

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Jody Bird			X
Vivian Brooke	X		
Russ Fagg	X		
Gary Feland	X		
Mike Foster	X		
Bob Gilbert	X		
Hal Harper	X		
Scott Orr	X		
Bob Raney	X		
Dore Schwinden	X		
Jay Stovall	X		
Emily Swanson	X		
Howard Toole	X		
Doug Wagner	X		
Rolph Tunby, Vice Chairman	X		
Dick Knox, Chairman	X		

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Natural Resources report  
that House Bill 98 (first reading copy -- white) do pass .

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dick Knox, Chair

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
VISITOR'S REGISTER

Natural Resources COMMITTEE HB 98  
DATE 1/14/92 SPONSOR(S) Quilici

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NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Tom Livers	DNRC	✓	

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED TESTIMONY WITH SECRETARY. WITNESS STATEMENT FORMS  
ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU CARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY.