

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION  
COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** By Senator Eleanor Vaughn, on March 10, 1993, at 10:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Eleanor Vaughn, Chair (D)  
Sen. Jeff Weldon, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Jim Burnett (R)  
Sen. Harry Fritz (D)  
Sen. John Hertel (R)  
Sen. Bob Hockett (D)  
Sen. Bob Pipinich (D)  
Sen. Bernie Swift (R)  
Sen. Henry McClernan (D)  
Sen. Larry Tveit (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** David Niss, Legislative Council  
Deborah Stanton, Committee Secretary

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

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing: HB 431, HB 520, HB 650  
Executive Action: HB 431, HB 650, HB 520

**HEARING ON HB 520**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

Rep. Raney, House District #82, presented HB 520. "HB 520 originated with the assistance of Rep. Jack Ramirez four years ago starting with a pilot project of the State Bulletin Board. The State Bulletin Board provides the public with access to government information. It provides government with information on other agencies. It provides for an easy flow of information in and out of government by computer systems. The Bulletin Board is an electronic store house of information. All the agencies put their information on the Bulletin Board and citizens can dial

an 800 number to get a menu that tells them what is on the bulletin board. If they want information from the Department of Agriculture about irrigation projects, it is available on the computer screen which then can be printed in your home. You can get this information without leaving your home and without talking to anyone in state government. It did not take a FTE, postage, state stationary, or any of those things. It was all done by the state Bulletin Board. That is what HB 520 is about. This bill will make the Bulletin Board permanent. To upgrade the bulletin board will take an additional 800 number because the citizens have been using it so much the system is plugged already. In the long run it will make for much more efficient delivery of government information to citizens at a much cheaper cost. It is a little difficult for people over 45 or 50 years old to comprehend what this means in the information age but those in their 20's or 30's now, who are in the information age, who live with computer systems understand the value of this bill. It's good for us in the present and it is extremely good for us in the future. U.S. Senator Conrad Burns agrees and he submitted a letter of support from Senator Burns on this bill (EXHIBIT #1). The impact on the fiscal note is not accurate. It is correct that it will cost money but the Department of Administration is prepared to absorb those costs because it will make government more efficient for all the agencies including the Department of Administration.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

George Oschenski, spoke as a private citizen as he did in 1989 when he asked Rep. Ramirez to carry the original bill. The reason he asked Rep. Ramirez to carry the bill was because he was having a hard time finding anyone who had used computer bulletin boards and he needed someone who could explain, on the floor, how these things work. The program has been working well. He exhibited copies of reports printed on his home computer which were downloaded from the State Bulletin Board. The important clause in this bill is on page 2, section 2, sub C, develop user-friendly file transfer and message systems for entities regularly interacting with state government such as professional associations and citizen groups, and promote the systems' use to reduce copying and mailing costs for state government. The reason that clause is in there is to cut out the expensive middle man in communicating with the citizens, associations and agencies which regularly communicate with government. Rather than have the departments print the reports, put them in an envelope, pay the postage sometimes to only send them across the street; it still costs \$2.59 to send the package there. This bill asks that the Department of Administration begin to work with those people who regularly communicate with government and get them to download those reports, print them on their own printers and save the state money. Right now, the system is getting over 5,000 calls on the one number. So it seems a logical step to move ahead with it and make it permanent.

Mike Trevor, Administrator of Information Services Division, Department of Administration rose in support of HB 520. "The department of Administration is the department that provided the pilot phase of the bulletin board and now supports moving from a pilot status to an operational status. There are a couple of reasons. One is, in this session, agencies' budgets are being cut rather drastically and there needs to be ways to use the technology to get the job done and to keep the level of services up where they should be. This is one mechanism that will work very well to make government information more accessible to the public. If we cannot move forward and expand this capability it forces us back into traditional ways of getting information out to the public which is people intensive and involves a lot of paperwork. Secondly, the pilot project is extremely successful. There are about 5,000 calls a month to the bulletin board, however, in the month of January of this year, there were 11,000 attempts to call the 800 number and only 2200 of those attempts actually got through. We have been monitoring those calls and there is a bottleneck with just the one 800 number, which leads me to the cost of this bill. When Rep. Raney mentioned that the department will absorb the costs, it means the costs are rather nominal, about \$40,000 each year. A major part of that would add another 800 number and another significant portion of that is to currently assign a half FTE to coordinate getting this information from the agencies and onto the system and to deal with the public in terms of their problems in accessing the information they need. By absorbing the cost, ISD which operates 100% on a proprietary operation, the only funding is from the fees charged for using the computers and telecommunication systems to the agencies. ISD will take on this additional cost without increasing any of the rates and we will not pass this cost on to the agencies for this coming biennium. We will absorb these costs. The next time around as we start to work with the Budget Office in developing budgets and coordinating the budgets of other agencies, we will take a look at the overall costs of this for the '97 biennium and we will work with the Budget Office then to allocate the costs appropriately to the various agencies. We do not feel that it is appropriate to bill the public. Public access to public information stored on computers ought to be available for them without charging them again. It's their taxes that pay for the capability that we have."

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

Sen. Weldon stated he agreed that state agencies and even some non-profits should not be charged to use this service and he asked Mike Trevor if other on-line subscription services could tap into this system and if they do if there was any way the

State could charge for those services. Mr. Trevor referred to Randy Holm on the Information Services Division staff. Mr. Holm said there was no tie between those services. Mr. Trevor said ISD does bill for the public to access a bill status information service. Typically, it is businesses that are coming in and they are charged a \$200 flat fee for the session and a lot of these businesses comment on how small that rate is compared to what other states charge. There are some services available through this electronic access that appropriately should be billed for.

Sen. Pipinich said he was looking at the fiscal note and he asked Mr. Trevor if these reports had to be copied and mailed out the cost of the Bulletin Board would be offset. Mr. Trevor stated ISD did not know how to quantify that but Sen. Pipinich is correct. There are savings and there will be more savings as time goes on. There has already been savings in the pilot in that there was a separate bulletin board over in the Department of Agriculture that was incorporated into this one bulletin board.

Sen. Hockett asked if this access could be charged to a 900 number and charge the public. He said this could be rather costly down the road. Mr. Trevor said when this bill was first introduced, the pilot version in 1989, there was considerable discussion about using a 800 number versus some mechanism to charge the public. The thought that prevailed was public access to public information, within reason, should be without charge. That's what stands in the way of using a 900 number. A 900 number would be a reasonable way to charge and another way is to not have a 800 number and have the people out in the remote areas of Montana bear the cost of long distance calls. ISD did not want to do that. ISD wants to make this as available to all Montanans as it is to the Montanans that live in Helena.

Sen. Tveit asked Mike Trevor if this was an added expense to the agencies. Mr. Trevor said the agencies are not eating the costs, ISD is eating the costs. "ISD is carrying this as an overhead within the operation, in the computer processing rate. ISD dramatically reduces that rate especially if you consider that the rate was developed on the basis of the requested budget and we have not been funded at the level we requested so the expenditure level, even with this additional \$40,000 is going to be somewhat less than we originally requested. We are not going to pass this cost on by increasing any rates. The rates are staying exactly as they were budgeted in each agencies' budget. Next time around, through the budget, and to be shared with the budget subcommittee, we would consider putting some rates in.

Sen. Swift asked Mike Trevor if there were any problems with maintaining the integrity of the system. Mr. Trevor said ISD has dedicated an individual to monitor this information to make sure there are no extraneous material that does not belong there. As far as security, this is a rather sophisticated system in the way it can divide up information and allow for information to be

stored that can be read only. It can not be accessed to "doctor it up."

Sen. Weldon asked Mr. Trevor if the system can be accessed through a regular phone line, a non-toll free number. Mr. Trevor said the 800 number is there but there is also a local number so people here locally use the local number all the time. Some frustrated people in other areas who cannot get through on the 800 number are occasionally paying a long distance fee to get in on the local number.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

Rep. Raney said the cost may increase and in reality he hopes it will. The hope is for more and more citizens to have a modem and a computer at home and call this system. The more they use it the more the cost will go up, but all other costs in government dramatically decrease. We will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in FTE, postage and paper, wear and tear on the copy equipment and computers, and overall we come out ahead. The agencies now are using Deadhead mail. The agencies can receive the documents they usually deadhead, through their computers and save significant amounts of money. Citizens will feel more comfortable when they use their own computers, rather than calling and getting a secretary who says she will connect them with someone who says they will call you back next week. This is a way to reduce the size of government and still maintain citizen access to government.

**HEARING ON HB 650**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

Rep. Strizich, House District #41, presented HB 650. HB 650 is brought on behalf of some employees of the Department of Justice and the members of the Sheriff's Retirement System. It allows investigators that are housed in the Department of Justice, employed by the Department of Justice and are members of PERS to transfer into the Sheriff's Retirement System. This amounts to a cost to the individual. There is an impact to the agency but essentially it gives them a similar retirement package to that of other law enforcement personnel. It is an improved benefit and given their responsibilities and duties it is a proper public policy decision and it affects around 30 or 40 employees. The impact is fairly negligible.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

Dennis Taylor, Deputy Director of the Department of Justice, appeared in support of HB 650. The Attorney General has some concerns regarding the modest fiscal impact to provide this opportunity to the employees. There have been cuts in the operating budget in the Law Enforcement Services Division. Even

though the costs are modest it will put a strain on the department if this opportunity is made available to the employees. If HB 690 passes which consolidates the liquor investigators with gambling control investigators, there will be additional personnel as well. If Sen. Harp's bill increasing the capacity to enforce and investigate worker's comp fraud passes, there will be approximately 12 FTE. Given all those costs we believe that this provision will substantially improve the ability to recruit from law enforcement, people who would otherwise stay in the Sheriff's Retirement System. There are a lot of capable investigators who would be interested in coming to work for the Criminal Investigation Bureau or for the Gambling Control Bureau, with their considerable skills, except for the penalty they would make in the retirement system. There are officers who are in the police departments and county sheriff's offices with the kind of investigation skills that the department of Justice would like to continue to maintain in our investigative core. For that reason we do think this bill has merit and urge favorable consideration.

Tom Harris appeared on behalf of the Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officer's Association in support of HB 650. "The approximate totality and the impact is a little less than \$3,000 in general fund money and the maximum of about \$13,000 if the people that Mr. Taylor indicated all opt in, less than \$10,000 if you don't consider that group. The cost is minimal and the tradeoff is the pool of people from whom you recruit. They should not have to make a detrimental choice or face a restriction of less retirement benefits to allow them to maintain themselves in that same retirement system from which they come. We feel it is a more appropriate retirement system. These people, in their investigatory capability, education and job function, are more appropriately in the Sheriff's Retirement System. They are more akin to that than the PERS. Our system is the most well funded, actuarially sound system in the State of Montana and we are willing to have them join for those reasons and we ask for favorable consideration."

**Opponents' Testimony:**

None.

**Questions From Committee Members and Responses:**

Sen. McClernan stated usually when the retirement bills come in there is someone from the PERS here to say they like the bill or they don't like it. Linda King said PERS is neutral and they are here to answer questions.

Sen. Hockett asked Linda King to comment on the actuaries on this bill because he was not sure this is a revenue neutral situation. Ms. King said it costs an additional .97% of salaries for the employer, almost 1%. If they add the other investigators that are added in other bills, the total cost will be about \$13,000 a year of which about \$2,650 would be general fund and the remainder would be state special revenue and federal revenue. Obviously, as salaries go up that 1% will go up. For the employees, they are going to be paying a little bit less than the employers in increased contributions. That will go from 6.7% of salaries to a little over 7% of salaries which is the total employee contribution increase under \$10,000. For that they get the increased benefits of the retirement system when they retire. If they wish to transfer their service from their other systems, whether it is PERS, Highway Patrol or Municipal Police into the Sheriff's, they will pay the actuarial cost individually for doing that. None of the systems will absorb that cost. There will be no unfunded liability created by this bill in any way. Unfunded liabilities are created when you grandfather in past service without the full cost being paid. That will not occur in the way this bill has been written. There will be no cost to the systems themselves. Individuals members, if they are transferring from PERS into Sheriff's, will pay a small amount more than what they have in PERS to transfer it because the benefits in Sheriff's Retirement System is a little more expensive. If they are going from Police into Sheriff's, they will actually get a refund, because the benefits in the Police Retirement System are worth more than the Sheriff's Retirement System. It will be up to the individuals and will depend on individual circumstances whether there will be any cost to them.

Sen. Hockett asked if the years of service would also change. The Sheriff's have a 24-year retirement. Ms. King said the retirement benefit as well as the eligibility requirements for the systems differ. Sheriff's currently allow full retirement with 24 years of service and for those members after a certain date and age 50. There's another bill that was heard this morning in Senate Taxation that would change the benefits structure in Sheriff's Retirement System so it would be 20 years now at any age and 2 1/2% per year of service. That's a separate bill. The funding mechanism for the other bill comes from video gambling taxes so it would not, if that bill passes, increase the cost to either the employee or the employer for the gambling investigators and the criminal justice investigators to come into Sheriff's.

Sen. Hockett asked if the years of service would be reduced to 20 years of service. Ms. King said that was correct.

Sen. Hockett asked how this would impact on the state liability. Ms. King said the Sheriff's Retirement System is currently coffered and funded and the increased contribution rate above what is paid into PERS, right now, reflects the additional benefits and the earlier retirement that Sheriff's have. As long

as the employee and employer contribution rates are paid, the benefits will be paid. There is no other liability besides the increased contribution rates.

Sen. Weldon asked if the \$3000 general fund impact was if all 40 employees made the switch. Ms. King said that was correct. If there were new ones coming in, the additional eleven, the entire additional \$3300 would not be general fund. They're funded from state special revenue funds. The total general fund impact if everyone came on board for this current biennium, is assumed to be \$2647.

Sen. Vaughn asked Ms. King where people have been paying into the PERS and are transferring over if there were any funds transferred out of PERS into the Sheriff's to pick up the amount they have already paid into the PERS. Ms. King said they will have the option of either becoming members of the Sheriff's Retirement System or staying with the PERS. If they become members of the Sheriff's Retirement System, they have another option of whether they want to transfer their previous service from PERS into Sheriff's Retirement System. If they do make that transfer of previous service, from PERS into Sheriff's they will pay the differential between what is transferred out of PERS which will include all of their contributions and interests, a good portion of the employer contributions and interest, over into Sheriff's Retirement System and the difference will be made up by the individual. They can have a payment schedule over time.

Sen. Vaughn asked if the time of service will be counted. Ms. King said if they make the transfer they will get full credit for the previous service in the other system. There is a possibility that some individuals will have service in the Municipal Police and Sheriff's Retirement Systems and they can consolidate. They may choose not to transfer and when they do retire they will have benefits from two or more systems, which is a possibility. It's up to the individual and we will counsel them about the costs and the benefits and they can make their individual decisions based on what's best in their individual cases. In no instance will there be a negative impact to any of the systems.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

Rep. Strizich said he believes this bill is not a "free lunch" but a "cheap lunch." "Particularly given the kinds of personnel we are talking about. If we were talking about incorporating some clerical people into the Sheriff's Retirement System I would have some trouble with that. There are some good reasons given for doing this from the Attorney General and with that I ask for approval of this bill."



HEARING ON HB 431Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Strizich, House District #21, presented HB 431 which was requested by the Montana Police Protective Association, the Retired Police Officers Association and the Montana Chiefs of Police. It speaks to what is believed to be an oversight in the law with regard to the surviving spouses of members of the Municipal Police Officers' Retirement System. He stated there were some individuals here to testify about the inequities that have occurred because of some oversights over the years that have affected these spouses. These are widows of retired police officers and we are asking to bring some equity into this system compared to other similar retirement systems and are asking for some retroactivity. The reason we are doing that is to be fair to these individuals that are affected around the state. There are 94 widows of police officers that are currently receiving benefits.

Proponents' Testimony:

Bill Ware, Helena Police Chief representing the Montana Association of Chiefs of Police rose in support of HB 431. HB 431 is a widows bill that would provide equity in the system to allow widows to receive money that was originally intended for them. This bill also provides that the employer and employees that are working now pay for the particular amount of money that it will cost to bring it into compliance. He deferred to PERS to explain exactly how it will happen but he stated he is speaking for the Montana Association of Chiefs of Police and they are willing to assist in payment for these widows to see that they are not penalized with the money they are receiving once their spouse who is a police officer dies.

Troy MaGee, Captain of the Helena Police Department spoke on behalf of the Montana Police Protective Association which represents approximately 450 police officers in Montana. "We are very much in support of this bill. Approximately two years ago, some widows were getting too much benefit, the way the law is written right now, and they had to repay some of the money they had been getting. PERS did not work out an equitable solution to have the money refunded and it was finally not equitable for these widows, when their spouses died, to get the benefits they were going to continue getting. We are very much in support of this bill and are willing to pay our fair share to take care of this situation."

Linda King, Assistant Administrator of the Public Employees Retirement Division, spoke in support of HB 431. "Right now the current status requires that the retirement division pay the surviving spouse of the deceased police officer an amount equal to 50% of the police officer's final pay. This works out fine if the police officer were to die while he was in active duty and

before he had earned an amount equal to 50% of pay or if the police officer were to die after retirement and had retired on all 50% of pay. But if the police officer had retired with more than 50% of pay, 55% or 56%, when he dies, by law, we have to cut back the survivor's benefit to an amount equal to 50% of pay. In the other law enforcement retirement systems that have statutory beneficiaries, i.e., someone who automatically gets the benefit, (the police officer doesn't have to nominate a beneficiary upon his death), the benefit automatically goes to the surviving spouse. That's in the law. It's in law for Highway Patrol and for the Firefighter's, if this occurs. In the other two systems, Highway Patrol and Firefighter's, the amount the member was getting continues on to their beneficiary. So if they were getting 50% it continues at 50%, if they were getting 60% it continues at 60%. So this is a difference between Police and the other two systems with what we call statutory beneficiaries. It may have been intentional at the time, when the law was drafted and enacted but it, in fact, was part of what determined the overall cost of the system so we can't just pay the increased benefit without the cost. We have to have increased contributions and that amount is in the bill. As it is currently written, the employees and their employers are splitting the additional costs required to increase that benefit but it does have to be paid. To date, there have been six widows of retired police officers whose benefits were reduced upon the death of their husbands. This bill would allow PERD to go back and re-establish those benefits at their former rate, pay those widows back the amounts they have already repaid to PERD and in the future as a survivor receiving benefits they would continue to receive the benefits at the same rate as the retirees. The Board is very much in support of making these survivor benefits the same in this system as they are in Highway Patrol and Firefighter's. The only reason the Board did not feel that they should bring the bill to the Legislature at their instigation is because it is in fact a benefit increase with a cost and the board does not do that unless they are required to do so by other laws."

**Opponents' Testimony:**

None.

**Questions From Committee Members and Responses:**

Sen. Fritz stated this bill has a minor cost to cities that are the employers of police officers and he did not see any urban representatives supporting the bill. He asked Rep. Strizich if this bill had the support of urban representatives. Rep. Strizich stated they have taken a neutral position. Sen. Fritz asked if they did not think \$15,788 is an onerous burden that the State of Montana lays on them without benefits. Rep. Strizich said they did not, particularly given the people that are impacted by this.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

Rep. Strizich stated the impact to the general fund is negligible and he urged support of this bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 431**

**Motion:** Sen. Weldon moved HB 431 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:** David Niss stated there was a conflict correction on this bill and there is another bill which amends it. He said it was so simple he was not going to pass it out. It changes the "officer" to the "member."

**Motion:** Sen. Weldon rescinded his motion to concur and Sen. Weldon moved to amend HB 431 (hb043102.ash).

**Discussion:** Sen. Vaughn asked Ms. King if she had a question on the amendment. Ms. King said she did not know what the amendment was. Mr. Niss stated in was a conflict amendment with SB 385 which changes the "officer" to the "member" in four places. He said his conflict notice from Greg Petesch stated "this is to notify you that SB 385 now under consideration is in conflict with HB 431. Both bills amend Section 19-9-904 and 19-9-911. Mr. King said SB 385 is the recodification bill and the recodification that uses the word "member" in some instances would take precedence. It does not amend, in this bill, that term. The recod would take precedence and there is no need to amend every bill that comes up so that it uses exactly the same term as the recod. Mr. Niss asked Ms. King by what law does the recodification take precedence. Ms. King said the recodification is the bill that changes the term because another bill that was brought to the Legislature did not change the term and it would not be a problem. Mr. Niss asked Ms. King by what law does the recodification bill which is one of two bills changing the same word take precedence over the other bill. Ms. King said her point is that in many sessions there are three or four bills that amend the same section of law and because this bill does not change the term "officer" to "member" it did not change at all. The recod changed it to "member" in some instances. There is not a problem. It's not like this bill says you will use the word "officer". It just didn't deal with it at all. Mr. Niss said HB 431 does insert the word "officer" and in order to be consistent with the recod bill, it should insert the word "member". What we are changing is new language in HB 431. Sen. Weldon said it was changed from "his" to the "officer". Sen. Fritz asked if we could let someone else handle this argument.

**Vote:** The motion to amend HB 431 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 431

**MOTION/Vote:** Sen. Weldon moved HB 431 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Motion to concur in HB 431 as amended CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Sen. Fritz will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 650

**Motion/Vote:** Sen. Pipinich moved HB 650 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion to concur in HB 650 CARRIED with Sen. Hockett voting no. Sen. Fritz will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 520

**Motion:** Sen. Pipinich moved HB 520 BE CONCURRED IN.

**Discussion:** Sen. Hockett stated that the committee was doing what everyone at home tells us not to do. About 99% of the people at home say do not put more taxes on them. With all of the good things that this bill does, the people that are accessing it should pay for it. Removing the requirement that the students at the University System pay their way, we are going to increase costs and it's all through government this time. This bill is a cost to state government. I support what it is doing and I believe in the Bulletin Board. We use it at our farm but we pay for it when we use it in almost all cases.

Sen. Pipinich said down the line we are going to have to put some kind of payment on it as we call up and use it. Right now until it gets established and out of its infancy we cannot do that. At this time, if we start charging people to use this, it will have an effect on it. This is growing if you look at the paperwork and postage and also look at what we are saving. This session we have to let it out of here until it grows and then we can start charging for its use.

Sen. Tveit said he concurs with Sen. Pipinich. It's something new and the people are getting more involved in using it. In two years we can look at charging for the use. We can take a close look at the value and put a charge on it. Mike Trevor is building a bureaucracy at ISD and this is a nice way to do it. But in two years we can take a look at charging for this service because we are not going to continue to let Mr. Trevor grow like he likes to grow

Sen. Fritz said as Sen. Tveit has stated we have looked at the budget at ISD and assured the committee that this is not some added sum that the agency will absorb. The cost of that bulletin board is imbedded in a lot of different rates that ISD charges every government agency and those rates are going down as the

volume of electronic information increases and the cost of the bulletin board, even if the rates go down, the cost of running the bulletin board will be paid for in the collection that Mr. Trevor makes.

Sen. Tveit said in two years from now there will be an increase in his budget and we will stop that. We stop it that way or put a charge on the people. It's a great service to the people and we should go these two years and the next session we can look at charging.

Sen. Fritz said he and Sen. Hertel believe we are subsidizing this for the technological elite and not for the vast mass of us who are still back in the pre-electronic age.

Sen. Weldon said he was speaking for the 20 and 30 year olds who are dealing with the information. He did not know the budget for this particular agency but he did not want to believe it was some kind of empire building. What we are seeing is a natural reaction to change in technology and he sees the value in this particular service. The flip side is people should get used to it because this is the way we will get our newspapers in our homes and a variety of things.

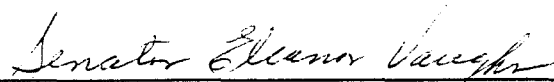
Sen. Hockett said he was in favor of the Bulletin Board and he uses it but everything he hears in the Legislature is that it is not costing any more money but that is not true. We're trying to balance the budget and we can't cut money out of it because of these kinds of things all down the line.

Sen. Pipinich stated Montana cannot stay in the dark ages. We've got to tell the people sometime, we've put a system in that's good for you, look at it and use and pay for it.

**Vote:** Motion HB 520 BE CONCURRED IN CARRIED with Sen. Hockett voting no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjournment:** 11:30 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Senator Eleanor Vaughn, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Stanton, Secretary

EV/ds

# ROLL CALL

SENATE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION DATE 3-10-93

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Sen. Eleanor Vaughn	✓		
Sen. Jeff Weldon	✓		
Sen. Jim Burnett	✓		
Sen. Harry Fritz	✓		
Sen. John Hertel	✓		
Sen. Bob Hockett	✓		
Sen. Henry McClernan	✓		
Sen. Bob Pipinich	✓		
Sen. Bernie Swift	✓		
Sen. Larry Tveit	✓		
David Niss	✓		

FC8

Attach to each day's minutes

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1  
March 10, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration House Bill No. 520 (first reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 520 be concurred in.

Signed: Senator Eleanor Vaughn  
Senator Eleanor Vaughn, Chair

AON Amd. Coord.  
W Sec. of Senate

Sen. Blaylock / Sen. Pipinich  
Senator Carrying Bill 541211SC.San

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1  
March 10, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration House Bill No. 431 (first reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 431 be amended as follows and as so amended be concurred in.

Signed: Senator Eleanor Vaughn  
Senator Eleanor Vaughn, Chair

That such amendments read:

1. Page 5, line 7.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

2. Page 5, line 16.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

3. Page 6, line 6.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

4. Page 6, line 8.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

-END-

ADW  
8V Amd. Coord.  
Sec. of Senate

Sen. Dietz  
Senator Carrying Bill

541212SC.San



SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1  
March 10, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration House Bill No. 650 (first reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 650 be concurred in.

Signed: Senator Eleanor Vaughn  
Senator Eleanor Vaughn, Chair

AW Amd. Coord.  
DN Sec. of Senate

Sen. Dinty  
Senator Carrying Bill

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SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

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March 10, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration House Bill No. 650 (first reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 650 be concurred in.

Signed: Senator Eleanor Vaughn  
Senator Eleanor Vaughn, Chair

AW Amd. Coord.  
— Sec. of Senate

Sen. Ditz  
Senator Carrying Bill

541209SC.San

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1  
March 10, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration House Bill No. 431 (first reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 431 be amended as follows and as so amended be concurred in.

Signed: Senator Eleanor Vaughn  
Senator Eleanor Vaughn, Chair

That such amendments read:

1. Page 5, line 7.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

2. Page 5, line 16.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

3. Page 6, line 6.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

4. Page 6, line 8.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

-END-

ADU Amd. Coord.  
Sec. of Senate

Sen. Dietz  
Senator Carrying Bill

541212SC.San

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1  
March 10, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration House Bill No. 520 (first reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 520 be concurred in.

Signed: Senator Eleanor Vaughn  
Senator Eleanor Vaughn, Chair

AOV Amd. Coord.  
Sec. of Senate

Sen. Blaylock / Sen. Pipinich  
Senator Carrying Bill 541211SC.San

CONRAD BURNS  
MONTANA

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
SMALL BUSINESS  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGRI

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2803

March 9, 1993 SENATE STATE ADMIN.

The Honorable Eleanor Vaughn  
Senate State Administration Committee  
Montana Senate  
Helena, Montana 59620

EXHIBIT NO. 1  
DATE 3-10-93  
BILL NO. HB 520

Dear Senator Vaughn:

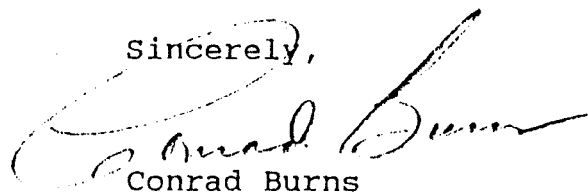
I am pleased to offer my support for House Bill Number 520. As you know, this legislation seeks to upgrade the status of our state's electronic bulletin board system from a pilot program to a permanent state service. In addition, House Bill 520 calls for the Department of Administration to establish uniform and "user friendly" standards to facilitate the sharing of information between and among state agencies, professional associations, and citizen groups.

As a pilot program, the electronic bulletin board system has met with great success. Through the Department of Administration, state agencies have effectively used the bulletin board to reduce costs and improve productivity. Moreover, many of our citizen now have direct access to computerized government information. This bill will build upon these successes and ensure that our state government workers and all Montanans will continue to be able to rely on this technology for the effective transfer of information.

In short, I strongly urge you to support this important piece of legislation, and I thank you for providing me an opportunity to express my views.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Conrad Burns  
United States Senate

CRB/snt

Amendments to House Bill No. 431  
Third Reading Copy

For the Committee on Senate State Administration

Prepared by Sheri S. Heffelfinger  
March 5, 1993

1. Page 5, line 7.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"
2. Page 5, line 16.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"
3. Page 6, line 6.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"
4. Page 6, line 8.  
Strike: "officer's"  
Insert: "member's"

DATE 3-10-93

SENATE COMMITTEE ON State Admin.

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY: HB 431, HB 520, HB 650

Name	Representing	Bill No.	Check One	
			Support	Oppose
Mike Trevor	Dept. of Admin	HB520	✓	
GEORGE CICHENSKI	SELF	HB520	✓	
DENNIS N TAYLOR	JUSTICE	HB650	✓	
LINDA KING	PERD	HB431	✓	
BILL WARE, Chief Ad. Police	Mt. Assn. of Chiefs of Police	HB431	✓	
Troy Mcbee	Marine Police Protective Assoc	HB431	✓	

VISITOR REGISTER

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY