MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ROBERT CLARK, on March 15, 1993, at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bob Clark, Chairman (R) Rep. Karyl Winslow, Vice Chairman (R) Rep. Shiell Anderson (R) Rep. Joe Barnett (R) Rep. Bill Endy (D) Rep. Pat Galvin (D) Rep. Marian Hanson (R) Rep. Vern Keller (R) Rep. Don Larson (D) Rep. Gary Mason (R) Rep. Bill Ryan (D) Rep. Bill Ryan (D) Rep. Bill Tash (R) Rep. Randy Vogel (R) Rep. Tim Whalen (D)

Members Excused: Rep. David Ewer (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Connie Erickson, Legislative Council Kimberlee Greenough, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary: Hearing: SB 395, SB 105 Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON SB 395

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. JOHN HARP, SD 4, Kalispell, stated SB 395 would establish the limitations on the maximum overhang length of logs. He also stated he would like to propose amendments to the bill as outlined in EXHIBIT 11.

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Proponents' Testimony:

Lyle Doty, Lyle Doty Trucking, Kalispell, said that he supports SB 395 with the proposed amendments.

Don Allen, Montana Wood Products Association, stated the Wood Products would like to go on record in support of SB 395 with the proposed amendments.

Keith Olson, Executive Director, Montana Logging Association (MLA), stated the MLA supports SB 395 with the proposed amendments.

Marky Adkins, Safety Director, Log Trucks Association, stated he supports SB 395 with the proposed amendments.

Dave Galt, Administrator, Motor Carrier Services Division, Montana Department of Transportation, said the Department supports SB 395 and the amendments.

Col. Bob Griffith, Montana Highway Patrol, stated the Highway Patrol supports SB 395 with the proposed amendments.

Dottie Motechka, Glacier Insurance, Kalispell, said she supports SB 395.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. LARSON asked for someone to clarify if this bill will exclude the trailer-train combinations. **Mr. Olson** noted it would.

REP. LARSON asked if this bill would decrease the whips. Mr. **Olson** replied yes.

<u>Closing by Sponsor</u>: None.

HEARING ON SB 105

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. BARRY STANG, SD 26, St. Regis, said SB 105 would repeal last session's legislation to regulate the log hauling industry. He feels last session the minority came to testify, and he found out

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HOUSE HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE March 15, 1993 Page 3 of 7

later the majority were against the regulation of the log hauling industry. He stated there were 519 Class "E" authorities issued in the state as of January 1993. A poll was taken at that time which simply asked if these Class"E" authorities were in favor of or against the regulation of the log hauling industry. The poll received a 62% response and of that 62%, 64% were against the regulation of the log hauling industry and 36% were in favor.

Proponents' Testimony:

Dick Coverdell, log hauler, Columbia Falls, presented written testimony and several petitions in support of SB 105. EXHIBIT 1

REP. MIKE FOSTER, HD 32, Townsend, stated SB 105 repeals the bill passed in the 1991 legislative session. He stated he supports SB 105.

REP. JIM ELLIOTT, HD 51, Trout Creek, stated he sponsored a regulation bill in 1989. Since then, he has found few haulers in his area that support regulation of the industry. He said he supports SB 105.

Bill Talgart, log hauler, Townsend, stated regulation does not help him in any way. The regulation hurts the smaller haulers. He supports SB 105.

Tony Miller, Judith Gap, stated he feels regulation is unconstitutional. He said the mills he works for have indicated if the Public Service Commission (PSC) rates go up, they will buy their own trucks and put independent haulers out of work. He feels that regulation will cost the state and the haulers a considerable amount of money. Since the regulations began sixmonths ago, it has cost the state \$58,000 to regulate this industry.

Howard Eoff, log hauler, stated he had hauled in the state of Washington, and their regulation does not work because it has too many loopholes. He said he did not make any more money in Washington with their regulation than he does now.

Don Allen, Montana Wood Products Association, spoke in support of SB 105 and presented written testimony. EXHIBIT 2

Sherm Anderson, Sun Mountain Logging, Deer Lodge, spoke in support of SB 105. EXHIBIT 3

Susan Miller, Judith Gap, stated the log haulers should work together instead of fighting amongst themselves. The true issue is the amount of timber that is available. Mills are closing and being sold because of a lack of timber.

Bill Breuer, Black Eagle, spoke in favor of SB 105 and presented written testimony. EXHIBIT 4

HOUSE HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE March 15, 1993 Page 4 of 7

John Cochran, St. Regis, stated he supports SB 105. EXHIBIT 5

Mary Wilhelm, log hauler, Bozeman, stated she supports SB 105 and opposes regulation. EXHIBIT 6

Bill Crismore, log hauler, Libby, stated he fears further regulation will force the mills to contract with a single hauler. This would eliminate his ability to haul his own logs. He said he supports SB 105.

Brent Anderson, Lincoln, stated these regulations do not help the smaller log hauling businesses. He said he supports SB 105.

<u>Opponents' Testimony:</u>

REP. MARY LOU PETERSON, HD 1, Eureka, stated if we deregulate log haulers, out-of-state haulers would be able to come in to the state and underbid haulers in Montana.

Archey Adkins, log hauler, Kalispell, stated there are too many trucks in the state and regulation will help control the number of trucks. There are over 1.000 trucks hauling logs in the state traveling millions of miles on the highways. The trucks are bringing in between 85 and 100 million dollars in revenue to our state. The contracts from the PSC help the haulers collect from the shippers. EXHIBIT 7

Denny McManess, Log Hauler, Flathead, stated with regulation there will be safer trucks on the highways. The paperwork and expense is minimal. Without regulation, haulers can come into the state and take business away from Montana residents.

Lyle Doty, representing James A. Slack, Inc., Kalispell, presented written testimony. EXHIBIT 8 Mr. Doty also indicated he personally opposes SB 105.

Dean Stacy, Dean Stacy and Son Trucking, Eureka, stated the paperwork and cost is minimal. The contracts from the PSC make people pay their debts to the haulers.

Eric Skelton, Eric Skelton Trucking, stated regulation keeps out the out-of-state trucks. He also said he did not receive the Class "E" authority through the grandfather clause and had to go through the process; it was neither difficult nor expensive.

Norm Jones, log hauler, stated he does not have steady employment; he makes telephone calls to find work. He said all of the haulers and loggers need to work together; and the law needs some fine tuning, not repeal.

Ben Havdahl, Montana Motor Carriers' Association (MMCA), presented written testimony. EXHIBIT 9 HOUSE HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE March 15, 1993 Page 5 of 7

Dan McGuire, contract log hauler, Anaconda, stated he opposes SB 105; and would like to give the regulation a chance. Regulation allows him to compete with the larger firms.

Jackie Christofferson, representing Leroy Christofferson, presented written testimony. EXHIBIT 10

REP. DAVID WANZENRIED, HD 7, Kalispell, noted the regulation has only been in effect for six months. We have not had a chance to see if it will work. People want to be treated fairly, and want a guaranteed rate which regulation will accomplish. He said SEN. HARP'S poll is flawed, and believes the numbers are highly inaccurate.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. LARSON asked how the loggers negotiated a hauling rate two years ago, how they negotiate it now, and what the differences are. **Dave Benson** said the difference is that now the hauler has a contract with the mill.

REP. LARSON asked if, before the legislation two years ago, were logs being hauled without knowing what the rate was. Mr. Benson replied no.

REP. LARSON asked **Mr. Benson** if he would change the rates if the road conditions were bad. **Mr. Benson** replied no.

REP. ANDERSON asked if the larger mills would purchase their own trucks if there were set rates. **Mr. Adkins** said the mills would not purchase their own trucks if it was more reasonable to hire other haulers.

REP. ANDERSON asked if the regulation continues, the rates could go up and then it would be more reasonable for the large mills to purchase their own trucks to haul their logs. **Mr. Adkins** stated if the rates get that high, it is possible the mills will do that. We are a long way from the rates being too high.

REP. ANDERSON asked if SB 105 were to die would you go to the PSC and request rate schedules. Mr. Adkins responded if he were in a position to do so, yes he would.

REP. ANDERSON asked if the MMCA discussed the possibility of rate-setting with the PSC. Mr. Havdahl replied that up to this point rate-setting has not been discussed.

REP. ANDERSON asked if SB 105 dies would MMCA ask for a rate schedule for these Class E haulers. Mr. Havdahl stated no MMCA would not.

REP. WINSLOW asked why the haulers are fighting against each other. Susan Miller said there is a distinct division between eastern and western Montana. The issues are different for each area.

REP. WINSLOW asked if there was a way for an agreement to be reached within the log hauling industry instead of coming to the legislature every session. **SEN. STANG** stated when people cannot decide on the issues themselves they come to the legislature. The difference is competition which is why the problems cannot be solved among themselves.

REP. WINSLOW asked if there had been negotiations and if so why did the negotiations breakdown. **REP. WANZENRIED** stated he was not aware of any negotiations since the 1991 legislative session. He also stated everyone has their own ideas and concerns and that is why they cannot come to a decision on their own.

REP. GALVIN asked if we should de-regulate all businesses. **REP. ELLIOTT** stated sometimes there is a public need for regulation. He also said he does not see a need for regulation of the log hauling business.

REP. GALVIN asked if this regulation has caused any new hiring by the PSC; how many people were hired by the PSC to handle this issue? **SEN. STANG** replied that one person was hired.

REP. VOGEL asked someone to clarify Champion Mill's willingness to negotiate the contracts. Ms. Christofferson replied that Champion was never unwilling to negotiate a rate with us.

REP. LARSON asked if rates were determined on a per ton basis. **Mr. Anderson** said that was true.

REP. LARSON asked if the rate on a per ton per mile basis was coming in the future. **Mr. Anderson** replied yes.

REP. LARSON asked if there would be less of a need to regulate with a per ton per mile rate. **Mr. Anderson** answered yes.

REP. CLARK asked if the out-of-state haulers could come in to the state under someone else's authority. REP. WANZENRIED stated if you are going to haul logs in Montana, you have to have authority to move those logs. It is possible to contract with someone who has authority. Wayne Budt, Administrator, Transportation Division, PSC, stated an out-of-state hauler can come in and lease its trucks to a Montana carrier. If that happens the Montana carrier is responsible for the insurance on all of the leased trucks. If the trucks are in the same name as the logging contractor, they can come in to the state. The state does not regulate log haulers from out-of-state who pick up timber in Montana and haul it to a mill out-of-state.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. STANG stated he would rather see people on the same side of the issue. We should not set policy because of an east/west problem. These people are competitive. Without regulation the price of hauling will go up and the number of trucks will go down. Currently there are too many trucks and haulers are still working for 1979 prices. People from out-of-state will come in whether there is regulation or not. Regulation creates a monopoly. The Department of Transportation will have the haulers prove that they have workers' compensation coverage and insurance that will cover safety issues. The surveys which we conducted were highly accurate. HOUSE HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE March 15, 1993 Page 8 of 8

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:30 p.m.

ROBERT C. CLARK, Chair

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EIMBERLEE GREENOUGH, Secretary

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

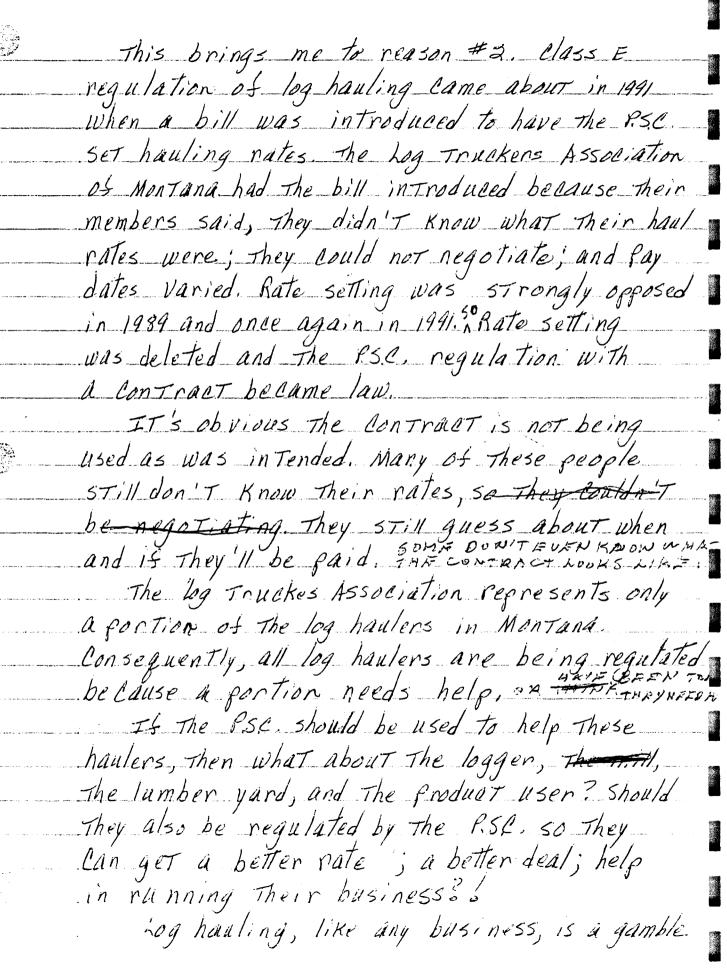
COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL

DATE March 15, 1993

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
REP. KARYL WINSLOW - VICE CHAIR			
REP. SHIELL ANDERSON			
REP. JOE BARNETT			
REP. BILL ENDY			
REP. DAVID EWER	•		
REP. PAT GALVIN - VICE CHAIR			
REP. MARIAN HANSON			
REP. VERN KELLER			
REP. DON LARSON			
REP. GARY MASON			
REP. BILL RYAN		·	
REP. WAYNE STANFORD			
REP. BILL TASH			
REP. RANDY VOGEL			
REP. TIM WHALEN	. /		
CHAIR BOB CLARK			

EXHIBIT _____ PATE 3-15-93 SB 105 15 March, 1993 House Hearing 58# 105 Mr. Chairman, ladies & gentlemen of The Committee; Thank you for giving me This opportunity to Testify in support 0f SB # 165 My name is Dick Coverdell. I am a log hauler from Columbia Falls, MT. My wife and I are the owners of a one Truck business. I Support Senate Bill # 105 to eliminate P.S.C. regulation of log handing as Class E for The following reasons. # 1. Class E regulation requiring me + The shipper to have a contract has done. nothing for me. When this was made into law in 1991, I had already been a contract hauler for 14 years. I was an independent log hauler negotiating with the shippen. I Jid not have to file reports, keep more records, Pay more fees & Taxes, and be under more yovernment regulation. My wise and I ran our business from the ground up. "Make or Break," IT Was cur business. I had a contract that gave me the right to negotiate my haut vates and it also stated when I'd be paid, plus INS REQUERTERTS, ECT.



EXHIBIT_ DATE 3/15/93 #3) SB 105 I'll bet I'm safe in saying 45% of the haulers today got into the business because They wanted in No hassle! No red Tape! No government rules . Take a gamble! Free enterprise. Under P.SC. regulation This is no longer fossible. you get in or out according to government rules, requested by a few who got in under the "No Hassle Rule". Reason # 3. Setting rates is still in the Picture. House Bill # 172 Was To be introduced to set rates. If This bill SB 105 is killed, rate setting will once again be introduced. Those of us who want out of regulation definetly do not want rate setting. Number 4. Opponents to 58 105 have stated in the past that P.S.C. regulation makes log haulers and log hauling safer, safety on our high ways and bi - ways, at the loading and un loading sites, is all being taken Care of by the state GVW people, Traffic inspectors, Highway Patrol, Federal D.O.T. and The industry Satety rules. Reason #5 has to do with the complete reversal of log haulers who own a fleet of Trucks going from fighting regulation in 1989 4 1991 to being for "regulation in 1993. Regulation means "Big is better"

I ask you to support 5B # 105 and eliminate Class E. We've a much bigger problem here in Montana. We keep losing the naw material to harvest; our Timber and wood Products industry is going to become a dinosaur. Then we'll all lose! Thank you.

ACTION ALERT!

EXHIBI	<u>ــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــ</u>		
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I have been informed by phone from Judith Gap, MT that Senator Barry (Spook) Stang's bill SB #105 to repeal Class E regulation of log hauling has passed both the Senate Committee and the Senate Body.

It goes before the House Highway & Transportation Committee on Friday, March/5th at 3:00 p.m.

I plan to attend the hearing and to testify in <u>favor</u> of Senator Stang's bill, SB #105.

I know there are many of you that feel as I do; No more Class "E" Regulation. I need your support and help. Please sign the attached petition and call 406-444-4800 or 444-4853, or fax 444-4105 and let your feelings be known.

Thanks, Dick Coverdell

Petition in Favor of SB #105

We the undersigned support SB #105 to repeal Public Service Class "E" Regulation of log hauling.

NAME ADDRESS Leonard with 973 mooring Rol Cal Fall' 30 693 5 MOON RD C. FACS INT 10M Evene Box 51 Kila Mont. Richard Comell Ven Fredericko Don Antesworth 128 E, Cottonwood MAlispell Mt. 541 ash lave RalispEll pit Im Moris Sun Shin FTRUCKING INC. DYF.R. Boso 5023 P.O Halispell net 59903 BOB NEWTON BOX 698, BIGFORK MT. 59911 ZIZ-0, LOWER VALLEY, KALIEFELL MIL 170 HAIF MOON Rod Cothers Unhal. 148 3 Mile Drive Kal 226 Goroline Rd. Kal 164 South Cedar Kul. 5 STREET WEST Kel. Box 3074 Lal. 5-9503 Box 5711 Kal. 59903 And Nauman 607 alpine Zene Kalispell Mt 5990 2828 Helevis Flats Red Kalispell 417 434 Willow Men Kalissell W.t. 5890 1D

DATE 3/15/93 53 105

Petition in Favor of SB #105

We the undersigned support SB #105 to repeal Public Service Class "E" Regulation of log hauling.

NAME	ADDRESS	
Rita Boss	541 Ash Rd. KALISPELL, MT.	5990
Tom Frost	130 N. CEDAR DR. KALISPEC	LL M
Elainer Etorice rel	130 N. CEDAR DR. KALISPER 4969 Hilly 3-10 Columbia	Fallis
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De the undersigned wish to have SB 105 satified tar the derequeation of Log Xtaulers. Phone Name address', Phone Valerie A. Plaistick. Harman, 3370 Horyz L., Kalipeli 2.57-5566 Corre Learn P.C.Bux 597 - Philipsturg Mt. 859-373. Caral Learn P.C.Bux 597 - Philipsturg Mt. 859-373. (By phone) Darothy Fredericks Bay 51 - Kila Mt. 755-2378 175 VON DER LEICE LN. Kalispell, ME. 59921 allen E. Haaq 2840 Huy 2 West Kalipell Ult 59901 - Lyn Millin

	EXHIBIT
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PETITION FOR PASSAGE OF SB 105 DATE 3/15/93

We, the undersigned, want to be counted for the <u>elimination</u> of Class E log hauling authority by the Public Service Commission.

We are for passage of SB 105.

A NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	OCCUPATION
N' lebal Chining of	Box 194 SHELDY MT	434-5079	TRIC PRWER
Jerry Wohn	Box 3194 Great Fall, Mt		Log Comm
Day & Josse	Boy 202 Vaughi mit	4672692	Former
Vanil Lichmell	#47 SRC ROAS MT	26A-5-400	Self Employee
Figners Window	Box 235 - A. B. Mt		trucker
Car J. Homes SA	BOX 361 BLACK EATH		Trucker -
Asph 5- Hours 7	ti.	1.0	, (
Hourt Filler	71624th st N.	727-8135	FOROSTER
and facung	BOX63 BLACKEAGLE.	452-8158	FARMER
Konuld Westom	Box 215 Black Eagle mo	771-7133-	takme R
Charlee Molson	Boy 284 Ale Eagle	452-5423	Selli Emp.
Kay Dirohmon	3P.O. Box 247 Gevalding 1-	737-4342	Self-Emp-
the A Blino	P.O. Bot 101 Hana	215-111	trucker
Flort Eller	4-716 Ella Auc	727-5465	Trucher.
Liej Much	Prox 140-		FAMILY
- Ciclean Freuer	1525 Natarius Aba	965-3172	Sudan
Down Liler	63 Sun Perse Rol	765 3/11	Tracker
Soul Brun	1525 Adams Blad	9653172	rucker
- Dierou Brever	525 A. lam Mud	<u>(165-317,2</u>	House were
Sam Fistorigh	511.9 and 5 W	761.2098	Deture
Ver Tour	38 Wetten Lands	965-3991	Tutke
MARZY TRELICA	38 Leitter Lana	965-3791	secretARL
Hich Jumo	Stourford MTT. Bor 903	56-2987	Tourles.
Theald Alyan	Stanford MT. Box 403	566-2987	<u>conlopy</u>
Ausan Miller	hrith Gray, MT	173-2346	Susuno sale

Petition FOR PASSACE OF SB 105 We the undersigned, want to be counted for the <u>elimination</u> of Class E log hauling authority by the Public Service Commission We are for puesage of SB 106: Kunk POB 364 Blh Fagy Mt 9652534 SEA ill Minomed Box 43 Judith GAP 413-2334 TECK Box 86 Garneill, MT 59445 374-247 Very 817 Ptot Bals Rd. With the hall Mont 5920; 287.50-Strozzi, 928 Pt or= Rocks Rd Whitehall, mt. 287-5359 212 18th ST 12 Chertralle MIT 727-1712 2 817 Pt of Ate Great Fill 4+ 287-3948 Ter Box 364 Block For le 965-2534 Les Theken DATE 3/15/93 SB IOS

While a few other states do regulate log hauling, to my knowledge, only Washington regulates rates. There have been efforts in the last few years to move Washington away from being a heavily "regulated island" in view of the negative impact the economic regulation of all trucking has had in the state. You will probably hear that wood chip trucks are regulated in Montana. That is true but their <u>rates</u> are not set by the PSC but negotiated between carriers and shippers.

Finally, I would pose 3 questions to the Committee:

- 1. If a profit is guaranteed where is the incentive to improve management?
- 2. Why shouldn't log haulers be expected to meet market competition like virtually all other businesses?
- 3. Wouldn't the public object if they had to buy their groceries, clothes, computers, vehicles, appliances, etc., with no price competition?

A couple of closing observations regarding all the log trucks you have seen parked around the Capitol today:

- They are all empty No logs. That is the number one problem: too many trucks and not enough logs - and the timber availability situation is worsening.
- 2. They should be parked around the offices of Region I of the U.S. Forest Service in Missoula in an effort to draw attention to the looming negative economic impacts on Montana's communities if the Forest Service timber offerings continue to decline.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to present these comments and at the appropriate time I will be pleased to respond to questions.

DATE

TESTIMONY OF DON ALLEN ON BEHALF OF THE MONTANA WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION BEFORE THE HOUSE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REGARDING SB 105

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Don Allen and I appear here today in support of SB 105 on behalf of the Montana Wood Products Association.

I believe it would be helpful for the members of this Committee to understand what happened during and following the 1991 Session regarding this issue.

Rep. Wanzenried, in 1991, introduced HB 192 which would have regulated log haulers by creating a new Class E Carrier category and give the PSC the authority to set rates. The bill passed the House but was then killed by the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee. Sen. Harp succeeded in getting the bill back in Committee to amend out the rate setting provision. The bill then passed the Committee and subsequently was approved by the Senate and the amended version was concurred in by the House.

Both in the Senate Highways Committee and on the Senate floor, the question arose as to whether or not the remaining so-called boiler plate language remaining in Section 3(4) would still enable the PSC to set rates. I call your attention to a letter I have handed out dated April 5, 1991 to Sen. Harp from Wayne Budt, Administrator of the Transportation Division of the PSC in response to this question. Given the explanation of the expected use of the language only to protect the "shipping public in general" it was agreed that the bill - without the rate setting provisions of the bill (as introduced) would go forward without further objection.

Almost before the ink was dry on the signed legislation, the Log Haulers Association hired a Helena attorney to begin preparing a proposal asking the PSC to set rates utilizing the section of the law discussed above. Indeed the PSC held a hearing for the purpose of determining whether or not they should accept a petition to hold a rate setting hearing. That event was a replay of both of the hearings held during the 1991 Session with strongly divided feelings much as have and will be presented to you today. While a majority of the PSC seemed willing to consider such a petition and drafts were submitted, no hearing was actually scheduled.

There is reason to believe that if the opponents of this bill prevail the present PSC will hold a rate setting hearing which is certain to be requested by the Log Haulers Association.

I just wanted you to be aware of what the real issue and goal of the opponents of SB 105 is - a guaranteed profit.



PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Howard Ellis, Chairman Danny Oberg, Vice Chairman Bob Anderson John Driscoll Wallace W. "Wally" Mercer 2701 Prospect Avenue • Helena, Montana 59620-260 Telephone: (406) 444-6199

EXHIBIT_ DATE 3/15 21 SB 10

April 5, 1991

Senator John G. Harp Capitol Station Helena, Montana 59601

Re: HB 192

Dear Senator Harp:

The Public Service Commission strictly regulates rates and charges for Class A and B common carriers within the State of Montana. Montana law also gives the Commission the ability to establish maximum and minimum rates for Class C contract carriers; however, historically the Commission has allowed Class C carriers to operate under rates simply negotiated between the carrier and the shipper.

Although the statutes provide the Commission with the ability to investigate and establish rate levels for Class C carriers, the Commission in the past has not set contract carrier rates. My personal interpretation of the statute allowing the Commission to review contract rates is that it is in place for the protection of the shipping public in general, or a specific shipper, upon complaint and not as a mechanism for protecting individual carriers. Unlike a common carrier, a Class C carrier is under no obligation to provide service; if the Class C carrier determines that he cannot perform the requested service for the negotiated price, he can decline to enter into the contract.

The Commission has not addressed the above issues or interpretations in any formal proceeding. If the Commission is petitioned for such an interpretation the Commission would follow its usual course of business which allows input from all interested parties before a decision is made.

It is my opinion that the Class E provision which contains the same language would have the same interpretation.

Sincerely,

Wayne W. Budt, Administrator Transportation Division

CC Commissioners Consumer Complaints (406) 444-6150 "AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER" Additional paperwork is involved including quarterly reports, annual reports, annual fees, cab cards, stickers or stamps, revenue taxes, written contracts and proof of contracts for each job, for each truck before hauling. This creates additional cost of time and money to the industry and the State government with no positive returns to anyone.

Written contracts between shippers and carriers have been a problem. To my understanding, it is the responsibility of the shipper to provide written contracts to the carrier in advance of hauling with proof of contract to be carried in the truck. The responsibility is shared in that the shipper is to provide the contracts, but the carrier is to see to it that the contracts are carried in each truck. The burden of responsibility for compliance falls upon the carrier, not the shipper, because the carriers are the ones traveling up and down the highways through the weigh stations being checked for proof of contracts. Often times in our business trucks are called to haul logs off a given job the night before or even the same day, giving no time to provide such contracts.

Our industry has so many variables throughout the state that other industries are not confronted with such^{as} the haul roads off highway, the weather, the mud, the snow, the working hours, the loading and unloading conditions, the number of jobs being operated on, that I do not see how a workable regulatory system can ever be established that will be to the benefit of the log truckers or the State of Montana.

We need to work toward far less government intervention in the works of private business. Therefore I strongly urge the passage of this bill to deregulate log hauling in our state.

- 2 -



Sun Mountain Logging

Sherm Anderson P.O. Box 287 Deer Lodge, Montana 59722

TESTIMONY ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO DEREGULATE INTRASTATE LOG HAULING SB105

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

For introductory purposes, I am Sherm Anderson, owner of Sun Mountain Logging Company located in Deer Lodge, Montana. I am a logging contractor. I perform the complete logging process from felling, skidding, processing, loading and road building. Aside from logging, I own fifteen log trucks which operate within the state, primarily in the Deer Lodge area, hauling about 6,000 loads/year.

I have been in the logging business as a sole proprietor for sixteen years. Prior to that I worked with my father who was also a logging and log hauling contractor.

I am in support of SB105.

I fail to see any benefits to the log truckers or the State of Montana that have been derived from being regulated this past year. There has been no reduction in the amount of log trucks or no more jobs created in our industry because of regulation. Maybe fewer independent truckers are being used because of a shift toward larger trucking firms by the shippers to eliminate the need for so many contracts with individuals. Please Note: This complete document may be located at the Historical Society.

EXHIBIT. DATE 3/15/93 SB 105 71



(Parts of the Constitution no longer in effect are printed in italics.)

PREAMBLE

WE THE PEOPLE of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common delense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

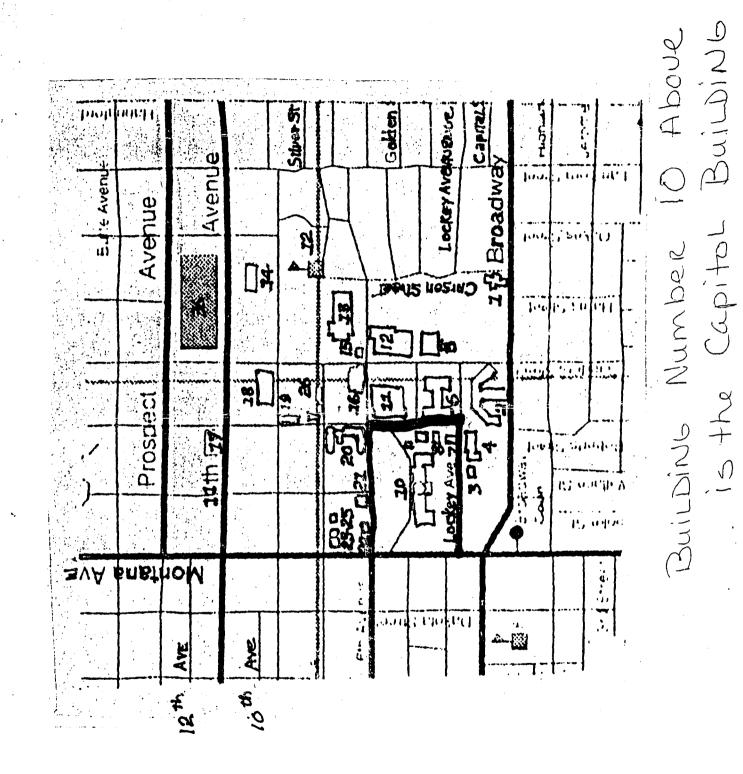
ARTICLE I

SECTION 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

SECTION 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several

O Defination of liberty 1. The quality or state of being free a. the power to do as one pleases b. freedom from physical restraint A c. freedom from arbitrary or despose control d. The Positive enjoyment of Various social, Political, or economic rights and Privileges.

- a law that does nothing - but to make more paymont and a tay .08 to 2. A non thing - but to 2. A non thing - but to 2. A new truchen getting in to the business get the P.S.C. perint dictate who 1. J. Policing - next to impossible 19 15 mile tong have US. 30 mile cong have? Journment ved tage boggers out of to deregulate? - We had no regulation John Cochran St. Regis . Mt. Toremere Words Supirin Tendant Toremere Tricon Timber Box 187 466-649-2455 466-649-2455 466-649-2455 45127 PSC. # 5127



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Catimony on SB EXHIBIT DATE 3-15-93 Thy name is than Tulkelm. I'm from Bogeman. Thy husband, Lee, and Jown and operate 3 leg trucks. The are in support of 5B 105 and opposed to continued PSC regulation of log hauling. I do not yeal that increased government regulation is beneficial. Since its inception PSC regulation has had no advantages for us, Unt the disadvantages have been many. Sinancially, there has been the \$25 application fee and annual filing fee, the quarterly Consumer Counsel Tax, the Ungo stamps you each unit, as well as the Costs of printing the required

er suge them. The papernork is enormous and time consumin and the annual report us complicated and intrusive The do not feel that PSC regulation would be improved by rate setting. Surveys conducted by Sen. Harp and Kep. Elliott found a majority of those affected support deregulation. unge the members of the committee to ignore the their votes on the results of the fair and importal survey conducted by Acn. Harp and Kep. Elliott. The have operated under PSC authority since Jan. 1, 1992 15 long months, not 6 short ones as purported by opponents.

EXHIBIT DATE SR

i

Carrier Contract No.

1.1.1

Department of Public Service Regulation Public Service Commission 1701 Prospect Avenue Helena, Montana 59620-2601

(Form Revised 10-21-91)

NOTE: Section 69-12-334, MCA, requires the PSC to prepare this form. If an alternative is used, Section 69-12-333, MCA, and ARM 38.3.1406 require that it contain the required provisions and no provisions conflicting. The PSC is not a party to this contract.

CONTRACT FOR CLASS E MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES

The parties and each party, being capable of contracting, for lawful object, and sufficient cause and consideration, hereby mutually promise and agree as follows:

1. The parties to this contract are the "carrier" and the "shipper."

Carrier:	Name Address City, State, Zip Phone PSC Certificate No.	
Shipper:	Name	

per: Name Address City, State, Zip Phone

2. The purpose of this contract is for the shipper to obtain the services of the motor carrier (Class E) as expressed herein.

3. The carrier shall have and perform the duties of obtaining and securing loads at the places and times specified, transporting the loads over the routes specified, and delivering the loads for unloading at the places and times specified:

a. Loading _____

EXHIBIT 8 DATE 3-15-93 SB 105

JAMES A. SLACK, INC. LOGGING AND LOG HAULING CONTRACTOR 2970 HIGHWAY 2 EAST KALISPELL, MT 59901

TESTIMONY ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO DEREGULATE INTRASTATE LOG HAULING SENATE BILL 105

MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

FOR INTRODUCTORY PURPOSES, I AM JAMES A. SLACK, OWNER OF JAMES A. SLACK, INC., LOCATED IN KALISPELL, MT. I AM A LOGGING CONTRACTOR. I PERFORM THE COMPLETE LOGGING PROCESS FROM FELLING, SKIDDING, PROCESSING, LOADING AND ROAD BUILDING. I ALSO OWN MY OWN TRUCKS AND HIRE OUTSIDE TRUCKS.

I HAVE BEEN IN THE LOG HAULING BUSINESS FOR 35 YEARS AND IN THE LOGGING BUSINESS FOR 8 YEARS. I WENT INTO THE LOGGING BUSINESS EIGHT YEARS AGO IN ORDER TO GET A FAIR RATE FOR MY TRUCKS.

I HAVE ASKED LYLE DOTY TO READ MY TESTIMONY AT THIS HEARING AS I CANNOT BE HERE.

I AM OPPOSED TO SENATE BILL 105 - TO DEREGULATE INTRASTATE LOG HAULING.

I HAVE READ THE TESTIMONY OF EVERYONE AT THE SENATE HEARING OF SB 105 ON JANUARY 21, 1993. NINE OF THE TESTIMONIES WERE AGAINST HAVING CONTRACTS. I CANNOT UNDERSTAND ANY LOGGING CONTRACTOR BEING OPPOSED TO GIVING CONTRACTS TO A SUBCONTRACTOR. IS THIS GOOD BOOKKEEPING? HIRING A SUBCONTRACTOR MEANS THAT YOU <u>CONTRACT</u> WITH SOMEONE, WHETHER HE OWNS A SKIDDER, CAT, LOADER, OR LOGGING TRUCK, TO DO A JOB. DOESN'T THAT REQUIRE A CONTRACT? I THINK THAT IT IS TROUT TIME THAT LOGGING CONTRACTORS AND LOG TRUCKERS BECAME BUSINESSMEN AND DO THE PAPERWORK NECESSARY FOR THEIR BUSINESS.

WHEN YOU HIRE A SUBCONTRACTOR YOU ARE REQUIRED TO FURNISH THEM WITH A FORM 1099 FOR THE IRS AND THE STATE OF MONTANA. THF CONTRACTS WE HAVE DEVISED FURNISH US WITH THE NECESSARY INFORMATION REQUIRED TO FILE ALL STATE AND FEDERAL FORMS. WE ASK FOR NAME, ADDRESS, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, PROOF OF WORKERS COMPENSATION COVERAGE, AND LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE. WE ALSO SUPPLY OUR LOADER OPERATOR WITH DUPLICATE CONTRACTS THAT ARE FILLED OUT FOR EACH JOB, SO IF WE NEED TO PICK UP A TRUCK ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT, IT IS ONLY A FIVE MINUTE JOB TO GET THIS SIGNED BEFORE THEY ARE LOADED. WHILE TALKING WITH SOME OF THE TRUCKERS, THEY STATED THAT THEY MUST HAVE CONTRACTS WITH THEM BECAUSE THE LOGGER WILL NOT GIVE THEM ONE. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT IT IS THE LOGGING CONTRACTORS RESPONSIBILITY TO FURNISH THE CONTRACTS AND THE LOG TRUCKER IS TO CARRY THE CONTRACT OR HAVE CAB CARDS THAT STATE HIS CONTRACTS..

I HAVE TALKED TO DIFFERENT TRUCKERS WHO COULDN'T GET PAID OR GOT BAD CHECKS FROM THE LOGGING CONTRACTOR. THE TRUCKERS WHO HAD CONTRACTS HAD RECOURSE TO COLLECT THIS MONEY WHILE THE TRUCKERS WHO DID NOT HAVE CONTRACTS HAD NO RECOURSE AT ALL.

I was in Helena last weekend for the Montana Logging Association meeting and I talked to many logging contractors and truckers who really do not understand the problems the truckers are having in the Northwest because they do not have the same problems in other areas of the state. I also talked to Keith Olson, who is Executive Director of the MLA and he agreed that it

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CONTRACT LOGGING AND LOG HAULING IS GENERALLY DONE ON A PER TON BASIS.

IT IS HARD FOR ME TO BID A JOB AGAINST SOME LOGGING CONTRACTORS WHO DO NOT OWN TRUCKS WHEN HE WILL BID THE LOGGING RATE AT FIFTY CENTS TO ONE DOLLAR PER TON LESS THAN I DO. THEN HE WILL TAKE THE DIFFERENCE FROM THE PER TON RATE THE MILL HAS ALLOWED FOR THE HAULING TO SUBSIDIZE HIS LOGGING RATE. WHEN I BID A JOB, I WILL SOMETIMES NEGOTIATE THE HAULING ON SOME HAULS BECAUSE THE RATE ALLOWED BY THE MILL IS GENERALLY NOT ENOUGH. MOST LOGGING CONTRACTORS JUST ACCEPT WHAT THE MILL HAS ALLOWED, ESPECIALLY IF THEY DO NOT OWN ANY TRUCKS.

AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, REGULATION HAD BOT HURT ANYONE. THE PAPERWORK AND THE EXPENSE IS MINIMAL COMPARED TO WHAT IT COSTS TO GET A LAWYER IN ORDER TO GET YOUR MONEY.

This regulation has not been in effect long enough to see if it will work. This regulation has only been in effect for approximately six months. The legislature should not pass a bill one session and then rescind it the next until they have had time to see if it is workable. So, I am urging you to KILL SENATE BILL 105!

March 15, 1993 Senate Bill 105 House Committee on Highways and Transportation Montana Motor Carriers Association

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. For the record my name is Ben Havdahl and I am representing the Montana Motor Carriers Association. MMCA has 600 plus carrier members transporting various commodities including logs. We would like to go on record opposing SB 105 to "deregulate" the intrastate regulation of "for hire" log transportation by motor carriers.

As has been said by other opponents to this bill, the last effective date of HB 192 just ended on October 1, 1992, just six short months ago. It would appear to MMCA, that this action to "deregulate" the contract motor carriage of logs is very premature. To do so under SB 105 at this time, in our view, would constitute a classic example of "throwing out the baby with the bath water."

MMCA supported the enactment of legislation in the last session, under HB 192. The 1991 law simply requires that a "written contract" must be in effect between the shipper of logs and the motor carrier and that PSC provide a basic shipment contract form. There is no rate regulation under the 1991 law and the shipper and motor carrier are free to agree on a reasonable rate without PSC involvement.

The law does provide protection for the shipper, the carrier and the general public because the Motor Carrier Act requires regulated motor carriers to have cargo insurance, general insurance, and insures safe equipment operation. Prior to the adoption of the law, log hauling agreements were generally verbal and on a take-it-or-leave-it basis

It certainly takes longer than six short months for this law or any other law passed by this body, to be implemented and tried. The Motor Carrier Act has been in effect in Montana for 61 years and very few changes have been legislated over those years. This Committee heard SB 255 last week, to amend for the first time, the regulation of intrastate livestock transportation by motor carrier. That law was passed in 1971, 22 years ago.

MMCA has a long standing policy for continued support of intrastate regulated motor carriage under the Motor Carrier Act and we are opposed to any and all attempts to enact deregulation under that law.

Economic regulation does work! We would urge this committee to give the 1991 log truck regulation law time to become effectively applied successfully in the real world. MMCA would strongly urge this Committee to defeat SB 105. Thank you.

EXHIBIT

March 15, 1993

Dear Honorable Hembers,

My name is Leroy Christofferson, and I'm here today to comment on S.B. 105 to deregulate Class E log trucking in Montana.

S.B. 105 should receive a do not pass vote from this committee. If you would please excuse the commotion Honorable Chairman, "How many people who filled out this survey are loggers with their own trucks in this room?" Now why would these people need protection from people outside of Montana taking their jobs when they manufacture their own logs to haul? They don't and in addition they can haul their own logs without authority as the law stands. The information that is before you on these surveys are simply not correct since both loggers and truckers filled out these surveys not just truckers.

Point two honorable committee I would like to make is with the existing law that is in effect it only has been in effect for a year with no time to get used. Now ask yourself why would anyone not want to know their rate that is mandated by law? The current laws only amendment that is needed is to be made clear to the P.S.C. the position on no rate setting which I'm clearly FOR NO RATE SETTING BY THE STATE. Let loggers be loggers and truckers be truckers and accountants be accountants, which I still believe since I started preaching before this committee in 1989.

Point three in testimony where truckers didn't qualify to haul logs under Class E, it wasn't that they were not aware of the legislative movements long before it happened 2 years later in session. Would they ever really be able to qualify? Probably not.

With these points brought before you I urge you to amend the current law to clarify NO RATE SETTING, and to VOTE DO NOT PASS S.B. 105 for total deregulation it is simply a compromise that works under the current situation .

EXHIB

Amendments to Senate Bill No. 395 Third Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Harp For the Committee on Highways and Transportation

> Prepared by Connie Erickson March 15, 1993

1. Title, line 4. Following: "ACT" Limiting Insert: "INCREASING THE ALLOWABLE LENGTH FOR A VEHICLE COMBINATION HAULING LOGS;"

2. Page 3, line 1. Following: "(5)" Insert: "(a) The length of a vehicle combination consisting of a truck or truck-tractor and one trailer, pole trailer, or semitrailer hauling raw logs may not exceed 75 feet in overall length. As used in this subsection (a), the term "length" means the total length of the vehicle combination beginning at the front of the front bumper of the truck or truck-tractor and extending to the most distant end of the logs being hauled. A term permit for an overlength vehicle combination, as provided in 61-10-124(3), does not apply to the vehicle combination described in this subsection (a). A vehicle combination exceeding 75 feet must have a trip permit."

3. Page 3, line 8. Following: "<u>(b)</u>" Insert: "(b)"

5. Page 3, line 24. Following: "<u>(5)</u>" Insert: "(a)"

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S.B, # 105 *leicommittee* SPONSOR (S) DATE 3 -15 -

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Jong Stacy	S.B - 105	i
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Ren Faran	SB-105	
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Marin Lindell	SB - 105-	L
Heen Figlating	5B-105	
Geane Jost	SB-165	
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Terry Bartlett	SB /05	
Bee Barthill	SB105	V
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Dennis Lutz	SB 105	

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NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
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