

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & CLAIMS

Call to Order: By Senator Judy Jacobson, Chair, on April 22, 1993, at 8:30 a.m., Room 108.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Judy Jacobson, Chair (D)
Sen. Gary Aklestad (R)
Sen. Tom Beck (R)
Sen. Don Bianchi (D)
Sen. Chris Christiaens (D)
Sen. Gerry Devlin (R)
Sen. Gary Forrester (D)
Sen. Harry Fritz (D)
Sen. Bob Hockett (D)
Sen. Tom Keating (R)
Sen. Chuck Swysgood (R)
Sen. Daryl Toews (R)
Sen. Eleanor Vaughn (D)
Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)
Sen. Cecil Weeding (D)

Members Excused: Senators Franklin, Harding, Jergeson, Lynch
Tveit

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jim Haubein, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Lynn Staley, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HJR 31
Executive Action: HJR 31

HEARING ON HJR 31

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Representative Wiseman, House District 33, sponsor, said HJR 31 would request an interim study on executive reorganization and options for consolidating state government agencies to achieve operational and budgetary efficiencies. With many serious

problems in Montana and not much hope for increased revenue, downsizing state government is a good idea, as evidenced by actions of corporate America. State government has 18 agencies and 10,000 employees, and they should be able to reduce that figure and still operate efficiently. He concluded there is enough money in HB 2 to finance approximately three interim studies, and he would like to have HJR 31 included as one of the studies or part of a study to be done.

Proponents' Testimony:

None.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

Senator Weeding questioned what publication referring to executive reorganization was being referred to in the Resolution.

Representative Wiseman said one idea is "Reinventing Government".

Senator Waterman stated this should happen with the Governor coming through with a plan and presenting a budget to back it up rather than an interim study of the legislature.

Representative Wiseman said he is trying to encourage it to happen.

Senator Aklestad said he would like to amend HJR 31 to include in the study executive and legislative reorganization. He noted the legislature should act by example and if they are asking departments of state government to consider this, the legislature should do it as well.

Representative Wiseman said he would have no problem with that. Anything that can be done to reduce the size of state government should be looked at.

Senator Forrester questioned that an interim study would have anymore effect than legislative subcommittees reviewing this. The study would be a waste of money, and he added that direction has to come from the governor.

Senator Keating said he would like to see the bill read on page 2, line 19 after "consolidation" the insertion of "or elimination", which he felt would save money by eliminating programs and agencies.

Closing by Sponsor:

Representative Wiseman closed. He said his constituents are

unhappy that state government has not reduced itself.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 31


Motion/Vote: Senator Beck moved to amend as stated by Senator Aklestad to include the study of executive and legislative branch reorganization. Motion CARRIED.

Motion: Senator Forrester moved that HJR 31 AS AMENDED BE NOT CONCURRED IN.


Motion/Vote: Senator Waterman made a substitute motion that HJR 31 BE TABLED. Motion CARRIED with Senators Aklestad, Beck, Fritz, Hockett opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 8:40 a.m.



JUDY JACOBSON, Chair



LYNN STALEY, Secretary

JJ/LS

ROLL CALL

SENATE COMMITTEE FINANCE AND CLAIMS

DATE 4/22/93

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
SENATOR JACOBSON	✓		
SENATOR FRANKLIN			✓
SENATOR AKLESTAD	✓		
SENATOR BECK	✓		
SENATOR BIANCHI	✓		
SENATOR CHRISTIAENS	✓		
SENATOR DEVLIN	✓		
SENATOR FORRESTER	✓		
SENATOR FRITZ	✓		
SENATOR HARDING			✓
SENATOR HOCKETT	✓		
SENATOR JERGESON			✓
SENATOR KEATING	✓		
SENATOR LYNCH			✓
SENATOR TOEWS	✓		
SENATOR SWYSGOOD	✓		
SENATOR TVEIT			✓
SENATOR VAUGHN	✓		
SENATOR WATERMAN	✓		
SENATOR WEEDING	✓		

FC8

Attach to each day's minutes

DATE 4/22/93

SENATE COMMITTEE ON Finance & Claims

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY: HJR 31

Name	Representing	Bill No.	Check One Support Oppose	
William R. Wiseman	House of Rep	HJR 31	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VISITOR REGISTER

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY