MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 53rd LEGISLATURE - SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN STEVE BENEDICT, on December 17, 1993, at 9:20 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Steve Benedict, Chairman (R)

Rep. Sonny Hanson, Vice Chairman (R)

Rep. Bob Bachini (D)

Rep. Joe Barnett (R)

Rep. Ray Brandewie (R)

Rep. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)

Rep. Fritz Daily (D)

Rep. Stella Jean Hansen (D)

Rep. Jack Herron (R)

Rep. Dick Knox (R)

Rep. Don Larson (D)

Rep. Norm Mills (R)

Rep. Bob Pavlovich (D)

Rep. Bruce Simon (R)

Rep. Carley Tuss (D)

Rep. Doug Wagner (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Tim Dowell (D), Rep. Alvin Ellis (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Susan Fox, Legislative Council

Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: SJR 3

Executive Action: SJR 3

HEARING ON SJR 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. GARY FORRESTER, Senate District 49, said this resolution will urge the Board of Directors of the Montana State Compensation Insurance Fund to meet with representatives and the business community. He said this is a pre-paid plan that he

doesn't necessarily care about. He said the Chairman of the State Fund Board, Rick Hill, feels the resolution is unnecessary also because he planned on doing this anyway. He said it isn't right that the legislature micro-manage the workers' compensation system. He said the legislators need to listen to the people who want a say in the plan. SJR 3 asks the Workers' Compensation Board to work with the effected people and work out a plan that is acceptable to the people.

Proponents' Testimony:

Riley Johnson, state director for the National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB), said the NFIB supports SJR 3. This resolution does two things: 1) it will help the legislators respond to their people and show the citizens of Montana they are listening; and 2) reaffirms that the Legislature of 1993 wants to stay out of micro-managing the State Fund.

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. PAVLOVICH informed SEN. FORRESTER that he has received a letter in regard of a seminar to be held in January between the workers' compensation and the business people.

CHAIRMAN BENEDICT asked SEN. FORRESTER if Mr. Hill has committed the State Fund Board of Directors in writing that they will hold a meeting in early January to address all of the concerns and invite as many members of the business communities to discuss this issue and meet the needs of the business community. SEN. FORRESTER said not to his knowledge, but felt that Mr. Hill would keep his word. SEN. FORRESTER said before this bill was drafted the minutes from the meeting with the State Fund Board did not indicate any promise to REP. GRADY in the November 15th meeting nor the November 29th meeting. The letter stated it is not the way to conduct a meeting to reflect the concerns of an individual appearing before the board. CHAIRMAN BENEDICT asked SEN. FORRESTER if REP. GRADY had shared his letter from Rick Hill with him because of concerns from the business community stating they would pull this meeting together. SEN. FORRESTER said he did not personally receive this letter but did see a copy of it.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. FORRESTER closed stating he hoped this resolution will send a signal for the Workers' Compensation Board to work with the business community. He said if nothing happens after this session is over, he will be back with something stronger. He said that REP. GRADY will carry SJR 3.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 3

Motion/Vote: REP. PAVLOVICH MOVED SJR 3 BE CONCURRED IN. Voice
vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Vote: SJR 3 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried 18 - 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:00 a.m.

STEVE BENEDICT, Chairman

LAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

SB/cj

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL

DATE 12-17-93

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
REP. STEVE BENEDICT, CHAIRMAN	V		
REP. SONNY HANSON, VICE CHAIRMAN	/		
REP. BOB BACHINI	·/		
REP. JOE BARNETT	/		
REP. RAY BRANDEWIE	~		
REP. VICKI COCCHIARELLA	レ		
REP. FRITZ DAILY	/		
REP. TIM DOWELL			V
REP. ALVIN ELLIS	·		. /
REP. STELLA JEAN HANSEN	~		
REP. JACK HERRON	· · ·		
REP. DICK KNOX	V		
REP. DON LARSON	レ		
REP. NORM MILLS			
REP. BOB PAVLOVICH	~		
REP. BRUCE SIMON	レ		
REP. CARLEY TUSS			
REP. DOUG WAGNER			
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HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Business and Economic Development report that Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in.

Signed:

Steve Benedict, Chair

Carried by: Rep. Grady

Committee Vote: Yes 12, No 6.

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EXHIBIT / DATE 12-17-93
SIR 3

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL VOTE

DATE /2	-17-9=	BILL NO.	SIRB	NUMBER	
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REP. SONNY HANSON, VICE CHAIRMAN		V
REP. BOB BACHINI		
REP. JOE BARNETT	· ·	
REP. RAY BRANDEWIE	·	L
REP. VICKI COCCHIARELLA	V	
REP. FRITZ DAILY	V	
REP. TIM DOWELL	V	
REP. ALVIN ELLIS	V	
REP. STELLA JEAN HANSEN		
REP. JACK HERRON		V
REP. DICK KNOX	V	ļ
REP. DON LARSON	V	
REP. NORM MILLS		
REP. BOB PAVLOVICH	V	
REP. BRUCE SIMON		-
REP. CARLEY TUSS		
REP. DOUG WAGNER		V
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DATE 12-17-93 SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE BILL NO.

PLEASE PRINT

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NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	BILL	orpose	SUPPORT
Riley Johnson	NFIB	ST 3		\times
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PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED TESTIMONY WITH SECRETARY. WITNESS STATEMENT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU CARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY.