

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
54th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By VICE CHAIRMAN ED GRADY, on January 4, 1995, at
3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Tom Zook, Chairman (R)
Rep. Edward "Ed" Grady, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)
Rep. Joe Quilici, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Beverly Barnhart (D)
Rep. Ernest Bergsagel (R)
Rep. John Cobb (R)
Rep. Roger DeBruycker (R)
Rep. Gary Feland (R)
Rep. Don Holland (R)
Rep. Royal Johnson (R)
Rep. John Johnson (D)
Rep. Mike Kadas (D)
Rep. Betty Lou Kasten (R)
Rep. Matt McCann (D)
Rep. William "Red" Menahan (D)
Rep. Steve Vick (R)
Rep. William Wiseman (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Marjorie Fisher

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Marjorie Peterson, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HB 1
Executive Action: HB 1 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

HEARING ON HB 1Opening Statement by Sponsor:

CHAIRMAN TOM ZOOK, HD 3, Miles City, presented testimony on HB 1, entitled "An Act Appropriating Money for the Operation of the Legislature; and Providing an Immediate Effective Date." **REP. ZOOK** mentioned that the budget was reduced in the amount of \$331,000 from last session. He then introduced **Robert Person, Director, Legislative Council,** who explained the overview of HB 1.

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. Person explained that HB 1 covers legislative salaries, benefits and expenses as well as budgets for the operating, maintenance and capital improvement costs of the House and Senate. The Legislative Council appropriations in the bill cover the costs of session-related functions, including bill printing, publications, information office, and telephones.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

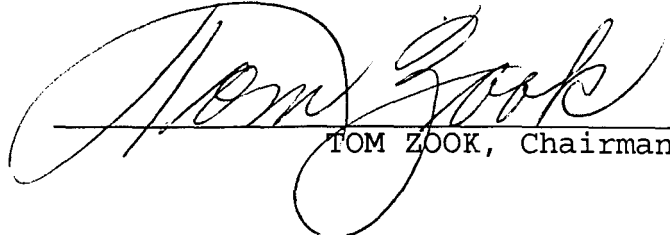
REP. KADAS, HD 66, Missoula, asked about the travel section, referring to the previous session where **SPEAKER MERCER** allocated money for Leadership Travel in the amount of \$10,000 for the majority and \$5,000 for the minority. This session, Leadership Travel is \$8,000 for the majority and \$3,000 for the minority. **REP. KADAS** stated his concern about the differential and would like to retain the 2-1 ratio.

VICE CHAIRMAN QUILICI, HD 36, Butte, asked what the affect would be if the feed budget no longer includes computer or support costs beyond the end of June.

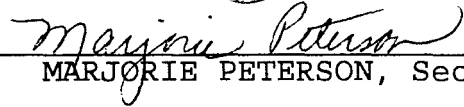
Mr. Person indicated the computer planning group has recommended including computer costs in the central budget, so that issue will be addressed later when the individual agencies' budgets are considered. In essence, he stated, during this transition period, the costs that would normally be incurred by the divisions are budgeted through June of this year. After that, these costs will be in the central budget. This will be the last feed bill to include this, assuming that proposal is adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:40 p.m.



TOM ZOOK, Chairman



MARJORIE PETERSON, Secretary

TZ/mp

REP. BERGSAGEL, HD 17, Malta, asked how much was actually spent in this category. Mr. Person stated that the amount is very low in both the House and Senate. He also explained that the reduction in the budget was in two main places: (1) a deal was negotiated for the Senate voting system for about \$90,000 and (2) the attaches' salary allowances were lower than budgeted in the Senate. The combination of those two areas enabled the balance to be reduced.

REP. KADAS asked Mr. Person if he knew what the level of reversions were for the House and Senate. Mr. Person said that information would not be available until the end of January or early February. At the end of November, the House had less than 2% of the total budget left; the Senate still had a larger balance.

Closing by Sponsor:

CHAIRMAN ZOOK noted that SPEAKER JOHN MERCER would be pleased if Executive Action was taken on this bill today. If there are amendments, please bring them forward.

CHAIRMAN ZOOK reassumed the Chair.

REP. WILLIAM WISEMAN, HD 41, Great Falls, stated that in order to be fair and save money, recognizing the fact that all the money wasn't spent last year, Majority Leadership Travel should be cut from \$8,000 to \$6,000 in both the House and the Senate.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 1

Motion/Vote: REP. WISEMAN MOVED THAT HOUSE AND SENATE MAJORITY TRAVEL BE REDUCED BY \$2,000 EACH. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: REP. GRADY MOVED HB 1 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried 17-1, with REP. COBB voting no.

HB 1

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Appropriations

ROLL CALL

DATE 1-4-95

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Tom Zook, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Ed Grady, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓		
Rep. Joe Quilici, Vice Chairman, Minority	✓		
Rep. Beverly Barnhart	✓		
Rep. Ernest Bergsagel	✓		
Rep. John Cobb	✓		
Rep. Roger DeBruycker	✓		
Rep. Gary Feland	✓		
Rep. Marj Fisher			✓
Rep. Don Holland	✓		
Rep. John Johnson	✓		
Rep. Royal Johnson	✓		
Rep. Mike Kadas	✓		
Rep. Betty Lou Kasten	✓		
Rep. Matt McCann	✓		
Rep. Red Menahan	✓		
Rep. Steve Vick	✓		
Rep. Bill Wiseman	✓		



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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Appropriations report that **House Bill 1** (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed: _____

Tom Zook
Tom Zook, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 12.
Strike: "\$2,508,000"
Insert: "\$2,506,000"

2. Page 1, line 13.
Strike: "\$1,522,871"
Insert: "\$1,520,871"

-END-

Committee Vote:
Yes 17, No 1.

041028SC.Hbk

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VISITOR'S REGISTER

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE BILL NO. 1
 DATE 1-4-95 SPONSOR(S) Zook

PLEASE PRINT

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NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	BILL	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
Mike Green 44 Lost Chance Gulch	ASMSU			
Bob Person	Legislative Council	1		

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