

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN TOM ZOOK**, on March 17, 1995, at
6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Tom Zook, Chairman (R)
Rep. Edward J. "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. Marjorie I. Fisher (R)
Rep. Don Holland (R)
Rep. Royal C. Johnson (R)
Rep. John Johnson (D)
Rep. Mike Kadas (D)
Rep. Betty Lou Kasten (R)
Rep. Matt McCann (D)
Rep. William T. "Red" Menahan (D)
Rep. Steve Vick (R)
Rep. William R. Wiseman (R)

Members Excused: None.

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 552, HB 576, HB 577, HB 578
Executive Action: HB 552 DO PASS, HB 577 DO PASS,
HB 578 DO PASS

HEARING ON HB 552Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. JOE QUILICI, HD 36, Butte, opened the hearing on HB 552 which requests the state auditor to establish an accounting system to determine the costs of issuing and processing state checks and to charge each department for those checks. This bill only changes who pays for the cost of the checks, i.e., if a warrant is written for the Department of Transportation, then that department will pay for the cost of issuing and processing the warrant.

Proponents' Testimony:

None.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. ROYAL JOHNSON, HD 10, Billings, asked if another bill had already changed the duties from the auditor's office to the Department of Administration. REP. QUILICI said yes, but did not include the intent of this bill and that other bill hasn't passed both Houses yet.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 552

Motion/Vote: REP. BERGSAGEL MOVED HB 552 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING ON HB 576Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. EDWARD GRADY, HD 55, Canyon Creek, opened the hearing on HB 576 which revises the types of funds that are subject to appropriations. This bill was requested by the House Appropriations Committee to eliminate the double accounting method currently used by the state.

Proponents' Testimony:

Dave Lewis, Office of Budget and Program Planning, Helena, said that the bill eliminates double accounting and \$208 million of authority from HB 2.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. MIKE KADAS, HD 66, Missoula, asked **Mr. Lewis** if all the funds would be statutorily appropriated. **Mr. Lewis** said that the gray bill would help. The control on internal services would be on the rates each agency charges.

REP. ROGER DEBRUYCKER, HD 89, Floweree, agrees with the bill, but he doesn't like double accounting, and wondered how the tracking system would help the legislature keep track of budgets. **Mr. Lewis** said all money would be tracked in SBAS the same as it is now.

REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN, HD 99, Brockway, asked if it would be in the budget like it is now. **Mr. Lewis** agreed that they would still publish the reports.

REP. EDWARD GRADY, HD 55, Canyon Creek, said that this would put OBPP (Office of Budget and Program Planning) and LFA (Legislative Fiscal Analyst) offices in closer agreement. **Mr. Lewis** said the major intent of the bill was to eliminate double accounting.

SPEAKER MERCER asked for the bill so the public would have a better idea of how much money is appropriated each session and could improve the accounting system for the public to understand. **Mr. Lewis** also said that some things could be done through HB 2, but the majority of the changes would be statutorily changed. **Mr. Schenck** said over \$100 million in double appropriations taken out that are not needed and are not required by statute. Some of those changes were due to a technical change in procedures in how a department operated. In this case, statute requires the proprietary funds be appropriated. This would exclude one more fund type from the definition of appropriation; take enterprise and internal service funds out of that definition.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Counter: 15.7.}

HEARING ON HB 577

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. MIKE KADAS, HD 66, Missoula, said this bill allows the legislature to consider the budget amendment of private funds that would be deposited in the state special revenue fund.

Proponents' Testimony:

None.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. STEVE VICK, HD 31, Belgrade, asked for a brief explanation of why this bill was written. REP. KADAS said they ran into a problem when the Kellogg Foundation wanted to donate money. Currently the way the law is written, the finance committee had to meet in order to accept the money. This finance committee approves budget amendments expect when the legislature is in session. So, the intent of this bill is to let the legislature approve the money instead of a finance committee when it is in session. CHAIRMAN ZOOK said it clears up a ridiculous situation that is on the books.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 577

Motion/Vote: REP. KADAS MOVED HB 577 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING ON HB 578

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. ROYAL JOHNSON, HD 10, Billings, opened the hearing on HB 578 is an attempt to make the Joint Oversight Committee on Children and Families a permanent committee and appropriating funds for their use. This committee was organized in 1984 to monitor the

Department of Family Services. In the 1993 legislative session, they asked the committee to continue their important work and should be funded again. The appropriation would be \$12,000 from the general fund to support the activities of this committee.

REP. JOHNSON said this legislature is presently discussing a very large merger in social services agencies to occur in the next two years. It could be the largest department after the reorganization. This committee would report to the next legislature and will ultimately have very important study results to aid the reorganization in the right direction.

Proponents' Testimony:

Sharon Hoff, Montana Catholic Conference, said she supports the bill. This committee will be very important and would be a big part in strengthening society's attitudes and perspectives on social services.

Steve Yeakel, Montana Children's Agenda, said there have been many critical human services issues before the legislature and this bill would address many of those issues by continuing with this very important committee. There are 40 organizations that support children's agenda.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. RED MENAHAN, HD 57, Anaconda, asked **REP. JOHNSON** in the overall picture of the consolidation, how he envisioned the interim committee to be an oversight committee and what authority would it have. The bill doesn't give them more authority than they previously have and the committee is recognized by the Department of Family Services, and all the regional committees. It is bipartisan and recognized by all social services departments. It will ultimately write reports to aid in the reorganization. **REP. MENAHAN** asked how it fit in with the legislature's selection of interim committees to be voted on and financed through general appropriations by the legislative council. **REP. JOHNSON** said he hoped it would fit outside that realm.

REP. JOE QUILICI, HD 36, Butte, said the committee has concluded their 1993-94 interim study results by recommending numerous policy program management changes. He then asked what some of the policy changes were.

REP. BEVERLY BARNHART, HD 29, Bozeman, said she was the chair for the last two years. In the special session, they worked hard to

do a study for services to the elderly. They did a study on aging programs and the department used some policy suggestions immediately. **Mr. Yeakel** said two specific issues were bringing the Department of Labor into the loop and developing a youth crime prevention budget.

REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN, HD 99, Brockway, asked why representatives and senators don't serve on the local level in their communities where they will understand how changes would affect their areas instead of financing an interim committee. The same purpose could be served in their local areas. **REP. JOHNSON** said that was an excellent idea, but in addition to this bill. One problem they had last time was appointing a legislator who didn't run again for the legislature. They need to get a hold on human services in the state of Montana and this is an excellent way of being in that loop.

REP. JOHN COBB, HD 50, Augusta, agrees with **REP. JOHNSON**. They need to get a handle on all the services that are provided.

Closing by Sponsor:


REP. JOHNSON said the Children and Family Committee is very important and could exert positive influence on the regional committees. It will help the reorganization of the human service agencies tremendously.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 578


Motion/Vote: **REP. JOHNSON** MOVED HB 578 DO PASS. Motion carried 15 - 3, with **REPS. DEBRUYCKER, KASTEN** and **VICK** voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 7:15 p.m.



TOM ZOOK, Chairman



MARJORIE PETERSON, Secretary

TZ/mp

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Appropriations

ROLL CALL

DATE 3-17-95

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	✓		



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 20, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Appropriations report that House Bill 552 (first reading copy -- white) do pass.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tom Zook".

Tom Zook, Chair

Committee Vote:
Yes 18, No 0.

641442SC.Hbk



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 20, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Appropriations report that House Bill 577 (first reading copy -- white) do pass.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Zook".

Tom Zook, Chair

Committee Vote:
Yes 18, No 0.

641444SC.Hbk



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 20, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Appropriations report that House Bill 578 (first reading copy -- white) do pass.

Signed: _____

Tom Zook
Tom Zook, Chair

D.S.
Committee Vote:
Yes 15, No 3.

641445SC.Hbk

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VISITOR'S REGISTER

Appropriations COMMITTEE BILL NO. _____
 DATE 3-17-95 SPONSOR(S) _____

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	BILL	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
Steve Yeaker	MT Council for Maternal & Child Health MT Children's Agenda	HB 578		✓
SHARON HOFF	MT CATHOLIC CONF	HB 578		✓

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