

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 54th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE/FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN AUBYN CURTISS**, on February 2, 1995,
at 11:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Aubyn A. Curtiss, Chairman (R)
Rep. Roger Somerville, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)
Rep. George Heavy Runner, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Matt Brainard (R)
Rep. Bill Carey (D)
Rep. Patrick G. Galvin (D)
Rep. Daniel W. McGee (R)
Rep. Judy Murdock (R)
Rep. Robert J. "Bob" Pavlovich (D)
Rep. Ray Peck (D)
Rep. William R. Wiseman (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Patti Borneman, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HJR 15
Executive Action: SJR 3 BE CONCURRED IN
HJR 15 DO PASS

(This meeting was not recorded due to tape malfunction.)

HEARING ON HJR 15

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. BILL WISEMAN introduced House Joint Resolution 15 and said that Malmstrom Air Force Base is in his district. He was stationed there twice, the last time when he retired from the service seventeen years ago. He said that three-quarters of his constituency are affiliated with Malmstrom AFB in some way.

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. Jim Jacobsen, Montana Veteran's Affairs Division, said that they strongly support this resolution because Malmstrom AFB also provides services and amenities to the many veterans who qualify. He said he considers these services--commissary, medical, etc.--to be an entitlement for those who have served their country. Malmstrom AFB is the only one that is active in Montana and he urged the committee's support.

CHAIRMAN AUBYN CURTISS turned the chair over to **VICE CHAIRMAN ROGER SOMERVILLE** so that she could give testimony. She said that she supports this resolution as a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and one concerned about a strong national defense. She stressed the economic benefit of having Malmstrom in the Great Falls area as well as in the state, and also emphasized the need to maintain the base as part of the national defense. She said she believes it's important to "keep defense number one," and urged the committee's favorable vote.

REP. BOB PAVLOVICH wanted to go on record as supporting this resolution.

VICE CHAIRMAN SOMERVILLE voiced his support as a proponent, but said despite the "emotional" tone of the resolution, he wanted to see some comparisons between operational cost in Montana for a base of this type with costs in other states, and he said he expected that Malmstrom probably saves the federal government money, because he's certain the cost is much lower in Montana, and probably the northwest in general. He said it's cheaper to run in Montana and that alone could justify the continued operation of this base.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. RAY PECK asked **Mr. Jacobsen** if he had said that any veteran could use the facilities at the base or just certain veterans.

Mr. Jacobsen answered that only retired or disabled veterans could have continuous use of the base; those veterans who had served their time. He said that these services are not available to all veterans.

REP. PAVLOVICH asked **REP. WISEMAN** about a luncheon that takes place in Great Falls to show support for Malmstrom AFB.

REP. WISEMAN replied that this luncheon is monthly and is sponsored by the Department of Military Affairs. It is community-

supported and is so successful in fostering good community relations with the base that it is observed by other states' military affairs departments as a model.

REP. PECK asked REP. WISEMAN if there was an additional cost to this resolution. He responded that nothing at the AFB would be affected by passage of this resolution; it's only to "get it through the process."

REP. SOMERVILLE expressed his desire to see the cost factor addressed in the resolution and thought it would possible to come up with the figures he discussed earlier and have an amendment to the resolution showing the additional benefit of Malmstrom costing less to operate than other bases.

REP. WISEMAN agreed that this could be done and would enhance the resolution.

CHAIRMAN AUBYN CURTISS closed the meeting.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 3

Motion: REP. MATT BRAINARD MOVED THAT SJR 3 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

REP. PECK said that he would support the resolution, but doesn't believe it is an effective approach; however it does state the position of the legislature. He will not support future amendments.

REP. GEORGE HEAVY RUNNER said that he would also support the resolution, but wanted to caution the committee to be aware of the language used. He was particularly concerned about how this might affect tribal relations with the federal government and said that the Bureau of Indian Affairs is the oldest federal agency in the history of Montana statehood. He said he thinks the resolution has some "loose language" that he plans to watch closely. He further stated that he understands the frustrations experienced by the state, but wanted to mention tribal concerns.

REP. BILL CAREY said that he would not be supporting this resolution as he believes the tone and language are too loose, and would like to see a more reasonable approach.

REP. PAT GALVIN said that Article 6 and the 10th Amendment are in conflict, so he cannot support the resolution.

REP. BRAINARD said they would take into account this conflict and said that as far as he knows (since he is not an attorney), the 10th Amendment was added after Article 6 and, therefore, is intended priority and influence over Article 6. History shows

that the constitution would not have been ratified if the Bill of Rights had not been added.

Vote: Voice vote was taken. The motion passed with **REP. CAREY** and **REP. GALVIN** voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 15

Discussion:

Before making a motion, **REP. WISEMAN** asked **REP. SOMERVILLE** if he wished to amend the resolution.

REP. SOMERVILLE said he would like to see language in the resolution that shows the lower cost base. They agreed to prepare an amendment together and **CHAIRMAN CURTISS** thought they could go ahead with the vote.

Motion: **REP. WISEMAN** MOVED THAT HJR 15 DO PASS.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

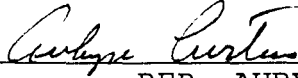
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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:25 a.m.



REP. AUBYN CURTISS, Chairman



PATTI BORNEMAN, Committee Secretary

AC/pb

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State/Federal Relations

ROLL CALL

DATE 2/2/95

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Aubyn Curtiss, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Roger Somerville, Vice Chair, Majority	✓		
Rep. George Heavy Runner, Vice Chair, Min.	✓		
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓		
Rep. Bill Carey	✓		
Rep. Pat Galvin	✓		
Rep. Daniel McGee	✓		
Rep. Judy Rice Murdock	✓		
Rep. Bob Pavlovich	✓		
Rep. Ray Peck	✓		
Rep. Bill Wiseman	✓		



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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State/Federal Relations report that Senate Joint Resolution 3 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in.

Signed: Aubyn Curtiss
Aubyn Curtiss, Chair

Carried by: Rep. Curtiss

Committee Vote:
Yes 9, No 2.

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Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State/Federal Relations report that House Joint Resolution 15 (first reading copy -- white) do pass.

Signed: *Aubyn Curtiss*
Aubyn Curtiss, Chair

Committee Vote:
Yes 11, No 0.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITORS REGISTER

State / Federal Relations

DATE 2/2/95

BILL NO. HJR 15 SPONSOR(S) Rep. Bill Weiman

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

[illegible]

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

HR:1993

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