

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN RICHARD SIMPKINS, on February 15,
1995, at 9:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Richard D. Simpkins, Chairman (R)
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Matt Brainard (R)
Rep. Patrick G. Galvin (D)
Rep. Dick Green (R)
Rep. Antoinette R. Hagener (D)
Rep. Harriet Hayne (R)
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg (R)
Rep. Bonnie Martinez (R)
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo (R)
Rep. William Rehbein, Jr. (R)
Rep. George Heavy Runner (D)
Rep. Susan L. Smith (R)
Rep. Carolyn M. Squires (D)
Rep. Jay Stovall (R)
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)
Rep. Joe Tropila (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Dore Schwinden (D)
Rep. Toni Hagener (D)

Members Absent: NONE

Staff Present: Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Council
Christen Vincent, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HB 523, HB 529
Executive Action: HB 87 TABLED
HB 476 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 523 AMENDMENT PASSED/ACTION ON BILL
POSTPONED
HB 410 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 529 TABLED

{Tape: 1; Side: A.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 87

Motion: REP. MATT DENNY MOVED THAT HB 87 DO PASS.

Substitute Motion: REP. JOE TROPILA MADE A SUBSTITUTE MOTION TO TABLE THE BILL.

Discussion: REP. TROPILA spoke to the sponsor and to the Clerks and Recorders and decided they would have a tough time doing this.

Vote: Motion carried 17-1 with REP. DENNY voting no and REP. BONNIE MARTINEZ as excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 476

Motion: REP. TROPILA MOVED TO RECONSIDER ACTION ON HB 476. Motion carried 17-0 with REP. MARTINEZ as excused.

Motion: REP. JAY STOVALL MOVED THAT HB 476 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Discussion:

REP. BILL REHBEIN stated he didn't want to see this bill die in committee.

REP. PAT GALVIN stated they can't name them because they don't know and without naming they won't be able to have the information they need.

REP. DICK GREEN stated he didn't see this bill as keeping people honest.

REP. DENNY stated he didn't know why they were against this because he didn't think this would stop current actions.

REP. LILA TAYLOR stated getting the addresses from the county she viewed as small and they had to have some basis for doing things. They didn't say this would take the price of doing things down.

REP. STOVALL stated this doesn't put fees in front. It moves from the last phase of the project to the third phase. There is more leeway to do what they think is right with this bill. This will not degrade the work that is being done or that would be done.

REP. REHBEIN stated REP. DENNY is in opposition to the bill when he said a few firms have a group of people they hire and they don't want to go outside of that circle.

REP. DENNY stated this will make the group smaller. They need to know all of the details. With this restriction it would make for more work.

REP. GREEN believed he was wrong. There had always been fewer in the public eye. There are always quite a few people bidding on these projects.

REP. GALVIN stated this is something they need to look at.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS stated the bidding is currently blind. They go down the qualifications to determine who the best person is for the project. This has messed up the system.

Written testimony opposing HB 476 was faxed to the committee from Charles H. Kestle, AIA, and Walter H. Hinick, AIA. EXHIBITS 5 and 6

{Tape: 1; Side: B.}

Vote: Motion carried 12-6 with REPS. DENNY, SCHWINDEN, GALVIN, HEAVY RUNNER, KITZENBERG, AND SQUIRES voting no. REPS. SCHWINDEN AND HAGENER voting by proxy.

HEARING ON HB 523

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. JEANETTE MCKEE, HD 60, passed out amendments to the bill. EXHIBIT 1 She stated this bill was before the committee at the request of the Governor. It would move the commitment from the Governor's Office. It would increase numbers. It clarifies the state agency roles, provides statistics, and would repeal the enterprise act.

Proponents' Testimony:

SEN. DOROTHY ECK, SD 15, stated this is a creative and important idea. It changes lives in the young people. She spoke about the Volunteers of America which doesn't just concentrate on the young. This would broaden the experience of the people involved. She believed they need to commit to this program.

Mary Blake, Executive Director, Office of Community Service, stated this was started during the last legislative session. The state wouldn't benefit without this office. She submitted EXHIBITS 2, 3 and 4. This bill explains the duties. They don't want to have duplicate duties.

Dr. George Dennison, President, University of Montana, stated getting things done is what this is all about. This bill would help design the projects and integrate them into the system as well as restoring community service.

Bob Frasier, Past President, Montana Conservation Corps, stated this is an opportunity to make well needed improvements.

Steve Nelson, Director, Montana Conservation Corps, stated this is a three-year non-profit organization that makes a great deal of sense. There are 150 members who go through the program and this would help improve what they have. In Kalispell, the people are asked to donate money for programs like this. They have dedicated over 3,000 hours to parks and bridges among other things. This would help put young people in and give them a chance. It would give them an opportunity to get involved.

Shani Daniele Abell, Montana Conservation Corps, stated there is much diversity when doing these projects. It makes people feel like they are more of a part of the community. These people work hard at what they do and enjoy it.

Douglas Boardman, Dan Toberer, Jebb Lackey, and Tricia Harold, Montana Conservation Corps, all spoke in favor of the bill and asked for the committee's favorable consideration of the bill.

Opponents' Testimony: none

Informational Testimony: none

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. BRAINARD asked if anyone had helped fight the fires during the past summer as part of their duties.

Mr. Nelson said they had people help with the fires.

REP. BRAINARD asked how many people had helped with the fires.

Mr. Nelson stated there had been seven or eight individuals that had helped out during the fire season.

REP. DENNY asked how often they meet and how much it costs for them to do so.

Ms. Blake stated they meet every two months. This won't increase costs.

REP. DENNY stated it looked as though they are expanding projects that are normally done by contractors.

Mr. Brown stated all projects are reviewed so they are not in competition with anyone else.

REP. SQUIRES asked if these people are considered to be state employees.

Mr. Brown stated they are not state workers and no state workers are replaced by the projects they do.

REP. REHBEIN asked if they are getting \$2 million at the current time.

Ms. Blake stated that was correct.

REP. REHBEIN asked how much of that money is general fund money.

Ms. Blake replied that no general fund money is used to fund this.

REP. REHBEIN asked how much money they were asking for this time.

Ms. Blake stated they are asking for \$50,000.

REP. REHBEIN asked if they are asking anything from the local level.

Ms. Blake stated they all have local funds.

REP. REHBEIN stated there is a feeling that people don't want to do something that they will eventually end up with unnecessary projects in order to use the money.

Ms. Blake agreed. He stated they would be facilitating the communities.

REP. SMITH asked how many FTE's this would include.

Ms. Blake stated there would be 1.5 FTE's.

REP. SMITH asked what they make.

Ms. Blake stated they make about \$40,000 a year.

REP. SMITH asked how many people were from Montana that were involved in this program.

Ms. Blake stated there were about 201 in the AmeriCorp, which is a 20% decrease from previous years.

REP. SMITH asked him to explain the sunset clause in the bill.

Ms. Blake stated it has to do with the state appropriations.

REP. SMITH asked if this was a federally mandated organization.

Ms. Blake said it wasn't.

REP. TAYLOR asked if he had any idea what this would be on a federal level.

Ms. Blake stated there is still a program there. They are in the negative with money so he didn't think the program would be growing.

REP. MASOLO asked what these people are paid.

Ms. Blake stated they are paid \$4.25 an hour.

REP. BRAINARD asked how this is supervised.

Ms. Blake stated there is a crew supervisor.

REP. SQUIRES asked if this was gone from Montana if some other state would pick up the tab.

Ms. Blake stated the other states wouldn't pay for this.

REP. REHBEIN asked if Mr. Nelson was employed by the program.

Mr. Nelson stated he was employed by the program.

REP. REHBEIN asked what his salary was.

Mr. Nelson stated it was \$32,000 a year.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS asked if they would have problems with the unions.

Ms. Blake stated they had worked closely with the unions in the past and she didn't see it as a problem.

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. McKEE stated this bill deals with the issue of crime control. There are federal funds for this program and they can choose to say no to them. She hoped the committee would give the bill their favorable consideration.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 523

Motion/Vote: REP. SQUIRES MOVED THAT HB 523 DO PASS. REP. SQUIRES MOVED THE AMENDMENT. Motion carried 17-1 with REP. BRAINARD voting no and REP. SCHWINDEN voting by proxy.

Further action to pass the bill was postponed until a later date.

HEARING ON HB 529

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. BRAD MOLNAR stated this bill had to do with rulemaking. He believed that they need to consider law when they are approving an administrative rule that would be implemented into law.

Proponents' Testimony:

none

Opponents' Testimony:

Laurie Eckanger, Governor's Office, stated the committee would have too much authority if this bill were to be implemented. There may also be constitutional problems with the bill. Things need to be changed and updated, but not this way.

Informational Testimony:

none

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. TAYLOR asked if the reason is statewide or federal.

Ms. Eckanger stated it is everyone's goal that people are not left out of the legislative process. There is a problem in the rulemaking process.

REP. DENNY asked if they would need a statement of intent.

REP. MOLNAR stated they should.

REP. DENNY asked how they would answer to the legislation of the past.

REP. MOLNAR stated they wanted to look at the rules and the law and make sure that from now on there are no discrepancies with what is currently written.

REP. STOVALL asked when the legislature would approve the rules.

REP. MOLNAR stated they would approve them during the next session.

REP. TROPILA asked if he attends the meetings.

REP. MOLNAR stated he did attend some and others he did not attend.

REP. SQUIRES asked if there is any way to challenge the rules.

REP. MOLNAR stated there was a way.

REP. SQUIRES asked how they would go about challenging a rule.

REP. MOLNAR stated they would have to go to the meetings.

REP. SQUIRES asked if they would have to go to the Codes Committee.

REP. MOLNAR stated they wouldn't.

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. MOLNAR closed.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 410

Motion/Vote: REP. MASOLO MOVED THAT HB 410 DO PASS. REP. HAYNE MOVED THE AMENDMENT. Motion carried unanimously with REP. SCHWINDEN, REP. HEAVY RUNNER, and REP. KITZENBERG voting by proxy. EXHIBIT 7

Motion/Vote: REP. HAYNE MOVED THAT HB 410 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried 16-4 with REPS. SCHWINDEN, GALVIN, HEAVY RUNNER, and SQUIRES voting no and REPS. SCHWINDEN, HEAVY RUNNER, and KITZENBERG voting by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 529


Motion: REP. DENNY MOVED THAT HB 529 DO PASS.

Substitute Motion/Vote: REP. DENNY MADE A SUBSTITUTE MOTION TO TABLE HB 529. Motion carried unanimously with REPS. SCHWINDEN, HEAVY RUNNER, AND KITZENBERG voting by proxy.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS submitted EXHIBITS 8 THROUGH 29 into the record.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 A.M.


RICHARD SIMPKINS, Chairman


CHRISTEN VINCENT, Secretary

RS/cdv

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State Administration

ROLL CALL

DATE 2-15-95

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓		
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chair, Minority			✓
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓		
Rep. Pat Galvin	✓		
Rep. Dick Green	✓		
Rep. Toni Hager			✓
Rep. Harriet Hayne	✓		
Rep. George Heavy Runner	✓		
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg	✓		
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓		
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	✓		
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓		
Rep. Susan Smith	✓		
Rep. Jay Stovall	✓		
Rep. Carolyn Squires	✓		
Rep. Lila Taylor	✓		
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓		



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 15, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State Administration report that **House Bill 410** (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed: *Dick Simpkins*
Dick Simpkins, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, lines 4 through 6

COMMITTEE FILE COPY

TABLED BILL

The **HOUSE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** TABLED **HB 87, HB 529**, by motion, on **WEDNESDAY, February 15, 1995**.

Christen Vincent
(For the Committee)

D. Skelton
(For the Chief Clerk)

12:35
(Time)

2-15-95
(Date)

February 15, 1995 -- 12:29pm

Christen Vincent, Secretary

Phone: 4879



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 15, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State Administration report that House Bill 476 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed: *Dick Simpkins*
Dick Simpkins, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 19.
Strike: "adequately"

2. Page 2.
Following: line 12
Insert:

"NEW SECTION. Section 3. Saving clause. [This act] does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this act]."

-END-

Committee Vote:
Yes 12, No 6.

391318SC.Hbk

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 2-15-95 BILL NO. HB NUMBER 529

MOTION: Rep. Matt Denny made a subst. mot.

TO TABLE.

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman, Minority	✓	
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓	
Rep. Pat Galvin	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener	✓	
Rep. Harriet Hayne	✓	
Rep. George Heavy Runner	✓	
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	✓	
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Jay Stovall	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires	✓	
Rep. Lila Taylor	✓	
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 2-15-95 BILL NO. HB NUMBER 4110

MOTION: Rep. Hayne made the motion to Pass as amended.

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman, ^{Proxy} Minority		✓
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓	
Rep. Pat Galvin		✓
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener	/	
Rep. Harriet Hayne	/	
Rep. George Heavy Runner ^{Proxy}		✓
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg ^{Proxy}	/	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	/	
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	/	
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	/	
Rep. Jay Stovall	/	
Rep. Carolyn Squires		✓
Rep. Lila Taylor	/	
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 2-15-95 BILL NO. HB NUMBER 410

MOTION: Rep. Hayne moved the amendment.

hb041001.gsh

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman, ^{Proxy} Minority	✓	
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓	
Rep. Pat Galvin	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener	✓	
Rep. Harriet Hayne	✓	
Rep. George Heavy Runner ^{Proxy}	✓	
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg ^{Proxy}	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	✓	
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Jay Stovall	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires	✓	
Rep. Lila Taylor	✓	
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 2-15-95 BILL NO. HB NUMBER 87

MOTION: Rep. Tropila made sub. motion to TABLE

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority		✓
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman, ^{Proxy} Minority	✓	
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓	
Rep. Pat Galvin	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener Proxy	✓	
Rep. Harriet Hayne	✓	
Rep. George Heavy Runner	✓	
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez		✓
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	✓	
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Jay Stovall	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires	✓	
Rep. Lila Taylor	✓	
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 2-15-95 BILL NO. #B NUMBER 523

MOTION: Rep. Squires moved the amendment.

hb052301.ash

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman, ^{PROX} Minority	✓	
Rep. Matt Brainard		✓
Rep. Pat Galvin	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener	✓	
Rep. Harriet Hayne	✓	
Rep. George Heavy Runner	✓	
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	✓	
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Jay Stovall	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires	✓	
Rep. Lila Taylor	✓	
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 2-15-95 BILL NO. HB NUMBER 476

MOTION: Rep. Stovall made the motion Do Pass as amended

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority		✓
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman, ^{Proxy} Minority		✓
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓	
Rep. Pat Galvin		✓
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener ^{Proxy}	✓	
Rep. Harriet Hayne	✓	
Rep. George Heavy Runner		✓
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg		✓
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	✓	
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Jay Stovall	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires		✓
Rep. Lila Taylor	✓	
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 2-13-95 BILL NO. HB NUMBER 476

MOTION: Rep. Tropila moved to reconsider action.

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Dick Simpkin, Chairman	✓	
Rep. Matt Denny, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Dore Schwinden, Vice Chairman, ^{Proxy} Minority	✓	
Rep. Matt Brainard	✓	
Rep. Pat Galvin	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener ^{Proxy}	✓	
Rep. Harriet Hayne	✓	
Rep. George Heavy Runner	✓	
Rep. Sam Kitzenberg	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo	✓	
Rep. Bill Rehbein	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Jay Stovall	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires	—	—
Rep. Lila Taylor	✓	
Rep. Joe Tropila	✓	

E

2-15-95

I hereby give my proxy

to Rep. Downey.

~~HB 511~~ ✓

~~HS 18~~ ✓ N

~~HB 423~~ ✓

HB 529-N (title: Y)

HB 410-Y-amendment Y to Bill

Sam Yitzopoulos

Amendments to House Bill No. 523
First Reading Copy

Requested by Rep. McKee
For the Committee on House State Administration

Prepared by Sheri S. Heffelfinger
February 14, 1995

1. Title, line 8.
Following: "PROGRAMS;"
Insert: "CHANGING THE NAME OF THE MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS;"

2. Title, line 10.
Following: "17-7-502,"
Insert: "23-1-301, 23-1-302, 23-1-312, 90-14-102,"

3. Page 2.
Following: line 16
Insert:

"Section 2. Section 23-1-301, MCA, is amended to read:
"23-1-301. Montana department of fish, wildlife, and parks conservation corps -- purpose and intent. (1) There is a Montana department of fish, wildlife and parks conservation corps within the parks division of the department of fish, wildlife, and parks. The corps is part of the Montana community service corps provided for under Title 90, chapter 14, part 1, and is subject to the oversight of the office of community service.
(2) The purpose of the corps is to accomplish labor-intensive improvements to the state park system and to other public lands and to perform community service activities for which specific responsibilities are accepted through service contracts.
(3) It is the intent of the legislature that the corps grow in productive ways and that state agencies involved with the corps provide coordination of the conservation corps program and the programs established under Title 90, chapter 14, part 1. The legislature also intends that the Montana conservation corps program have the authority to contract with the job service or the human resource development council, as defined in 53-10-501."

Section 3. Section 23-1-302, MCA, is amended to read:
"23-1-302. Definitions. As used in this part, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:
(1) "Corps" means the Montana department of fish, wildlife, and parks conservation corps.
(2) "Corps coordinator" means the person who acts as the corps administrative officer and employs the staff necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter.
(3) "Corpsmember" means a participant in the corps.
(4) "Crewleader" means a participant in the corps who supervises corpsmembers.

(5) "Department" means the department of fish, wildlife, and parks provided for in 2-15-3401.

(6) "Division" means the parks division of the department of fish, wildlife, and parks.

(7) "State agencies" means the departments of fish, wildlife, and parks; social and rehabilitation services; labor and industry; state lands; family services; and natural resources and conservation."

Section 4. Section 23-1-312, MCA, is amended to read:

"23-1-312. Eligibility for employment in program -- referrals. (1) To be eligible to participate in the Montana ~~conservation~~ corps program, a person must:

(a) be a citizen of the state as defined in 1-1-402;

(b) be 18 years of age or older to qualify for the adult corps and at least 16 years of age and under 22 years of age to qualify for the summer youth corps;

(c) be capable of performing labor-intensive work; and

(d) meet the requirement of the job service and the human resource development council, as defined in 53-10-501, for participation in job training programs, be assigned by the department of family services as a youth under state supervision, be unemployed, or be accepted as an unpaid volunteer.

(2) Eligibility for corpsmembers must be determined by local job service offices and summer youth program operators. If the number of corps positions is insufficient to place all eligible individuals who apply for participation in the program, the job service may, upon approval by the applicant, provide the name of an eligible individual to private sector employers or to job training programs requesting referrals."

Section 5. Section 90-14-102, MCA, is amended to read:

"90-14-102. Definitions. As used in this part, unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Advisory council" means the advisory council on community service appointed by the governor to assist in implementation of this part.

(2) "Community service" means any kind of public service that provides a benefit to the state of Montana, any of its political subdivisions, or a tribal government or that benefits disadvantaged or low-income persons, disabled persons, or senior citizens of Montana.

(3) "Coordinator" means the person appointed by the governor as the community service coordinator to administer and coordinate the provisions of this part.

(4) "Corps" means the Montana community service corps, which includes any organization established to provide community services under this part and the Montana department of fish, wildlife, and parks conservation corps created under 23-1-301.

(5) "Corpsmember" means a participant in the corps.

(6) "Crewleader" means a participant in the corps who supervises corpsmembers.

(7) "Program" means the Montana community service corps program, which includes all of the corps, educational projects, and volunteer projects established under this part and under the

Montana department of fish, wildlife, and parks conservation
corps established in 23-1-301.

(8) "Volunteer" means a person performing services under this part for an association, not-for-profit corporation, hospital, school, or state, local, or tribal governmental entity without compensation, except that partial or full reimbursement may be made for actual expenses incurred."

Renumber: subsequent sections

Community Service Council

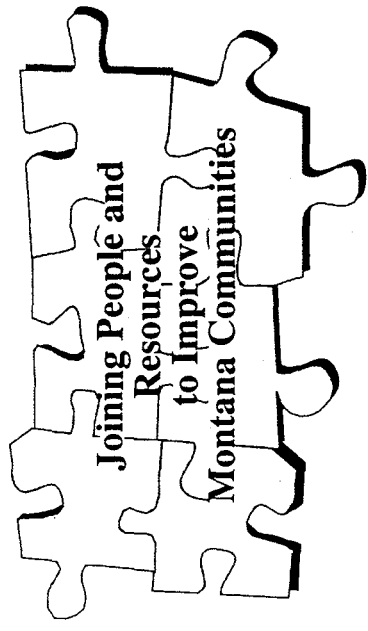
The nonpartisan Community Service Council directs the Office of Community Service and advises the Governor.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| George Dennison | University of Montana |
| Nancy Coopersmith | Office of Public Instruction |
| Bob Simoneau | Dept. of Labor and Industry |
| Gertrude Downey | Butte Human Resource Council |
| Joe Lovelady | Corporation for National Service |
| Candace Bowman | Fergus County Council on Aging |
| Billie Krenzler | Billings City Council |
| Kathy Ramirez | Helena United Way |
| Norma Bixby | Northern Cheyenne Tribal Govt. |
| Charles McCarthy | Department of Family Services |
| Arnold Olsen | Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks |
| Meredith Hariton | Former AmeriCorps Member |
| Patricia Gunderson | MPEA, Belgrade |
| Loren Oelkers | Montana National Guard |
| Jan Kenitzer | Business Owner, Baker |
| Kay Hopkins | Community Volunteer, Kalispell |

"One of the most important things we can teach our young people is the ethic of community service. Service is a habit of the heart - search your heart for ways you can serve."

George Dennison, President
University of Montana

Office of Community Service



For more information
please contact:

Office of Community Service
State Capitol Building
Room 219
Helena, MT 59620
(406) 444-5547
(406) 444-5529 (fax)

"Our own actions may seem insignificant; but when we all join together and volunteer, we can make an enormous difference in the lives of each other and our communities."

Governor Marc Racicot

Purpose

The Office of Community Service was created through the combined efforts of the 1993 Montana Legislature and the Office of the Governor. We support community-based volunteer programs that address critical community needs.

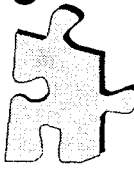
The vision of this office is to ensure that helping each other becomes a primary part of every Montanan's life and heritage.

We accomplish our vision by:

- Renewing the ethic of civic responsibility,
- Encouraging young people to serve in ways that benefit both their communities and their own personal and professional development,
- Building on existing resources to expand community service,
- Encouraging citizens to engage in community service, and
- Enlisting volunteers to make improvement to public and low-income properties.

Programs

The office promotes an ethic of service by joining people and resources to improve Montana communities.



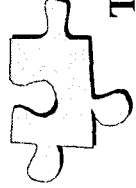
Getting Things Done: Action Planning Grants

These grants are awarded to communities to build volunteer resources. With community-wide support, volunteers tackle critical issues in the areas of education, public safety, human needs, and the environment. This is part of a growing awareness that volunteer participation can play an important role toward "getting things done" in local communities.



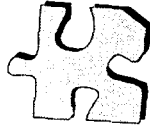
Advocacy for Volunteers

In order to heighten awareness of volunteer citizen participation in community efforts, the Office of Community Service provides public information and education about the importance of service to one's community and neighbors.



Networking, Training and Technical Assistance

This office jointly sponsors training conferences to provide community service programs with networking and training opportunities. In addition, we supply technical assistance and resource materials for volunteer programs statewide.



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is similar to a domestic Peace Corps that engages Americans in full- or part-time service to communities. In exchange for service, AmeriCorps members receive help in financing their education. Montana has 200 AmeriCorps members meeting needs in our communities. Some of these needs include restoring our natural resources, tutoring our teenagers, protecting rights of seniors, enhancing protective health services and combating crime and other social ills.



Learn and Serve America

Learn and Serve America promotes programs that enrich academic learning and foster personal growth while meeting community needs.

Learn and Serve K-12

This office works together with the Office of Public Instruction to provide opportunities for students to learn and develop their own capabilities as they serve their communities.

Learn and Serve Higher Education

Montana Campus Compact, which includes most of Montana's universities and colleges, increases campus-wide participation in community service and ensures that volunteer service is a valued component of higher education.

Promoting an Ethic of Service

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

OVERVIEW

- ▶ **AMERICORPS** (National Service Program, like a domestic Peace Corps): By State and Federal Statute, administer AmeriCorps funds, providing state match, technical assistance, training and program support for successful operation. AmeriCorps members work in the areas of human needs, education, public safety and environment. In FY 95 with \$110,000 state match, these programs will provide:
 - * 201 Montanans with commitments to community service;
 - * 274,500 hours of community service to hundreds of projects across the state;
 - * Over \$2,000,000 federal funds leveraged to Montana communities; and
 - * \$733,900 in educational awards to AmeriCorps members.
 - * Serving areas around Billings, Lewistown, Bozeman, Helena, Missoula, Pablo/Ronan area, Kalispell, Browning, Fort Belknap and Great Falls.

- ▶ **LOCAL VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT GRANTS:** Competitive "Getting Things Done" grants of \$12,000 each to support a strategic planning process to accomplish community needs through volunteer/community service projects.
 - * Lewistown
 - * Butte-Silver Bow
 - * Libby
 - * Anaconda-Deer Lodge
 - * Superior
 - * Ravalli County

- ▶ **COLLABORATION WITH SCHOOLS, HIGHER EDUCATION AND JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS:** Promoting and supporting the opportunity of community service as a tool for learning the "real life" application of school curriculum and employment choices.

- ▶ **SUPPORT LOCAL VOLUNTEER EFFORTS:** Through technical assistance, providing support for training in areas of volunteer recruitment, retention and management for non-profits, schools, local and state government; advocacy for use of volunteers, young and old, to contribute to their communities; encourage individuals, families, businesses and organizations to encourage community service in everyday life.

For information, contact:

Mary Blake, Coordinator
Office of Community Service
State Capitol Building
444-5547

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

PRIORITIES AND GOALS

1/9/95

National Priority Areas Approved By State Council for Montana:

- * Education
- * Public Safety
- * Human Needs
- * Environment

1995-7 GOALS:

1. *Engaging All Montanans in Service to their Community, State and Each Other:*
 - ▶ promoting "family oriented" community service projects, where families volunteer together, and
 - ▶ creating a youth council in partnership with the Office of Public Instruction and its service learning project to engage more school-age youth in service.
2. *Assisting Communities and Agencies to Recognize and Utilize Citizens as Resources for Assessing and Solving Problems:*
 - ▶ creating community service/volunteer components within most state agencies;
 - ▶ expanding Montana's two primary models for AmeriCorps, the Montana Conservation Corps and the Volunteer Montana! model to more communities and more sites within existing communities; and
 - ▶ continuing the "Getting Things Done" community grants to facilitate volunteer development to resolve community issues.
3. *Strengthening Service Infrastructure:*
 - ▶ collaborating on all levels, using training activities as a networking tool;
 - ▶ developing and implementing two statewide, annual training and networking conferences, sponsored by the Office of Community Service, the State Extension Service (4-H), University System (Campus Compact), Office of Public Instruction, and the Missoula Volunteer Council (current sponsor of Western MT Volunteer Conference);
 - ▶ providing statewide training on community service/ volunteerism issues for Corporation grantees as well as existing community-based organizations; and
 - ▶ creating a resource library for community service and volunteer organizations.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
OTHER INFORMATION

1/9/95

'95 Educational Awards: 200 AmeriCorps members = \$733,900 in tuition and student loan resources

Partners in support of community service and volunteerism:

- MSU Extension Service (4-H and economic development)
- Office of Public Instruction
- Campus Compact (14 university & college campuses)
- US Forest Service
- State Lands
- Dept of Transportation
- Dept of Labor & Industry
- Human Resource Development Councils
- Aging Services
- Volunteer networks and organizations
- United Ways
- Community-based service organizations
- Cities, towns and counties
- Juvenile Justice
- Dept of Family Services
- Local Schools

Some of the Communities Served By Program Funds:

Butte-Silver Bow	Libby
Anaconda-Deer Lodge	Superior
Ravalli County	Lewistown/Fergus County
Helena	Missoula
Kalispell	Billings
Bozeman	Glendive
Frenchtown	Wisdom
Stevensville	Eureka
Phillipsburg	Salish-Kootenai
Browning	Fort Belknap
Hungry Horse	Lincoln

Effectiveness of a Biennial Budget:

The Corporation for National Service which provides most of the federal funds for community service projects, training and leadership has various grant end dates and a great deal of flexibility depending upon local state and community needs. The ability to use the matching and grant funds over the biennium has allowed Montana to leverage the optimum amount of federal dollars for existing local community needs.

Volunteer Montana!

22 full-time positions located in Missoula, Billings, Lewistown and Helena.

A community service program designed to expand the service delivery in health care, hunger, housing, education, environment, and crime prevention. The Volunteer Montana! corpsmembers will work at developing effective volunteer programs, recruiting volunteers and training volunteers to implement local programs. The new volunteer programs will directly assist their community in areas such as rehabilitating low-income housing structures, providing probation services to juvenile offenders, setting up literacy programs, creating respite care for families with Alzheimers, and creating after school and summer school programs. *For more information call Jim Harris at 728-7682.*

Montana Conservation Corps (MCC)

32 full-time and 78 part-time positions located in Billings, Bozeman, Kalispell and Missoula.

A program that enhances the social and natural environment of Montana by providing people with employment in natural and human resource stewardship. MCC corpsmembers will work primarily on natural resource related projects such as trail construction and maintenance; park improvements such as constructing shelters, making facilities handicapped accessible, or building safe playgrounds; habitat enhancements such as stream rehabilitation or tree thinning; and a variety of community projects range from constructing affordable housing to repairing homes for the elderly. *For more information call Steve Nelsen at 406-587-4475.*

Fort Belknap Program

20 full-time positions located throughout the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation.

The program will accomplish two important community projects with the assistance of AmeriCorps members. The first is improvement of recreation areas through work on natural resource enhancement projects such as trail construction and maintenance; park improvements such as constructing shelters, making facilities handicapped accessible, or building safe playgrounds; and habitat enhancements such as stream rehabilitation and tree thinning. The second is the construction, program development and operation of a public radio system serving the reservation. *For information call Andrea Brockie at 353-2607 or Barbara Stiffarm at 353-480*

Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps

30 full-time and 6 part-time members located throughout the Blackfeet Indian Reservation.

The program will provide services, including home visits to poison and safety proof homes; one-on-one follow-up and education of victims and families involved in alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents and deaths; and work with youth, community members on conflict resolution and cultural beliefs to prevent violence. *For more information call Colleen Williamson at 338-7102.*

Salish Kootenai AmeriCorps

5 full-time and 5 part-time members located throughout the Flathead Indian Reservation.

The program will work with Head Start and day care providers throughout the reservation to assist in native language and cultural awareness instruction. Members will also help licensed and exempt day care providers in meeting federal safety and health guidelines. *For more information call Terry Baker at 675-4800.*

National Farmworker Training and Service Program

3 full-time members located throughout Montana.

The program helps migrant and seasonal farmworkers reduce their exposure to pesticides and access health, education, and supportive services. AmeriCorps Members become state-certified pesticide safety trainers and train farmworkers in pesticide safety as required by the EPA Workers Protection Standards. *For more information call Luther Robison at 442-7850.*

GETTING THINGS DONE - ACTION PLANNING GRANTS

Governor Marc Racicot will award "Getting Things Done" grants to the communities of **Butte/Silver Bow, Libby, Superior, Lewistown, Anaconda/Deer Lodge and Ravalli County** on September 12, 1994. These communities are awarded funds to discuss and plan for more effective use of volunteer resources to solve their communities most pressing needs.

In April the Governor's Office of Community Service announced the availability of small one-year grants from the Office of Community Services designed to help medium and small Montana communities discuss and plan for the more effective use of local volunteer resources and prepare to access new state and federal volunteer resources. Community applications came from the Mayor's Office or Board of County Commissioners and were supported by a large number of the local agencies involved in providing services in the areas of human needs, education, public safety and the environment as well as community organizations and civic groups involved in providing volunteers or group projects in those areas.

This grant program is part of a growing awareness across the state and nation that volunteer citizen participation can play an important role toward getting things done in local communities. The word "volunteer" tends to call forth a variety of traditional images ranging from those who make coffee at meetings, to volunteer fire fighters, to civic service club projects, to church activities, and so on.

Today we can add to those traditional images and examples right here in Montana, volunteers serving regularly in law enforcement agencies and the judicial system doing routine, but "real" police and court work; volunteers serving to promote local economies by being the principal staff resource to tourist information centers on major tourist travel routes; volunteers serving local school systems by providing support to teachers and administrators in financially strapped school districts.

In short, volunteers are helping taxpayers get more for their tax dollar, and helping to build their communities into healthy, liveable places to raise children, to work, to play -- and to stay.

MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS

1994

PARTICIPANTS - 153 Corpsmembers

- * Gender Equity, 99 male 54 female
- * Diverse cultural, educational and social backgrounds
- * 72,179.25 hours of service

PROJECTS - Twenty-five projects in fifteen communities

- * Seven back-country (spike) projects
- * Sponsors contribute education, technical support & materials
- * Each project has safety plan reviewed at daily "tailgate" session

COMMUNITY PROJECTS - 3000 hours in the following communities:

Glendive	Missoula	Eureka	Phillipsburg
Billings	Stevensville	Libby	Bozeman
Frenchtown	Lincoln	Ft. Belknap	Salish-Kootenai
Wisdom	Browning	Hungry Horse	

NATURAL RESOURCE PROJECTS

- * Phillipsburg crew spent 58 days on forest fire duty
- * 119 miles of trail built or cleared
- * 26 buildings built or repaired; 8 miles of fence constructed
- * 80,000 trees netted; 3,000 trees planted
- * 40 horse stalls repaired; 1 corral built; 1 corral repaired
- * 990 acres of wildlife habitat improved
- * 2700 feet of trout stream improved
- * 16 parks/playgrounds constructed or retrofitted
- * 3 bridges built; 1 boat dock built
- * 120 participants certified in first aid/CPR
- * over 2000 hours in unpaid volunteer service
- * Closed 25 abandoned mines
- * 21 homes repaired for Senior Citizens
- * Currently replacing Lewis and Clark Caverns Trail
- * Over 3000 hours of Community Projects for food banks, Salvation Army, human service programs, etc.

**Volunteer Montana!
Service Site Overview**

Missoula Region

Five (5) volunteers will be recruited to initiate and operate an Elder Rights Ombudsman Service (through *Missoula Aging Services*) for older adults receiving support services in their home.

Habitat for Humanity uses volunteers in a varied capacities to construct affordable low-income housing for citizens. For this project, 100 volunteers will be recruited by an AmeriCorps Member.

With an emphasis on creating service learning opportunities and other community service options for youth in the areas of education, public safety, the environment and human welfare, *The Volunteer Clearinghouse* plans to recruit 100 volunteers.

The Senior Environment Corps supports a variety of environmental programming, capitalizing on the skills and talents of older adults. An AmeriCorps Member will assist in recruiting 50 volunteers.

Lewistown Region

A small, rural community, The City of Lewistown has a need to enhance community programming for youth to support the City's crime prevention, community building and youth development initiatives. Through participation in Volunteer Montana!, the City of Lewistown expects to recruit 30 volunteers.

One hundred seventy five (175) volunteers are planned for two projects within the Youth Division of Montana's Tenth Judicial District. Through one project, a formal community service project will be established for youth given community service sentencing. Through this Court's *Guardian Ad Litem Program*, volunteers will be recruited as court advocates for abused and neglected children.

At the *Fergus County Council on Aging*, an AmeriCorps Members will assist in developing a volunteer program targeting older adults who would provide volunteer services in response to community needs related to public safety, the environment, human needs and education. A goal of 75 volunteers is planned for the service year.

The Human Resources Development Council will use AmeriCorps Members to recruit 65 volunteers for two of its projects: (1) an affordable housing program for low-income citizens in Central Montana; and (2) an energy conservation education project targeting low-income senior Citizens in Central Montana.

Billings Region

Lockwood Schools seeks to make its technology Center (computers, satellite downlink, audio/visual, etc.) more accessible to the community. Twenty (20) volunteers will be recruited to support outreach and training aimed at enhancing access.

At Senior Helping Hands, Inc., an AmeriCorps Member will recruit 30 volunteers who will: (1) provide respite services for Alzheimer's caregivers in Yellowstone County and two surrounding counties; (2) provide a telephone reassurance service to homebound elders; and (3) provide outreach services to minority populations in Yellowstone County.

Montana Peoples Action will use an AmeriCorps Member to recruit 50 volunteers who will support the rehabilitation of at least six houses by September 1994 for low-income persons.

To respond to a variety of community needs related to the environment, education, human welfare and public safety, the Volunteer Center/United Way of Yellowstone County is using an AmeriCorps Member to recruit at least 100 volunteers.

Helena Region

Child Care Partnerships will utilize an AmeriCorps volunteer to recruit a minimum of 30 volunteers to provide ongoing safety review of 100 day care facilities in Lewis and Clark County.

Through the use of two AmeriCorps Members, Rocky Mountain Development Council will recruit 50 volunteers to: (1) implement and maintain a volunteer-based home delivered meals programs for the Helena valley; and (2) implement and maintain an outreach/referral program and a support services program (e.g., tutoring, skill training, housing referral, etc.) for a coalition of homeless programs in Helena.

A home for unwed teen mothers, the Florence Crittenton Home will utilize an AmeriCorps Members to recruit 25 volunteers to provide varied services for clients (e.g., child care workers, trainers, mentors, etc.).

AMERICORPS

▶ BUILDING MEMBERS:

- * 1700 hours of Service per year
- * \$7,660/year Living Allowance
- * \$4,725 Educational Award
- * Skill and Leadership Training
- * Medical and Limited Child Care Benefits

▶ BUILDING COMMUNITIES:

- * Provide Community Service in the Areas of:
 - Human Needs
 - Public Safety
 - Education
 - Environment
- * Support Existing Organizations Efforts in Community Service

COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEMBER LIST (11/28/94)

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith
Office of Public Instruction
State Capitol Box 202501
Helena MT 59620
HOME # 449-7143
WORK # 444-5541
FAX # 444-3924

Mr. Bob Simoneau
Job Service Division
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Helena MT 59624
HOME # 449-8806
WORK # 444-2607
FAX # 444-3037

Mr. Arnie Olsen
Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena MT 59620
HOME # 442-7594
WORK # 444-3750
FAX # 444-4952

Ms. Gertrude Downey
Human Resources Council
District XII
P.O. Box 3486
Butte MT 59702
HOME # 723-6805
WORK # 782-8886
FAX # 782-0318

Mr. George Dennison, President
University of Montana
Missoula MT 59812
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WORK # 243-2311
FAX # 243-2797

Ms. Susan Callaghan
Montana Power Company
40 East Broadway
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WORK # 496-5000
FAX # 496-5051

Mr. Charles McCarthy
Department of Family Services
P.O. Box 8005
Helena MT 59604-4001
HOME # 227-5054
WORK # 444-5910
FAX # 444-5956

Mr. Joe R. Lovelady
ACTION
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208 N. Montana Avenue, Suite 206
Helena MT 59601
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HOME # 443-7105
FAX # 449-5412

Major Loren Oelkers
Montana National Guard
P.O. Box 4789
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FAX # 444-6973

Ms. Kathy Sova Ramirez
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WORK # 442-4360
FAX # 442-3665

Ms. Patricia J. Gunderson
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WORK # 994-6100
FAX # 994-6105

Ms. Jan Kenitzer
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WORK # 778-3341
FAX # 778-2753

Ms. Kay Hopkins
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FAX # 257-7401

Ms. Billie Krenzler
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FAX # 248-2943

Ms. Meredith Hariton
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Ms. Candace Bowman
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WORK # 538-7486
FAX # 538-7249

Ms. Norma Bixby
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LameDeer, MT 59043
HOME # 757-2517
WORK # 477-6602
FAX # 477-6219

**Montana Community Service Coordinator
Governor's Office**

Mary Blake, Coordinator
Community Services Office
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620-0801
HOME # 443-5698
WORK # 444-5547
FAX # 444-5529

Non Voting Members

Arnie Olsen
Major Loren Oelkers
Susan Callaghan
Joe Lovelady

OVERVIEW OF FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDS

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

1995 BIENNIUM (APPROXIMATE)

	UI Admin	Federal	Other Federal and Local	Total
AUTHORIZATION	495,037	Statutory	Non-State	495,037
PROGRAM FUNDS				
'95 MCC	70,000	670,000	370,805	1,110,805
'95 Volunteer Montana	40,000	276,000	42,000	358,000
'94 MCC SOS	44,175		242,050	286,225
'93-94 MCC	29,000	909,427	426,619	1,364,046
"Getting Things Done" Grants	72,000			72,000
Senior Conservation Corps	3,500			3,500
'94 OPI (Learn & Serve)	20,000	66,000		86,000
'95 OPI (Learn & Serve)	<u>20,000</u>	<u>66,000</u>		<u>86,000</u>
Total Program Funds	298,675	1,987,427	1,080,474	3,366,576
ADMINISTRATION AND TRAINING				
'94 Administration	22,100	125,000		147,100
'95 Administration	35,750	143,000		178,750
Training Grants		<u>96,000</u>		<u>96,000</u>
Total Administration and Training	<u>57,850</u>	<u>364,000</u>		<u>421,850</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>356,525</u>	<u>2,351,427</u>	<u>1,080,474</u>	<u>3,788,426</u>
Estimated Balance in UI Admin	138,512			

Note: In 94-95, there has been approx. \$1,000,000 in federal funds set aside for student loan repayment or tuition for AmeriCorps members in Montana.

HB 523, Revising the Montana
Community Services Act of 1993

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 2/15/95
HB 523

House State Administration
February 15, 1995

TESTIMONY BY MARY BLAKE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Clarification of revisions:

- page 2, lines 15-16: regarding the reinstatement of the statutory appropriation
- page 2, lines 20-21: regarding the move of the Office from the Governor's Office to the Dept. of Labor & Industry
- page 3, lines 16-17: language update
- page 3, lines 23-25: federal compliance on number of members and length of terms; from four to three agencies in case k-12 and higher education are combined - currently all agencies are represented
- page 4, lines 3-5: adding federally-required representation on advisory council
- page 4, lines 15-24: language clean-up
- page 4, lines 29-30: regarding repeal of Montana Heritage Enterprise Act
- page 5, lines 1-10: adding the remainder of the natural resource type agencies and the Dept. of Transportation in order to assist those agencies to use community service as a resource; adding language requested by Dept. of Transportation to facilitate use of community service groups on certain projects
- page 5, lines 11, 24 and 28: language clean-up
- page 6, lines 3, 27 and 28: language clean-up
- page 7, line 14: reinstates the statutory appropriation for grants
- page 7, line 29: language clean-up
- page 8, lines 2-20: deletes the substitute language for the statutory appropriation on page 7
- page 8, lines 22-24: repeals Montana Heritage Enterprise Act, student community services, which is included within the scope of the Montana Community Service Act.

EXHIBIT 5
DATE 2/15/95
HB 476

CHARLES H. KESTLE
A R C H I T E C T

February 10, 1995

Re: HB-476

Richard D. Simpkins
Chairman
House State Administration
Committee
Montana House of Representatives

Dear Representative Simpkins:

I am writing to urge you and your committee to not pass House Bill 476. HB-476 would severely jeopardize the qualification based selection procedures for Architectural and Engineering services which have served this state so very well in the past. It is vitally important that the best professional expertise available be utilized to design public projects. The present system encourages that goal and should not be changed.

Again, please do not pass House Bill 476.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Kestle, AIA
President, Butte Society of Architects
Director, Montana Chapter
American Institute of Architects

Walter H. Hinick & Associates
 Architecture, Engineering
 Interiors, Planning

100 East Broadway
 Butte, Montana 59701
 408-782-4616

EXHIBIT 6
 DATE 2/15/95
 HB 476

February 10, 1995

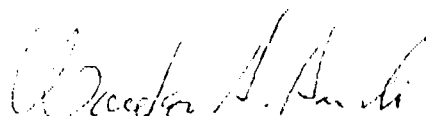
Richard D. Simpkins, Chairman
 House State Administration Committee
 Montana House of Representatives
 State of Montana

Re: Opposition to HB-476


Dear Representative Simpkins:

The passage of HB-476 would undermine the qualifications based selection procedures for Architecture & Engineering contracts here in the State of Montana. We strongly urge you to vote down this Bill which would jeopardize the ability to procure the best services by the most competent professionals.

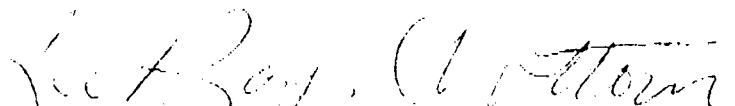
A negotiation for fee is already built-in to the existing qualifications based selection process. There is no need to "Bid" these services at this or any other time. We the following licensed architects oppose passage of HB-476:



 Walter H. Hinick, Architect/Firm Principal
 Past AIA Montana President,
 Past Butte Society of Architects President



 Stephen M. Hinick, Architect
 Past AIA Montana President
 Past Butte Society of Architects President



 LeRoy Cottom, Architect
 Past Butte Society of Architects President

EXHIBIT 7
DATE 2/15/95
HB 410

Amendments to House Bill No. 410
First Reading Copy

Requested by Rep. Simpkins
For the Committee on House State Administration

Prepared by Sheri S. Heffelfinger
February 11, 1995

1. Title, lines 4 through 6.
Strike: "OFFICERS" on line 4 through "LEGISLATURE" on line 6
Insert: "EMPLOYEES TO DISCLOSE POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

2. Page 1, line 30 through page 2, line 5.
Strike: "(a)"
Strike: "state officer or a" on page 1, line 30
Following: "employee" on line 30
Strike: the remainder of line 30 through "(c)" on page 2, line 6
Insert: "shall notify the employee's immediate supervisor that a potential conflict of interest exists when an organization of which the employee is a member is involved in a proceeding before the employing agency that is within the scope of the employee's job duties. (4)"
Re-number: subsequent subsections

3. Page 2, line 6.
Following: "activity"
Insert: ", including lobbying, as defined in 5-7-102,"

4. Page 2, line 7.
Strike: "listed" through "regard to"
Insert: "of which the officer or employee is a member while engaged in performing"

Beginning on page 1, line 30:

- (3) A state employee shall notify the employee's immediate supervisor that a potential conflict of interest exists when an organization of which the employee is a member is involved in a proceeding before the employing agency that is within the scope of the employee's job duties.
- (4) A state officer or a state employee may not engage in any activity, including lobbying as defined in 5-7-102, on behalf of an organization of which the officer or employee is a member while engaged in the officer's or employee's job duties.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITORS REGISTER

State Administration - COMMITTEE DATE 2-15-95

BILL NO. HB523 SPONSOR(S) McKee

PLEASE PRINT PLEASE PRINT PLEASE PRINT

NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	Support	Oppose
Arnie Olsen	FWP	✓	
Steve Nelsen	Mont. Conservation Corp	✓	
Ray Brown	MIST	✓	
DAN TOBERER	MONTANA CONSERVATION Corp	✓	
Lebb Lachey	MCC	✓	
Guia Harold	MCC	✓	
Shari Daniels Abell	Montana Conservation Corp	✓	
Douglas C. Boardman	Montan Conservation Corp	✓	
MARY BLAKE	Governor's Office of Community Service	✓	

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

BLACKFEET NATION

P.O. BOX 850

BROWNING, MONTANA 59417

(406) 338-7179

FAX 338-7530

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EARL OLD PERSON, CHAIRMAN
TOM THOMPSON, VICE CHAIRMAN
GABE GRANT, SECRETARY
ELAINE GUARDIPEE, TREASURER

BLACKFEET TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

EARL OLD PERSON
TOM THOMPSON
GABE GRANT
MARLENE BEAR WALTER
CHARLES CONNELLY
GENE DUBRAY
GEORGE KICKING WOMAN
ROGER RUNNING CRANE
TED WILLIAMSON

February 24, 1995

EXHIBIT 8

DATE 2-15-95

Honorable Dick Simpkins
Chairman, House
State Administration Committee

Dear Mr. Simpkins:

After reading the article in the Great Falls Tribune dated February 22, 1995, asking Senator Conrad Burns to "Take It Back". And after discussions with other Tribal Council members, we find the impact would be very detrimental to not only tribal members living off the Blackfeet Reservation, but also the students and members living on our Reservation.

Many of our Tribal members rely heavily upon the funds provided by the programs being cut, by the decision of Legislators in House Bill 523. The money provided by this bill funds many of our students attempting to better thier lives by attending our Blackfeet Community College.

We have students funded by the National Farmworkers Training and Service program as well as the Montana Conservation Corps (Ameri-Corp) on our Blackfeet Reservation. There are over 50 individuals benefiting and relying on these funds for a source of living while they are attending school and advancing thier lives. These funds are the motivational force to get our people off the welfare system and into the workforce as productive citizens.

Our unemployment rate on the Blackfeet Reservation is at 60 to 70%, a much higher rate than that of the State of Montana and requires attention in the form of programs of assistance provided by the funds the Legislature has decided to reject.

We are requesting your committee to reconsider this action and take the necessary steps to maintain the funding for the programs House Bill 523 was intended to assist.

I thank you for your time and all consideration you may give to our request.

Sincerely,



Earl OldPerson, Chief
Blackfeet Indian Nation

February 27, 1195

Honorable Dick Simkins
House Chairman
State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 9
DATE 2-15-95

Dear Mr. Simpkins,

In regard to your letter, **Take It Back**, I feel this would be disastrous to all members of the Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp. I am an elder member of the BHSC. I depend on this small supplement, as I am on a fixed income.

Fifty young adults are trying to further their education and make a difference with this program.

Sincerely,

Avonne Goss, Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp.

February 27, 1195

Honorable Dick Simkins
House Chairman
State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 10
DATE 2-15-85

Dear Mr. Simpkins,

In regard to your letter, **Take It Back**, I feel this would be disastrous to all members of the Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp. I am an elder member of the BHSC. I depend on this small supplement, as I am on a fixed income.

Fifty young adults are trying to further their education and make a difference with this program.

Sincerely,

Avonne Goss, Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp.

2-27-95

Honorable Dick Simpson
Chairman, House
State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 11
DATE 2-15-95

Dear Mr. Simpson

I Ralph Abt am a member of the BFHS
and would appreciate it very much
if you could help us by not cutting the
funding for this program. as it is a
source of survival for many families.

Sincerely
Ralph Abt Elder

February 27, 1995

Honorable Mick Simpkins
Chairman House
State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 12
DATE 2-15-95

Dear Mr. Simpkins:

I am concerned about the funding that is provided for the tribal members of the Blackfeet Tribe. I work for the Ameri-Corp and would like to work again this next fall. Without this funding a lot of young people would be out of work. This program is very useful for most of us. We are planning on attending college with our stipend. This program helps a lot of young people that don't have the money for school. It gives them the courage to try harder to finish. I hope you reconsider your decision on House Bill 523.

Thank You for your time and consideration

Sincerely

February 27, 1995

Dear; Dick Simpkins
Chairman Horse
State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 13
DATE 2-15-95

I am writing this letter on behalf of funds that are being cut on several issues. I am an Ameri Corp volunteer for the Blackfeet Health and Safety Corp on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning, Montana.

I, myself Jimmy Ager Buffalo do not think that the Ameri Corp funding should not be cut because Ameri Corp has kept people that are volunteering for the Ameri Corp had kept them off of AFDC, GA, or dependent on their parents for their income. Also at the same time they are helping make our community a better place to live & by going out and doing different kinds of work.

Also Ameri Corp is helping volunteers get ~~that~~ help pay for an education after we finish the program in July 1995. The Ameri Corp gives a stipend to any college to which we are attending.

Also the Ameri Corp has helped us to get our first responder and I think that helps everyone around us.

Sincerely
Jimmy Ager Buffalo

Feb. 27, 1945

EXHIBIT 14
DATE 2-15-95

Dear Mr. Simpkins,

I understand that the state is getting a large amount of money taken away. I live on the Blackfeet reservation where there is a high unemployment rate, I work for the americorps, and found that this program will be effected I was very upset to find out about that we need this program to further our education.

Thank
you
Ross
Belcourt

Dick Simpkins
Chairman, House
State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 15
DATE 2-15-95
I _____

Being a member of the Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp has been somewhat rewarding to me. It has taught me leadership skills, listening skill, working as a team. Not only has it given me these skills its given me a good feeling about myself for trying to better my communittee and give back for the things once handed down to me. Being a member is also giving me the ever important second chance for school funding I need due to increased tuitions all over United States.

With out these funds none of these things could've happened and that second chance for school won't be there making it nearly impossible to continue my ~~over~~ education. Please make no cuts whatsoever so I can continue this very important step in my life

Hunter Schilt

Dick Simpkins
Chairman, House
State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 16
DATE 2-15-95

I am currently a member of the Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps and a full-time student at the Blackfeet Community College.

I feel that volunteer programs should be encouraged and a cut in funding would drastically hurt our community and others. The Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps currently employs over forty motivated people, most of which did not have jobs before this program started.

On the Blackfeet Reservation, there is a small police force, an overworked EMS, a high crime rate, high unemployment, alcoholism, and many accidental deaths.

The Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps was designed to build leadership, responsibility, and to encourage higher education by offering a college stipend.

All of the BHSC members have been certified as First Responders by the State of Montana. We have been trained in poison and home safety, and have safety proofed over 800 homes.

on the reservation. We have taught and certified children and adults in First Aid and CPR. Young children are taught about what to do in an emergency and how to dial "911." Teens are being lectured about drunk driving and seatbelt use. We respond to almost all of the Motor Vehicle Accidents on the reservation. On weekends, drunk drivers are given a free ride home. We volunteer at the Youth Center and give free parties on holidays to underprivileged youth. Corp members also volunteer with understaffed programs such as the police department, Indian Health Service, and Blackfeet EMS. We are currently setting up programs such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Students Taking a New Direction.

The Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps has been faced with many obstacles, but have achieved every goal that we have set out to do. There has never been a program in our community resembling the Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps, and our community is improving because of it.

Before any funding is cut, I invite the Legislature to take a look at

our success, our program, what this program is doing for the future of the forty plus people that BHSC employ, and also the many people who are benefitting and learning from us. Without this program, I believe that our community will go back to where it was just one year ago.
Thank you for your time.

EXHIBIT 16
DATE 2-15-95
7
1

Sincerely,
Bobbi Ficke

EXHIBIT

17

DATE

2-15-95

February 27, 1995

Dick Simpkins :

I am writing this letter to you about the Program Americorp. I am presently a member and enjoy it very much. If it wasn't for the corp, I don't think I would be doing nothing. Our involvement in the community means a great deal to me & everyone. We need leaders in our community and here is a start.

Thank You -

Jodi R. Show

February 27, 1995.

Dick Simpskins

EXHIBIT

18

DATE

2-15-95

Chairman, House

State Administration Committee.

Dear Mr. Simpskins,

My name is Dorothy Bear Child, I am an Americorps volunteer on the Blackfoot Reservation.

I am writing to you concerning the issue of cutting back on volunteer funding. I think that

it would be a mistake to do this because it has helped a lot of people here by having

something to do everyday, it has

kept people off welfare & General

assistance, and it's giving our people the chance to go to school, by receiving the stipend that we'll get at the end of the program.

This benefits everyone on the reservation, so I think the funds should stay in Montana to help future volunteer programs.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Corothy R. Bear Child
Volunteer.

2-27-95

Honorable Dick Simpkin
Chairman, House
State Administration

EXHIBIT 19
DATE 2-15-95
31

Dear, Mr. Simpkin

In regard to your letter, I am asking the
State Administration Committee to reconsider in
not taking this program away from the
Blackfoot Tribe

These volunteer programs are a source of living
for our young and old, it is a chance for
a better living and a ^{better} ~~better~~ advancement for our
young people for their future living.

Sincerely

Runa Running Rabbit
Member of the
Blackfoot Tribe

February 27

1905

Dear Dick Simpkins
Chairman, House

State Administration Committee EXHIBIT 20
DATE 2-15-95

I'm writing to you on behalf of
the issue of volunteer funds being
cut. The American is a volunteer program
which I'm a part of. The Corps has
given me training in the medical field
and a chance to go to school with
the stipend when I finish.

As you know there is not many
jobs on the Blackfoot Nation. The program
gives me a chance to work for my
money and not get it from General
assistance and/or welfare.

However, I ~~feel~~ feel that if they do
cut our ~~stipend~~ funds I will be struggling
to further my education without the
~~stipend~~ stipend. I would like you to
take this into consideration.

Thank you for your
time

Byron Young

Dear Dick Simpkins

2/27/95

- Chairman, House

- State Administration Committee

EXHIBIT 21
DATE 2-15-95

- letter
- I'm writing this concerning our funds. I feel that our program (Americorp)

is a very good program for the young people. We are doing a lot for our

community, which I feel we needed

for our small town. Before I got into this program I was living

in a much bigger community. Me

+ my boyfriend, which ^{he} is going to school and will be done in May of '95 as a Auto Body worker. We both were living

off of Food stamps

In October I moved back to my home to Browning, MT, from Great Falls, MT.

me + my son moved into my parents
I don't have much

February 27, 95.

EXHIBIT 22
DATE 2-15-95

To: Dick Simpkins
Chairman, House
State Administration Committee.

I think the funds should stay in the state of Montana. There are numerous citizens who are out of work and would like to work instead of living off welfare, general assistance etc.

I volunteer with this new program known as Americorp. Here in Browning we are known as the Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp, we live on a stipend, it isn't much but at least we're doing something for our community and ourselves and with the Education Benefit award for school scholarship to further our goals at the end of July we greatly appreciate the opportunity to work as a volunteer instead of not working at all.

EXHIBIT

23

DATE

2-15-95

2/27/95

Hlick Simpkins

Chairman, House

State Administration Committee

I am writing this letter concerning our funds, I feel that our program, Americorp is a very good program for the young people.

We are doing alot for our community which is needed for a small town which is growing fast. There are alot of people who are unemployed & have ~~no~~ to live off of welfare. In this program most of the people here, had the chance to get off welfare and be employed.

Please dont cut this program we as Americorp members get a stipend at the end.

It will help alot of us to make it through college.

If we can make it through college we can be employed. Thanks to the AmerCorps.

Thank You

Jana Galbreath

EXHIBIT

24

DATE

2-15-95

February 7, 1995

Montana Legislature
Capitol Station
Helena, MT. 59630
Attn: Chairperson Dick Simkins

Penny McDroy
2700 Evans
Butte, MT. 59701

Dear Mr. Simkins,

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to ask for your support of Senate Bill 284. We are looking at a reduction of "good jobs" in the state of Montana. We cannot afford to have good paying jobs lost - to be replaced by \$5.00 an hour service jobs with no benefits. Montana families would have to leave this area.

Please support this bill. It would allow many productive, hard working Montana families to earn a decent living & remain in the state. It allows us to support our communities and maintain a life style envied by the rest of the country.

Thank you for your efforts and for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Penny McDroy

EXHIBIT

25

DATE

2-15-95

71

Feb. 27, 95

Dick Simpkins

Dear Sir,

I think that the money should be used for the volunteer programs for what they are doing for their communities and also for their surroundings. Also for the school students for their schooling supplies toward their educational ~~and~~ benefits.

Yours Truly,
Mary Jo

3TGODDARD

Blackfeet Health
& Safety Corps member

Team 1

February 27, 1995

EXHIBIT 26
DATE 2-15-95

Honorable Dick Simpkins,
House Chairman
State Administration Committee

Dear Mr. Simpkins,

As a member of a volunteer program I am very concerned about the volunteer money being taking away from the state, (Montana).

If it wasn't for this job I would still be sitting home collecting welfare and doing nothing. This job has opened so many different doors for me. We will be receiving education through our job and also funding to further our education.

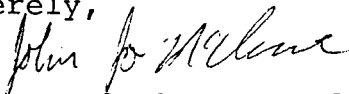
You are cutting a program that helps the people and the community better themselves and the community. The program is helping me with my education. In helping me with my education I can turn around and help my community using the education I receive from this program.

When you cut money from a program that helps people trying to better themselves you are taking away food that feeds our children. You are also taking away peoples hope and dreams.

How do you know the money that you are taking away from the much needed programs will even be used for the national deficit. When you send that much needed money back it could just be used to make someone else's pocket fatter instead of our own people in the state of Montana.

The money should be kept in Montana. Don't take away the hopes of the Montanans. Let the money stay and be used in the programs like ours that make a difference in the community and the state. If the money is taken away then you are discouraging the people of Montana not to take the chance of helping ourselves and our fellow citizens.

Sincerely,



John Jo, Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp.

Browning, MT
Feb 27, 1994

EXHIBIT 27
DATE 2-15-95

Honorable Dick Simpson's
Chairman, House
State Administration Committee

Dear Mr. Simpson:

I am a member of the Montana
Conservation Corps (Ameri-Corp.) We are
benefiting on these funds for attending
school and advancing ~~their~~ ^{our} lives.

We are requesting your committee
to reconsider this action & take
the necessary steps to maintain funding.

Sincerely
Margaret E Cross
Elder - Blackfoot Health
& Safety Corps

Blackfeet Health & Safety Corps - P.O. Box 1509 - Browning, MT**Phone: (406) 338-7102 Fax: (406) 338-7286**EXHIBIT. 28DATE 2-15-95

March 3, 1995

To: Mary Blake, State Coordinator

From: Blackfeet Health & Safety Corps, Dawn Augare - Team Leader/EMT-D

Re: Clarification for Dick Simpkins

This letter is to clarify the work performed by the Blackfeet Health & Safety Corps. Apparently Mr. Simpkins is under the impression our Corps does nothing and are only utilizing the monies received for school. This is a total misconception.

The Corpmembers are all trained First Responder/Providers and respond to all motor vehicle accidents within the boundaries of the Blackfeet Reservation. Our reservation encompasses 1,000,000 acres. They also train the public in basic life support, seatbelt use, the hazards of drinking and driving, and the use of drugs. They are attempting to initiate the first M.A.D.D. program on an Indian reservation, the second in the state of Montana. They also are working to obtain a S.T.A.N.D. and S.A.D.D. program for our schools.

We also employ four (4) elders part-time over the age of 60 years, one of whom has obtained his First Responder/Ambulance training and now works with Glacier County Ambulance Service. Our elderly give us advice, and guidance. They often interpret the Blackfeet language for the public we encounter when we poison proof homes. To date we have poison proofed approximately 1350 homes. They are invaluable to us and society in general.

Our program operates a ride free project for intoxicated drivers, thus preventing motor vehicle accidents and D.U.I. offenses. We have assisted in a search for a missing child. Are currently adopting three (3) sections of highways, have cleaned areas of trash and are setting up recycling bins to decrease pollution to our environment, and some of our thirty (30) youth are organizing a search and rescue team for our wilderness areas..

Our Corps volunteer with the police department, ambulance service, hospital, and local youth centers. They are present at all reservation activities, i.e. basketball games, pow wows, organize activities for local youth, and provide first aid for all of these.

I could go on and on about the accomplishments and services these people provide, but this is just a sampling. I hope this clears up some of the misunderstanding Mr. Simpkins may have about our Corps, if he has any questions, he should feel free to contact anyone of us at anytime. In fact we would like to invite him to spend a day with us so he can see first hand the work we perform.

Enclosure: Great Falls Tribune Article

'We're tired of seeing our people dying'

Volunteers battle drinking, driving on reservation

By RICHARD PETERSON
Tribune Staff Writer

BROWNING — Nine years ago Tana Galbreath was a passenger in an alcohol-related automobile crash that killed her best friend, injured several others and left her without the use of her legs.

"I haven't really talked about it and kind of confined myself to home for a while," said the soft-spoken 27-year-old. She is no longer silent.

Fed up with seeing so many other Blackfeet tribal members kill or maim themselves in accidents in which alcohol is involved, Tana and 35 others are on a mission to stop a deadly and growing trend. They are doing so as part of the Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps.

Eighty percent of all auto accidents involving alcohol on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation occur among teens and young adults, according to federal statistics. And while twice as many males as females are involved in such accidents nationally, that number is equally divided on the reservation.

"We decided someone should do something," said corps team leader Dawn Augere. "We're tired of seeing our people dying."

Being a corps member will allow



■ What programs are operating in the Treasure State? BA

Galbreath to share her experiences, in the hope that it will prevent similar tragedies.

"I hope others won't go through what I went through," she said.

AmeriCorps is the relatively new national service initiative of President Clinton, open to people of all ages and

backgrounds. Participants volunteer time or are paid low wages. In return, they receive education awards to help finance a college education, or to pay back student loans.

The Blackfeet Reservation AmeriCorps group was formed in October. Twenty-seven corps members, in their late teens and early 20s, three team leaders and six tribal elders make up the organization, housed just off Browning's Main Street.

"No one's taken this initiative until now. Hopefully, the community will pick up on it," Augere said about the effort to stop accidents involving alcohol. The crew in Browning is the only AmeriCorps program in the United States to implement this type of program.

As an emergency medical technician on the VOLUNTEERS, BA



Tana Galbreath, left, and Tana Galbreath plan an action writing.

Volunteers: Want to make a difference

...the past six years, Augere has seen first hand the high incidence of alcohol-related accidents.

"Every time we roll on a wreck, we pray to God it's no one we know," she said. "But most of the time, it is."

And for the first time on the reservation, the corps is working to establish local chapters of MADD and SADD — Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Students Against Drunk Driving.

Corps members have undergone first responder training and have participated in a series of 12 lectures from hospital and emergency crew staff, in case help is needed at a crash scene.

Come February, the corps will put its training to the test. The plan looks like this:

When an auto accident occurs on the reservation, corps members will be dispatched to the scene. Once there, members will evaluate the crash site to see what's been drinking and/or driving, said Dr. David Boyd, an Indian Health Service physician and a corps board member.

"In the form of peer group interaction, we'll be involved in focus groups or an evaluation to see if someone (in an accident) needs counseling or treatment," Boyd said.

They'll also offer free rides on weekends to prevent people from drinking and driving.

"They're going in the arena in insurance, but not get in the way," said Boyd.

Underlying the emergency



Browning Health and Safety Corps member Purnendu Fahdoony fills out paperwork related to his duties in responding to alcohol related accidents.

hospital staff members for being an inspiration for many of the corps members, several of whom are now looking at medicine or a related field as a career choice.

Amy Coas, 23, plans on entering nursing school next year with her education award from AmeriCorps.

"I can see they're really involved and I think some will go to college from here," said Margaret Cluff, vice of the six tribal elders in the corps.

The elders are important to the corps for problem solving and guidance, said acting director Bryan King, who's at the helm while director Colleen Williamson is on sick leave.

the go-getter attitude of the corps members that elders say impresses them most.

"You can really see the excitement building," said King.

As some corps members hang eye-catching "Ride Free, Don't Drink and Drive" posters around town, others prepare paperwork that's needed for keeping track of accident victims and others needing help.

Elders are gathered with several corps members talking about future plans. The resident fellow mascot, "AmeriCat," runs from person to person looking for a warm hand.

"He protects us from hantavirus," Coas said of the rodent-churn

Half-dozen programs under way in Montana

By Tribune Staff

As corps members in Browning attempt to put a stop to drinking and driving, another 1,500 people from AmeriCorps are engaged in five other community service projects across Montana.

Most of the programs were initiated when President Clinton signed the National Community Service Act into law last year. All receive federal, state or tribal funding.

Among the AmeriCorps programs in Montana:

- Volunteer Montana, with 22 people in Missoula, Lewistown, Helena and Billings, works to recruit and train volunteers to assist in health care, hunger, housing, education, environment and crime prevention.
- Montana Conservation Corps, in Bozeman, Billings, Kalispell and Missoula, provides the opportunity to work on projects such as the construction and maintenance of trails, park improvements, building

playgrounds and planting trees.

- The Fort Belknap Fireteam has 20 corps members currently constructing the first public radio station on the reservation. Members also work on natural resource projects throughout the area.
- Salish National AmeriCorps, on the Flathead Reservation, employs five part-time and five full-time workers who assist headstart and daycare providers in native language and cultural awareness instruction. They also help day care providers meet federal safety and health guidelines.
- National Farmworker Training and Service Program, based in Helena, helps migrant and seasonal farmworkers reduce their exposure to pesticides and gain access to health, education, and support services.
- Blackfeet Health and Safety Corps members in Browning also conduct home visits to help people learn about safety and poison prevention.

they can put their anxieties aside if it might help others.

make it safer for the children." Like Galbreath, St. Goddard and

Essee Jan 23, 1995 Great Falls Tribune

EXHIBIT 27
DATE 2-15-95