

**MINUTES**

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

**COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & AGING**

**Call to Order:** By CHAIRMAN DUANE GRIMES, on January 11, 1995, at  
3:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Duane Grimes, Chairman (R)  
Rep. John C. Bohlinger, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)  
Rep. Carolyn M. Squires, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)  
Rep. Chris Ahner (R)  
Rep. Ellen Bergman (R)  
Rep. Bill Carey (D)  
Rep. Dick Green (R)  
Rep. Antoinette R. Hagener (D)  
Rep. Deb Kottel (D)  
Rep. Bonnie Martinez (R)  
Rep. Brad Molnar (R)  
Rep. Bruce T. Simon (R)  
Rep. Liz Smith (R)  
Rep. Susan L. Smith (R)  
Rep. Loren L. Soft (R)  
Rep. Kenneth Wennemar (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** David Niss, Legislative Council  
Jacki Sherman, Committee Secretary

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

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing: None  
Executive Action: HJR 1, HJR 4

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 1**

**Motion/Vote:** REP. CAROLYN SQUIRES MOVED THAT HJR 1 DO PASS. The  
motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 4**

**Motion:** REP. SQUIRES MOVED THAT HJR 4 DO PASS.

**Discussion:** REP. JOHN BOHLINGER offered an amendment. EXHIBIT 1

REP. LOREN SOFT asked to see a needs study in the state of Montana for beds.

REP. BOHLINGER stated that they are trying to restate Montana's interest, and if and when the funding is available for a nursing home facility.

REP. SQUIRES said that veterans have different requirements to meet for benefits. Most likely World War I and World War II veterans are getting the federal benefits and the more recent veterans get state benefits. "What you are doing is shutting benefits off to the veterans who have federal capabilities." Therefore, there is a long waiting list at the nursing home for people who are already qualified for federal benefits.

REP. SOFT stated that the federal government should be consulted about making money available, whether or not the veteran is in a state, private or federal facility.

REP. SQUIRES stated that veterans have their benefits provided by a plan during their service. "You cannot mix and match the money."

REP. ELLEN BERGMAN said that there is room available for more nursing home beds in Miles City.

REP. SQUIRES stated that it depends on whether they are hospital beds or nursing home beds. There is a waiting list in Miles City also; hospital beds cannot always accommodate nursing home patients.

REP. SOFT asked if it would be possible to convert those hospital beds into nursing home beds.

REP. BRUCE SIMON said this amendment is for location discussion. It is not dealing with the question of need.

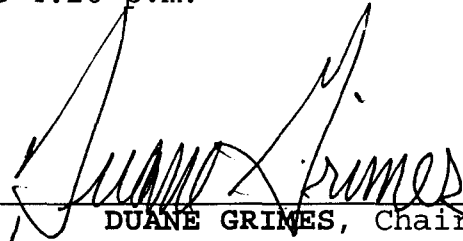
REP. CHRIS AHNER asked what process is needed to change hospital beds to nursing home beds. REP. SQUIRES stated the congressional delegation would have to go through the Veterans Administration in Washington D. C.

**Motion:** REP. BRUCE SIMON MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS. The motion carried 15-1.

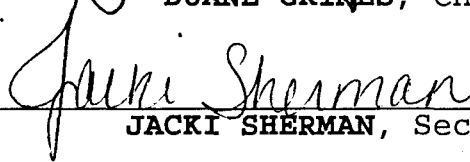
**Motion/Vote:** REP. SIMON MOVED THAT HJR 4 DO PASS. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



DUANE GRIMES, Chairman



JACKI SHERMAN, Secretary

DB/js

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## Human Services and Aging

ROLL CALL

DATE 1-11-95

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Duane Grimes, Chairman	✓		
Rep. John Bohlinger, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓		
Rep. Carolyn Squires, Vice Chair, Minority	✓		
Rep. Chris Ahner	✓		
Rep. Ellen Bergman	✓		
Rep. Bill Carey	✓		
Rep. Dick Green	✓		
Rep. Toni Hagener	✓		
Rep. Deb Kottel	✓		
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓		
Rep. Brad Molnar	✓		
Rep. Bruce Simon	✓		
Rep. Liz Smith	✓	<del>W</del>	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓		
Rep. Loren Soft	✓		
Rep. Ken Wennemar	✓		



## HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 19, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on **Human Services and Aging** report that **House Joint Resolution 1** (first reading copy -- white) **do pass**.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Duane Grimes, Chair*

1-19  
Mn

Committee Vote:  
Yes 16, No 0.

160911SC.Hbk



## HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 11, 1995

Page 1 of 2

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Human Services and Aging report that House Joint Resolution 4 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duane Grimes".

Duane Grimes, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, line 6.

Following: "MONTANA"

Insert: ", OR AN EXPANSION OF THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
COMMUNITY NURSING HOME PROGRAM"

2. Page 1, line 27.

Following: "WHEREAS,"

Strike: the remainder of line 27 and all of line 28

Insert: "a recommendation should be made to Montana's  
Congressional Delegation and to the Department of Veterans  
Affairs concerning the location of any future federal  
nursing home facility; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs also  
provides nursing home services through a community nursing home  
program in which veterans are entitled to nursing home services  
in local private nursing homes through contracts with the  
Veterans Administration; and

WHEREAS, the community nursing home program normally  
provides permanent nursing care for veterans with service-  
connected disabilities and 6 months of care for veterans with  
nonservice-connected disabilities; and

WHEREAS, because of budget constraints, the Department of  
Veterans Affairs now provides only 1 month of care for veterans  
with nonservice-connected disabilities"

3. Page 2.

Following: line 5

Insert: "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governor be urged to

Committee Vote:

Yes 15, No 0.

091703SC.Hbk

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## ROLL CALL VOTE

### Human Services and Aging Committee

DATE 1-11-95 BILL NO. HJR 1 NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: HJ1

Rep. Squires Do Pass  
Unanimous

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Duane Grimes, Chairman	✓	
Rep. John Bohlinger, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires, Vice Chairman, Minority	✓	
Rep. Chris Ahner	✓	
Rep. Ellen Bergman	✓	
Rep. Bill Carey	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener	✓	
Rep. Deb Kottel	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Brad Molnar	✓	
Rep. Bruce Simon	✓	
Rep. Liz Smith	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Loren Soft	✓	
Rep. Ken Wennemar	✓	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

Human Services and Aging Committee

DATE 1-11-95 BILL NO. HJR 4 NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Rep. Squires move to "Do Pass"

Rep Bohlinger motion to move amendment

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Duane Grimes, Chairman	✓	
Rep. John Bohlinger, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires, Vice Chairman, Minority	✓	
Rep. Chris Ahner	✓	
Rep. Ellen Bergman	<del>✓</del>	✓
Rep. Bill Carey	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener	✓	
Rep. Deb Kottel	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Brad Molnar	✓	
Rep. Bruce Simon	✓	
Rep. Liz Smith	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Loren Soft	✓	
Rep. Ken Wennemar	✓	



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## ROLL CALL VOTE

### Human Services and Aging Committee

DATE 1-11-95 BILL NO. HJR 4 NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: Simon "Do Pass Amended"

Rep. Brad Molnar move to pass

Rep Brad Molnar motion to move amendment

NAME	AYE	NO
Rep. Duane Grimes, Chairman	✓	
Rep. John Bohlinger, Vice Chairman, Majority	✓	
Rep. Carolyn Squires, Vice Chairman, Minority	✓	
Rep. Chris Ahner	✓	
Rep. Ellen Bergman	✓	
Rep. Bill Carey	✓	
Rep. Dick Green	✓	
Rep. Toni Hagener	✓	
Rep. Deb Kottel	✓	
Rep. Bonnie Martinez	✓	
Rep. Brad Molnar	✓	
Rep. Bruce Simon	✓	
Rep. Liz Smith	✓	
Rep. Susan Smith	✓	
Rep. Loren Soft	✓	
Rep. Ken Wennemar	✓	

Amendments to House Joint Resolution No 4  
First Reading Copy

Requested by Rep. Bohlinger  
For the Committee on Human Services and Aging

Prepared by David S. Niss

January 9, 1995

1. Page 1, line 27.

Following: "WHEREAS,"

Strike: the remainder of line 27 and all of line 28

Insert: "a recommendation should be made to Montana's  
Congressional Delegation and to the Department of Veterans  
Affairs concerning the location of any future federal  
nursing home facility."

2. Page 2.

Following: line 5

Insert: "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governor be urged to  
appoint a nonpartisan committee of five individuals to study  
the issue of the future location of any Department of  
Veterans Affairs nursing home facility and to make a  
recommendation to Montana's Congressional Delegation and to  
the Department of Veterans Affairs concerning the location  
of any future facility."

Now 403

EXHIBIT 2  
DATE 1-11-95  
HB HJR 4

Amendments to House Joint Resolution No. 4  
First Reading Copy

Requested by Rep. Susan Smith  
For the Committee on Human Services and Aging

Prepared by David S. Niss  
January 9, 1995

1. Title, line 6.

Following: "MONTANA"

Insert: ", OR AN EXPANSION OF THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
COMMUNITY NURSING HOME PROGRAM"

2. Page 1, line 28.

Following: "home"

Insert: "; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs also provides nursing home services through a community nursing home program in which veterans are entitled to nursing home services in local private nursing homes through contracts with the Veterans Administration; and

WHEREAS, the community nursing home program normally provides permanent nursing care for veterans with service-connected disabilities and 6 months of care for veterans with nonservice-connected disabilities; and

WHEREAS, because of budget constraints, the Department of Veterans Affairs now provides only 1 month of care for veterans with nonservice-connected disabilities"

3. Page 2.

Following: line 5

Insert: "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Congressional Delegation be urged to press for full funding of contract nursing home services for Montana veterans entitled to contract nursing home services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Congressional Delegation urge the expansion of the community nursing home program to allow Montana veterans to be served in their local communities and as a cost-effective alternative to the immediate construction of additional federal veterans' nursing homes."