

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 54th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Richard Simpkins, Chair, on January 12, 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: none

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 102, HB 106, SB 20, SJR 4
Executive Action: HB 102 DO PASS
SJR 4 DO CONCUR

HEARING ON SB 20Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. J.D. Lynch, SD 19, opened by stating that this is a bill that he wishes he didn't have to put before a committee because it zeros in on issues that shouldn't be before us. The Legislative Council would be more comfortable if there were a lawful requirement to participate in an orientation for legislators. The council has taken orientation upon themselves several times, this year being the most elaborate occurring a full day before caucus. It makes perfectly clear what the responsibility of the Legislative Council is.

Proponents' Testimony:

none

Opponents' Testimony:

none

Informational Testimony:

none

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. DORE SCHWINDEN, asked if part of this last orientation was done by private citizens, perhaps Citizens for Responsible Government.

SEN. LYNCH stated that not to his knowledge. Different speakers were provided by private organizations. A few years ago it was suggested that orientation would be paid for by private people who would buy booths at a fair. It didn't seem fair because if they couldn't buy a booth, they wouldn't have access to the legislators. The orientation was run by his staff.

REP. SCHWINDEN asked if the sole responsibility for orientation would be the council's.

SEN. LYNCH stated that the ultimate responsibility would be for the council, but certainly not the sole responsibility. They want to invite anyone to participate when it is proper. He stated that they didn't want someone else trying to take it over.

REP. BILL REHBEIN asked how the 1995 orientation was paid for.

SEN. LYNCH stated that the staff's part was relatively small this year. What will happen, in his opinion, in the event that there is no private participation it would cost the state something to have people work. Eventually someone might suggest that it is not fair to use your own money to travel to the orientation.

Many people have suggested that the orientation occur the first few days of the session. This year seemed to work very well and most people were pleased with it.

REP. MATT DENNY stated that on the fiscal note it looked like there would be an assumption that the legislators would be paid for orientation day. He asked if that would be the case. He said that he didn't see that in the code.

SEN. LYNCH replied by stating that would be up to the council or leadership. He reminded the committee that they do get paid for the caucus. He said that it depends on when they have the orientation. This year it was in conjunction with the caucus so those attending did receive lodging. If there was a time that it wasn't in conjunction with the caucus, those attending would probably have to pay for lodging. He thinks that it should always be in conjunction with the caucus because it saves round trip travel and lodging fees.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. LYNCH closed and suggested that **REP. SAM KITZENBERG** carry this bill in the House.

HEARING ON HB 106

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. RED MENAHAN, HD 57, stated that during the last session there was a termination incentive that left some state employees out. This bill was proposed by the Office of Public Instruction and the Budget Office with the support of the governor. The bill's intent is to equalize incentives for those people who were left out.

Proponents' Testimony:

Greg Groepper, Office of Public Instruction, testified in favor of HB 106. He stated that they have been working with the governor's budget office to correct an unfortunate oversight of the last legislature when HB 561 created early termination incentives. It left the House just covering the public employees retirement members. In the Senate the university system said that it needed to include teachers retirement. The bill was passed that way, but specifically said teachers retirement members in the university system. Most of the state government realizes now that there are a few members that are state employees that are required to be members of the teacher's retirement system. The Office of Public Instruction approached the Governor's office and asked them to work together to correct this oversight because some members of the bargaining unit were benefited and some of the members of the bargaining unit were not. They also worked with the teachers' retirement system to

make sure that this bill does nothing more than provide the same benefit that the university system that was provided to the teacher's retirement members to other state employee retirement system members. There is a section at the end of the bill that excludes the university system retirement members. There is no cost to the state of Montana for this bill. The cost of this will be absorbed by the existing agencies just like the other early termination incentive already in place. Another incentive to this bill is there is an additional three FTE reduction on the budget that is being discussed.

Pat Haffey, Senior Policy Advisor, Education and Personnel, Governor's Office, spoke in favor of the bill. She stated that they had worked with the Office of Public Instruction and recognized that there was an oversight when the bill was passed during the 1993 Legislature.

Lori Clark, Members of the Office of Public Instruction, submitted written testimony. **EXHIBIT 1**

Terry Minow, Montana Federation of Teachers, Montana Federation of State Employees, stated that she was in strong support of the bill. People were being left out and that was an unfortunate oversight. There are a few teachers at the prison and a number of teachers at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, there is one teacher at the Montana Development Center, there are a few teachers at Montana Hospital, a number of teachers at Pine Hills and Mountain View who were left out. She didn't feel that there would be a lot of people that would take advantage of this but she didn't think it was fair that they left out this one small group of people. She urged the committee to give this positive consideration.

Tom Schnider, Montana Public Employee's Association, This bill is a fairness bill. He emphasized that this isn't just isn't a benefit to the employees, it would benefit the state of Montana and the taxpayers. He stated that they retired some 890 people under HB 517; half of those jobs were not filled. The state of Montana and the taxpayers saved the salaries of half of those positions. The teachers who were retired had retirement benefits, not welfare or unemployment. He thought that this is the proper way of doing this. He stated that it wouldn't affect that many people. If they have to do reductions, this would be the way to do it because those teachers would leave with their retirement benefits.

Tom Bilodeau, Research Director, Montana Education Association, stated that they stand in support of this bill because it was an oversight to provide these benefits from the last session to the Teachers' Retirement System employees who are state employees. Not all employees will be caught by this bill but those who fill the requirements will be offered the same retirement incentive that was offered to other TRS employees. He asked that the committee please pass this bill.

David Senn, Teachers' Retirement System, stated that this is not a retirement bill that would affect the Teacher's Retirement System. He stated that it does rely on the eligibility requirements. The teachers must be age 50 and have a minimum of at least five years in the Teacher's Retirement System. If they meet these requirements, they would then receive a cash payment of up to 14.5 percent of each five years of service they have in TRS. This is exactly what the university employees received with the passage of HB 517 passed in the last legislative session. There are thirty-nine potential employees who would be eligible for these benefits.

Opponents' Testimony:

none

Informational Testimony:

none

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. BILL REHBEIN asked **REP. MENAHAN** if all teachers have been taken care of with this bill.

REP. MENAHAN stated that this bill applies to the state teachers. The private schools aren't covered under this bill or HB 517 which passed in the last legislative session.

REP. SIMPKINS clarified by stating that the state of Montana has teachers at Pine Hills, School for the Deaf and Blind who are state employees who are members of the Teacher's Retirement System.

REP. REHBEIN asked **Mr. Schnider** what is the impact on liabilities.

Mr. Schnider stated that **David Senn** would be a better person to ask. He stated that this will not affect the unemployment liability.

REP. SCHWINDEN asked **Mr. Bilodeau** what the potential number of people would be in the one-year window of opportunity.

Mr. Bilodeau stated that his understanding was that Mountain View is now at half-time status. These people probably will not be eligible because of the half-time status. At Pine Hills, there are eighteen full time employees who would be eligible. This bill does catch all those on the same basis who are state employees that were covered by TRS as previously offered.

REP. SCHWINDEN asked how many are eligible and how many of those people will actually be able to take advantage of the benefits.

Mr. Bilodeau stated that there are thirty-nine people who are eligible in the four institutions that would be covered. He stated that by looking at the number of people that took advantage of the TRS program when HB 517 passed, there were twenty-six percent who retired and took advantage of the benefits. He stated that there is an expectation that some of these employees would retire anyway. He stated that there would be a ten to fifteen percent increase in retirement.

REP. STOVALL asked how the early retirement works.

Mr. Seen stated that under the Teacher's Retirement System a person must have at least five years experience and at least age fifty to apply for retirement benefits. Retirement benefits are based on a formula of years of service divided by sixty and times the final average annual salary. People who have less than twenty five years in the system and are not at least age sixty are not paid full benefits. Under the provisions of this bill, if the person will not qualify if they take another job covered under the Teacher's Retirement System.

REP. BRAINARD asked if there is anything in this bill that precludes people from contracting to an agency for the same job.

Mr. Senn stated that under the Teachers' Retirement Board rules they recognize contracted employees who are truly independent contractors. These people have to be in business to provide those services, they have to be certified, and have an office. If they meet all the qualification of a contractor, then they can come back and contract for the same job.

REP. SIMPKINS stated that PERS limits these contractors to 600 hours a year if they do any type of work for the government again.

Mr. Senn stated that a person could come back and do exactly the same job as long as they don't earn more than one third of their final average salary.

REP. SMITH asked how this bill fits into the bigger picture of things. She stated that they have heard that there are more students and more need for expansion. She asked how paying people to retire early and satisfy the need to expand and have more teachers fit together.

Mr. Senn stated that with the passage of HB 517, it was their intentions not to fill all the positions that were left after people retired. The didn't fill half of these positions. Salary is based on two factors: one for longevity, and for education. Instead of paying more for those teachers who have been there for many years and have moved up the pay scale, they can hire one that is just out of school and start them at base salary. This would save money.

REP. SQUIRES stated that in some cases there are projects started by an individual or a group of individuals. In these cases, if someone were to be retired and needed to finish these projects, would they be able to come back to finish them? She stated that this had happened in the university system.

Mr. Schnider stated that this wasn't just in the university system. In the Department of Transportation, they had so many people leave at once that they had to bring people back to finish projects. They couldn't replace the expertise as quickly as they left. With the six hundred hours they brought people back until they had the expertise and brought the work force back up to full strength.

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. MENAHAN stated that he hoped that the committee would give the bill a do pass.

HEARING ON SJR 4

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. SUE BARTLETT, SD 27, stated that this resolution requests that the Legislative Council conduct an interim study of the minutes kept of committee meetings in the House and the Senate.

She explained that after the minutes are completed, approved, and signed by the chairman, they go to the Legislative Council Library. The people in the Legislative Council Library staff put these minutes in order, make a microfilm copy of the minutes which they keep and send the original copy to the State Law Library. They use the hard copy as a working document that the public can access. The minutes are then sent to the State Archives. The State Library and the Historical Library have copies that are used extensively by the public.

This resolution has three important aspects to the study. The first is how and for what purpose these minutes are used. The second is to research other methods that might be used for keeping the minutes. This is to keep up with technological advances that might make the keeping of the minutes more efficient and more cost effective. Another element of the study would be to assess the cost effectiveness of alternative methods for keeping the minutes compared to the current methods and costs.

She stated committee minutes are a permanent, historical, and legal record of legislative intent. They are used by the courts, by the media, by state agencies, by lobbyists, and by the legislators.

She stated that accurate, complete minutes are essential. She brought to the committees attention that there had been instances

where a representative had asked specifically to be recorded in the minutes a statement that they had made. This statement was not put in the minutes. She also stated that there had been agencies that had said that it was the norm not to find what was needed in the committee minutes and that there was a lack of consistency that led to great frustration. She also stated that the quality of the minutes varies dramatically from committee to committee. She stated that there is clearly a problem that needs to be addressed. She stated that it is not clearly identified what is needed in the minutes.

Proponents' Testimony:

Judy Meadows, State Law Librarian, Montana, stated there are problems with providing information to constituents about the record of the activity during the session. The legislative history is composed of the minutes taken during the committee meetings, the executive action of a bill, the witnesses that appear before the committees, the roll call vote, and evidence produced during the hearing. In Montana what happens in the committee is the only record of what the concerns are, the intent is, and what the questions were. There is no recorded floor action. The law library mails between two and three thousand copies of legislative histories in a year. The quality of these histories varies greatly. The intent of this resolution is to study the effort that is put in to come up with better solutions for quality and control of timely minutes and perhaps save the taxpayers some money in the process.

Kathryn Otto, State Archives, stated they keep the paper copy of the minutes. The paper copies are what are most used for research. Sometimes they don't find what they are looking for.

Opponents' Testimony:

NONE

Informational Testimony:

NONE

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. HEAVY RUNNER asked if the technology would pick up the conversations. There is some concern for the historical content.

SEN. BARTLETT stated they are concerned about the historical and legal content of these things. The kinds of questions that need to be addressed are what are the best for the minutes. They need to look at how and what process are used and research other technologies and systems of keeping minutes. Another issue they need to look at is the cost effectiveness. These are permanent legal, historical records of what goes on in government. They are used extensively. She stated the council oversees the staff

and deals with housekeeping. They encourage them to be part of the resources and encourage them to include them.

REP. BRAINARD asked how much this would increase the work load.

SEN. BARTLETT stated this would be part of the work load.

REP. GALVIN gave examples of some of the things he had experienced when they thought they had settled an issue and then went to look it up later to continue the discussion and there wasn't enough information in the minutes to do that.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. BARTLETT closed.

HEARING ON HB 102

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. JOHN ROSE, HD 87 stated this bill deals with military affairs. He stated there would be no fiscal impact with this bill and it is discretionary. The people currently have to pay a five dollar contribution for their uniforms.

Proponents' Testimony:

Brigadier General Gary Hindoien stated they have to give a lot and they often get very little back. The federal government issues equipment and the uniforms and they don't want these benefits to be eliminated. He recommended a do pass.

Roger Haden stated the officer is asked to supply their uniform. In the past this had some bearing. Decreased budgets have lessened the payments. This is not realistic unless it is properly funded. He hoped that someday it would be fully funded. He urged the adoption of the bill.

Opponents' Testimony:

none

Informational Testimony:

none

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. KITZENBERG asked how many hours members of the National Guard put in, as far as service.

B.G. Hindoien stated in the last ten years they had been called to duty 23 times for a total of 32,000 man days.

REP. HEAVY RUNNER asked what a uniform cost.

B.G. Hindoien said the cost of his uniform was around \$200.

REP. HAGENER asked where the money would come from in the future if they could pay for the uniform.

B.G. Hindoien stated it would be paid for by the Department of Military Affairs Appropriations.

REP. BRAINARD stated the title of the bill doesn't list the content of the bill. He asked if the uniforms were being provided by the person. He asked if this would get rid of that.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS stated as soon as a person enters into the service they are given an allowance.

REP. BRAINARD stated there needed to be something in the bill to acknowledge receipt of the uniform.

REP. SQUIRES stated it does give discretion to the individual officer.

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. ROSE closed.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 102

Motion/Vote: REP. SQUIRES MOVED THAT HB 102 DO PASS. Motion carried 17-1 with REP. SCHWINDEN voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 4

Motion: REP. HAGENER MOVED THAT SJR 4 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

REP. TAYLOR asked if they are state employees.

REP. REHBEIN asked if it was necessary to improve minute taking.

Sheri Heffelfinger stated the staff looks at ways to improve current practices by studying them.

REP. REHBEIN asked if they had received a recommendation, why should they have to study this.

Ms. Heffelfinger stated it was the council's decision.

REP. HEAVY RUNNER stated this has never been an issue at the school board level.

REP. SQUIRES stated the individuals are hire as committee secretaries and each chairman runs his committee differently and require different things in their minutes.

REP. REHBEIN asked who is authorized to keep the tapes.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS stated they go to the historical society with the hard copies of the minutes and all of the testimony and voting records from the meeting.

REP. REHBEIN asked how the Legislative Council could improve what is kept.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS stated it was a matter of money.

REP. MASOLO stated they need help in realizing what is important and what isn't and there needs to be some common ground to what is and isn't.

Vote: Motion carried 14-4 with REP. SIMPKINS, REP. HEAVY RUNNER, REP. REHBEIN, and REP. SMITH voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 20

Motion: REP. KITZENBERG MOVED THAT SB 20 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

REP. BRAINARD stated he hadn't attended the orientation and wondered how valuable it was.

REP. MASOLO stated that she thought the orientation was productive.

REP. STOVALL stated he attended the orientation and it was helpful.

REP. DENNY asked if the Legislative Council helped with orientation.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS stated there were some staff that helped by volunteering, but the orientation wasn't the responsibility of the Legislative Council.

REP. GALVIN stated it did help immensely.

REP. REHBEIN stated he liked the bill and it was great training at orientation. He stated he didn't support the appropriation in the bill.

REP. SMITH stated orientation was important, but there was too much information for them to absorb. She thought it should have happened the first Saturday.

REP. GREEN stated the first week is spare time. The information is not as effective as in small doses throughout the session.

REP. SCHWINDEN stated the sponsor had stated that he didn't care if this was paid for or not. The main intention is to make the Legislative Council responsible for the orientation.

REP. SQUIRES stated the freshman do it, but not everyone has to accept it.

REP. MASOLO stated she would like to see what this year's cost was for the orientation.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS stated the orientation was voluntary. There was no pay except for what was paid by the caucus. This is already in statute. It says that they would be paid for two travels and overnight lodging.

REP. STOVALL stated the bill doesn't assume that if the orientation were given in conjunction with the caucus that it would cost more.

Ms. Heffelfinger stated this bill established the orientation. It assumes there will be one and the Legislative Council will assist with it.

REP. SMITH asked if the Legislative Council is now prohibited from helping in the orientation.

CHAIRMAN SIMPKINS stated they aren't prohibited, but it is not in their job description.

REP. TAYLOR asked what they orientation cost. If they don't need to spend money on this, then why do it?

REP. SQUIRES stated they should have the Legislative Council conduct the orientation. She urged a do pass and told the committee to forget about the fiscal note.

REP. GREEN stated if there is no problem there is no need to fix it.

REP. REHBEIN asked why fix it if it works okay the way it is now.

Vote: Motion failed 9-9.

HOUSE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

January 12, 1995

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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:00 a.m.


RICHARD SIMPKINS, Chairman


CHRISTEN VINCENT, Secretary

RS/cdv

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State Administration

ROLL CALL

DATE *January 12, 1995*

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 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 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 12, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State Administration report that House Bill 102 (first reading copy -- white) do pass.

Signed: *Dick Simpkins*
Dick Simpkins, Chair

DS
Committee Vote:
Yes 17, No 1.

101126SC.Hdh



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 12, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State Administration report that Senate Joint Resolution 4 (first reading copy -- white) be concurred in.

Signed: *Dick Simpkins*
Dick Simpkins, Chair

Carried by: Rep. McCulloch

DS.
Committee Vote:
Yes 14, No 4.

101141SC.Hdh

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROLL CALL VOTE

State Administration

DATE 1-12-95 BILL NO. H1B NUMBER 102

MOTION: Rep. Squires moved to Pass.

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 1-12-95 BILL NO. SB NUMBER 20

MOTION: Rep. Kitzenberg moved Do Concur

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 1-12-95 BILL NO. 55 NUMBER 4

MOTION: Rep. Hagener moved Do Comm

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	✓	

Mr. Chairman
Members of the Committee

My name is Lori Clark and I am representing the members of the Office of Public Instruction chapter of the Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA). We are proponents of HB 106 and we support this bill which ensures fairness to all members of our unit, some of which are Public Employee Retirement Division members and some of which are Teacher's Retirement System members as required by law [MCA 19-20-302 (c)].

In the early termination incentive offered last session, the TRS members of our unit were overlooked while the PERD members received the incentive. We would like to have this oversight rectified. HB 106 accomplishes that task. This bill is at no cost to the State of Montana.

Thank you for your consideration.



Lori Clark, President
OPI Unit
Montana Public Employees Association

EXHIBIT 072
DATE 1-12-95
HB 106

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 102

House State Administration Committee

1/12/95

Presented by:

ROGER A. HAGAN

Officer/Enlisted Associations of the Montana National Guard

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, for the record my name is MSGT Roger A. Hagan. I represent the more than 4,000 members of the Officer and Enlisted Associations of the Montana National Guard. It is my pleasure to provide comment in support of House Bill Number 102, a bill to provide for discretionary payment of the Montana National Guard Officer Uniform allowance.

As this is an issue that pertains only to the officer corps of our Montana National Guard, I speak to this bill as their representative. In the past, the payment of a uniform allowance provided a meaningful benefit. Many years ago, \$35 to \$50 could perhaps buy one full set of dress clothing. However, the dwindling budgets have reduced the uniform allowance to an insignificant \$5 per year. This payment would hardly purchase a chevron or duty qualification badge. Realizing the cost of issuing a state warrant, it is not realistic for the officers of the Montana National Guard to continue receiving this stipend unless it can be properly funded.

It is the hopes of the Montana National Guard Association, that this benefit can someday be fully funded as a meaningful benefit. But, until the budget of the State of Montana can support the uniform allowance, our Association supports this legislation as a way of containing administrative costs.

Our association urges the adoption of this legislation. Thank you for your favorable consideration and I remain available for questions.

EXHIBIT two
DATE 1-12-95
HB 102

State Administration - COMMITTEE

PLEASE PRINT

COMMENTS:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITORS REGISTER

State Administration COMMITTEE

DATE January 12, 1993

BILL NO. HB 106

SPONSOR(S) Merahan

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PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	Support	Oppose
Lori Clark OPI	OPI employees (union)	✓	
Tom Schneider	MPEA	✓	
Doug Hweppner	OPI	✓	
Jay Driscoll	MFT	✓	
Pat Haffey	Gov's Office	✓	
TOM BILONKA	NEA	✓	
DAVE SENU	TRH	✓	
Dy Moran	MFT	✓	

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

HR:1993

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CS-14

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITORS REGISTER

State Administration

COMMITTEE

DATE January 12, 1995

BILL NO. 554

SPONSOR(S) Bartlett

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NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	Support	Oppose
Kathryn Otto	State Archives	✓	
J. J. Meadows	State Law Library	✓	
Gue Bartlett	SD 27	✓	

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

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CS-14

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITORS REGISTER

COMMITTEE

DATE January 12, 1985

BILL NO. HB 102 SPONSOR(S) Kaso

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

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