

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 54th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH & GAME

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN DOUG WAGNER**, on March 30, 1995, at
3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Douglas T. Wagner, Chairman (R)
Rep. Emily Swanson, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Charles R. Devaney (R)
Rep. Daniel C. Fuchs (R)
Rep. Marian W. Hanson (R)
Rep. Rod Marshall (R)
Rep. Brad Molnar (R)
Rep. Robert R. "Bob" Ream (D)
Rep. Paul Sliter (R)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)

Members Excused: Rep. William Rehbein, Jr. (R)
Rep. Jim Elliott (D)
Rep. Hal Harper (D)
Rep. Chase Hibbard (R)
Rep. Dick Knox (R)
Rep. Robert "Bob" Pavlovich (D)
Rep. Bob Raney (D)
Rep. Bill Tash (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Doug Sternberg, Legislative Council
Mary Riitano, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: SJR 20
Executive Action: SJR 20 BE CONCURRED IN

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Counter: 000; Comments: N/A.}

HEARING ON SJR 20

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. KEN MESAROS, Senate District 25, Cascade, stated that SJR 20 honored Doug Swingley, the winner of the 1995 Iditarod Trail Dog Sled Race. The state can be proud of this distinguished accomplishment. Mr. Swingley was the first non-Alaskan to win the 1,161 mile race from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska. Not only was he the first person from the lower 48 states to win, he also set a new record for completion of the race. He completed it in 9 days, 2 hours, and 42 minutes with the assistance of his sled dogs Vic and Elmer. Mr. Swingley has raced in the Iditarod four previous times and had also won two other sled dog races. SEN. MESAROS believed it was fitting that the legislature recognize Mr. Swingley for this major accomplishment. He urged the committee to concur in the resolution.

Proponents' Testimony:

Sheryl Motl, citizen, said she had worked with the Montana Race to the Sky Sled Dog Race for 10 years. There were two races. One was a 300-mile race and the other was a 500-mile race. She said it was an outstanding achievement that a non-Alaskan won the Iditarod race. Mr. Swingley and his brother were a team of mushers. The Swingley family was an old Montana family from the Great Falls area. Between the two brothers, they win almost every race that they enter. Mr. Swingley always gave credit to the dogs in helping win the race. Both of the brothers were tremendous athletes, which affords them national prominence. Ms. Motl thanked the legislature for sponsoring the resolution. It would help people in Montana and throughout the nation recognize Mr. Swingley's achievement.

CHAIRMAN DOUG WAGNER handed in a letter from Pam Otto, Board member and secretary for the Montana Sled Dog, Inc., in support of the resolution. EXHIBIT 1

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. JACK WELLS asked SEN. MESAROS about the previous record for the Iditarod. SEN. MESAROS said that it was about 10 days. REP. WELLS suggested that the old record be placed in the resolution. SEN. MESAROS agreed with the idea. However, there was a problem meeting all the bill deadlines.

REP. DAN FUCHS stated that an amendment could be drafted and the governor could add it when he signed the resolution. SEN.

MESAROS believed that the governor's amendments would have to return to the Senate for concurrence. Even though they were good amendments, he would resist adding them because of the problem with time.

REP. BRAD MOLNAR asked SEN. MESAROS if he knew who Mr. Swingley's sponsor was in the race. SEN. MESAROS said he was not aware of the sponsors.

REP. BOB REAM commented that the accomplishment of the musher and the dogs should be recognized. SEN. MESAROS said that the dogs were mentioned in the bill. They were essential to the successful outcome of the race.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. MESAROS stated that the resolution would send the message that Montanans were proud of the accomplishment.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 20

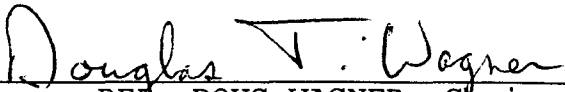
Motion/Vote: REP. FUCHS MOVED THAT SJR 20 BE CONCURRED IN.
Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion:

SEN. MESAROS said that REP. JOHN COBB would carry the bill on the House floor.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:50 P.M.



REB. DOUG WAGNER, Chairman



MARY RIITANO, Secretary

DW/mr

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fish and Game

ROLL CALL

DATE March 30, 1995

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Doug Wagner, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Bill Rehbein, Vice Chairman, Majority			✓
Rep. Emily Swanson, Vice Chairman, Minority	✓		
Rep. Charles Devaney	✓		
Rep. Jim Elliott			✓
Rep. Daniel Fuchs	✓		
Rep. Marian Hanson	✓		
Rep. Hal Harper			✓
Rep. Chase Hibbard			✓
Rep. Dick Knox			✓
Rep. Rod Marshall	✓		
Rep. Brad Molnar	✓		
Rep. Bob Pavlovich			✓
Rep. Bob Raney			✓
Rep. Bob Ream	✓		
Rep. Paul Sliter	✓		
Rep. Bill Tash			✓
Rep. Jack Wells	✓		



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

April 3, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Fish and Game report that Senate Joint Resolution 20 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in.

Signed: Doug Wagner
Doug Wagner, Chair

Carried by: Rep. Cobb

Committee Vote:
Yes 18, No 0.

761213SC.Hbk

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ABSENTEE VOTE

Date 3/30/95

Mr. Chairman/Mr. Speaker:

I, the undersigned member, hereby vote absentee on:

SR Bill No. 20

Representative Tash voting Yes (aye or no)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ABSENTEE VOTE

Date

3-31-95

Mr. Chairman/Mr. Speaker:

I, the undersigned member, hereby vote absentee on:

STB Bill No. 20

Representative William Rehberg voting

(aye or no)

Doug

Voto with you



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

3/30/95

Rep Swanson has
my proxy in
House F+G Committee

Bob Ream

Metoo Elliott

I vote with
Swartha

F + G Lounsbury
3/30/95

Hayes
Bob Roney

3/30/95

House Fish & Game Committee

Chase Hibbard has my proxy
for all votes and motions

Walter Knox

Dogs

Yes

Don Allen

Yes

STR-20

Yes

Carlson

EXHIBIT 1

DATE MARCH 30, 1995

SR 20

MONTANA SLED DOG, INC.

736 NORTH EWING STREET • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • (406) 442-2335

JIM MCHUGH • RACE MANAGER • (406) 442-4008



Representative Doug Wagner
Fish & Game Committee
1995 Legislative Session

Re: Doug Swingley Resolution

March 29, 1995

To Representative Doug Wagner and Committee Members:

I write to you on behalf of Montana Sled Dog, Inc., parent organization to Montana's Race to the Sky sled dog race. Race to the Sky wishes to join your efforts in recognizing Doug Swingley, a fellow Montanan and the first non-Alaskan to win the Iditarod.

We are proud of this ambitious, fast-learning musher. Doug won the 1991 Race to the Sky in record-breaking time and set the stage to fulfill his goal of winning the Iditarod. For this dream to come true in such a short time is a big accomplishment for anyone. But then, Doug always accomplishes what he sets his sights on.

Before closing, we would like to congratulate not only Doug but his marvelous four-legged creatures that ask nothing more than an encouraging word and a loving pat. They do this for their musher out of love for running and every musher knows that—for it has been said many times that mushers are only as strong as their weakest dog.

We applaud this resolution honoring Doug Swingley and his team. We are glad he is a Montanan and we thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Pam C. Otto

Pam C. Otto

Board Member and

Race Secretary for

Montana Sled Dog, Inc.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITORS REGISTER

HOUSE FISH & GAME COMMITTEE

DATE March 30, 1995

BILL NUMBER SJR 20

SPONSOR(S) Meseros

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	Support	Oppose
Sheryl Motl 833 Breckenridge Helena	Montana, Sked Dog, Inc	✓	