

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: By Chairman Joe Barnett, on March 4, 1997, at
3:05 p.m., in Room 437

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Joe Barnett, Chairman (R)
Rep. John "Sam" Rose, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)
Rep. William M. "Bill" Ryan, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Darrel Adams (R)
Rep. Peggy Arnott (R)
Rep. Paul Bankhead (R)
Rep. Harriet Hayne (R)
Rep. George Heavy Runner (D)
Rep. Joan Hurdle (D)
Rep. Rick Jore (R)
Rep. Billie Krenzler (D)
Rep. Gay Ann Masolo (R)
Rep. Doug Mood (R)
Rep. Gerald Pease (D)
Rep. Trudi Schmidt (D)
Rep. Robert R. Story, Jr. (R)
Rep. Jay Stovall (R)
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)
Rep. Cliff Trexler (R)
Rep. Bill Whitehead (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dave Bohyer, Legislative Services Division
Mary Lou Schmitz, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: SB 39 - 2-25-97
SB 73 - 2-25-97

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 39

"AN ACT APPLYING MANAGEMENT AND EXCLUSIVE AGENCY CONTRACT
RESTRICTIONS TO FARM MUTUAL INSURERS; DEFINING "FARM MUTUAL

INSURER" REQUIRING LICENSURE OF FARM MUTUAL MANAGING GENERAL AGENTS AND REGULATION OF FARM MUTUAL MANAGING GENERAL AGENT CONTRACTS; LIMITING THE RETENTION OF CROP-HAIL RISK BY A FARM MUTUAL INSURER;"

Sponsor: Senator Linda Nelson, SD 49.

{Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 6.3 ; Comments: .}

Opening Statement by Sponsor: Senator Nelson said the Bill protects farmers who purchase their insurance through a farm mutual insurance company.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.3; }

Proponents: Claudia Clifford, State Auditor's Office.

Candace Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics.

Bob Stephens, Montana Grain Growers Association.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.7; }

Opponents: Roger McGlenn, Executive Director, Independent Insurance Agents' Association of Montana.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.4; }

Questions From Committee Members and Responses: Reps. Arnott, Story.

Responses by Senator Nelson; Frank Cote, Deputy Insurance Commissioner.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.0; }

Closing by Sponsor: Senator Nelson closed the Hearing on SB 39.

HEARING ON SB 73

"AN ACT PROTECTING MONTANA LIVESTOCK, AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS, AND WILDLIFE BY MODIFYING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS COMMISSION MAY RESTRICT THE IMPORTATION AND POSSESSION OF WILDLIFE BY ALLOWING THE COMMISSION TO DEVELOP A LISTING, BY RULE, RESTRICTING AND REGULATING WILDLIFE IMPORTATION AND POSSESSION; DEFINING IMPORT AND POSSESSION INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR THE INTENTIONAL IMPORTATION, POSSESSION, INTRODUCTION, OR TRANSPLANTATION OF WILDLIFE;

Sponsor: Senator Bruce Crippen, SD 10, Billings.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 23.5; }

Opening Statement by Sponsor: Senator Crippen said the Bill is an Act to protect Montana wildstock, agricultural interests and wildlife by modifying the manner in which the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission may restrict the importation and possession of wildlife.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 35.0; }

Proponents: Dennis Iverson, Interest in this Issue Group.
EXHIBIT 1.

Paul Sihler, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks,
EXHIBITS 2 AND 3.

Dr. Clarence Siroki, Department of Livestock.

Ellen Engstedt, Montana Alternative Livestock
Producers.

Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon, **EXHIBIT 4.**

Brett Brownscombe, Montana Wildlife Federation.

John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau.

Dave Pauli, Yellowstone County, Humane Society.

Al Wipperman, Montana Chapter of the American
Fisheries Society. **EXHIBIT 5.**

Bud Williams, Montana Innkeepers' Association.

Mike Hankin, Representing a segment of Montana
Cattlemen's Association.

Laura Lee Neva, American Federation of Agriculture.
(Opposes the Bill as written but supports the Bill if amended)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 66.7; }

Opponents: Renee Evenson, President, Great Falls Cage Bird
Society, **EXHIBIT 6.**

{Tape 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 71.0; }

Informational Testimony: None

{Tape: 1; Side: A and B; Approx. Time Count: 71.1 - 24.0 }

Questions From Committee Members and Responses: Reps. Rose,
Story, Arnott, Hurdle, Stovall, Heavy Runner, Masolo, Bankhead,
Barnett, Adams.

Responses by Paul Sihler; Renee Evenson; Clarence Siroki; Dave
Pauli; Senator Crippen; Bob Lane, Chief Legal Counsel, Department
Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Dennis Iverson.

Closing by Sponsor: Senator Crippen closed the Hearing on SB 73.

Larry Howard, Renee's Pet and Supplies, Lewistown, asked to speak
in opposition to the Bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:00 p.m.



REP. JOE BARNETT, Chairman



MARY LOU SCHMITZ, Secretary

JB/MLS