

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN GARY FELAND, on January 9, 1997, at 8:04 A.M., in Room 405.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Gary Feland, Chairman (R)
Sen. B.F. "Chris" Christiaens (D)
Rep. William T. "Red" Menahan (D)
Sen. Mike Taylor (R)
Rep. Steve Vick (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Arnie A. Mohl

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Skip Culver, Legislative Fiscal Division
Hope Spriggs, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted:
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION,
Present Law Adjustment
New Proposal
1/9/97; 1/6/97

Executive Action: PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION,
Present Law Adjustment
New Proposal
1/9/97

HEARING ON PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 0.0; Comments: Skip Culver, overview.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.7; Comments: Testimony: Proponet Dave Fisher, Montana Public Service Commission.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.7; Comments: Testimony: Proponet Wayne Butt, Administrator, Transportation and Centralized Services Division requested the PSC budget be approved as outlined in the Governor's proposed budget.}

EXHIBIT 1

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.5; Comments: SEN. VICK asked if the Universal Access Fund would raise phone rates.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.6; Comments: Testimony, Proponet Danny Oberg, MPSC explains the UAF.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.1; Comments: Testimony: Joan Mandeville, Montana Telephone Association answers SEN. VICK'S question on how much the UAF would raise phone rates. Question referred to Mr. Oberg.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.8; Comments: SEN. TAYLOR asks about equipment replacement and advanced services.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 24.3; Comments: Mr. Oberg defined the Universal Service fund.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 26.7; Comments: CHAIRMAN FELAND asks Mr. Butt about deregulation.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 0.0; Comments: Mr. Oberg answers questions on the UAF and deregulation.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 8.2; Comments: Testimony: Proponet Bob Rowe, Public Service Commissioner, Western Montana.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 11.5; Comments: Testimony: Proponet Bob Anderson, Commissioner, PSC, answers SEN. CHRISTIAENS' question on the future impact of Public Utility Districts.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 13.1; Comments: Skip Culver asks for clarification on what has to be done to provide remote towns with equal informational services.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15.2; Comments: Ms. Mandeville explains the goal of the Universal Service Fund.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 18.5; Comments: Mr. Rowe is asked about information duplication in existing services by SEN. TAYLOR.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 0.0; Comments: Discussion.}

Motion: REP. MENAHAN MOVED TO ADOPT THE PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENT, THAT CONSULTING AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BE A BIENNIAL APPROPRIATION AND ADJUSTMENTS BE MADE FOR ONE LESS VEHICLE.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.8; Comments: Discussion on motion.}

Vote: ADOPT PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON NEW PROPOSAL

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.1; Comments: Committee discussion on executive action.}

Motion: SEN. CHRISTIAENS MOVED TO ADOPT THE EXECUTIVE NEW PROPOSAL TITLED THE UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND SERVICE PROGRAM.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.7; Comments: Discussion on motion.}

Vote: ADOPT NEW PROPOSAL. Motion failed 2-4 with REP MENAHAN and SEN CHRISTIAENS voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:31 A.M.


GARY FELAND, Chairman


HOPE SPRIGGS, Secretary

GF/hs