

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ROYAL C. JOHNSON, on January 17, 1997, at 8:05 AM, in room 312-2 at the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Royal C. Johnson, Chairman (R)
Sen. Daryl Toews, Vice-Chairman (R)
Rep. Don Holland (R)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. Ken Miller (R)
Rep. Ray Peck (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bob Tallerico, Legislative Fiscal Division
Connie Jacobs, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: Office of Public Instruction,
1/16/97.
Executive Action: The Arts Council.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON THE ARTS COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN ROYAL C. JOHNSON called the meeting to order. Mr. Bob Tallerico, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, explained that a previous motion on the Arts Council budget which funded one-half of personal services must be re-defined due to insurance coverage limitations with 1/2 time employees.

Motion: REP. RAY PECK MOVED TO RECONSIDER THE MOTION REGARDING FUNDING 1/2 OF NEW PROPOSALS FOR PERSONAL AND OPERATING EXPENSES, ON PAGE E-38.

Vote: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion: SEN. DARYL TOEWS MOVED TO CUT THE ARTS COUNCIL NEW PROPOSALS APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES IN HALF. THIS EQUALS 42,609 IN FISCAL 99 FOR PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES, AND 48,788 IN FISCAL 99 FOR PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES. THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET OFFICE WOULD THEN MAKE ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED FOR FTE'S INVOLVED.

Vote: THE MOTION PASSED, 5-1.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-20; Comments: .}

HEARING ON THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Mr. Tallerico presented issues with teacher certification fees and the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) budget. Mr. Curtis Nichols, Office of Budget and Program Planning, Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, OPI Chief of Staff, and Eric Feaver, President of the Montana Education Association, responded to the certification issues.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21-30; Comments: .}

Questions from the committee.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1-13; Comments: .}

Mr. Tallerico presented further issues with the OPI budget, followed by questions from the committee.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 13-30.}

Questions from the committee, continued.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-30; Comments: .}

Mr. Dale Guff, a Whitefish school bus operator, spoke in favor of funding the position of Director of Pupil Transportation within OPI, and not at the Department of Transportation.

EXHIBIT A

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1-30; Comments: .}

Mr. Wayne Gebhardt, Montana Agricultural Teachers Association, Mr. Taylor Brown, Northern Broadcasting System, REP. LARRY GRINDE, HD 94, Ms. Kristi Davenport, Mr. Les Graham, Mr. Quinn Holzer, and Ms. Cheryl Schlepp, spoke in favor of funding the Agricultural Education Specialist position at Montana State University (MSU, Bozeman).

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT C

EXHIBIT D

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-30; Comments: .}

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1-16; Comments: .}

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Questions and comments from the committee.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 16-30; Comments: .}

Questions from the committee, continued. **Oscar Cantu, President of Montana Vocational Association** and **REP. BILL TASH - HD 34**, also presented testimony in favor of the agricultural education specialist position, and its placement at MSU Bozeman.

{Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-27; Comments: .}

Mr. Nichols presented information regarding the State Library and the Norwest Bank contract.

EXHIBIT E

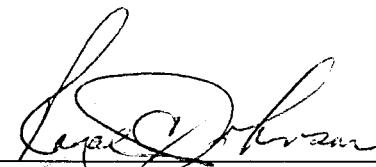
{Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27-30; Comments: .}

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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: This meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm.



REP. ROYAL C. JOHNSON, Chairman



CONNIE JACOBS, Secretary

RCJ/cj

Note: This meeting was recorded on four (4) 60 minute tapes.