

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & AGING

Call to Order: By Chairman Betty Lou Kasten, on January 22, 1997, at 8 a.m., in room 108

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Betty Lou Kasten, Chairman (R)
Sen. Charles "Chuck" Swysgood, Vice-Chairman (R)
Rep. Beverly Barnhart (D)
Sen. James H. "Jim" Burnett (R)
Rep. John Cobb (R) present at 11:30 a.m.
Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)

Members Excused: Rep. John Cobb

Staff Present: Pam Joehler, Legislative Fiscal Division
Joanne Chance, Legislative Fiscal Division
Ellen Garritty, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

PUBLIC TESTIMONY, CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

Susan Christofferson, private citizen, Kalispell
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.0; Comments: testified in support of Head Start.}

Judy Brygelson, Head Start Association, Billings
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.2; Comments: testified in support of Head Start Collaboration grant.}

Julie Bullard, Association for the Education of Young Children, Dillon
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.9; Comments: testified in support of Head Start Collaboration grant.}

Billie Warford, private citizen, Bozeman
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.5; Comments: testified in support of Head Start Collaboration grant.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION, CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

1/17/97 Executive-Proposed Revisions:

Lois Steinbeck, Bureau Chief, Early Childhood Services
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.4; Comments: discussed
"Other Base Adjustments" under Present Law Adjustments.}

Connie Welch, Governor's Budget Office
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.0; Comments: explained
an oversight in Present Law Adjustments/Other Base Adjustments.}

Lois Steinbeck
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 15.7; Comments: Because of
the Subcommittee's rejection of Present Law Adjustments/"Other
Base Adjustments, general and federal funds to child care were
denied.}

Motion/Vote: Sen. Waterman moved to reconsider action on Present
Law Adjustments/Other Base Adjustments. The motion failed 3-3.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 24.1.}

BUDGET ITEM: CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Lauri Ekanger, Director, DPHHS
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.6; Comments:
introduction of Administrator Wellbank and Lowney, Bureau Chief,
Administrative Services.}

Mary Ann Wellbank, Administrator, Child Support Enforcement
Division
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 35.0; Comments: Exhibit
#1, Outline of Presentation.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Comments: Administrator Wellbank's
presentation continued.}

Sen. Swysgood
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.5; Comments: asked about
use of child support 800 number.}

Mary Ann Wellbank
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.0; Comments: discussed
the child support 800 number.}

Sen. Swysgood
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.8; Comments: asked
about health insurance.}

Mary Ann Wellbank
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.8; Comments: reply to
Sen. Swysgood.}

Sen. Swysgood

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 15.1; Comments: caseloads.}

Jack Lowney, Bureau Chief, Administrative Services

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 17.5; Comments: the Bureau collected more money.}

Rep. Barnhart

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 18.9; Comments: asked about the \$50 pass through.}

Mary Ann Wellbank

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.1; Comments: the incentive did not work.}

Review of Child Support Enforcement Division's proposed legislation

Mary Ann Wellbank

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.0; Comments: Administrator Wellbank reviewed LC 1007. Exhibit #2, outline of LC 1007.}

Sen. Swysgood

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1.7; Comments: fiscal note?}

Administrator Wellbank

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 2.0; Comments: A fiscal note is being prepared.}

Sen. Swysgood

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 3.4; Comments: lien on a vehicle.}

Administrator Wellbank

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.3; Comments: discussed "ghost" liens.}

Performance Based Budgeting

Jack Lowney

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 19.1; Comments: discussed Performance Based Budgeting. Exhibit #3, report.}

Chairman Kasten

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 26.8; Comments: case turnover.}

Jack Lowney

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 29.2; Comments: response to Chairman Kasten.}

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Comments: subcommittee discussion with Wellbank and Lowney.}

Jack Lowney

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.0; Comments: AFDC collections are not as high as anticipated.}

Sen. Swysgood

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21.6; Comments: JSP Program.}

Jack Lowney

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 23.9; Comments: continued with presentation.}

Rep. Cobb

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.1; Comments: collections under FAIM.}

Jack Lowney

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.6; Comments: Child Support is not going to meet expectations of welfare reform.}

Rep. Cobb

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 31.2; Comments: Will Child Support be in trouble financially in a few years?}

Jack Lowney


{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 31.4; Comments: reply to Rep. Cobb. Yes, the Division may be in financial trouble in the future.}


Jack Lowney

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 34.7; Comments: reprioritizing money; changes in welfare reform that don't require changes in law.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00, noon


REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN, Chairman


ELLEN GARRITY, Secretary