

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 24,
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)
Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)

Staff Present: Pam Joehler, Legislative Fiscal Division
Ellen Garrity, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted:
Executive Action:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1.0; Comments: Exhibit #1, list of FAIM supportive services from DPHHS; Exhibit #2, Summary of Subcommittee Action from staff; Exhibit #3, letter from Richard Kerstein, Chief, Family Services Bureau to Subcommittee on Effectiveness of Family Preservation Service Programs; and Exhibit #4, General Fund Status from staff.}

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION

Mary Alice Cook, Advocate for children and families

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .7; Comments: Works with Montana youth homes. Testified for funding for youth homes.}

Bob Cooper, Director of Montana Youth Homes

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.7; Comments: Asked subcommittee to reconsider action on foster care funding.}

Susan Wolcott, foster parent

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 15.2; Comments: Testified in support of foster homes.}

Russell LaVigne, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 20.8; Comments: introduced a group from Bozeman.}

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21.0; Comments: Exhibit #5, testimony from Beth A Quinn, Bozeman. Exhibit #5A, testimony from Mardella and Bruce Brock, Bozeman.}

Debra Gram, Bozeman, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21.8; Comments: testified in support of FAIM. (testimony, Exhibit #5C.)}

Joanne Howell, Bozeman, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.0; Comments: testified in support of funding for child care. (testimony, Exhibit #5E.)}

Cynthia L. Montgomery, Bozeman, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.0; Comments: testified in support child care funding. (testimony, Exhibit #5D.)}

Connie Two-Two, Bozeman, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 30.6; Comments: complaints about Child Support Enforcement Division. Supports \$50 pass through.}

Robin Jarvis, Bozeman, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 33.8; Comments: testified in support of \$50 pass through. (testimony, Exhibit #5B.)}

Bevin Barber, Bozeman, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 36.2.}

Joellen Brennan, Bozeman, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 39.6.}

Russell LaVigne, MWAC

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 43.0; Comments: spoke of problems with Child Support Enforcement Division.}

Karolin Jappe Loendorf, Lewis and Clark County Commissioner

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 2.5; Comments: former welfare mother, spoke in support of funding for child care. (Exhibit #6)}

HEARING ON CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Tape No. 1B, 6.1

Jack Lowney, Bureau Chief

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 10.8; Comments: Exhibit #7, Performance Measures Per FTE. Mr. Lowney reviewed exhibit.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 14.8; Comments: discussion between CSED staff and subcommittee members.}

Mary Ann Wellbank and Hank Hudson

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 17.5; Comments: discussed improved communication between CSED and Family Services.}

RECESS 9 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.

HEARING ON CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

Tape No. 1B, 25.4

Vice Chairman Sywsgood

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 25.0; Comments: called meeting to order in absence of Chairman Kasten.}

Lois Steinbeck, Bureau Chief, Fiscal Bureau

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 25.9; Comments: reviewed Exhibit #8, Child Care Block Grant Funding After subcommittee Action.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 27.8 - 34.0; Comments: discussion between Child and Family Services staff and subcommittee members.}

Pam Joehler, LFD staff

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 39.8; Comments: Staff reviewed Exhibit #9, Impact of subcommittee Action on TANF Budget.}

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.5 -; Comments: discussion between Child and Family Services staff and subcommittee members.}

RECESS 10 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

Vice Chairman Swysgood

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.2; Comments: called to meeting to order in absence of Chairman Kasten.}

Rep. Barnhart

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21.1; Comments: asked Hank Hudson about child support for foster care.}

Hank Hudson

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.}

Sen. Waterman

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 23.9; Comments: Parents of kids in foster care should make contribution to care.}

Hank Hudson

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 25.0; Comments: There is a policy to wait six months before asking family for contribution to child support.}

Sen. Sywsgood

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.8; Comments: CSED telephone system.}

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.6 - 43.7; Comments: discussion of MOE, funding, TANF - staff and subcommittee members.}

Motion/Vote: Sen. Swysgood moved to take out the \$19,238 general fund excess (Child Care Block Grant Funding). The motion failed 3-3.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 5.9.}

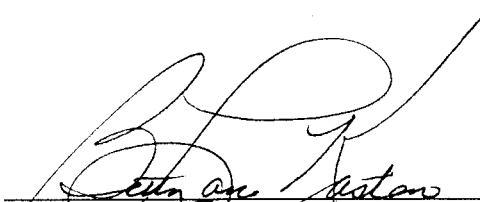
Motion: Sen. Waterman moved to accept the bottom line, \$19,328, general fund reductions and add back \$584,781 of federal spending authority to reflect the revised executive request (Child Care Block Grant Funding).

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 9.4 - 21.5; Comments: discussion of motion.}

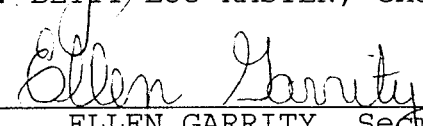
Vote: Sen. Waterman's motion failed 3-3.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 a.m.



REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN, Chairman



ELLEN GARRITY, Secretary

BLK/EG