

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 27,  
1997, at 8 a.m., in room 108

ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Betty Lou Kasten, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Beverly Barnhart (D)  
Sen. James H. "Jim" Burnett (R)  
Rep. John Cobb (R)  
Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Swysgood

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

**Committee Business Summary:**

TESTIMONY

Joyce Barnes, Manager, Customer Service Unit, Maximus (private contractor to the Child Support Enforcement Division)  
*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.8; Comments: explained the management of the phone service.}*

Rep. Barnhart  
*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.1; Comments: asked how much operators are paid.}*

Joyce Barnes  
*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.0; Comments: The salary is \$18,000 annually. Also, there is an incentive program of up to \$100 a month. Salary includes health insurance and 401K.}*

Rep. Cobb  
*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.0; Comments: asked about turnover.}*

Joyce Barnes  
*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.2; Comments: Turnover is high, however, the contract with Child Support Enforcement is 16 months old and 4 or 5 employees have been with the program for that time.}*

Mary Alice Cook, League of Women Voters  
*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.8; Comments: The League of Women Voters supports 100% funding of welfare program.}*

BUDGET HEARING: MEDICAID PROJECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Mike Billings, Bureau Chief, Operations and Technology, DPHHS  
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 33.6; Comments: introduced the Montana Medicaid Program staff to present overview. Exhibit #1, Medicaid Benefits - Summary by Division.}

John Chappuis, Medicaid Services Division  
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 43.5; Comments: reviewed Exhibit #2, Montana Medicaid Program, Report to the 1997 Legislature.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: .1; Comments: report by Mr. Chappuis continued.}

Norm Rostocki, Senior and Long Term Care  
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 5.7.}

Rep. Cobb  
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15.1; Comments: What is the growth rate in the budget for medicaid?}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Comments: Subcommittee and Department staff discussion.}

Mike Billings  
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 16.1; Comments: The growth rate is 6%.}

Pam Joehler, LFD, Subcommittee staff  
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 17.7; Comments: Reviewed Exhibit #3, Summary of Subcommittee Action as of January 24, 1997. Thus far, there has been a general fund reduction of \$3,632,194.}

The Subcommittee adjourned until 10:30 a.m. At that time, DPHHS presented a virtual department demonstration at the Sanders Street Building in the Department conference room. Following the demonstration, the Subcommittee adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 a.m.

  
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REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN, Chairman

  
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ELLEN GARRITY, Secretary