

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN ROYAL C. JOHNSON, on February 3, 1997, at 8:06 AM, in room 312-2 of 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: Sandy Whitney, Legislative Fiscal Division
Connie Jacobs, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: None.
Executive Action: Community Colleges, Distance Learning.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON DISTANCE LEARNING

Motion: REP. DON HOLLAND MOVED THAT 60,000 FOR THE WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY PROGRAM BE APPROVED, ON PAGE E-127.

Substitute Motion: SEN. GREG JERGESON MOVED THAT 969,435 IN ADDITION TO THE 60,000 (FOR A TOTAL OF 1,029,435) BE APPROVED.

Vote: THE MOTION FAILED, 3-3.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-26; Comments: .}

Motion: REP. HOLLAND OFFERED HIS ORIGINAL MOTION.

Substitute Motion: SEN. KEN MILLER MOVED THAT 750,000 BE FUNDED FOR THE DISTANCE LEARNING INITIATIVE, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE 60,000 FOR THE WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY PROGRAM.

Vote: THE MOTION FAILED, 3-3.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27-29; Comments: .}

Motion: REP. HOLLAND OFFERED HIS ORIGINAL MOTION.

Vote: THE MOTION PASSED, 5-1.

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

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON THE RURAL RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Discussion on the Rural Residency Program.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 30-36; Comments: .}

Motion: SEN. DARYL TOEWS MOVED TO APPROVE NEW PROPOSAL ITEM ONE (RESIDENCY PROGRAM), ON PAGE E-134.

Vote: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 37-39; Comments: .}

Discussion on the Commissioner of Higher Education budget.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 40-45; Comments: .}

Ms. Sandy Whitney, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, presented a table which replaced the second table on page E-81, followed by additional questions of Commissioner Dick Crofts and discussion on the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE).

EXHIBIT 1

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1-42; Comments: .}

Discussion regarding the 3.5 million dollars and the budget for the University System. Commissioner Crofts, Ms. Amy Carlson, Office of Budget Program Planning, Mr. Rod Sundsted, OCHE, commented on the issue.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-20; Comments: .}

Discussion about the WICHE/WAMI Programs.

EXHIBIT 2

EXHIBIT 3 (Commissioner Crofts)

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON THE
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION
COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSISTANCE

Motion: SEN. DARYL TOEWS MOVED THAT PRESENT LAW ADJUSTMENTS INCLUDING PERSONAL SERVICES, INFLATION/DEFLATION, FIXED COSTS, (ITEMS 1, 2, AND 3), SIGNIFICANT OTHER ADJUSTMENTS AND OTHER BASE ADJUSTMENTS ON PAGE E-129 BE APPROVED.

Vote: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 20-25; Comments: .}

SEN. GREG JERGESON presented an option for distributing state aid to community colleges which takes into consideration property tax base disparities between the districts.

EXHIBIT 4

Discussion continued regarding SEN. JERGESON'S proposal.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 25-45; Comments: .}

Further discussion regarding SEN. JERGESON'S proposal and mill levies. Commissioner Dick Crofts, and Mr. Don Kettner, President of Dawson Community College responded to the issues.

Motion: SEN. JERGESON MOVED THAT THE COMMITTEE CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE DISTRIBUTION PROPOSAL AS SHOWN ON EXHIBIT 4.

Vote: THE MOTION PASSED, 5-1.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1-15; Comments: .}

Discussion regarding Montana Tuition Assistance Program (MTAP), Talent Search, C.D. Perkins Administration, the School-to-Work Program, and the Guaranteed Student Loan Program. Ms. Jane Karas, Office of Public Instruction, and Ms. Arlene Hannawalt, Interim Director of Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program, responded to questions.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15-45; Comments: .}

Ms. Whitney, continued with issues about the educational units, summitnet, and faculty agreements. Ms. Carlson, and Mr. Sundsted responded to these statements.

EXHIBIT 5

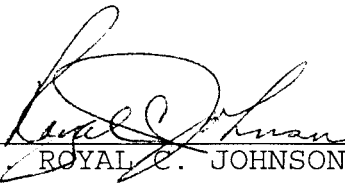
EXHIBIT 6

EXHIBIT 7 (Commissioner Crofts)

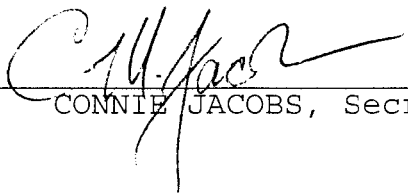
{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1-20; Comments: .}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: This meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am.



REP. ROYAL C. JOHNSON, Chairman



CONNIE JACOBS, Secretary

RCJ/cj

Note: This meeting was recorded on three (3) 90 minute tapes.