

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & AGING

Call to Order: By Chairman Betty Lou Kasten, on February 5, 1997, at 8:10 a.m., in room 325.

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
Joanne Chance, Legislative Fiscal Division
Ellen Garrity, Committee Secretary

Committee Business Summary:

BUDGET HEARING: DPHHS, DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION

Tape No. 1A

Joe Matthews, Administrator, Disability Services Division,
continued with overview of the Division.

PUBLIC HEARING: DPHHS, DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION

Tape No. 1A, 2.4

The following persons testified in support of funding for
Disability Services Division:

Keith Colbo, Developmental Disabilities System Advocacy Committee
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.8; Comments: Exhibit #1,
testimony.}

Wally Melcher, President/CEO of Helena Industries in Helena
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.8; Comments: Exhibit #2,
testimony.}

Michael P. Varone, Vice President of Norwest Bank Montana and on
the board of Helena Industries.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.5; Comments: Exhibit #3,
testimony.}

June Hermanson, Chair of State Independent Living Council
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.2; Comments: Exhibit #4, Montana Statewide Independent Council Annual Report to the Governor. Exhibit #5, Ms. Hermanson's testimony.}

Terry Evans, McDonalds in Helena and Butte supports job coaching.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.5; Comments: Exhibit #5A, testimony.}

Sandra Swan, Great Falls, supports independent living project.

Mike Muszkiewicz, Helena, supports Vocational Rehabilitation extended employment.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 18.0; Comments: Exhibit #6, testimony.}

Thersa Gardener, Helena, supports Montana Independent Living Project.

Ken Thompson, Montana Association for Rehabilitation, Red Lodge, supports Independent Living Project.

Jan Scott, hearing impaired, supports Independent Living Centers.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.4; Comments: Exhibit #7, testimony.}

Earl Kelly, Great Falls, supports Independent Living Centers.

Barbara Orthman, Hysham, speaking for LIFTT.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 32.2; Comments: Exhibit #8, testimony.}

Megan Lockwood, Billings, supports LIFTT.

M. Lawrence, supports Helena Industries.

Tape No. 1B

Sandy McDonald and Alischa Mason, Helena, support Helena Industries and Montana Independent Living Project.
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1.1; Comments: Exhibit 8A, testimony.}

Pat Doney, President, Montana Association of the Blind, spoke for Vocational Rehabilitation.

Dan Wornek, LIFTT
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 45.8; Comments: Exhibit #9, testimony.}

Stephanie Tollfeson, Great Falls
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10.7; Comments: Exhibit #10, testimony.}

William Cristler, Helena Industries, Montana Independent Living
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 18.7; Comments: Exhibit
#11, testimony.}

Cathy Parah, Extended Employment, Easter Seals, Great Falls

Steven Bowers, Helena
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 22.0; Comments: Exhibit
#12, testimony.}

Tami Hood, Extended Employment, Easter Seals, Great Falls

Sharon Odden, Vice President of Easter Seals in Great Falls,
requested a 2.8% increase to help cover costs for workers'
compensation, background checks, and pay increases.

Ellen Lindstrom, Great Falls

Pat Seibert, Independent Living, Great Falls

Scott Birkenbuel, small business owner, Bozeman

Tape 2A

Tom Red Fox, Independent Living Project

Al Smith, Executive Director of Montana Advocacy Program

Stu LaKandee, Independent Living, Great Falls

Garry Hammond, Great Falls, North Central Independent Living
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.1; Comments: Exhibit
#13, testimony.}

Pat Lockwood, Director of Independent Living Centers in Billings

Deana Martin, Missoula

Nancy Balcom, Billings, LIFTT
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21.4; Comments: Exhibit
#14, testimony.}

Ralph Martin, Bozeman, Vocational Rehabilitation

Mike Mayer, Director of Summit Independent Living Centers in
Missoula
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 24.7; Comments: Exhibit
#15, letters.}

Mike Kelly, Flathead Industries, Kalispell

Tom Osburn, Director, North Central Independent Living Services,
Great Falls

Crazy Eagle, Billings Independent Living Project

Laura Ann Williams, Extended Employment and Opportunity Resources

Jim Meldrum, Executive Director of Montana Independent Living Project, Helena

Erene Moore, Independent Living, Billings

Rod Hlacacek, employment specialist, WORCcenter at Community Medical Center in Missoula

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 36.0; Comments: Exhibit #16, testimony.}

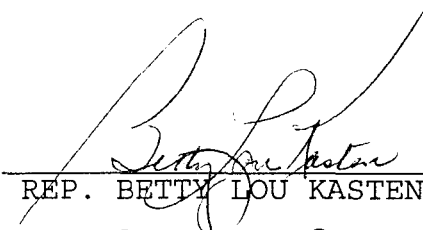
Charlotte Smith, Missoula

Wayne Hands, Opportunity Resources

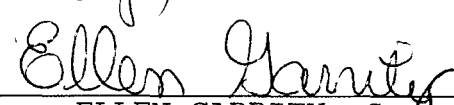
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 42.4; Comments: Exhibit #17, testimony from Elmer Riippo, Bozeman Montana Independent Living Project (not present at meeting).}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:00 a.m.



REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN, Chairman



ELLEN GARRITY, Secretary

BLK/EG