

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Foster, on January 27, 1997, at 5:10,  
in Room 331

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Mike Foster, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Charles "Chuck" Swysgood, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Sue Bartlett (D)  
Sen. Thomas A. "Tom" Beck (R)  
Sen. Bruce D. Crippen (R)  
Sen. John "J.D." Lynch (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Greg Petesch, Legislative Services Division,  
Shelli Winslow, Committee Secretary

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and  
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: None  
Executive Action: SB 186 Do Pass As Amended  
SB 93 Do Not Pass

#### EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 186

**Amendments:** SEN. J.D. LYNCH moved to tape the minutes. Would  
strike section E and reword the section. Subsections 2 and 3  
should be reworded.

**Motion:** SEN. BRUCE CRIPPEN MOVED DO PASS SB 186.

**Discussion:** CHAIRMAN MIKE FOSTER told the Committee that he  
found out that 28 states tape record their sessions, 13  
transcribe those tape recordings and of those 13, 3 are  
transcribed if there is a request. He also found out that  
neighboring states do not tape their sessions.

SEN. J.D. LYNCH, What it comes down to E, we do the date, the  
time, the list of individual members in attendance, excused, the  
bills acted on including amendments, motions and votes. We do

that. So the new thing would be whether or not we want a summary of the discussions on each bill and the amendments considered by the committee.

SEN. FOSTER asked SEN. CHUCK SWYSGOOD Do you think that the fiscal note is accurate?

SEN. SWYSGOOD The fiscal note should be for a full-time not a part time position during the session.

SEN. TOM BECK When we get into some of our lengthy sessions this would be too time consuming. Why don't we just tape the session and store the tape. There would be no transcription.

SEN. FOSTER That is what is done in most of the 28 states.

Motion/Vote: The MOTION TO AMEND SB 186 PASSED the Committee unanimously. SEN. CRIPPEN MOVED DO PASS. The MOTION CARRIED 5 to 1 in favor of passing SB 186 as amended. SEN. SWYSGOOD was the no vote.

#### EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 93

Amendments: None

Motion/Vote: SEN. SUE BARTLETT moved to take SB 93 off the Table. The motion passed 5 to 1. SEN. BECK voted no.

Discussion: SEN. BARTLETT addressed the motion by saying that the fiscal note delineates that there is not anything mandated in the way of actual program activities. It does require that fiscal notes on these programs would address how much it would cost to do an evaluation if a evaluation were done. It is her understanding that many of the programs are already incorporating evaluations. She thinks that the real intent of the bill is simply to elevate the profile of those evaluations and iterate to the agencies that it is an aspect that the legislature considers important for them to be conducting.

SEN. FOSTER With all these guiding principles, how can there no fiscal impact.

SEN. BECK Who is going to establish these guiding principles to assist the legislature? Who did the fiscal note?

SEN. SWYSGOOD They are getting away with not having a fiscal note. Any time you change a program or have an affect on the bottom of page 2, fiscal notes must be in those bills for the evaluation.

SEN. BARTLETT In reality the real reason that there is no fiscal impact is because as the fiscal note specifies in assumption 2, the bill requests but does not mandate program evaluations on all

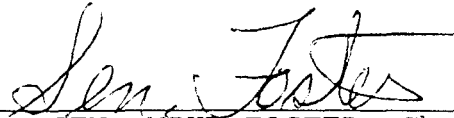
programs and appropriations requests for programs effecting children and families. On page 2 of the bill, line 3, it clearly states that the legislature encourages requests for appropriations for programs to include but not be limited to the following basic components that are evaluations components. The bill itself does not require an evaluation. The whole point of it is to elevate the awareness for the need of evaluations in the agencies mind because the legislature is saying we think that this is a significant aspect of what you're doing.

**SEN. SWYSGOOD** As a member of the subcommittee that deals with these budgets, he has not found it lacking that anything you ask for wasn't provided to you as far as information. The department is pretty good at supplying you with the information that is required to make decisions on funding. He did not know why this bill was necessary.

Motion/Vote: **SEN. BARTLETT** MOVED DO PASS. The MOTION FAILED 3-3.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: Adjournment at 5:38 pm



SEN. MIKE FOSTER, Chairman



SHELLI WINSLOW, Secretary

MF/SW