

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & CLAIMS

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN CHUCK SWYSGOOD, on March 25, 1997, at
7:09 a.m., in Room 312-2

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Charles "Chuck" Swysgood, Chairman (R)
Sen. Thomas F. Keating, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Larry Baer (R)
Sen. Thomas A. "Tom" Beck (R)
Sen. James H. "Jim" Burnett (R)
Sen. B.F. "Chris" Christiaens (D)
Sen. Eve Franklin (D)
Sen. Loren Jenkins (R)
Sen. Greg Jergeson (D)
Sen. John "J.D." Lynch (D)
Sen. Dale Mahlum (R)
Sen. Ken Miller (R)
Sen. Arnie A. Mohl (R)
Sen. Linda J. Nelson (D)
Sen. Mike Taylor (R)
Sen. Daryl Toews (R)
Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Division
Sharon Cummings, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 2, 3/20/97
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 2, SECTION A

REP. ED GRADY, HD 55, CANYON CREEK, CHAIRMAN, JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE
ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT REP. GRADY gave an overview of
subcommittee work done in Section A.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7:25; Comments: None.}

Legislative Branch: None

Consumers Council: None

Judiciary: **Pat Chenovick** We have concerns with the way the bill came out of the House. The Budget Office assessed a 3% vacancy savings against Supreme Court justices and district court judges. By constitution we cannot reduce the salaries of these judges. If there is a vacancy the amount of time that position is left vacant is set up in statute. Language in HB 2 reserves funds as a personal service contingency pool, actions in the House reduce that pool to \$359,000 from a \$1 million appropriation. We urge the committee to restore the 3% vacancy savings. The branch proposed an expansion to the local volunteer system review board. That program was given to the judiciary by a legislative act. It has proven to be an outstanding tool for the judges in moving foster cases through the judicial system. We are disappointed that this funding was not included in our budget and ask that this be addressed.

Clerk of the Court: None

Governor's Office: None

Secretary of State: None

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7:40; Comments: None.}

Commissioner of Political Practices: **Ed Argenbright** I support the budget before you. We reverted \$82,000 during the past fiscal year.

State Auditor: **Mark O'Keefe** I am here to support an amendment that will be brought to this committee by **SEN. LOREN JENKINS** that will allow the budget to be returned to the level recommended by the Governor. The cut that currently exists in the budget puts the Montana Insurance Department's accreditation with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners in jeopardy. Our department received its national accreditation two years ago and we expect to be reviewed for re-accreditation in the coming biennium. The recognition the accreditation gives us is very important to the consumers of the state. In 1994 when we were accredited, we were ranked one of the top eight insurance departments in the nation even though our budget was 48th in the nation. We think accreditation demonstrates that Montana is committed to protecting insurance policy holders. I urge your support of this amendment.

SEN. JENKINS Would you address the FTE's in your office? **Mr. O'Keefe** The subcommittee added an amendment to the budget that addressed the number of exempt employees in our department, it was felt that we had more exempt employees than the other elected officials. We classified 4 of the employees that were exempt.

Robert Minto, Alps I speak in favor of the amendment being offered by **SEN. JENKINS**. I have the opportunity to interact with insurance departments all over the country and the quality of the service we receive in Montana is head and shoulders above the services in other states. I encourage you to restore the full funding to the department as it will produce new business in the state.

Susan Good, Montana Association of Life Underwriters This legislature has passed some very sweeping legislation. If we are going to put these duties on the people we may as well give them the money to operate.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7:50; Comments: None.}

Transportation: Marv Dye There is an amendment that was put on the House floor that requires an ending balance of \$13.5 million. This makes it difficult to generate additional revenue to reduce our budget in areas that we think are not reasonable. With this one exception we support this budget.

Revenue: Mary Bryson We have 2 new proposals that I would like to bring to your attention. The subcommittee did not take action on the abandoned property proposal. We are requesting an increase of 2 FTE's to expand our program in this area. Part of this was dependent on the passage of SB 125 and that bill has been passed through both houses and signed by the Governor. The second issue is Cascade County rent. We have been requested to vacate space we had been using in the Cascade County courthouse and have leased space in Great Falls. This funding was removed by the House Appropriations committee based on the fact that HB 511 addressed the issue of rent in the county courthouses. HB 511 was tabled in House Appropriations last week, consequently we are concerned with our ability to pay this rent. I'd be happy to answer any questions and encourage your support of the amendments.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 7:54; Comments: None.}

Administration: Lois Menzies I'd like to bring one area to your attention, that is the personal services contingency fund. This fund began as a \$2 million appropriation each year, it was reduced to \$1 million by the House Appropriations committee. There was a further reduction of \$600,000 on the House floor. We are concerned that \$400,000 is an inadequate amount for this fund. I ask you to keep this in mind during your deliberations.

Dave Lewis, Office of Budget and Program Planning On page A-15, line 7 a floor amendment took the first year of the contingency pool down to \$359,000. Vacancy savings for the Department of Corrections are \$1.3 million for the biennium so this lower amount will cause a real problem at the prison.

Appellate Defender: None

PERS: None

TERS: None

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 7:58; Comments: None.}

Questions from Committee Members:

SEN. J.D. LYNCH What amount of dues are we paying to NCSL?
Clayton Schenck, LFD There is a full amount of dues for NCSL but none for NCSG. They had a representative here earlier in the session and said they would forgive prior sins. There is no travel included, this is strictly for dues.

SEN. CHRIS CHRISTIAENS How much is needed to take care of elected officials in the contingency fund? Mr. Lewis \$366,000 came out of judges for the biennium. Our intention is to use this pool to backfill for elected officials and corrections.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS Is this primarily for corrections vacancy savings? Mr. Lewis We are probably \$2 million short in the General Fund area but we are willing to try and make that work. We've been fairly successful in this biennium and have only used about half the money that was appropriated. We are going to have a higher demand next biennium.

SEN. TOM KEATING On page A-57 there is a chart stating gas tax and diesel tax. Is that just Montana tax or does that included federal money? Mr. Dye That is state revenue only. The gas tax of \$126 million is Montana tax.

SEN. EVE FRANKLIN I would like you to give us an overview on where the Governor's office stands with this budget. Mr. Lewis The pink sheet the LFD puts out shows an \$86 million reduction from the Governor's budget request. Right now we are looking at \$1.4 million additional money to deal with the problems in human services. There is a position missing in natural resources. The biggest problem is in corrections, we now have a \$7.5 million shortfall in adult corrections and \$4.5 million in juvenile corrections. There are things that have gone on in higher education that make us unsure where we will end up. We are not sure what the intention of the legislature is on millage. The shortfall in the millage and the tuition assistance program amount to \$9.7 million. We are talking about an entire budget of \$22 million of the \$86 million reduction that was made in the House. The majority of this shortfall is in corrections and higher education.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 8:08; Comments: None.}

SEN. CHRISTIAENS My understanding is that we will expend in the past fiscal year \$11.6 million for juvenile corrections yet the department is only asking for \$5.3 million for juvenile corrections in the judicial districts. If the department didn't

ask for this money, how can the budget be short? **Mr. Lewis** The department director will address that when the committee reaches that section.

SEN. LYNCH What is your best estimate of what an ending fund balance should be? **Mr. Lewis** We think the revenue estimates are conservative so we are very comfortable with a \$25 million ending fund balance.

SEN. FRANKLIN You spoke of higher education being an area of concern, are you satisfied with K-12 funding? **Mr. Lewis** The Governor will sign HB 47 if it comes down to the third floor.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 8:11; Comments: None.}

Amendment: Amendment #hb000210.a35. (EXHIBIT #1)

Motion: SEN. LYNCH MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000210.A35.

Discussion: **Mr. Schenck** There are six technical amendments included here.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #000210.A35 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000218.a16. (EXHIBIT #2)

Motion: SEN. DALE MAHLUM MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000218.A16.

Discussion: **SEN. MAHLUM** This amendment adds 2 FTE's for the abandoned property program. The primary purpose of this program is to reunite owners with property that is rightfully theirs.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000218.A16 FAILED 5-12 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000219.a16. (EXHIBIT #3)

Motion: SEN. MAHLUM MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000219.A16.

Discussion: **SEN. MAHLUM** This amendment is for Cascade County rent. The DOR was asked to move from the courthouse in Cascade County so they need funds to rent office space.

SEN. LYNCH What happens if this amendment doesn't pass? Was Cascade County charging rent? **SEN. MAHLUM** The DOR will have to find the funding somewhere else. **Ms. Bryson** We will have to find the money elsewhere in the budget. Current law does not allow the department to pay rent in courthouses.

SEN. LYNCH Perhaps this law should be changed, we should be able to help the counties by paying rent. **Ms. Bryson** That legislation was introduced and has been tabled in the House.

SEN. LINDA NELSON We could be facing this over and over again in each county. **Ms. Bryson** That is one of the primary reasons the bill was tabled in the House. We put together estimates as to what this would cost and it is a significant amount of money. One possible solution is to allow the seven larger locations to charge rent. The space problem seems to be with the larger counties.

SEN. JENKINS If we start paying rent to one county then soon all 56 counties will want rent. Since Great Falls did this hasn't Lewis & Clark County ask for rent? **Ms. Bryson** We have staff in all 56 counties. We do not have offices in two courthouses across the state and are paying rent for two locations. Lewis & Clark County has indicated they'd like us to pay rent but we don't think that is a result of the action in Great Falls.

SEN. JENKINS Do you have to have an office in each county? **Ms. Bryson** No statute requires us to locate in each county but we have made a commitment to the counties that we would try to maintain a presence in there.

SEN. MAHLUM The DOR needs this amendment, I request your positive vote on this.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000219.A16
FAILED 6-11 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000217.a16. (EXHIBIT #4)

Motion: SEN. JENKINS MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT
#HB000217.A16.

Discussion: SEN. JENKINS When we worked on the Auditor's budget they had more exempt FTE's so we pulled some money from them. This amendment reinstates the vacancy savings.

SEN. GREG JERGESON I support this amendment.

David Dennis, D.A. Davidson I would like to speak in favor of this amendment. D.A. Davidson believes the State Auditor's office serves a high purpose in the State of Montana.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000217.A16
FAILED 8-9 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Motion: SEN. ARNIE MOHL MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #5).

Discussion: SEN. MOHL The House floor took \$13.5 million out of DOT operating expense making it an ending fund balance. This

amendment gives the DOT the authority to spend this money if they need to.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8:30; Comments: None.}

SEN. TOM BECK Where are we heading if we don't leave ending fund balances to match federal funds for the department? **Mr. Dye** We knew we would have a low ending fund balance, potentially \$5-6 million. We think we can have a managed program with that kind of ending fund balance. We need some balance to meet our bills but the turnaround time for reimbursement is short. This low ending fund balance may require some short term borrowing. This is a choice between a comfortable ending fund balance and doing some highly necessary work on pavement preservation.

SEN. BECK Are we looking at a gas tax increase to keep this going? **Mr. Dye** That will always be an option. We now have a \$35 million state funded construction program and are a long way from being in danger of not being able to match federal funds.

SEN. KEATING I'm looking for a figure I can identify this with in the book, can you help me? What was the rationale for leaving the \$13.5 million balance? **Mr. Dye** There is a cash flow chart on page A-57. **Mr. Dye** explained how this chart would change with this amendment. The amendment was offered in House Appropriations and didn't pass. I believe part of the rationale was to eliminate the potential of a fuel tax increase.

SEN. LYNCH You've increased my fear instead of allayed them. Are we less likely to have a fuel tax increase with a \$13.5 million ending fund balance or with a 0 balance? **Mr. Dye** You are potentially headed for a fuel tax increase anyway.

SEN. BECK This is trying to hold it neutral until the year 2000 instead of looking at a gas tax increase in the next legislative session, is that correct? **Mr. Dye** The state funded construction program would have to be reduced in the next biennium anyway.

SEN. BECK Am I somewhat close to what **REP. COBB** was trying to get at? **REP. GRADY** I believe that was the intent. This was defeated in House Appropriations. We need to look at all the places the gas tax money goes. We give the DOT quite a bit of money to get more money and they are predicting they will be bringing in millions more. These are two key points why this was argued against in Appropriations and the House floor. It didn't pass by many votes on the House floor.

SEN. JERGESON If this language is left in which highways are likely to experience a delay in construction projects? Will the interstates continue with their traditional level of expenditure and will primary and secondary highways be cut back? **Mr. Dye** If we have to reduce pavement preservation efforts, we would look at those with the least amount of risk. We would want to target roads that need to be done now.

SEN. JENKINS Are there bonds that will be paid off soon and then there will be more money for the department? **Mr. Dye** Yes, in the year 2003 when the bonds are paid off our projected revenues and expenditures are fairly equal. The difficulty is getting there.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8:41; Comments: None.}

SEN. MIKE TAYLOR Would you explain the short term borrowing you talked about? **Mr. Dye** This would be through interagency borrowing, probably the Board of Investment, for short term money to help us pay the contractor before we get reimbursed by the federal government.

SEN. TAYLOR With the severe winter we've had there are many roads that need to be repaired. Will this be affected by this higher ending fund balance? **Mr. Dye** If we have to reduce expenditures by \$6 million over the biennium there could be some projects that are delayed.

SEN. MAHLUM Please refresh my memory on the FWP expenditure of \$1.67 million in FY96-97. **Mr. Dye** I believe that was implemented several sessions ago when FWP got funds for roads, parking lots and various other projects within their area of responsibility.

SEN. NELSON \$13.5 million doesn't seem like a tremendous amount of money considering the cost of building roads. Was any other amount considered and how was this \$13.5 arrived at? What do you think is a comfortable ending fund balance? **Mr. Dye** I believe \$13.5 million was just a number that **REP. COBB** was comfortable with. I'm comfortable with \$7.5 million as an ending fund balance with the ability to do the necessary work. If we don't do that essential work it will cost taxpayers more when we do get to it.

SEN. KEATING Every business has a different inflation factor, have you been tracking inflation in DOT? What kind of an inflation number do you have? **Mr. Dye** Through the bidding process we have bid tabs so we know what things cost. We also have the national construction index. Our inflation factor is 3%.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #5) FAILED 6-11 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8:48; Comments: None.}

Motion: SEN. NELSON MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #6).

Discussion: SEN. NELSON This amendment restores \$100,000 to the State Auditor's office from General Fund and State Special Revenues. I feel it is important to restore these people to the State Auditor's office. My corner of the state doesn't have a

lot of connection with state government but I frequently am asked for the insurance commissioners number.

SEN. JENKINS I agree with **SEN. NELSON'S** amendment. This isn't a lot of money and is below what we were looking at in the budget.

SEN. FRANKLIN Insurance is not rivaling agriculture as the second largest business in the state. From a strictly business perspective it would probably be wise to pass this amendment.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #6) CARRIED 9-8 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Motion: SEN. MOHL MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #7).

Discussion: SEN. MOHL This amendment makes the DOT ending fund balance \$10 million with DOJ and FWP sharing in the expense.

SEN. MIGNON WATERMAN What will amendment #3 do and how can it be done? **Mr. Schenck** As I understand the amendment, it will require a \$10 million ending fund balance with a possible \$5 million shortfall. This amendment requires DOJ, FWP and DOT share proportionately in that.

SEN. WATERMAN How will they make those cuts in DOJ and FWP? **Dennis Taylor, DOJ** The only way we have to do that is by further reducing the number of officers at a time we feel the demands on the road are increasing.

SEN. WATERMAN If we reduce the ending fund balance, can you assure me that you won't be back in two years asking for a gas tax increase? **Mr. Dye** No, I can't.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #7) FAILED 8-9 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000212.a35. (EXHIBIT #8)

Motion: SEN. LYNCH MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000212.A35.

Discussion: CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD This amendment directs the supreme court administrator to coordinate the development of the federal guidelines as they apply to the judicial districts.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS What are the other options? **CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD** Anyone we would want to put in place. This was not addressed in the House.

SEN. BECK Is SB 374 tied into this amendment? **CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD** There wouldn't be any money for them to administer if SB 374 doesn't pass. This is putting the mechanism in place for the block grant money coming from the federal government.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000212.A35
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8:59; Comments: None.}

Close: CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD Section A closed.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9:20; Comments: None.}

HEARING ON HB 2, SECTION B

REP. BETTY LOU KASTEN, HD 99, BROCKWAY CHAIRMAN, JOINT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REP. KASTEN
gave an overview of subcommittee work done in Section B.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 9:45; Comments: None.}

Public Health and Human Services: Laurie Ekanger This department has been in existence for less than 2 years. We didn't have a base for this year so there was many present law adjustments. The department was created by the last legislature to organize human services around constituents and program subjects rather than funding streams. DPHHS has 3,000 employees and over 500 programs. We now have a \$22 million in General Fund reduction. A number of initiatives of the past few years have paid off so we were able to identify some savings. Welfare reform has reduced caseload numbers and medicaid initiatives have slowed medicaid inflation. When you look at the total money appropriated for the next biennium you will see we have less General Fund than this biennium. We think that is a little too much. We had some things happen on the House floor that we would like readjusted. Please look at redirecting some money that is already in the budget and programs that were added and deleted on the House floor.

Questions from Committee Members:

SEN. FRANKLIN Please state your priorities. **Ms. Ekanger** We would like to have funding that was directed to new programs in the Department of Commerce put back into our foster care budget and our teen pregnancy prevention program. We would also like to have the money that was taken out on the House floor for family preservation programs reinstated. Also a very small amount of money for us to continue to staff the interdepartmental coordinating council for prevention. We had funding for a school health coordinator taken out which is federally funded money. We would like you to consider putting some of the money taken out of the managed mental health care contract back, approximately \$2.5 million.

SEN. LYNCH What was REP. COBB'S rationale on these new programs, the law school program for foster care and paralegals, and taking the funds away from current programs? **Ms. Ekanger** We learned about this listening to the discussion on the House floor. I

believe there was interest in ways to help the legal process in moving kids out of foster care into some kind of permanent resolution.

SEN. LARRY BAER It appears we are appropriating money for programs such as IV-D and TANF but we haven't passed legislation to approve these programs. I would like a thorough explanation as to what is going on here. **Ms. Ekanger** One of the things challenging our subcommittee was federal welfare reform legislation passed in late summer and the lack of rules. This is still evolving. **REP. KASTEN** The FAIM program was passed last biennium and TANF is the new federal way of funding welfare programs at the state level. Last session the legislature went into the new welfare program and it has been implemented. This is just the way of funding it from the federal level.

SEN. JERGESON Are you satisfied reorganization is completed and that all the costs associated with reorganization are taken care of? **REP. KASTEN** I understand there is a new building waiting for approval by this legislature. Other than that I think we tried to sort all this out in the budget. There are still some programs they want to happen. Page 17 of the book lists the cost of reorganization.

SEN. KEATING Please tell me about the family preservation program and how much funding it has at this time. **CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD** If I remember right we approved \$600,000+ for family preservation and that was removed on the House floor. I don't think there is any funding for that now.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 9:58; Comments: None.}

SEN. KEATING The \$664,000 was a new proposal that was withdrawn. I've been told there was \$1.3 million removed on the House floor. **REP. KASTEN** That is \$664,000 per year which would be \$1.3 million per biennium. **SEN. KEATING** How much money is appropriated for the family preservation program? **REP. KASTEN** If we had appropriated everything it would have been \$3.7 million per year or \$8.3 per biennium. **SEN. KEATING** \$1.3 million was removed on the House floor which left a balance of \$7 million, is that right? **REP. KASTEN** Yes.

SEN. JERGESON As I understand the time limits are on benefits, where are the elements in the budget for job training, counseling, etc. for a person to be employed and get off welfare? **REP. KASTEN** The total block grant was \$45.5 million. We set the maintenance of effort at 82%. Child care went from \$12 million in the previous biennium to \$23 million which is a big factor in allowing single parents to pursue work. I cannot tell you how much additional money went to job training. I was told \$2.7 million in the block grant was for the work project. **CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD** Didn't we grant an amount of money to DPHHS to implement the new portions of federal legislation? I believe we left the determination of what to allot to each program to the

department. **REP. KASTEN** Labor got \$2.8 million for work programs.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 10:08; Comments: None.}

John Larson, Missoula District Judge Items 43 & 44 on page B-3 relates to the law school and paralegal line items. These have a very solid basis emanating from the Kellogg foundation's families for kids project. Montana is one of the eleven states in the nation that receive this money. This program and the court improvement program seek to move kids through the court system when they are in foster care. Currently there are 345 children in foster care in western Montana. Of that amount 192 have been in foster care more than two years due to court cases. It is frustrating to try to get these cases moving when the attorneys are already overburdened. These kids cost from \$17,000 to \$100,000+ per year in foster care and need to be moved through the system faster. The law school funding would be to help this situation. Paralegals would be used to help prepare cases for trial and is reimbursable under Title IV.

SEN. LYNCH We are in the dilemma of cutting \$900,000 from direct foster care or \$500,000 from teen pregnancy prevention to fund your programs. Are these law school students going to go to Glendive and Glasgow or will they just be serving western Montana? **Judge Larson** Initially they will work in western Montana but the paralegals can work anywhere in Montana.

SEN. LYNCH Do you think your program is more pressing than teen pregnancy prevention or direct foster care? **Judge Larson** I came to speak for these programs. If I have to make a choice I'm making the choice for these kids in foster care.

Mary Alice Cook, Children and Families I served on the Helena Teenage Pregnancy Forum. We were told that teachers can only spend 2 weeks of the school year on sexual studies and that is not enough education on teen pregnancy. They feel they need more information as to the results of their actions. I support the reinstatement of funds for teen pregnancy prevention, a school health coordinator, the interagency coordinating council and the family preservation services.

Arlette Randash, Eagle Forum I'd like to address the money that was cut from the untended pregnancy programs. I worked with a broad based group whose purpose was to reduce teenage pregnancy in Helena. The group operates from the mindset that teenagers are all going to have sex and cannot be taught or expected to be abstinent outside of marriage. They use the money to promote that mind set, dispensing condoms, contraception and counseling abortions. Please do not reinstate these funds, they undermine parental authority, leave our children vulnerable and squander tax dollars.

Kate Cholema, Montana Women's Lobby We'd like to address the \$500,000 for teen pregnancy prevention. This is not just for dispensing contraception, it is also for education which includes abstinence education. This money is used for a wide variety of things. The maintenance of effort on welfare reform has been brought down to 83%. We think this is shortsighted as we don't know all the rules that will come down related to the welfare reform program.

Kathy McGowan, Montana Council of Mental Health Centers I'd like to talk about the mental health managed care program. Many of the things that have happened were predictable in terms of how this whole thing is happening. We knew the legal challenges were bound to come and I don't think you should get too alarmed about them because there have been legal challenges in every state with managed care. Services will be different from what they were when the contract was signed because of the loss of funds. We want managed care to work and hope to get positive things from this.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10:23; Comments: None.}

Jani McCall, Community Partners We are concerned with the reduction in funding for mental health managed care. This project is going forward very well and we consider this to be a partnership with you as representatives of the State of Montana. We are concerned that an error may have been made when looking at initial numbers and putting the RFP together. We need to decrease the number of services that we had intended to provide. An amendment will be brought to you for partial funding of this project, we urge your support of it.

Rose Hughes, Montana Healthcare Association There will be an amendment offered that has to do with the lien state recovery program. The state recovers funds from nursing home patients on medicaid who have property and meet certain criteria. Currently \$600,000 of that money goes into the General Fund. Money beyond that is appropriated to a community based labor program. We would like to have that money go back into nursing homes. We hope you will look favorably on the amendment.

Susan Good, Anesthesiologists, Neurosurgeons and Orthopedic Surgeons I am hear regarding RDRVS. On page B-9, line 25 they talk about FY98, that should be changed to FY97. Everyone has agreed to that change and an amendment will be coming to you for that.

Steve Yeakel, Montana Council on Maternal and Child Help This is a difficult budget to deal with. The trend over the past few years has been to focus on prevention. The kids count data project is unique, it pulls together information and input participation from several organizations. Please consider a one-third investment in the annual cost of producing the book. We appreciate your consideration of this.

REP. KASTEN If you let your heart get involved in this you can't stand it, therefore you need to concentrate on the fiscal realities. I'd like to bring your attention to page B-1, you'll see we put in a present law increase of \$118 million. We also put in \$42 million in new proposals. If the executive proposes more and we don't do what they have laid out for us it is perceived as a cut. I ask you to look at the increases without thinking about what might have been. I think this committee not only tightened the reins as far as looking at the economy but did a good job in allocating to the various budgets.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10:38; Comments: None.}

Questions from Committee Members:

SEN. FRANKLIN We've heard testimony that the teen pregnancy prevention program promotes teen sexuality, could you comment on this? **Ms. Ekanger** The purpose of this funding is to make grants available to communities to do what they feel is the best way to approach teen pregnancy in their community. **Nancy Ellery, DPHHS** We didn't want to come up with the answers. The teen pregnancy and abortion rates have gone down, not dramatically, but they have leveled out in the past five years.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS Please share with this committee how you got to the 83% level of maintenance and tribal governments ability to drop in or out. **REP. KASTEN** We could have funded the maintenance effort anywhere from 75-100%. 80% was proposed by DPHHS and to use General Fund money from the difference in the maintenance of effort between 100 and 80% for other programs. Many committee members wanted to make this 100%, 83% was a compromise between 80% and 100% and was acceptable to all of us. The tribal governments can do their own TANF programs. If they do nothing they come into the state program. It is still unclear what is happening in that area. In order to comply with TANF laws we have to collect child support for people on the program. We have no agreements with the tribes to collect child support.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS What impact will having the tribes come under the state system have on this budget? **Hank Hudson, DPHHS** The tribes can opt out of the state system anytime they wish. We believe that probably won't happen during the 1999 biennium. We identified \$380,000 per year TANF money to assist the tribes in moving towards their own plan. They may be able to come to the next legislature with a possible program.

SEN. JENKINS Is this state or federal money? **Mr. Hudson** The block grant is all federal money, \$45 million. The state must spend at least 80% of it which is called maintenance of effort. Right now the tribes utilize a combination of federal and state funds.

SEN. WATERMAN Please outline the family preservation program as it exists now and what is proposed for current needs. **Mr. Hudson**

This program consists of General Fund and federal money that is targeted to families who are at a high risk of abusing and neglecting their children and having those children removed. We have a \$2.8 million base for these programs, the proposal eliminated on the House floor was a \$1.3 million new proposal. This program is for families that have problems but don't want to lose their children, it is an alternative to taking the children from the home. We don't do this in families that have serious violence or drug addiction issues.

SEN. WATERMAN Please address the situation with Boulder and Eastmont, the lawsuit and moving people to the communities. **REP. KASTEN** When the proposal came before the previous legislature to close Eastmont the state identified certain individuals who could be served in the community. At that time MAP said this was the right thing to do and if we don't they will file a lawsuit. When the legislature came back this session we found the lawsuit had been filed and an amendment was proposed in the subcommittee that would put \$979,145 General Fund to be matched with approximately \$1.34 million to start bringing the people from Eastmont and Boulder who would be better served in the community. Another amendment was put on in subcommittee that this had to be mandated by the court, people are in the process of trying to get this started. **Andree Larose, Montana Advocacy Program (MAP)** We have brought a class action lawsuit for appropriate community services for people with developmental disabilities who are unnecessarily institutionalized. In 1994 the state's professionals identified 73 people who could and should be served by community services. The amendment **REP. KASTEN** proposes is the first step towards getting those people out and providing appropriate community supports. We would like to see that amount increased to \$2 million so that approximately 60 people could be removed from the institutions. It is important to remove the language that requires it be mandated by the court because we are actively working on a settlement. It is not our goal to close these institutions, it is our goal to get people in appropriate placements. The \$18 million that is spent on institutions could be much better spent and serve more people in the community.

{Tape: 3; Side: 1; Approx. Time Count: 10:57; Comments: None.}

SEN. FRANKLIN DPHHS is above the base for the previous biennium but it represents a \$21 million decrease from the executive and a \$13 million difference from targeted cuts. Does your office have any comments on areas of concern with this budget? **Mr. Lewis** We've gone through this with the department. The amendments that will be offered free up some of the money in the budget now, putting it where we think it is needed to meet our objectives.

REP. KASTEN Be aware that 5% can be moved within the budget wherever you think it is necessary.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10:58; Comments: None.}

Amendment: Amendment #hb000211.a94. (EXHIBIT #9)

Motion: SEN. LYNCH MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000211.A94.

Discussion: SEN. LYNCH This amendment adds \$400,000 to the domestic violence program which the federal government has allocated to the department.

Mr. Hudson We just received information that we will be receiving additional federal money as a part of our domestic violence program.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD Has that money come in yet? **Mr. Hudson** I don't believe so. **CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD** Can this be done with a budget amendment? **Mr. Hudson** No.

SEN. NELSON Are you aware of HB 343 and is this the money we anticipated receiving in that fiscal note? **Mr. Hudson** No, it is not that money.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000211.A94 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000276.a09. (EXHIBIT #10)

Motion: SEN. FRANKLIN MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000276.A09.

Discussion: SEN. FRANKLIN This relates to the mental health managed care contract. Over \$7 million was removed in subcommittee because of a counting issue. This is a new program and my concern is that if we don't give them adequate funding we are dooming this program to failure. We made this commitment and need to follow through with the funding if we want to see the program work.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD I'm speaking in opposition to this amendment. There were a number of programs with money going into the managed care area. When the double counting was discovered it was in excess of \$9 million and the subcommittee withheld \$7.6 million of that double counted money. This program was sold to us last session as being more cost effective with better services. This is the level of money the subcommittee felt was necessary to provide those services. This is a \$3 million impact to General Fund.

Dan Anderson, DPHHS This is a dramatically different mental health program which we think will insure access for medicaid recipients and other low-income people with serious mental illness throughout the state. In putting together the money we overlooked the fact that some of the residents in state facilities were funded by medicaid and General Funds. That is the so called double count. We are requesting you take a look at

what program this will fund and whether there are adequate funds in the budget now to fund this program. We would like to see \$2.9 million added back into the budget over the biennium. The provider will have to make some minor trimming of the program if this funding is reinstated.

SEN. WATERMAN Your organization has agreed to reduce their costs if this amendment is approved. What cuts have you agreed to as far as it affects services to individuals? If this amendment fails, what additional services will be cut? **Jani McCall** \$2.3 million was set aside for new services. That would impact the severely disabled, mentally ill adults. Some of the categories are: crisis intervention services; consumer run initiatives; peer advocate counseling; tele-psychiatry; and many wrap around community services. Many of the community based services will be impacted by this cut.

SEN. KEATING Is the MRM program absorbed into the managed care program and can you tell me how that works? **Ms. McCall** Yes, in the past MRM was the function of the mental health centers. We will be taking complete responsibility for MRM services and will be purchasing case management services through a variety of vendors to work with kids. We'll be providing further services in that we have developed a full continuum of crisis intervention at four different levels for kids. **SEN. KEATING** The program is not being changed but improved or expanded upon? **Ms. McCall** Yes, we have excellent services around the state and want to support the services intact and continue to improve them. **SEN. KEATING** The MRM program has been developed very well and has proved to be very effective and is probably one of the best preventative programs we have.

SEN. FRANKLIN I understand this is new money but I'm afraid we'll repeat the sins of the past which is underfunding the programs that we say are going to improve our situation. When we don't fund it we wonder why it didn't work. This is the major prevention program we have for mentally ill children and adults.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000276.A09
FAILED 7-10 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 11:14; Comments: None.}

Amendment: Amendment #hb000275.a09. (EXHIBIT #11)

Motion: SEN. WATERMAN MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000275.A09.

Discussion: SEN. WATERMAN This amendment grants authority to the department to reallocate \$200,000 from the medicaid program to be used for grants to local public health agencies.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD This takes money from medicaid and reallocates it to the grant program for local health organizations.

SEN. WATERMAN Over the last 2 years local health departments have worked with DPHHS to assess the needs in their communities. This would allow them to address the needs they have identified locally in prevention and primary health care. This is the kind of program we need to continue to encourage.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD What is the impact to medicaid? **Ms. Ellery** We think investing in the services that are provided by public health departments in the state will result in savings in medicaid and be a good investment.

SEN. LYNCH Why wasn't this taken care of in subcommittee? Is this the first time anyone has looked at this amendment? **Ms. Ellery** This was discussed in subcommittee, the original proposal was to use unexpended money for grants. That was not approved. The Public Health Improvement Task Force recommended that there be authority to give the money to local health departments.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000275.A09
FAILED 6-11 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000273.a09. (EXHIBIT #12)

Motion: SEN. WATERMAN MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT
#HB000273.A09.

Discussion: **SEN. WATERMAN** This amendment adds \$50,000 per year of federal funds for the healthy child care grant. These are federal funds the department can receive to work with child care providers around the state. Child care is going to be an essential part of welfare reform and it is critical that we increase the number of child care providers. This will allow us to use federal funds to do it.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD Where do these federal funds come from? **SEN. WATERMAN** The federal government. **Ms. Ellery** This was rejected in subcommittee. It was in the Governor's budget and is a grant we have already received from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. It would go toward helping about 25 local health departments around the state work with daycare providers to focus on the health of children while they are in daycare. This builds on a successful project in Missoula that we would like to replicate statewide.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000273.A09
CARRIED 10-7 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 11:21; Comments: None.}

Amendment: Amendment #hb000274.a09. (EXHIBIT #13)

Motion: SEN. WATERMAN MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT
#HB000274.A09.

Discussion: SEN. WATERMAN This amendment adds \$153,962 in the biennium for a school health coordinator. These are federal funds that are available to help local communities better provide health care.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD I oppose this amendment. How will we fund this when the federal money is gone?

SEN. LYNCH I'm in favor of this amendment. Your subcommittee included this and it was eliminated on the House floor. This pertains to rural Montana where many schools don't have nurses. I think your subcommittee took the right action on this.

SEN. FRANKLIN Many communities do not have school nurses.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #000274.A09 FAILED 6-11 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000210.a94. (EXHIBIT #14)

Motion: SEN. LYNCH MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000210.A94.

Discussion: SEN. LYNCH This amendment is for maintenance for Galen.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD This is adding \$50,000 of General Fund.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #000210.A94 FAILED 7-10 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000269.a09. (EXHIBIT #15)

Motion: SEN. BECK MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000269.A09, ITEMS 1,4,5 & 6.

Discussion: SEN. BECK These amendments put the \$800,000 dedicated to low-income housing and the \$100,000 to children's catastrophic insurance back into the foster care program. These amendments were not put on in the subcommittee or Appropriations Committee, they were put on in the House floor. At the present time there is a bill in Senate Local Government Committee that addresses the \$800,000 low-income housing problem.

REP. KASTEN It is my understanding that there are housing projects in Hamilton, Kalispell and Missoula that HUD is trying to sell. The department and other people are worried about what will happen to the low-income people in these units. This money could be well used to help people obtain this housing.

SEN. BECK I believe there is a non-profit group that wants to buy the units. We are trying to increase the bonding authority for the Board of Investments to allow them to buy this. I don't

think this money is needed to purchase this housing, it is needed much worse in the foster care program.

SEN. FRANKLIN I'd like to hear from **Dr. Blouke** about the low-income housing issue. **Dr. Blouke** I was taken by surprise with this amendment when it was introduced on the House floor. These are 532 low-income housing units. After HUD finishes their contract they go on the market. Housing agencies associated with DPHHS have buy-sell agreements for these housing units. My understanding is if we do not do this we will lose housing.

SEN. CHRISTIAENS Is there a possibility of having some of this money available from the Montana Board of Housing or some other funding sources related to them? **Mr. Blouke** There may be another funding source.

SEN. BECK In the Local Government Committee there was an amendment proposed to the Board of Investments to increase bonding authority for another \$25 million. It allows low-income housing to come in and get some of that bonding money for a non-profit organization to own this housing. That is why I am saying there is another source of funding. **Mr. Blouke** This may be correct. The amendment increases bonding authority from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

SEN. BAER I'm familiar with the situation in Kalispell, the people that are house in these projects are low or no income retired people. They will be homeless and I'm not going to take the chance of that happening.

SEN. FRANKLIN It sounds like we are taking from the vulnerable to the more vulnerable. I think we should look at some other sources to fund foster care, perhaps adult corrections.

SEN. LYNCH The people involved in this are the ones from local government saying this is the way to go, people from Hamilton, Kalispell and Deer Lodge. They have assured us that if this bill is passed it will address this low-income housing problem. If we pass that bill and give them this \$800,000, foster care loses and I think there will be a double amount of money appropriated to low-income housing.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000269.A09, ITEMS 1,4,5 & 6 FAILED 7-10 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 11:38; Comments: None.}

Amendment: Amendment #hb000269.a09. (EXHIBIT #15)

Motion: SEN. LYNCH MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000269.A09, ITEMS #2 & 3.

Discussion: SEN. LYNCH This puts the \$500,000 back into the teen pregnancy program and takes it out of the paralegal and law

school program. I appreciate **Judge Larson's** comments but I am amazed that anyone would suggest these programs aren't doing any good at all. This is working, the numbers have dropped. I deal on an educational basis with teenage parents and I see some of the good we've done with this educational program. To say this program promotes promiscuity is an absolute absurdity, it does not. For those of you who are anti-abortion, this is a yes vote you should be making.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD The amendment moves \$500,000 from the paralegal and law school appropriation into the unintended pregnancy program.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000269.A09, ITEMS 2 & 3 FAILED 7-10 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000245.a31. (EXHIBIT #16)

Motion: SEN. WATERMAN MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000245.A31.

Discussion: **SEN. WATERMAN** This amendment adds \$1.6 million to fund services for 23 developmentally disabled individuals in the community. There is a waiting list of approximately 1,000 people in need of services. We have established childrens group homes but as these children become adults there are no adult services available for them.

Joe Matthews, DPHHS As children in group homes become adults we have situations where children of a very young age are living with young adults of a fairly old age. We need more services for children aging into adult services thereby freeing up our childrens group homes for younger children to live with children of their own age.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD I'm speaking against this amendment, it was tried in subcommittee and failed. It is not going to address all the existing problems and wasn't a part of the executive budget.

SEN. WATERMAN We need to understand the needs when we set priorities. We have told parents of developmentally disabled children that if they will keep their kids at home rather than institutionalizing them that we will help them. They are receiving help as they go to school but as they age out of these services there are no facilities available. If we don't do this we have to realized that 61% of the childrens slots that we have in communities will be gone by the end of the biennium. They will ultimately be institutionalized and we'll be paying a lot more. This is a serious problem that needs to be addressed.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000245.A31 FAILED 7-10 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

{Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11:53; Comments: None.}

Amendment: Amendment #hb000267.a09. (EXHIBIT #17)

Motion: SEN. KEATING MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000267.A09.

Discussion: SEN. KEATING This amendment deals with nursing home budgets and medicaid. When an individual goes to a nursing home and they have some property to dispose of they trade off the property to be covered by medicaid in the nursing home. The first \$600,000 collected goes into the General Fund and any money left over was supposed to go to the medicaid nursing home program reimbursement. That money was diverted to the medicaid home health care program and senior long term program which are not nursing home related programs. With this amendment the money over \$600,000 will be divided equally between the medicaid home and community waiver program and the medicaid nursing home program.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD This is a complicated amendment that deals with the bed tax nursing home patients pay. This is not spending any more money, it is redirecting money that is already in the system.

SEN. WATERMAN This is about commitment and being honest with the voters. We promised senior citizens in 1995 that anything above \$600,000 would be redirected to home and community based services. We did that because senior citizens want to stay in their communities and do not want to be institutionalized. It is in the state's best financial interest to have them stay in their communities. Now, we say we'll give it to the nursing homes they don't want to go into. This money comes from the patient's personal spending accounts and is left after they die. Senior citizens expect us to keep the promise we made and I think we should defeat this amendment.

SEN. LYNCH I'd like to know what raises you'll be giving to nursing homes rather than anything over \$600,000. I'm against the amendment.

SEN. KEATING The nursing home started out with a \$1.00 per day bed tax to supplement the General Fund to raise medicaid money to help pay for the underpayment of the medicaid rate for nursing homes. That has now been increased to \$2.80 per day per bed and generates \$6 million for the General Fund. In addition, the nursing homes have not had any inflationary increase. To help keep the nursing homes there for the old people to go into they have to be adequately funded or they won't be available for medicaid patients. I ask for your concurrence on this.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000267.A09 CARRIED 12-5 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

{Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11:58; Comments: None.}

Amendment: Amendment #hb000268.a09. (EXHIBIT #18)

Motion: SEN. WATERMAN MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT
#HB000268.A09.

Discussion: SEN. WATERMAN This is to fund the Kids Count Data Book with \$100,000 General Fund money.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000268.A09
FAILED 5-12 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000271.a09. (EXHIBIT #19)

Motion: SEN. LYNCH MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT
#HB000271.A09.

Discussion: CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD This amendment directs the department to look at optional services before mandated areas in limiting expenditures to meet appropriations in the event of a shortfall or a caseload increase.

SEN. WATERMAN I'd like some clarification from the department on the kind of services that would be cut.

Ms. Ellery This language requires the department to review and consider eligibility criteria. Most of the money in the optional eligibility criteria is in the medically needy program which is the elderly disabled and not AFDC. The next level would be the optional services which include eyeglasses, hear aids, personal care, etc. These are things the federal government doesn't require but the state has chosen to cover because they save money on the high end mandatory services.

SEN. WATERMAN If the medically needy are not served under this program, where will they be served? Ms. Ellery Medically needy as a category is optional. If they weren't covered under the medicaid program they would end up being uncompensated care because the state eliminated the state general assistance program that would have covered them.

SEN. WATERMAN I don't know how many of you think eyeglasses, hearing aids and dentures are optional services but I wouldn't do real well without my glasses. I think it is foolish to call these optional.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000271.A09
FAILED 11-6 ON ROLL CALL VOTE.

Amendment: Amendment #hb000210.a31. (EXHIBIT #20)

Motion: SEN. MAHLUM MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT
#HB000210.A31.

Discussion: CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD This relates to the lawsuit filed for the developmentally disabled that should be in the community. It strikes some of the language we currently have in the bill.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH AMENDMENT #HB000210.A31 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion/Vote: SEN. WATERMAN MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 BY CHANGING 98 TO 97 ON PAGE B-10, LINE 25. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion: SEN. JENKINS MOVES TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #21).

Discussion: SEN. JENKINS This is a technical amendment to clarify the language on computer processing for DPHHS with the Department of Administration.

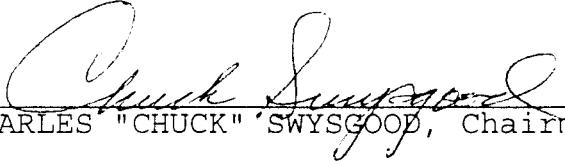
Tony Herbert, Department of Administration (DOA) This clarifies the agreement between DPHHS and DOA for computer processing rates.

Vote: THE MOTION TO AMEND HB 2 WITH (EXHIBIT #21) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Close: CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD Section B closed.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:07 p.m.


SEN. CHARLES "CHUCK" SWYSGOOR, Chairman


SHARON CUMMINGS, Secretary

CS/SC