

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN DARYL TOEWS, on April 2, 1997, at 5:04 p.m., in Room 402.

#### ROLL CALL

##### Members Present:

Sen. Daryl Toews, Chairman (R)  
Sen. C.A. Casey Emerson, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Debbie Bowman Shea (D)  
Sen. Steve Doherty (D)  
Sen. Delwyn Gage (R)  
Sen. Wm. E. "Bill" Glaser (R)  
Sen. John R. Hertel (R)  
Sen. Loren Jenkins (R)  
Sen. Mike Sprague (R)  
Sen. Barry "Spook" Stang (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Mignon Waterman (D)  
Sen. C. A. Casey Emerson, Vice Chairman (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Eddye McClure, Legislative Services Division  
Janice Soft, Committee Secretary

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

##### Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HJR 30, HJR 29; Posted 3/27/97  
Executive Action: HJR 29 TABLED; HJR 30 TABLED

#### HEARING ON HJR 30

Sponsor: REP. CHRIS AHNER, HD 51, Helena

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

##### Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. CHRIS AHNER, HD 51, Helena, said HJR 30 was a "Congratulations" to the Helena Capital High Bruins football team, the champions for this year. She said both she and REP.

VICKI COCCHIARELLA suggested in the future the rules be changed so there would be a proclamation as representatives stood on the House floor and the teams would receive certificates; however, that suggestion was probably too late for this session. REP. AHNER explained the Helena Capital football team members had played together since "Small Fry Football", and even though they weren't big in size, they were determined to take the state championship. She said, as a team, they vowed not to drink and to settle down; in fact, 20 of the team members earned Academic All-State Honors and were undefeated 12-0 state champions. REP. AHNER said in their junior year, they had a coach who died of cancer; therefore, they dedicated the championship game to him. She asked for the Committee's favorable consideration.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor: None.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5:10 p.m.}

#### HEARING ON HJR 29

Sponsor: REP. VICKI COCCHIARELLA, HD 64, Missoula

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. VICKI COCCHIARELLA, HD 64, Missoula, said HJR 29 recognized the Missoula Big Sky Eagles for winning the State Class AA Basketball Championship. She said it was a unique situation for her because she was a Hellgate graduate, her children were Sentinel graduate and now she was reaching out to the third high school in Missoula and offering congratulations. She concurred with REP. CHRIS AHNER time was so valuable that resolutions such as HJR 29 and HJR 30 needed to be considered in a different form and format; however, since the present way has been a tradition, she urged the Committee's favorable consideration. She suggested another way be implemented next session to honor all the academic and athletic accomplishments.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor: None.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 29

Discussion: SEN. DARYL TOEWS said his struggle was these resolutions had to end somewhere, either this session or later.

SEN. BARRY "SPOOK" STANG said he remembered one year a Representative introduced the CMR football team on the floor of the House, and he was of the opinion that was a greater honor than getting a piece of paper.

SEN. DEBBIE SHEA said she would like to see these two resolutions go through, but then stop anymore from coming in later sessions.

Motion/Vote: SEN. JOHN HERTEL MOVED TO TABLE HJR 29. Motion CARRIED 6-5 WITH SEN. DEBBIE SHEA, SEN. MIKE SPRAGUE, SEN. STEVE DOHERTY, SEN. LOREN JENKINS AND SEN. MIGNON WATERMAN VOTING NO.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 30

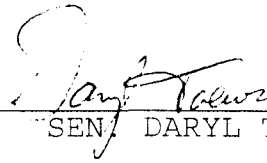
Discussion: SEN. MIKE SPRAGUE said it made no sense to spend the money on and consider these resolutions; however, the money had already been spent. He suggested drafting a Committee Bill which would recommend they be stopped, but didn't think the present time was appropriate to pick and choose the holding back of a piece of paper.

SEN. JOHN HERTEL said he was thinking of Highwood, a Class C football team, who had won the championship four or five years in a row; therefore, he felt they were more qualified for the honor than the two teams of the resolutions.

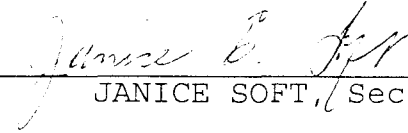
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ADJOURNMENT

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.



SEN. DARYL TOEWS, Chairman



JANICE SOFT, Secretary

DT/JS