

1                    HOUSE    BILL NO.    6  
2    INTRODUCED BY HUENNEKENS, VINCENT, LORY

3  
4    A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED:    "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION  
5    93-1906, R.C.M. 1947, TO PROVIDE FOR STATE PAYMENT OF COURT  
6    REPORTERS' SALARIES AND EXPENSES AND FOR COURT REPORTERS'  
7    HOURS BEING SET BY THE DISTRICT JUDGES."

8  
9    BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10            Section 1. Section 93-1906, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to  
11    read as follows:

12            "93-1906. Salary, and expenses, and fringe benefits of  
13    reporter — hours of employment apportionment. Every  
14    ~~reporter appointed under the provisions of this chapter is~~  
15    ~~entitled to receive an annual salary of not less than twelve~~  
16    ~~thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500) and not more than~~  
17    ~~sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) said salary to be set by~~  
18    ~~the judge in the district in which the reporter works, and~~  
19    ~~no other compensation except as provided in section 93-1904,~~  
20    ~~provided, however, that all transcripts and bills of~~  
21    ~~exceptions required by the county shall be furnished without~~  
22    ~~cost, payable in monthly installments out of the general~~  
23    ~~funds of the counties comprising the district for which he~~  
24    ~~is appointed, according and in proportion to the number of~~  
25    ~~civil and criminal actions entered and commenced in the~~

1    ~~district courts of such counties respectively in the~~  
2    ~~preceding year; and it shall be the duty of the judge of~~  
3    ~~such district, on the first day of January of each year, or~~  
4    ~~as soon thereafter as may be, to apportion the amount of~~  
5    ~~such salary to be paid by each county in his district on the~~  
6    ~~basis aforesaid. The reporter is allowed, in addition to the~~  
7    ~~salary and fees above provided, in judicial districts~~  
8    ~~comprising more than one (1) county, his actual and~~  
9    ~~necessary expenses of transportation and living when he goes~~  
10    ~~on official business to a county of his judicial district~~  
11    ~~other than the county in which he resides, from the time he~~  
12    ~~leaves his place of residence until he returns thereto, said~~  
13    ~~expenses to be apportioned and payable in the same way as~~  
14    ~~the salary. (1) A court reporter appointed under this~~  
15    ~~chapter shall receive a salary paid by the state. In~~  
16    ~~conference with the district judges, the supreme court shall~~  
17    ~~set the salary of court reporters.~~

18            (2) Court reporters are entitled to the fringe  
19    benefits of a classified state employee.

20            (3) The travel and lodging expenses of court reporters  
21    are paid by the state as provided in 59-538, 59-539, and  
22    59-801.

23            (4) The district judge shall set the hours of  
24    employment of his court reporter."

-End-

## STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 44-77

## FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received January 10, 19 77, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 6 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.

Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

This bill will provide for state payment of Court Reporters' salaries and expenses for Court Reporters' hours of work to be set by the District Judges.

## ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The number of Court Reporters will remain at twenty-eight (28).
2. The salaries of the Court Reporters will be \$16,500 each year of the biennium and benefits are 15% of total salaries.
3. Office and travel expenses average \$3,700 per Court Reporter.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

|                       | <u>FY 78</u>     | <u>FY 79</u>     |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Salaries and benefits | \$531,300        | \$531,300        |
| Operating expenses    | <u>103,700</u>   | <u>103,700</u>   |
| Total Cost:           | <u>\$635,000</u> | <u>\$635,000</u> |

## LOCAL IMPACT:

This legislation would reduce county expenditures an estimated \$635,000 each year of the 1979 biennium, and an increased amount in subsequent years.

*Richard L. Franz*  
BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 1-14-77

Approved by Committee  
on Judiciary

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17 sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) said salary to be set by  
18 the judge in the district in which the reporter works, and  
19 no other compensation except as provided in section 93-1904,  
20 provided, however, that all transcripts and bills of  
21 exceptions required by the county shall be furnished without  
22 cost, payable in monthly installments out of the general  
23 funds of the counties comprising the district for which he  
24 is appointed, according and in proportion to the number of  
25 civil and criminal actions entered and commenced in the

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-End-

-2-

SECOND READING

HB6