

1 *House* BILL NO. *297*
2 INTRODUCED BY *Duswell*

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE
5 QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V,
6 SECTION 6, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE
7 LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET IN ANNUAL SESSIONS."

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

10 Section 1. Article V, section 6, of the Montana
11 Constitution is amended to read as follows:

12 "Section 6. Sessions. The legislature shall ~~meet--each~~
13 ~~odd-numbered--year--in--regular--session--of--not--more--than--90~~
14 ~~legislative--days--be--a--continuous--body--for--2--year--periods~~
15 ~~beginning--when--newly--elected--members--take--office--Any~~
16 ~~business, bill, or resolution pending at adjournment of a~~
17 ~~session shall carry over with the same status to any other~~
18 ~~session of the legislature during the biennium. The~~
19 ~~legislature shall meet at least once a year in regular~~
20 ~~session of not more than 60 legislative days. Any~~
21 legislature may increase the limit on the length of any
22 subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in
23 special sessions by the governor or at the written request
24 of a majority of the members."

25 Section 2. Ballot format. When this amendment is

1 submitted to the qualified electors of Montana, at the
2 general election to be held November 7, 1978, there shall be
3 printed on the ballot the full title and section 1 of this
4 act and the following words:

- 5 FOR annual sessions.
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STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 553-77

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 17, 19 77, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 297 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:

Provides for annual sessions of the legislature

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. Members: Salary at \$31.62 per day
Expenses at \$40 per day
- 2. Legislature in session 6 days per week
- 3. Attaches at 1977 salary schedules
- 4. 60-day Session: 2 round trips mileage for members each 60-day session.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Biennium cost of present system	\$2,421,629
Biennium cost of annual sessions (proposed)	<u>3,329,708</u>
Additional cost of proposed legislation per biennium	<u>\$ 908,079</u>

NOTE: Since the Legislature will meet in FY 79 regardless of voter approval of House Bill 297, there would actually be a decrease in expenditures *in this biennium* due to length of sessions. However, since the Legislature would meet in 1980 if the proposed bill were ratified, the effect over a two-year period would be an increase in expenditures of \$908,000.

Richard L. Drayton
BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 2-24-77

Approved by Comm.
on Rules

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~~REVENUE BILLS AND BILLS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS ARE ESSENTIAL TO FORMULATION OF THE BUDGET, AND EMERGENCY BILLS OR RESOLUTIONS MAY BE CONSIDERED BY THE LEGISLATURE, TRANSMITTED TO THE OTHER HOUSE, OR OTHERWISE ACTED UPON. EMERGENCY BILLS OR RESOLUTIONS MAY BE CONSIDERED AND TRANSMITTED IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS UPON WRITTEN CERTIFICATION BY THE SPONSOR AND TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS OF A COMMITTEE TO WHICH THE BILL OR RESOLUTION IS ASSIGNED, THAT DELAY OF CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL OR RESOLUTION UNTIL THE FOLLOWING SESSION WOULD BE SERIOUSLY DETRIMENTAL TO THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF MONTANA.~~

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THIRD READING

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