

1 *House* BILL NO. *662*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *NATH. FOSTER MURPHY, Day, Hays*  
 3 *Shelden Dussault*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT DIRECTING THE  
 5 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL TO CONDUCT AN ENVIRONMENTAL  
 6 POLICY PLANNING AND LEGISLATION STUDY; PROVIDING AN  
 7 APPROPRIATION FOR THE STUDY; PROVIDING EFFECTIVE AND  
 8 TERMINATION DATES."

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

11 Section 1. Statement of policy. The legislature  
 12 recognizes the need to coordinate state policies and  
 13 programs for the purpose of accomplishing the goals set  
 14 forth in the Montana Environmental Policy Act and the need  
 15 to develop a clear statement of goals and objectives for the  
 16 environment so that considerations of environmental quality  
 17 will receive equal weight with economic, technical, and  
 18 social considerations in government decision making.

19 Section 2. Definitions. As used in this act, unless  
 20 the context requires otherwise, the following definitions  
 21 apply:

22 (1) "Council" means the environmental quality council  
 23 established by 69-6508.

24 (2) "Director" means the executive director of the  
 25 environmental quality council.

1 Section 3. Duties and responsibilities of the council  
 2 and director. Under the council's direction, the director  
 3 shall develop and implement a program to study environmental  
 4 problems and develop a comprehensive statewide environmental  
 5 policy and planning process for Montana. The director shall:  
 6 (1) within 1 year of the effective date of this act,  
 7 conduct a series of opinion surveys and public hearings  
 8 throughout the state to identify the opinions and priorities  
 9 of the people, to focus public attention on environmental  
 10 issues, and to encourage public participation in the  
 11 environmental policy formulation process;

12 (2) encourage research and studies in ecology and  
 13 develop methods for integrating the results of that research  
 14 into government policy making;

15 (3) initiate a comprehensive inventory of Montana's  
 16 physical environment and an appraisal of environmental  
 17 stresses and develop methods for integrating the results of  
 18 those inventories into government policy making;

19 (4) conduct a comprehensive analysis of existing laws,  
 20 regulations, policies, and programs relating to or having  
 21 impact on the environment;

22 (5) within 1 year of the effective date of this act,  
 23 submit a draft report to the council setting forth the  
 24 findings of the foregoing activities and recommendations for  
 25 policies, goals, and methods of implementation. This draft

1 report shall include but not be limited to:

2 (a) environmental goals for the state;

3 (b) policies for critical areas and other  
4 environmental values of statewide importance;

5 (c) policies to abate pollution and enhance  
6 environmental health;

7 (d) policies for management of the state's natural  
8 resources;

9 (e) policies for environmentally sensitive growth,  
10 development, and planning;

11 (f) mechanisms for policy coordination and  
12 implementation;

13 (g) provisions for a land use and resource information  
14 system; and

15 (h) provisions for technical assistance to county and  
16 local governments for environmentally sensitive planning and  
17 development.

18 (6) submit a final report to the council for approval  
19 and presentation to the 1979 legislature, which contains  
20 specific legislative recommendations for implementation of  
21 the environmental planning process;

22 (7) take or initiate any other lawful actions  
23 consistent with the purposes of this act;

24 (8) in all of the above, consult with and obtain the  
25 cooperation of the state's scientific, academic, and

1 technical communities; agencies of the state, local, and  
2 federal government; and public and private groups and  
3 individuals.

4 Section 4. Commission on environmental quality. The  
5 governor shall direct the commission on environmental  
6 quality, which was created by the governor, to cooperate  
7 with the council and director and to coordinate the efforts  
8 of the executive branch in achieving the purposes of this  
9 act.

10 Section 5. Renewable resources appropriation. There is  
11 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1979, to the  
12 environmental quality council from the renewable resources  
13 development account collected under authority of 89-3608 for  
14 the purposes set forth in this act, the following funds:

	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	Ending	Ending
	6/30/78	6/30/79
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
	From the Renewable Resources	
	Development Account:	\$106,413
	\$82,550	

21 Section 6. Appropriation additional -- act  
22 controlling. This appropriation is in addition to any  
23 regular appropriation for the normal operations of the  
24 environmental quality council. To the extent that this act  
25 conflicts with any provisions of 89-3604, this act controls.

Section 7. Effective and termination dates. This act

LC 1187/01

1 shall become effective upon passage and approval and shall  
2 terminate July 1, 1979.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 437-77

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 8, 19 77, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 662 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:

Directs the Environmental Quality Council to conduct an environmental planning and legislation study, and provides an appropriation.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The proposed legislation is a one-time program commitment.
2. 2.00 additional FTE are required for the project, plus operating costs.
3. Six public hearings will be held throughout the state.
4. Three reports will be published.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY 78</u>	<u>FY 79</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Personal services	\$31,050	\$32,913	\$ 63,963
Operating expenses	<u>51,500</u>	<u>73,500</u>	<u>125,000</u>
Total	<u>\$82,550</u>	<u>\$106,413</u>	<u>\$188,963</u>

*Richard L. Drury for*  
 BUDGET DIRECTOR  
 Office of Budget and Program Planning  
 Date: 2-16-77