

HOUSE BILL 174

IN THE HOUSE

January 15, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Rules.
February 19, 1979	Committee recommend bill, as amended.
February 20, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
February 21, 1979	Considered correctly engrossed.
February 22, 1979	Third reading, passed.

IN THE SENATE

February 22, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on State Administration.
March 1, 1979	Fiscal note requested.
March 9, 1979	Fiscal note returned.
March 24, 1979	Second reading, concurred.
March 27, 1979	Second reading, not concurred, as amended.  On motion, rules suspended. Bill placed on calendar for third reading this day.
	Third reading, as amended, not concurred.

IN THE HOUSE

March 28, 1979	Returned from Senate, not concurred.
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1 HOUSE BILL NO. 174  
2 INTRODUCED BY Vincent

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 AND TO PROVIDE  
8 LIMITATIONS ON THE BUSINESS THAT MAY BE CONDUCTED IN  
9 EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Article V, section 6, of the Montana  
13 constitution is amended to read:

14       \*Section 6. Sessions. The legislature shall meet--each  
15       odd-numbered--year--in--regular--session--of--not--more--than--90  
16       legislative--days be a continuous body for 2-year periods  
17       beginning when the newly elected members take office. The  
18       legislature shall meet once a year in a regular session of  
19       not more than 60 legislative days in odd-numbered years and  
20       of not more than 40 legislative days in even-numbered years.  
21       The regular session in even-numbered years shall be limited  
22       to legislation relating to the budget and financing and all  
23       other legislation which has been approved for introduction  
24       by a two-thirds vote of the members of either house. Any  
25       legislature may increase the limit on the length of any

1 subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in  
2 special sessions by the governor or at the written request  
3 of a majority of the members."

4           Section 2. Effective date. If approved by the  
5   electorate, this amendment shall be effective January 1,  
6   1980.

7           Section 3. Submission to electorate. This amendment  
8   shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Montana  
9   at the general election to be held November 6, 1979, by  
10   printing on the ballot the full title of this act and the  
11   following:

12  FOR annual sessions.

13  AGAINST annual sessions.

- End -

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HB 174  
INTRODUCED BILL

## STATE OF MONTANA

Request No. 441-79

## FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received March 1, 1979, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 174 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:

House Bill 174 would submit a constitutional referendum to establish a 60 day legislative session for budget and financing bills and a 60 day session for general bills. The two sessions would constitute one complete Legislature. The first sessions under the provision would be in 1981 and 1982.

## ASSUMPTIONS:

1. 90 day costs for 1981 were assumed to be the same as 1979 anticipated costs.
2. 60 day estimates were based on current rates of pay.
3. Very few substantive bills (non-budget) would be approved for introduction in 1981.
4. Only one pre-session caucus would be held, that in 1980.
5. Only one set of journals and session laws would be published, in 1982.
6. Both sessions would run the full 60 days authorized.
7. Legislators would be authorized two round trips home each session.
8. The Legislature would continue to meet 6 days a week.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of submitting the proposed amendment to the electors in November, 1980, is minimal. If the amendment is adopted, there will be the following fiscal impact.

	FY 81		FY 82		Net Additional Cost of one complete Legislature
	Current law	Proposed law	Decrease	Proposed law	
Personal services	\$2,312,611	\$1,452,243	\$ (860,368)	\$1,559,527	\$699,159
Operating expenses	892,510	456,722	(435,788)	682,080	246,292
Equipment	10,000	5,000	(5,000)	5,000	0
Total	<u>\$3,215,121</u>	<u>\$1,913,965</u>	<u>(\$1,301,156)</u>	<u>\$2,246,607</u>	<u>\$945,451</u>

*Richard L. Tracy for*  
BUDGET DIRECTOR  
Office of Budget and Program Planning  
Date: 3/8/79

Approved by Comm.  
on Rules

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17       beginning when the newly elected members take office. The  
18       legislature shall meet once a year in a regular session of  
19       not more than 60 legislative days in odd-numbered  
20       EVEN-NUMBERED years and of not more than 60 60 legislative  
21       days in even-numbered ODD-NUMBERED years. The regular  
22       session in even-numbered ODD-NUMBERED years shall be limited  
23       to legislation relating to the budget and financing and all  
24       other legislation which has been approved for introduction  
25       by a two-thirds vote of the members of either house. Any

1 legislature may increase the limit on the length of any  
2 subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in  
3 special sessions by the governor or at the written request  
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5           Section 2. Effective date. If approved by the  
6   electorate, this amendment shall be effective January 1,  
7   1988 1981.

8           Section 3. Submission to electorate. This amendment  
9       shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Montana  
10      at the general election to be held November 6<sup>th</sup>-1979 ~~or~~ 1980.  
11      by printing on the ballot the full title of this act and the  
12      following:

13 FOR annual sessions.

14 AGAINST annual sessions.

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17       beginning when the newly elected members take office. The  
18       legislature shall meet once a year in a regular session of  
19       not more than 60 25 legislative days in odd-numbered  
20       EVEN-NUMBERED years and of not more than 40 60 12  
21       legislative days in even-numbered ODD-NUMBERED years. The  
22       regular session in even-numbered ODD-NUMBERED years shall be  
23       limited-to-legislation-relating-to-the-budget-and-financing  
24       and--all--other--legislation--which--has--been--approved--for  
25       introduction--by--a--two--thirds--vote--of--the--members--of--either

1 HOUSE EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS SHALL BE LIMITED TO LEGISLATION  
2 APPROVED FOR INTRODUCTION BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE  
3 MEMBERS OF EITHER HOUSE OR LEGISLATION SPECIFICALLY  
4 REQUESTED BY THE GOVERNOR. LEGISLATION INTRODUCED DURING THE  
5 15-DAY SESSION AND WHICH IS FINALLY REJECTED OR POSTPONED AS  
6 OF ADJOURNMENT MAY NOT BE CARRIED OVER TO THE 25-DAY SESSION  
7 UNLESS THERE IS A MAJORITY VOTE BY BOTH HOUSES TO DO SO. Any  
8 legislature may increase the limit on the length of any  
9 subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in  
10 special sessions by the governor or at the written request  
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March 22, 1979

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT  
(State Administration)

That House Bill No. 174, third reading bill, be amended as follows:

1. Page 1, line 19

Following: "than"

Strike: "60"

Insert: "25"

2. Page 1, line 20

Following: "than"

Strike: "60"

Insert: "75"

3. Page 1, lines 22 through 25

Following: "even-numbered"

Strike: the remainder of line 22 through "house" on line 25

Insert: "even-numbered years shall be limited to legislation  
approved for introduction by a two-thirds vote of the mem-  
bers of either house or legislation specifically requested  
by the governor. Legislation introduced during the 75-day  
session and which is finally rejected or postponed as of  
adjournment may not be carried over to the 25-day session  
unless there is a majority vote by both houses to do so"