

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

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

10
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-

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
BUDGET DIRECTOR
Office of Budget and Program Planning
Date: 2/8/79

Approved by Comm.
on Rules

HOUSE BILL NO. 174
INTRODUCED BY VINCENT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V, SECTION 6, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET IN ANNUAL SESSIONS AND TO PROVIDE LIMITATIONS ON THE BUSINESS THAT MAY BE CONDUCTED IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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

"Section 6. Sessions. The legislature shall meet--each odd-numbered--year--in--regular--session--of--not--more--than--90 legislative--days, be a continuous body for 2-year periods beginning when the newly elected members take office. The legislature shall meet once a year in a regular session of not more than 60 legislative days in odd-numbered EVEN-NUMBERED years and of not more than 40 60 legislative days in even-numbered ODD-NUMBERED years. The regular session in even-numbered ODD-NUMBERED years shall be limited to legislation relating to the budget and financing and all other legislation which has been approved for introduction by a two-thirds vote of the members of either house. Any

legislature may increase the limit on the length of any subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in special sessions by the governor or at the written request of a majority of the members."

Section 2. Effective date. If approved by the electorate, this amendment shall be effective January 1, 1980 1981.

Section 3. Submission to electorate. This amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Montana at the general election to be held November 6, 1979 4, 1980, by printing on the ballot the full title of this act and the following:

FOR annual sessions.

AGAINST annual sessions.

-End-

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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
20 EVEN-NUMBERED years and of not more than 40 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

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2 subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in
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 18 legislature shall meet once a year in a regular session of
 19 not more than 68 25 legislative days in odd-numbered
 20 EVEN-NUMBERED years and of not more than 48 68 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 ~~75-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
 11 of a majority of the members."

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- 21 AGAINST annual sessions.

-End-

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 members 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"