HOUSE BILL 294

IN THE HOUSE

January 22, 1979

Introduced and referred to Committee on Appropriations.

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1 HOLLE BILL NO. 294
2 INTRODUCED BY SULLING CONSUMER COMMITTEE

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE MONEY TO 6 THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER COUNSEL FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING 7 JUNE 30. 1981."

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

Section 1. Appropriation. (1) (a) There is appropriated a base appropriation of \$338,500 to the office of the Consumer Counsel for regular operating expenses during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1980, from the account in the earmarked revenue fund established by 69-1-223. There is also appropriated a contingency appropriation of \$100,000 to the office of the Consumer Counsel for unanticipated expenses during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1980, from the account in the earmarked revenue fund established by 69-1-223.

(b) There is appropriated a base appropriation of \$358,800 to the office of the Consumer Counsel for regular operating expenses during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1981, from the account in the earmarked revenue fund established by 69-1-223. There is also appropriated a contingency appropriation of \$100,000 to the office of the

1 Consumer Counsel for unanticipated expenses during the 2 fiscal year ending June 30. 1981. from the account in the 3 earmarked revenue fund established by 69-1-223.

4 (2) Money appropriated in subsections (1)(a) and
5 (1)(b) for unanticipated expenses may not be spent unless a
6 budget amendment is submitted by the office of the Consumer
7 Counsel and approved by the director of the office of Budget
8 and Program Planning. The amount approved in the budget
9 amendment may be raised by means of the Consumer Counsel fee
10 provided for in 69-1-223 and 69-1-224.

(3) The amount established in subsection {1}.
\$897.300. to be raised by the Consumer Counsel fee provided
for in 69-1-223 and 69-1-224 may not be raised during the
biennium except by the Legislature. Any additional money for
the operation of the office of the Consumer Counsel must be
derived from federal or private sources and may be made
available by the budget amendment procedure.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

FISCAL NOTE

Request No. 260-79

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Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received <u>February 6, 1979</u>, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for <u>House Bill 294</u> 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:

HB 294 is the general appropriations bill for the operation of the Legislative Consumer Counsel for the 80-81 Biennium.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill provides spending authority to expend \$338,500 in FY 1980 and \$358,800 in FY 1981 from the Earmarked Revenue Fund for regular operating expenses. The bill also provides a contingency appropriation of \$100,000 per year to the Office of the Consumer Counsel.

BUDGET DIRECTOR
Office of Budget and Program Planning
Date: 2/7/79