

SENATE BILL 363

IN THE SENATE

February 5, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Finance and Claims
February 6, 1979	Fiscal note requested.
February 9, 1979	Fiscal note returned.
February 17, 1979	Committee recommend bill, do not pass.

1 Senate BILL NO. 363
 2 INTRODUCED BY S. Brown Rasmussen
 3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO COMPENSATE PUBLIC
 5 EMPLOYEES FOR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL EXPENSES WHEN SUCH
 6 EXPENSES EXCEED THE MAXIMUM OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL EXPENSES
 7 ALLOWED BY LAW; AMENDING SECTION 2-18-501, MCA."
 8

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

10 Section 1. Section 2-18-501, MCA, is amended to read:

11 "2-18-501. Meals, lodging, and transportation of
 12 persons in state service. Every elected official, appointed
 13 members of boards, commissions, councils, department
 14 directors, and all other state employees shall be reimbursed
 15 for meals and lodging while away from the person's
 16 designated headquarters and engaged in official state
 17 business in accordance with the following provisions:

18 (1) For travel within the state of Montana, the
 19 following provisions apply:

20 (a) The governor shall be authorized actual and
 21 necessary expenses not to exceed \$40 per day.

22 (b) All other elected state officials, appointed
 23 members of boards, commissions, councils, department
 24 directors, and all other state employees shall be authorized
 25 the actual cost of lodging not exceeding \$18 per day plus \$2

1 for the morning meal, \$3 for the midday meal, and \$5 for the
 2 evening meal. All claims for lodging expense reimbursement
 3 allowed under this section must be documented by an
 4 appropriate receipt.

5 (2) For travel out of the state of Montana, the
 6 following provisions apply:

7 (a) The governor shall be authorized actual and
 8 necessary travel expenses not to exceed \$70 per day.

9 (b) All other elected state officials, appointed
 10 members of boards, commissions, councils, department
 11 directors, and all other state employees shall be authorized
 12 the actual cost of lodging not exceeding \$37 per day plus \$3
 13 for the morning meal, \$4 for the midday meal, and \$6 for the
 14 evening meal. All claims for the lodging expense
 15 reimbursement allowed under this subsection must be
 16 documented by an appropriate receipt.

17 ~~(c) When a state employee is required to travel to an~~
 18 ~~area outside the state of Montana in the course of his~~
 19 ~~employment, he is entitled to receive actual lodging~~
 20 ~~expenses when the lodging expenses in an area exceed the~~
 21 ~~lodging expenses provided in subsection (2)(b). The~~
 22 ~~department of administration shall designate those areas~~
 23 ~~where actual lodging expenses shall be paid. A claim for~~
 24 ~~the lodging expense reimbursement allowed under this section~~
 25 ~~must be documented by an appropriate receipt.~~

1 (3) When other than commercial, nonreceiptable lodging
2 facilities are utilized by a state employee while conducting
3 official state business in a travel status, the amount of \$7
4 will be authorized for lodging expenses for each day in
5 which travel involves an overnight stay in lieu of the
6 amount authorized in subsection (1)(a) or (2)(b) above.
7 However, when overnight accommodations are provided at the
8 expense of any government entity, no reimbursement may be
9 claimed for lodging.

10 (4) The actual cost of reasonable transportation
11 expenses and other necessary business expenses incurred by a
12 state official or employee while in an official travel
13 status shall be subject to reimbursement.

14 (5) The provisions of this section shall not be
15 construed as affecting the validity of 5-2-301.

16 (6) The department of administration shall prescribe
17 rules necessary to effectively administer this section for
18 state government.

19 (7) All commercial air travel shall be by the least
20 expensive class service available."

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

Request No. 239-79

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 6, 1979, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for Senate Bill 363 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:

An act to compensate public employees for actual out-of-pocket lodging expenses for out-of-state travel if the area is designated by the Department of Administration.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The average out-of-state lodging reimbursement under current law is \$35/night; and the average reimbursement under the proposed law will be \$50/night.
2. State employees will seek non-extravagant lodging facilities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Out-of-state lodging expenses	FY 80	FY 81
Under current law	\$270,000	\$270,000
Under proposed law	386,100	386,100
Increased cost of proposed legislation	<u>\$116,100</u>	<u>\$116,100</u>

Funding Information:

General Fund	\$ 77,439	\$ 77,439
Other funds	38,661	38,661
	<u>\$116,100</u>	<u>\$116,100</u>

Richard D. Tracy for
 BUDGET DIRECTOR
 Office of Budget and Program Planning
 Date: 2/9/79