

HOUSE BILL NO. 269

1/19 Introduced
1/19 Referred to State Administration
1/21 Fiscal Note Requested
1/26 Fiscal Note Received
1/30 Hearing
1/30 Adverse Committee Report
1/31 Bill Killed

David Moore

HOUSE BILL NO. 269

INTRODUCED BY *Abrams* *Kevin* *KEENE* *Miss*
Spencer *Michael* *McHart* *Helms*

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE DEPARTMENT
2 OF COMMERCE, UPON COMPLETION OF THE AUDIT OF A GOVERNMENTAL
3 ENTITY, TO PUBLISH ONLY A GENERAL STATEMENT THAT THE REPORT
4 IS ON FILE AND OPEN TO INSPECTION AND THAT A COPY WILL BE
5 FURNISHED UPON REQUEST; RELIEVING THE DEPARTMENT, AS TO
6 COUNTIES AND INCORPORATED CITIES AND TOWNS, OF THE DUTY TO
7 PUBLISH A COPY OF THE GENERAL COMMENTS SECTION OF THE AUDIT;
8 AMENDING SECTION 2-7-521, MCA."

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

14 Section 1. Section 2-7-521, MCA, is amended to read:
15 "2-7-521. Publication. (1) ~~Except--as--provided--in~~
16 ~~subsection--(3)--after~~ After the expiration of the 30-day
17 period provided for in 2-7-515(1), the department shall send
18 ~~a-copy-of-the-general-comments-section-of-each-audit--report~~
19 to a newspaper of general circulation for publication a
20 statement to the effect that the audit report is on file in
21 its entirety and open to public inspection. However, the
22 general-comments-section-of-each-county-audit-report if the
23 statement concerns a county audit report, it shall be sent
24 to the official newspaper of the county for publication.

25 (2) ~~The-publication-shall-include-a-statement--to--the~~

1 effect--that-the-audit-report-is-on-file-in-its-entirety-and
2 open-to-public-inspection.

3 (3) ~~A-publication-concerning-the--audit--report--of--a~~
4 ~~local--government--entity--within--(1)(c)--through--(1)(h)--of~~
5 ~~2-7-503-is-required-to-contain-only-the--statement--provided~~
6 ~~for--in--subsection--(2)--and--a--statement--providing~~ The
7 statement shall also provide that the audited government
8 entity will send a copy of the audit report to any
9 interested person upon request. A copy of the audit report
10 must be sent to the newspaper publishing the statement.

11 (4) ~~(2)~~ Publication costs shall be borne by the audited
12 governmental entity."

-End-



INTRODUCED BILL
HB 269

STATE OF MONTANA
FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST NO. FNN 151-85

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received January 21, 19 85, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for H.B. 269 pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 4, Part 2 of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA). 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:

This legislation allows the Department of Commerce to publish a general statement that an audit of a local governmental entity is on file, rather than publishing a copy of the general comments section of the audit.

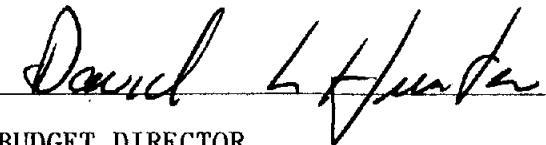
LOCAL IMPACT:

We conducted a telephone survey of selected counties and cities within each class and estimate that the saving to local government in publication expenses resulting from the deletion of the requirement to publish auditors' comments would be:

Counties -	\$ 7,800	per year
Cities -	\$ 11,100	per year
Total -	\$ 18,900	per year

NOTE:

Telephone survey indicated audit publication costs of twice that shown above. However, since audits are only required to be conducted once every two years, we divided the total cost by 1/2.



BUDGET DIRECTOR
Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: Jan 25, 1985
HB 269