

HJR 2 INTRODUCED BY CONNELLY, ET AL.
REQUESTING A STUDY OF STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION
 SYSTEM

6/21 INTRODUCED

6/21 REFERRED TO BUSINESS & LABOR

6/24 HEARING

6/24 COMMITTEE REPORT-NO RECOMMENDATION
 AS AMENDED

6/25 ON MOTION, TAKEN FROM 2ND READING AND
 REFERRED TO APPROPRIATIONS
 DIED IN COMMITTEE

1 House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2
2 INTRODUCED BY Connelly
3

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN
6 INTERIM STUDY OF THE STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE
7 SYSTEM; AND REQUIRING A REPORT TO THE 50TH LEGISLATURE.
8

9 WHEREAS, the state workers' compensation insurance
10 system established in Title 39, chapter 71, MCA, shows a
11 deficit of more than \$30,000,000 despite a level of premium
12 rates that is the third highest in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, a sound fiscal basis is not apparent in
14 arbitrary changes in premium rates; and

15 WHEREAS, abuses of the system by certain workers and
16 employers have been alleged; and

17 WHEREAS, certain injured workers qualifying for
18 benefits from the system have experienced difficulty in
19 obtaining timely and just compensation; and

20 WHEREAS, burdens for employers created by the system
21 cause loss of jobs in Montana and tend to discourage
22 creation of new jobs; and

23 WHEREAS, various studies of the system have generated
24 conflicting recommendations; and

25 WHEREAS, compensation of the injured worker is the sole

1 purpose of the system.
2

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
4 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

5 That a special joint interim committee be assigned to
6 study the state workers' compensation insurance system, with
7 particular attention to establishing a sound fiscal
8 foundation for the system, assessing reasonable premium
9 rates to assure necessary funding, preventing abuses of the
10 system, requiring timely settlement of claims to provide
11 just compensation for eligible injured workers, and
12 eliminating competitive disadvantages in relationship to
13 neighboring states.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that money be appropriated to
15 fund the study.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee submit to
17 the 50th Legislature a report of its findings and proposed
18 legislation to implement its recommendations.

-End-

COMM. ON
BUSINESS AND LABOR
REPORT WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2

INTRODUCED BY CONNELLY, DARKO, STANG,
BRANDEWIE, HARP, SPAETH, LYBECK, KADAS

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN
INTERIM STUDY OF THE STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE
SYSTEM; AND REQUIRING A REPORT TO THE 50TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, the state workers' compensation insurance
system established in Title 39, chapter 71, MCA, shows a
deficit of more than \$30,000,000 despite a level of premium
rates that is the third highest in the United States; and

WHEREAS, a sound fiscal basis is not apparent in
arbitrary changes in premium rates; and

WHEREAS, abuses of the system by certain workers and
employers have been alleged; and

WHEREAS, certain injured workers qualifying for
benefits from the system have experienced difficulty in
obtaining timely and just compensation; and

WHEREAS, burdens for employers created by the system
cause loss of jobs in Montana and tend--to discourage
creation of new jobs; and

WHEREAS, various studies of the system have generated
conflicting recommendations; and

WHEREAS, compensation of the injured worker is the sole
purpose of the system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That a---special---joint---interim---committee THE
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE COMMITTEE be assigned to FACILITATE A
study OF the state workers' compensation insurance system,
with particular attention to establishing a sound fiscal
foundation for the system, assessing reasonable premium
rates to assure necessary funding, preventing abuses of the
system, requiring timely settlement of claims to provide
just compensation for eligible injured workers, and
eliminating competitive disadvantages in relationship to
neighboring states.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that money be appropriated to
fund the study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee submit to
the 50th Legislature a report of its findings and proposed
legislation to implement its recommendations.

-End-

HOUSE BILL NO. 2

INTRODUCED BY EUDAILY, KOLSTAD

BY REQUEST OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY
FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MONTANA CODE ANNOTATED SPECIAL
REVENUE FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE
EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Appropriation. There is appropriated
\$500,000 from the Legislative Council Montana Code Annotated
special revenue fund to the general fund for fiscal year
1987.

Section 2. Effective date. This act is effective on
passage and approval.

-End-



REFERENCE BILL

HB 2