

HB 869 INTRODUCED BY VINCENT
APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMISSION

3/07 INTRODUCED
3/07 REFERRED TO BUSINESS & LABOR
3/19 HEARING
3/20 TABLED IN COMMITTEE

House BILL NO. *869*
Vincent

INTRODUCED BY _____

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MONTANA INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION; TO PROVIDE FOR AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

WHEREAS, service industries that develop and process information will create over 35% of all American jobs by 1995, more than any other major industry group; and

WHEREAS, Montana's high quality of life is attractive to many information resource enterprises, and such enterprises can locate in Montana if the problem of distance is overcome; and

WHEREAS, knowledge and information are critical resources for improving the productivity and performance of existing Montana industries as well as the ability of those industries to tailor their products to specific national and international markets; and

WHEREAS, an information infrastructure comprised of a statewide telecommunications network and of information resources and services can overcome Montana's traditional handicap of distance, enable new enterprises to locate and develop in Montana, and help existing businesses to thrive;

and

WHEREAS, an information infrastructure can improve the access of citizens to education and training and other public services while increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of those services; and

WHEREAS, modern telecommunications technology can enable citizens and their organizations to communicate with each other and participate more effectively in the public life of the state, thereby improving the mutual understanding and sense of community among Montanans; and

WHEREAS, by harnessing modern information resources and technology, Montana can establish itself as a national and international leader in enhancing its economy and quality of life.

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

Section 1. Montana information infrastructure commission. There is created the Montana information infrastructure commission.

Section 2. Purpose. It is the purpose of the Montana information infrastructure commission to:

(1) develop a strategy to attract, develop, and enhance a vital information and telecommunications industry in Montana to create new jobs and new businesses; and

(2) report to the 51st legislature and recommend



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1 legislation necessary to implement the findings under
2 subsection (1).

3 Section 3. Commission members -- composition. The
4 Montana information infrastructure commission consists of 10
5 members appointed as follows:

6 (1) The speaker of the house, the president of the
7 senate, the republican floor leader of the senate, and the
8 house minority leader each shall appoint one member of the
9 50th legislature and one member of the public.

10 (2) The director of the department of commerce shall
11 appoint two members.

12 Section 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated for
13 the biennium ending June 30, 1989, \$150,000 from the general
14 fund to the department of commerce for the Montana
15 information infrastructure committee to effect the purpose
16 provided in section 2.

17 Section 5. Effective date -- termination. (1) This act
18 is effective on passage and approval.

19 (2) This act terminates June 30, 1989.

-End-