HOUSE BILL NO. 317

INTRODUCED BY GILBERT, REAM, HALLIGAN

14 j. no. 🔹 🕈

JANUARY 22, 1993	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION.				
FEBRUARY 4, 1993	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS. REPORT ADOPTED.				
FEBRUARY 5, 1993	PRINTING REPORT.				
FEBRUARY 6, 1993	ON MOTION, CONSIDERATION PASSED FOR THE DAY.				
FEBRUARY 8, 1993	SECOND READING, DO PASS.				
FEBRUARY 9, 1993	ENGROSSING REPORT.				
FEBRUARY 10, 1993	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 95; NOES, 2.				
FEBRUARY 11, 1993	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.				
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	IN THE SENATE				
FEBRUARY 12, 1993	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION.				
	FIRST READING.				
MARCH 24, 1993	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.				
MARCH 27, 1993	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.				
MARCH 29, 1993	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 42; NOES, 5.				
	RETURNED TO HOUSE WITH AMENDMENTS.				
	IN THE HOUSE				
APRIL 1, 1993	SECOND READING, AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.				
APRIL 2, 1993	THIRD READING, AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.				

SENT TO ENROLLING.

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REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

INTRODUCED BY Tillet Rean Hallyon 1 2 3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONDUCT OF RULEMAKING; 5 NEGOTIATED PROVIDING A PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING б 7 COMMITTEE: PROVIDING DUTIES FOR A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING 8 COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO USE THE SERVICES OF A 9 CONVENER AND A FACILITATOR; AND AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO 10 ACCEPT GRANTS OR GIFTS TO FUND A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING PROCESS." 11

12

13 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking is a process that 14 reflects an agency's recognition that regulatory objectives, 15 consistent with legislative directives, can be accomplished 16 in more than one way; and

17 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking brings together the 18 regulating agency and regulated and other interested parties 19 during the development of a rule to negotiate and resolve 20 potential problems with the rulemaking in order to develop a 21 rule acceptable to all parties; and

22 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking may improve the substance 23 of a proposed rule, shorten the length of time necessary to 24 implement a final rule, and reduce litigation, thereby 25 effectuating legislative purposes and aiding in the prompt

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1 delivery of governmental services; and

2 WHEREAS, federal agencies and other states have 3 extensive experience with and success at negotiating 4 rulemaking.

5

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title. [Sections 1
through 10] of this bill may be cited as the "Montana
Negotiated Rulemaking Act".

10 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Purpose. The of purpose [sections 1 through 10] is to establish a framework for the 11 12 conduct of negotiated rulemaking consistent with the Montana 13 Administrative Procedure Act and the constitutional right of 14 Montanans to participate in the operation of governmental 15 agencies and to encourage agencies to use negotiated 16 rulemaking when it enhances the rulemaking process. As 17 authorized by 2-4-304, it is the intent of the legislature 18 that state agencies, whenever appropriate, use the negotiated rulemaking process to resolve controversial 19 20 issues prior to the commencement of the formal rulemaking process. However, negotiated rulemaking is not a substitute 21 22 for the public notification and participation requirements 23 of the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, and a consensus 24 agreement by a negotiated rulemaking committee may be 25 modified by an agency as a result of the subsequent

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1 rulemaking process. [Sections 1 through 10] may not be 2 construed as an attempt to limit innovation and 3 experimentation with the negotiated rulemaking process.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Definitions. As used 4 in 5 (sections 1 through 10), the following definitions apply:

6 (1) "Agency" means any board, bureau, commission, 7 department, authority, or officer of the executive branch of 8 state government authorized by law to make rules.

9 (2) "Consensus" means unanimous concurrence among the 10 interests represented on a negotiated rulemaking committee 11 established under [section 6], unless the committee agrees 12 upon another specified definition.

(3) "Convener" means a person who impartially assists 13 14 an agency in determining whether establishment of a negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and appropriate 15 16 for a particular rulemaking procedure.

17 (4) "Facilitator" means a person who impartially aids 18 in the discussions and negotiations among the members of a negotiated rulemaking committee to develop a proposed rule. 19 A facilitator does not have decisionmaking authority. 20

(5) "Interest" means, with respect to an issue or 21 22 matter, multiple parties that have a similar point of view 23 or that are likely to be affected in a similar manner.

(6) "Negotiated rulemaking" means rulemaking through 24 25 the use of a negotiated rulemaking committee.

1 (7) "Negotiated rulemaking committee" or "committee" 2 means an advisory committee established under [section 6] 3 and authorized under 2-4-304 to consider and discuss issues 4 for the purpose of reaching a consensus in the development 5 of a proposed rule.

means an individual, (8) "Person" 6 partnership. 7 corporation, association, governmental subdivision, agency, 8 or public or private organization of any character.

9 (9) "Rule" means an agency regulation, standard, or 10 statement of general applicability that implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy or describes the 11 12 organization, procedures, or practice requirements of an 13 agency. The term includes the amendment or repeal of a prior rule but does not include: 14

15 (a) statements concerning only the internal management 16 of an agency and not affecting private rights or procedures 17 available to the public;

18 (b) formal opinions of the attorney general and 19 declaratory rulings issued pursuant to 2-4-501;

20 (c) rules relating to the use of public works, 21 facilities, streets, and highways when the substance of the 22 rules is indicated to the public by means of signs or 23 signals;

24 (d) rules implementing the state personnel classification plan, the state wage and salary plan, or the 25

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statewide budgeting and accounting system;

2 (e) uniform rules adopted pursuant to interstate
3 compact, except that the rules must be filed in accordance
4 with 2-4-306 and must be published in the Administrative
5 Rules of Montana.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 4. Determination of need for 7 negotiated rulemaking committee. (1) An agency may establish 8 a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and develop a 9 proposed rule if the agency director determines that the use 10 of the negotiated rulemaking procedure is in the public 11 interest. In making that determination, the agency director 12 shall consider whether:

13 (a) there is a need for a rule;

14 (b) there are a limited number of identifiable15 interests that will be significantly affected by the rule;

16 (c) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee
17 can be convened with a balanced representation of persons
18 who:

19 (i) can adequately represent the interests identified20 under subsection (1)(b); and

(ii) are willing to negotiate in good faith to reach a
consensus on the proposed rule;

23 (d) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee
24 will reach a consensus on the proposed rule within a fixed
25 period of time;

(e) the negotiated rulemaking procedure will not
 unreasonably delay the notice of proposed rulemaking and the
 issuance of the final rule;

4 (f) the agency has adequate resources and is willing to
5 commit those resources, including technical assistance, to
6 the committee; and

7 (g) the agency, to the maximum extent possible
8 consistent with the legal obligations of the agency, will
9 use the consensus of the committee as the basis for the rule
10 proposed by the agency.

11 (2) An agency may use the services of a convener to
12 assist in making the determination of need pursuant to
13 subsection (1) and to assist the agency in:

14 (a) identifying persons who will be significantly15 affected by a proposed rule; and

16 (b) conducting discussions with affected persons on the 17 issues of concern and ascertaining whether the establishment 18 of a negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and 19 appropriate for the particular rulemaking procedure.

(3) The convener shall report findings and make
recommendations to the agency. Upon request of the agency,
the convener shall ascertain the names of persons who are
willing and gualified to represent the interests that will
be significantly affected by the proposed rule. The report
and any recommendations of the convener must be made

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1 available to the public upon request.

2 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 5. Application for membership on 3 committees -- publication of notice. (1) If an agency 4 decides to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the 5 agency shall publish in the Montana Administrative Register 6 and, as appropriate, in newspapers and other publications, a 7 notice that includes:

8 (a) an announcement that the agency intends to
9 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and
10 develop a proposed rule;

(b) a description of the subject and scope of the ruleto be developed and the issues to be considered;

13 (c) a list of interests likely to be significantly14 affected by the proposed rule;

15 (d) a list of the persons proposed to represent the 16 affected interests and the agency;

17 (e) a proposed schedule for completing the work of the18 committee; and

(f) an explanation of how a person may apply for ornominate another person for membership on the committee.

(2) An agency may include the notice required in
 subsection (1) in the notice of intent to promulgate rules
 made pursuant to 2-4-302.

24 (3) The agency shall provide a period of at least 3025 days for the submission of comments and applications for

1 membership on a negotiated rulemaking committee.

2 NEW SECTION. Section 6. Establishment of committee -determination. (1) If, after considering comments 3 and 4 applications submitted under [section 5], the agency 5 determines that a negotiated rulemaking committee can 6 adequately represent the interests of the persons that will 7 be significantly affected by a proposed rule and that it is 8 feasible and appropriate in the particular rulemaking, the 9 agency may establish a negotiated rulemaking committee.

10 (2) If, after considering comments and applications submitted under (section 5), the agency decides not to 11 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the agency 12 13 shall notify the persons who commented on or applied for 14 membership on the negotiated rulemaking committee of the 15 reasons for the decision. The agency shall also publish a notice in the Montana Administrative Register and, as 16 17 appropriate, in newspapers and other publications.

18 (3) The agency shall provide appropriate administrative
19 support to the negotiated rulemaking committee, including
20 technical support.

(4) A negotiated rulemaking committee terminates upon
promulgation of the final rule under consideration, unless
the agency, after consulting the committee, or the committee
itself specifies an earlier termination date.

25 NEW SECTION. Section 7. Expansion of committee

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1 membership. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee may by 2 consensus expand its membership, either by contacting and 3 recruiting persons whose participation the committee 4 believes is essential to the success of the negotiated 5 rulemaking process or upon reviewing a petition submitted 6 pursuant to subsection (2).

7 (2) Persons who will be significantly affected by a 8 proposed rule and who believe that their interests will not 9 be adequately represented by any person on a negotiated 10 rulemaking committee may petition for or nominate another 11 person for membership on the negotiated rulemaking 12 committee. Each petition or nomination must be submitted to 13 the negotiated rulemaking committee and must include:

14 (a) the name of the petitioner or nominee and a15 description of the interests the person represents;

16 (b) evidence that the petitioner or nominee is
17 authorized to represent parties related to the interests the
18 person proposes to represent;

(c) a written commitment that the petitioner or nominee
will actively participate in good faith in the development
of the rule under consideration; and

(d) an explanation of reasons that the persons already
on the negotiated rulemaking committee do not adequately
represent the interests of the person submitting the
petition or nomination.

1 (3) Upon receiving a petition pursuant to subsection 2 (2), a negotiated rulemaking committee shall decide by 3 consensus at its next meeting whether or not to expand its 4 membership.

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 8. Committee -- duties --6 procedures -- report. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee 7 shall consider the matter proposed by the agency for 8 consideration and shall attempt to reach consensus 9 concerning a proposed rule and any other matter the 10 committee determines is relevant to the proposed rule.

11 (2) The person representing the agency on a negotiated 12 rulemaking committee shall participate in the deliberations 13 of the committee with the same rights and responsibilities 14 of other members of the committee and is authorized to fully 15 represent the agency in the discussions and negotiations of 16 the committee.

17 (3) A negotiated rulemaking committee may adopt
18 procedures or ground rules for the operation of the
19 committee.

20 (4) If a negotiated rulemaking committee achieves
21 consensus on a proposed rule, at the conclusion of the
22 negotiations, the committee shall transmit to the agency
23 that established the committee a report containing the
24 proposed rule.

25 (5) If a negotiated rulemaking committee does not reach

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1 a consensus on the proposed rule, the committee shall transmit to the agency a report specifying areas in which 2 the committee reached consensus and the issues that remain 3 unresolved. The committee may include in the report any 4 5 other information, recommendations, or materials that the committee considers appropriate. Any member of the committee 6 7 include as an addendum to the report additional may 8 information, recommendations, or materials.

(6) Pursuant to Title 2, chapter 3, part 2:

9

10 (a) the meetings of a negotiated rulemaking committee
11 must be open to the public; and

12 (b) meeting minutes, records, and reports must be kept13 and must be made available for inspection by the public.

14 NEW SECTION. Section 9. Facilitator -- selection and duties. (1) An agency may nominate a person to serve as a 15 facilitator for the negotiations of the committee, subject 16 17 to the approval of the committee by consensus. If the 18 committee does not approve the agency's nomination for 19 facilitator, the agency shall submit a substitute 20 nomination. If a committee does not approve the substitute 21 nomination of the agency for facilitator, the committee 22 shall select by consensus a person to serve as facilitator. 23 A person designated to represent the agency in substantive 24 issues may not serve as facilitator or presiding officer for 25 the committee.

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(2) A facilitator approved or selected by a committee
 shall:

3 (a) preside at the meetings of the committee in an
 4 impartial manner;

5 (b) impartially assist the members of the committee in 6 conducting discussions and negotiations and achieving 7 consensus; and

8 (c) manage the keeping of minutes and records.

9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 10. Expenses -- convener --10 facilitator -- committee members. (1) An agency may employ 11 or enter into a contract for the services of an organization 12 or individual to serve as a convener or facilitator for a 13 negotiated rulemaking committee or may use the services of a 14 government employee to act as a convener or facilitator for 15 a committee.

16 (2) An agency shall determine whether a person under 17 consideration as a convener or facilitator of a negotiated 18 rulemaking committee has any financial or other interest 19 that would preclude the person from serving in an impartial 20 and independent manner. A person disqualified under this 21 criterion must be dropped from further consideration.

(3) Members of a negotiated rulemaking committee are
responsible for their own expenses of participation.
However, an agency may pay for a committee member's
reasonable travel and per diem expenses, expenses to obtain

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1 technical assistance, and a reasonable rate of compensation
2 if:

3 (a) the committee member certifies a lack of adequate4 financial resources to participate in the committee; and

5 (b) the agency determines that the committee member's 6 participation in the committee is necessary to ensure an 7 adequate representation of the interests of the members.

8 (4) An agency may accept grants or gifts from any
9 source to fund the negotiated rulemaking process, provided
10 that:

11 (a) information on the name of the person giving the
12 grant or gift and the amount of the grant or gift is
13 available to the public;

14 (b) the grant or gift is given to and accepted by the
15 agency without placing any condition on the membership of a
16 negotiated rulemaking committee or the outcome of the
17 negotiated rulemaking process; and

(c) there is consensus among the members of the
negotiated rulemaking committee established pursuant to
[section 6] that the acceptance of the grant or gift will
not diminish the integrity of the negotiated rulemaking
process.

23 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 11. Codification instruction.
24 [Sections 1 through 10] are intended to be codified as an
25 integral part of Title 2, and the provisions of Title 2

1 apply to (sections 1 through 10).

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STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB0317, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act establishing a framework for the conduct of negotiated rulemaking; providing a process for establishing a negotiated rulemaking committee; providing duties for a negotiated rulemaking committee; authorizing an agency to use the services of a convener and a facilitator; and authorizing an agency to accept grants or gifts to fund a negotiated rulemaking process.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. The determination to use a negotiated rulemaking committee would be at the discretion of the agency director, based on the criteria outlined in the bill, including whether the agency has adequate resources and is willing to commit those resources.
- 2. The decision to use a convener would be at the discretion of the agency. Agencies which use a convener under contract may pay approximately \$35/hour for a one day meeting.
- 3. Agencies which use the negotiated rulemaking committee would incur costs for additional Montana Administrative Rules notices @ \$35/page.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Agencies using the negotiated rulemaking process would incur relatively minor costs. Given agency discretion and the criterion concerning the availability of adequate resources, such costs would be generally absorbed within current level budgets.

BUDGET DIRECTOR DAVID LEWIS. Office of Budget and Program Planning

DATE

BOB GILBERT, PRIMARY SPONSOR

Fiscal Note for HB0317, as introduced HB 317

53rd Legislature

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APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A 4 FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONDUCT OF NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING: 5 PROVIDING A PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING 6 7 COMMITTEE: PROVIDING DUTIES FOR A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO USE THE SERVICES OF A 8 CONVENER AND A FACILITATOR; AND AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO 9 ACCEPT GRANTS OR GIFTS TO FUND A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING 10 11 PROCESS."

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13 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking is a process that 14 reflects an agency's recognition that regulatory objectives, 15 consistent with legislative directives, can be accomplished 16 in more than one way; and

WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking brings together the
regulating agency and regulated and other interested parties
during the development of a rule to negotiate and resolve
potential problems with the rulemaking in order to develop a
rule acceptable to all parties; and

22 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking may improve the substance 23 of a proposed rule, shorten the length of time necessary to 24 implement a final rule, and reduce litigation, thereby 25 effectuating legislative purposes and aiding in the prompt

1 delivery of governmental services; and

WHEREAS, federal agencies and other states have
 extensive experience with and success at negotiating
 rulemaking.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title. [Sections 1
through 10] of this bill may be cited as the "Montana
Negotiated Rulemaking Act".

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Purpose. 10 The purpose of (sections 1 through 10) is to establish a framework for the 11 12 conduct of negotiated rulemaking consistent with the Montana 13 Administrative Procedure Act and the constitutional right of Montanans to participate in the operation of governmental 14 15 agencies and to encourage agencies to use negotiated 16 rulemaking when it enhances the rulemaking process. As 17 authorized by 2-4-304, it is the intent of the legislature 18 that state agencies, whenever appropriate, use the negotiated rulemaking process to resolve controversial 19 20 issues prior to the commencement of the formal rulemaking 21 process. However, negotiated rulemaking is not a substitute 22 for the public notification and participation requirements 23 of the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, and a consensus agreement by a negotiated rulemaking committee may be 24 modified by an agency as a result of the subsequent 25

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rulemaking process. [Sections 1 through 10] may not be
 construed as an attempt to limit innovation and
 experimentation with the negotiated rulemaking process.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 3. Definitions. As used in
[sections 1 through 10], the following definitions apply:
(1) "Agency" means any board, bureau, commission,
department, authority, or officer of the executive branch of
state government authorized by law to make rules.

9 (2) "Consensus" means unanimous concurrence among the 10 interests represented on a negotiated rulemaking committee 11 established under [section 6], unless the committee agrees 12 upon another specified definition.

13 (3) "Convener" means a person who impartially assists
14 an agency in determining whether establishment of a
15 negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and appropriate
16 for a particular rulemaking procedure.

17 (4) "Facilitator" means a person who impartially aids
18 in the discussions and negotiations among the members of a
19 negotiated rulemaking committee to develop a proposed rule.
20 A facilitator does not have decisionmaking authority.

(5) "Interest" means, with respect to an issue or
matter, multiple parties that have a similar point of view
or that are likely to be affected in a similar manner.

24 (6) "Negotiated rulemaking" means rulemaking through
25 the use of a negotiated rulemaking committee.

1 (7) "Negotiated rulemaking committee" or "committee" 2 means an advisory committee established under [section 6] 3 and authorized under 2-4-304 to consider and discuss issues 4 for the purpose of reaching a consensus in the development 5 of a proposed rule.

6 (8) "Person" means an individual, partnership,
7 corporation, association, governmental subdivision, agency,
8 or public or private organization of any character.

9 (9) "Rule" means an agency regulation, standard, or 10 statement of general applicability that implements, 11 interprets, or prescribes law or policy or describes the 12 organization, procedures, or practice requirements of an 13 agency. The term includes the amendment or repeal of a prior 14 rule but does not include:

15 (a) statements concerning only the internal management
16 of an agency and not affecting private rights or procedures
17 available to the public;

(b) formal opinions of the attorney general and
declaratory rulings issued pursuant to 2-4-501;

(c) rules relating to the use of public works,
facilities, streets, and highways when the substance of the
rules is indicated to the public by means of signs or
signals;

24 (d) rules implementing the state personnel25 classification plan, the state wage and salary plan, or the

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(e)	uniform	rules	adopted	pursuant	to	interstate

statewide budgeting and accounting system;

3 compact, except that the rules must be filed in accordance 4 with 2-4-306 and must be published in the Administrative 5 Rules of Montana.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 4. Determination of need for 7 negotiated rulemaking committee. (1) An agency may establish 8 a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and develop a 9 proposed rule if the agency director determines that the use 10 of the negotiated rulemaking procedure is in the public 11 interest. In making that determination, the agency director 12 shall consider whether:

13 (a) there is a need for a rule;

14 (b) there are a limited number of identifiable
15 interests that will be significantly affected by the rule;
16 (c) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee
17 can be convened with a balanced representation of persons

18 who:

1

2

19 (i) can adequately represent the interests identified
20 under subsection (1)(b); and

(ii) are willing to negotiate in good faith to reach a
 consensus on the proposed rule;

23 (d) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee
24 will reach a consensus on the proposed rule within a fixed
25 period of time;

(e) the negotiated rulemaking procedure will not
 unreasonably delay the notice of proposed rulemaking and the
 issuance of the final rule;

4 (f) the agency has adequate resources and is willing to
5 commit those resources, including technical assistance, to
6 the committee; and

7 (g) the agency, to the maximum extent possible
8 consistent with the legal obligations of the agency, will
9 use the consensus of the committee as the basis for the rule
10 proposed by the agency.

(2) An agency may use the services of a convener to
assist in making the determination of need pursuant to
subsection (1) and to assist the agency in:

14 (a) identifying persons who will be significantly15 affected by a proposed rule; and

(b) conducting discussions with affected persons on the
issues of concern and ascertaining whether the establishment
of a negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and
appropriate for the particular rulemaking procedure.

(3) The convener shall report findings and make
recommendations to the agency. Upon request of the agency,
the convener shall ascertain the names of persons who are
willing and gualified to represent the interests that will
be significantly affected by the proposed rule. The report
and any recommendations of the convener must be made

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1 available to the public upon request.

2 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 5. Application for membership on 3 committees -- publication of notice. (1) If an agency 4 decides to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the 5 agency shall publish in the Montana Administrative Register 6 and, as appropriate, in newspapers and other publications, a 7 notice that includes:

8 (a) an announcement that the agency intends to
9 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and
10 develop a proposed rule;

(b) a description of the subject and scope of the rule
to be developed and the issues to be considered;

13 (c) a list of interests likely to be significantly
14 affected by the proposed rule;

15 (d) a list of the persons proposed to represent the 16 affected interests and the agency;

17 (e) a proposed schedule for completing the work of the18 committee; and

19 (f) an explanation of how a person may apply for or20 nominate another person for membership on the committee.

(2) An agency may include the notice required in
 subsection (1) in the notice of intent to promulgate rules
 made pursuant to 2-4-302.

24 (3) The agency shall provide a period of at least 30
25 days for the submission of comments and applications for

1 membership on a negotiated rulemaking committee.

2 NEW SECTION. Section 6. Establishment of committee --3 determination. (1) If, after considering comments and 4 applications submitted under (section 5), the agency 5 determines that a negotiated rulemaking committee can 6 adequately represent the interests of the persons that will 7 be significantly affected by a proposed rule and that it is A feasible and appropriate in the particular rulemaking, the 9 agency may establish a negotiated rulemaking committee.

10 (2) If, after considering comments and applications submitted under [section 5], the agency decides not to 11 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the agency 12 13 shall notify the persons who commented on or applied for 14 membership on the negotiated rulemaking committee of the 15 reasons for the decision. The agency shall also publish a 16 notice in the Montana Administrative Register and, as appropriate, in newspapers and other publications. 17

18 (3) The agency shall provide appropriate administrative
19 support to the negotiated rulemaking committee, including
20 technical support.

(4) A negotiated rulemaking committee terminates upon
promulgation of the final rule under consideration, unless
the agency, after consulting the committee, or the committee
itself specifies an earlier termination date.

25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 7. Expansion of committee

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membership. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee may by consensus expand its membership, either by contacting and recruiting persons whose participation the committee believes is essential to the success of the negotiated rulemaking process or upon reviewing a petition submitted pursuant to subsection (2).

7 (2) Persons who will be significantly affected by a 8 proposed rule and who believe that their interests will not 9 be adequately represented by any person on a negotiated 10 rulemaking committee may petition for or nominate another 11 person for membership on the negotiated rulemaking 12 committee. Each petition or nomination must be submitted to 13 the negotiated rulemaking committee and must include:

14 (a) the name of the petitioner or nominee and a15 description of the interests the person represents;

16 (b) evidence that the petitioner or nominee is
17 authorized to represent parties related to the interests the
18 person proposes to represent;

(c) a written commitment that the petitioner or nominee
will actively participate in good faith in the development
of the rule under consideration; and

(d) an explanation of reasons that the persons already
on the negotiated rulemaking committee do not adequately
represent the interests of the person submitting the
petition or nomination.

1 (3) Upon receiving a petition pursuant to subsection 2 (2), a negotiated rulemaking committee shall decide by 3 consensus at its next meeting whether or not to expand its 4 membership.

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 8. Committee -- duties --6 procedures -- report. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee 7 shall consider the matter proposed by the agency for 8 consideration and shall attempt to reach consensus 9 concerning a proposed rule and any other matter the 10 committee determines is relevant to the proposed rule.

11 (2) The person representing the agency on a negotiated 12 rulemaking committee shall participate in the deliberations 13 of the committee with the same rights and responsibilities 14 of other members of the committee and is authorized to fully 15 represent the agency in the discussions and negotiations of 16 the committee.

17 (3) A negotiated rulemaking committee may adopt
18 procedures or ground rules for the operation of the
19 committee.

(4) If a negotiated rulemaking committee achieves
consensus on a proposed rule, at the conclusion of the
negotiations, the committee shall transmit to the agency
that established the committee a report containing the
proposed rule.

25 (5) If a negotiated rulemaking committee does not reach

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1 a consensus on the proposed rule, the committee shall 2 transmit to the agency a report specifying areas in which the committee reached consensus and the issues that remain 3 4 unresolved. The committee may include in the report any other information, recommendations, or materials that the 5 committee considers appropriate. Any member of the committee 6 may include as an addendum to the report additional 7 8 information, recommendations, or materials.

9 (6) Pursuant to Title 2, chapter 3, part 2:

10 (a) the meetings of a negotiated rulemaking committee11 must be open to the public; and

(b) meeting minutes, records, and reports must be keptand must be made available for inspection by the public.

14 NEW SECTION. Section 9. Facilitator -- selection and 15 duties. (1) An agency may nominate a person to serve as a 16 facilitator for the negotiations of the committee, subject 17 to the approval of the committee by consensus. If the 18 committee does not approve the agency's nomination for 19 facilitator, the agency shall submit a substitute 20 nomination. If a committee does not approve the substitute 21 nomination of the agency for facilitator, the committee 22 shall select by consensus a person to serve as facilitator. 23 A person designated to represent the agency in substantive 24 issues may not serve as facilitator or presiding officer for 25 the committee.

1 (2) A facilitator approved or selected by a committee
2 shall:

3 (a) preside at the meetings of the committee in an
4 impartial manner;

5 (b) impartially assist the members of the committee in 6 conducting discussions and negotiations and achieving 7 consensus; and

8 (c) manage the keeping of minutes and records.

9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 10. Expenses -- convener --10 facilitator -- committee members. (1) An agency may employ 11 or enter into a contract for the services of an organization 12 or individual to serve as a convener or facilitator for a 13 negotiated rulemaking committee or may use the services of a 14 government employee to act as a convener or facilitator for 15 a committee.

16 (2) An agency shall determine whether a person under 17 consideration as a convener or facilitator of a negotiated 18 rulemaking committee has any financial or other interest 19 that would preclude the person from serving in an impartial 20 and independent manner. A person disgualified under this 21 criterion must be dropped from further consideration.

(3) Members of a negotiated rulemaking committee are
responsible for their own expenses of participation.
However, an agency may pay for a committee member's
reasonable travel and per diem expenses, expenses to obtain

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1 technical assistance, and a reasonable rate of compensation 2 if: 3 (a) the committee member certifies a lack of adequate 4 financial resources to participate in the committee; and 5 (b) the agency determines that the committee member's 6 participation in the committee is necessary to ensure an 7 adequate representation of the interests of the members. (4) An agency may accept grants or gifts from any 8 9 source to fund the negotiated rulemaking process, provided 10 that: 11 (a) information on the name of the person giving the 12 grant or gift and the amount of the grant or gift is available to the public; 13 14 (b) the grant or gift is given to and accepted by the 15 agency without placing any condition on the membership of a negotiated rulemaking committee or the outcome of the 16 negotiated rulemaking process; and 17 18 (c) there is consensus among the members of the 19 negotiated rulemaking committee established pursuant to 20 [section 6] that the acceptance of the grant or gift will not diminish the integrity of the negotiated rulemaking 21 22 process. 23 NEW SECTION. Section 11. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 through 10] are intended to be codified as an 24 integral part of Title 2, and the provisions of Title 2 25 -131 apply to [sections 1 through 10].

-End-

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LC 0206/01

INTRODUCED BY Lillert Rean Hollym 2 3

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A 4 5 FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONDUCT OF NEGOTIATED RULEMARING: PROVIDING A PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING 6 7 COMNITTEE: PROVIDING DUTIES FOR A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO USE THE SERVICES OF A 8 9 CONVENER AND A FACILITATOR: AND AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO 10 ACCEPT GRANTS OR GIFTS TO FUND & NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING 11 PROCESS.*

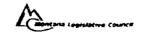
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13 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking is a process that 14 reflects an agency's recognition that regulatory objectives, 15 consistent with legislative directives, can be accomplished 16 in more than one way; and

17 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking brings together the 18 regulating agency and regulated and other interested parties 19 during the development of a rule to negotiate and resolve 20 potential problems with the rulemaking in order to develop a 21 rule acceptable to all parties; and

22 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking may improve the substance 23 of a proposed rule, shorten the length of time necessary to implement a final rule, and reduce litigation, thereby 24 25 effectuating legislative purposes and aiding in the prompt



1 delivery of governmental services; and

WHEREAS, federal agencies and other states have 2 extensive experience with and success at negotiating 4 rulemaking. 4

5

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

NEW SECTION, Section 1. Short title. [Sections 1] 7 through 10] of this bill may be cited as the "Montana 8 9 Negotiated Rulemaking Act".

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Purpose. DUTDOSE 10 The of [sections 1 through 10] is to establish a framework for the 11 12 conduct of negotiated rulemaking consistent with the Montana Administrative Procedure Act and the constitutional right of 13 14 Montanans to participate in the operation of governmental 15 agencies and to encourage agencies to use negotiated 16 rulemaking when it enhances the rulemaking process. As authorized by 2-4-304, it is the intent of the legislature 17 that state agencies, whenever appropriate, use the 18 negotiated rulemaking process to resolve controversial 19 20 issues prior to the commencement of the formal rulemaking 21 process. However, negotiated rulemaking is not a substitute 22 for the public notification and participation requirements of the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, and a consensus 23 24 agreement by a negotiated rulemaking committee may be modified by an agency as a result of the subsequent 25

- 2 -

THIRD READING

HB 317

rulemaking process. [Sections 1 through 10] may not be
 construed as an attempt to limit innovation and
 experimentation with the negotiated rulemaking process.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 3. Definitions. As used in
 {sections 1 through 10}, the following definitions apply:

6 (1) "Agency" means any board, bureau, commission,
7 department, authority, or officer of the executive branch of
8 state government authorized by law to make rules.

9 (2) "Consensus" means unanimous concurrence among the
10 interests represented on a negotiated rulemaking committee
11 established under [section 6], unless the committee agrees
12 upon another specified definition.

13 (3) "Convener" means a person who impartially assists
14 an agency in determining whether establishment of a
15 negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and appropriate
16 for a particular rulemaking procedure.

17 (4) "Facilitator" means a person who impartially aids
18 in the discussions and negotiations among the members of a
19 negotiated rulemaking committee to develop a proposed rule.
20 A facilitator does not have decisionmaking authority.

(5) "Interest" means, with respect to an issue or
matter, multiple parties that have a similar point of view
or that are likely to be affected in a similar manner.

24 (6) "Negotiated rulemaking" means rulemaking through
25 the use of a negotiated rulemaking committee.

1 (7) "Negotiated rulemaking committee" or "committee" 2 means an advisory committee established under [section 6] 3 and authorized under 2-4-304 to consider and discuss issues 4 for the purpose of reaching a consensus in the development 5 of a proposed rule.

6 (8) "Person" means an individual, partnership,
7 corporation, association, governmental subdivision, agency,
8 or public or private organization of any character.

9 (9) "Rule" means an agency regulation, standard, or 10 statement of general applicability that implements, 11 interprets, or prescribes law or policy or describes the 12 organization, procedures, or practice requirements of an 13 agency. The term includes the amendment or repeal of a prior 14 rule but does not include:

15 (a) statements concerning only the internal management
16 of an agency and not affecting private rights or procedures
17 available to the public;

18 (b) formal opinions of the attorney general and 19 declaratory rulings issued pursuant to 2-4-501;

(c) rules relating to the use of public works,
facilities, streets, and highways when the substance of the
rules is indicated to the public by means of signs or
signals;

24 (d) rules implementing the state personnel25 classification plan, the state wage and salary plan, or the

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statewide budgeting and accounting system;

2 (e) uniform rules adopted pursuant to interstate
3 compact, except that the rules must be filed in accordance
4 with 2-4-306 and must be published in the Administrative
5 Rules of Montana.

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 4. Determination of need for 7 negotiated rulemaking committee. (1) An agency may establish 8 a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and develop a 9 proposed rule if the agency director determines that the use 10 of the negotiated rulemaking procedure is in the public 11 interest. In making that determination, the agency director 12 shall consider whether:

13 (a) there is a need for a rule;

14 (b) there are a limited number of identifiable15 interests that will be significantly affected by the rule;

16 (c) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee
17 can be convened with a balanced representation of persons
18 who:

19 (i) can adequately represent the interests identified
20 under subsection (1)(b); and

21 (ii) are willing to negotiate in good faith to reach a 22 consensus on the proposed rule;

23 (d) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee
24 will reach a consensus on the proposed rule within a fixed
25 period of time;

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(e) the negotiated rulemaking procedure will not
 unreasonably delay the notice of proposed rulemaking and the
 issuance of the final rule;

4 (f) the agency has adequate resources and is willing to 5 commit those resources, including technical assistance, to 6 the committee; and

7 (g) the agency, to the maximum extent possible
8 consistent with the legal obligations of the agency, will
9 use the consensus of the committee as the basis for the rule
10 proposed by the agency.

(2) An agency may use the services of a convener to
assist in making the determination of need pursuant to
subsection (1) and to assist the agency in:

14 (a) identifying persons who will be significantly15 affected by a proposed rule; and

16 (b) conducting discussions with affected persons on the
17 issues of concern and ascertaining whether the establishment
18 of a negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and
19 appropriate for the particular rulemaking procedure.

(3) The convener shall report findings and make recommendations to the agency. Upon request of the agency, the convener shall ascertain the names of persons who are willing and qualified to represent the interests that will be significantly affected by the proposed rule. The report and any recommendations of the convener must be made

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1 available to the public upon request.

2 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 5. Application for membership on 3 committees -- publication of notice. (1) If an agency 4 decides to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the 5 agency shall publish in the Montana Administrative Register 6 and, as appropriate, in newspapers and other publications, a 7 notice that includes:

8 (a) an announcement that the agency intends to
9 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and
10 develop a proposed rule;

11 (b) a description of the subject and scope of the rule 12 to be developed and the issues to be considered;

13 (c) a list of interests likely to be significantly
14 affected by the proposed rule;

15 (d) a list of the persons proposed to represent the 16 affected interests and the agency;

17 (e) a proposed schedule for completing the work of the18 committee; and

19 (f) an explanation of how a person may apply for or20 nominate another person for membership on the committee.

(2) An agency may include the notice required in
subsection (1) in the notice of intent to promulgate rules
made pursuant to 2-4-302.

24 (3) The agency shall provide a period of at least 30
25 days for the submission of comments and applications for

1 membership on a negotiated rulemaking committee.

NEW SECTION. Section 6. Establishment of committee --2 з determination. (1) If, after considering comments and 4 applications submitted under [section 5], the agency 5 determines that a negotiated rulemaking committee can 6 adequately represent the interests of the persons that will be significantly affected by a proposed rule and that it is 7 8 feasible and appropriate in the particular rulemaking, the 9 agency may establish a negotiated rulemaking committee.

10 (2) If, after considering comments and applications 11 submitted under [section 5], the agency decides not to 12 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the agency 13 shall notify the persons who commented on or applied for 14 membership on the negotiated rulemaking committee of the 15 reasons for the decision. The agency shall also publish a notice in the Montana Administrative Register and, as 15 17 appropriate, in newspapers and other publications.

18 (3) The agency shall provide appropriate administrative
19 support to the negotiated rulemaking committee, including
20 technical support.

(4) A negotiated rulemaking committee terminates upon
promulgation of the final rule under consideration, unless
the agency, after consulting the committee, or the committee
itself specifies an earlier termination date.

25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 7. Expansion of committee

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1 membership. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee may by 2 consensus expand its membership, either by contacting and 3 recruiting persons whose participation the committee 4 believes is essential to the success of the negotiated 5 rulemaking process or upon reviewing a petition submitted 6 pursuant to subsection (2).

7 (2) Persons who will be significantly affected by a 8 proposed rule and who believe that their interests will not 9 be adequately represented by any person on a negotiated 10 rulemaking committee may petition for or nominate another 11 person for membership on the negotiated rulemaking 12 committee. Each petition or nomination must be submitted to 13 the negotiated rulemaking committee and must include:

14 (a) the name of the petitioner or nominee and a
 15 description of the interests the person represents;

(b) evidence that the petitioner or nominee is
authorized to represent parties related to the interests the
person proposes to represent;

(c) a written commitment that the petitioner or nominee
will actively participate in good faith in the development
of the rule under consideration; and

(d) an explanation of reasons that the persons already
on the negotiated rulemaking committee do not adequately
represent the interests of the person submitting the
petition or nomination.

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1 (3) Upon receiving a petition pursuant to subsection 2 (2), a negotiated rulemaking committee shall decide by 3 consensus at its next meeting whether or not to expand its 4 membership.

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 8. Committee -- duties --6 procedures -- report. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee 7 shall consider the matter proposed by the agency for 8 consideration and shall attempt to reach consensus 9 concerning a proposed rule and any other matter the 10 committee determines is relevant to the proposed rule.

11 (2) The person representing the agency on a negotiated 12 rulemaking committee shall participate in the deliberations 13 of the committee with the same rights and responsibilities 14 of other members of the committee and is authorized to fully 15 represent the agency in the discussions and negotiations of 16 the committee.

17 (3) A negotiated rulemaking committee may adopt
18 procedures or ground rules for the operation of the
19 committee.

(4) If a negotiated rulemaking committee achieves
consensus on a proposed rule, at the conclusion of the
negotiations, the committee shall transmit to the agency
that established the committee a report containing the
proposed rule.

25 (5) If a negotiated rulemaking committee does not reach

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a consensus on the proposed rule, the committee shall 1 2 transmit to the agency a report specifying areas in which 3 the committee reached consensus and the issues that remain 4 unresolved. The committee may include in the report any other information, recommendations, or materials that the 5 6 committee considers appropriate. Any member of the committee include as an addendum to the report additional 7 Bav 8 information, recommendations, or materials.

9 (6) Pursuant to Title 2, chapter 3, part 2:

10 (a) the meetings of a negotiated rulemaking committee 11 must be open to the public; and

12 (b) meeting minutes, records, and reports must be kept 13 and must be made available for inspection by the public.

14 NEW SECTION. Section 9. Facilitator -- selection and 15 duties. (1) An agency may nominate a person to serve as a facilitator for the negotiations of the committee, subject 16 17 to the approval of the committee by consensus. If the 18 committee does not approve the agency's nomination for 19 facilitator, the agency shall submit a substitute 20 nomination. If a committee does not approve the substitute 21 nomination of the agency for facilitator, the committee 22 shall select by consensus a person to serve as facilitator. 23 A person designated to represent the agency in substantive 24 issues may not serve as facilitator or presiding officer for 25 the committee.

(2) A facilitator approved or selected by a committee 1 shall:

(a) preside at the meetings of the committee in an 3 4 impartial manner:

(b) impartially assist the members of the committee in 5 conducting discussions and negotiations and achieving б 7 consensus; and

(c) manage the keeping of minutes and records.

9 NEW SECTION. Section 10. Expenses -- convener -facilitator -- committee members. (1) An agency may employ 10 or enter into a contract for the services of an organization 11 or individual to serve as a convener or facilitator for a 12 13 negotiated rulemaking committee or may use the services of a 14 government employee to act as a convener or facilitator for 15 a committee.

(2) An agency shall determine whether a person under 16 consideration as a convener or facilitator of a negotiated 17 rulemaking committee has any financial or other interest 18 that would preclude the person from serving in an impartial 19 and independent manner. A person disgualified under this 20 21 criterion must be dropped from further consideration.

(3) Members of a negotiated rulemaking committee are 22 responsible for their own expenses of participation. 23 However, an agency may pay for a committee member's 24 reasonable travel and per diem expenses, expenses to obtain 25

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1 technical assistance, and a reasonable rate of compensation
2 if:

3 (a) the committee member certifies a lack of adequate
4 financial resources to participate in the committee; and
5 (b) the agency determines that the committee member's
6 participation in the committee is necessary to ensure an
7 adequate representation of the interests of the members.

8 (4) An agency may accept grants or gifts from any
9 source to fund the negotiated rulemaking process, provided
10 that:

11 (a) information on the name of the person giving the
12 grant or gift and the amount of the grant or gift is
13 available to the public;

14 (b) the grant or gift is given to and accepted by the
15 agency without placing any condition on the membership of a
16 negotiated rulemaking committee or the outcome of the
17 negotiated rulemaking process; and

18 (c) there is consensus among the members of the 19 negotiated rulemaking committee established pursuant to 20 [section 6] that the acceptance of the grant or gift will 21 not diminish the integrity of the negotiated rulemaking 22 process.

23 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 11. Codification instruction.
24 [Sections 1 through 10] are intended to be codified as an
25 integral part of Title 2, and the provisions of Title 2

1 apply to [sections 1 through 10].

-End-

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SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1 March 23, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration House Bill No. 317 (first reading copy -- white), respectfully report that House Bill No. 317 be amended as follows and as so amended be concurred in.

Signed

That such amendments read:

1. Page 3, line 8.
Following: "authorized"
Insert: "or required"

2. Page 8, line 22.
Strike: "promulgation"
Insert: "adoption"

3. Page 11, lines 9 through 13. Following: "(6)" on page 11, line 9 Strike: the remainder of subsection (6) in its entirety Insert: "Title 2, chapter 3, part 2, applies to meetings of a negotiated rulemaking committee."

-END-

nd. Coord. ec. of Senate

Senator

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SENATE

HB 317

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 317 2 INTRODUCED BY GILBERT, REAM, HALLIGAN 3 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A 5 FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONDUCT OF NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING; 6 PROVIDING A PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING 7 COMMITTEE; PROVIDING DUTIES FOR A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING 8 COMMITTEE; AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO USE THE SERVICES OF A 9 CONVENER AND A FACILITATOR: AND AUTHORIZING AN AGENCY TO 10 ACCEPT GRANTS OR GIFTS TO FUND A NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING PROCESS." 11

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13 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking is a process that 14 reflects an agency's recognition that regulatory objectives, 15 consistent with legislative directives, can be accomplished 16 in more than one way; and

WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking brings together the regulating agency and regulated and other interested parties during the development of a rule to negotiate and resolve potential problems with the rulemaking in order to develop a rule acceptable to all parties; and

22 WHEREAS, negotiated rulemaking may improve the substance 23 of a proposed rule, shorten the length of time necessary to 24 implement a final rule, and reduce litigation, thereby 25 effectuating legislative purposes and aiding in the prompt

Montana Legislative Council

1 delivery of governmental services; and

2 WHEREAS, federal agencies and 'other states have
3 extensive experience with and success at negotiating
4 rulemaking.

5

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

7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 1. Short title. [Sections 1 8 through 10] of this bill may be cited as the "Montana 9 Negotiated Rulemaking Act".

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Purpose. 10 The purpose of 11 [sections 1 through 10] is to establish a framework for the conduct of negotiated rulemaking consistent with the Montana 12 13 Administrative Procedure Act and the constitutional right of Montanans to participate in the operation of governmental 14 15 agencies and to encourage agencies to use negotiated rulemaking when it enhances the rulemaking process. As 16 authorized by 2-4-304, it is the intent of the legislature 17 18 state agencies, whenever appropriate, use the that 19 negotiated rulemaking process to resolve controversial issues prior to the commencement of the formal rulemaking 20 process. However, negotiated rulemaking is not a substitute 21 for the public notification and participation requirements 22 23 of the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, and a consensus agreement by a negotiated rulemaking committee may be 24 modified by an agency as a result of the subsequent 25

> -2- HB 317 REFERENCE BILL AS AMENDED

rulemaking process. [Sections 1 through 10] may not be
 construed as an attempt to limit innovation and
 experimentation with the negotiated rulemaking process.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Definitions. As used in
 [sections 1 through 10], the following definitions apply:
 (1) "Agency" means any board, bureau, commission,
 department, authority, or officer of the executive branch of
 state government authorized <u>OR REQUIRED</u> by law to make
 rules.

10 (2) "Consensus" means unanimous concurrence among the
11 interests represented on a negotiated rulemaking committee
12 established under [section 6], unless the committee agrees
13 upon another specified definition.

14 (3) "Convener" means a person who impartially assists
15 an agency in determining whether establishment of a
16 negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and appropriate
17 for a particular rulemaking procedure.

18 (4) "Facilitator" means a person who impartially aids
19 in the discussions and negotiations among the members of a
20 negotiated rulemaking committee to develop a proposed rule.
21 A facilitator does not have decisionmaking authority.

(5) "Interest" means, with respect to an issue or
matter, multiple parties that have a similar point of view
or that are likely to be affected in a similar manner.

25 (6) "Negotiated rulemaking" means rulemaking through

1 the use of a negotiated rulemaking committee.

2 (7) "Negotiated rulemaking committee" or "committee" 3 means an advisory committee established under {section 6] 4 and authorized under 2-4-304 to consider and discuss issues 5 for the purpose of reaching a consensus in the development 6 of a proposed rule.

7 (8) "Person" means an individual, partnership,
8 corporation, association, governmental subdivision, agency,
9 or public or private organization of any character.

10 (9) "Rule" means an agency regulation, standard, or 11 statement of general applicability that implements, 12 interprets, or prescribes law or policy or describes the 13 organization, procedures, or practice requirements of an 14 agency. The term includes the amendment or repeal of a prior 15 rule but does not include:

16 (a) statements concerning only the internal management
17 of an agency and not affecting private rights or procedures
18 available to the public;

(b) formal opinions of the attorney general and
 declaratory rulings issued pursuant to 2-4-501;

(c) rules relating to the use of public works,
facilities, streets, and highways when the substance of the
rules is indicated to the public by means of signs or
signals;

25 (d) rules implementing the state personnel

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classification plan, the state wage and salary plan, or the
 statewide budgeting and accounting system;

3 (e) uniform rules adopted pursuant to interstate 4 compact, except that the rules must be filed in accordance 5 with 2-4-306 and must be published in the Administrative 6 Rules of Montana.

7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 4. Determination of need for 8 negotiated rulemaking committee. (1) An agency may establish 9 a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and develop a 10 proposed rule if the agency director determines that the use 11 of the negotiated rulemaking procedure is in the public 12 interest. In making that determination, the agency director 13 shall consider whether:

(a) there is a need for a rule;

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15 (b) there are a limited number of identifiable 16 interests that will be significantly affected by the rule;

17 (c) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee
18 can be convened with a balanced representation of persons
19 who:

20 (i) can adequately represent the interests identified
21 under subsection (1)(b); and

(ii) are willing to negotiate in good faith to reach a
consensus on the proposed rule;

24 (d) there is a reasonable likelihood that a committee25 will reach a consensus on the proposed rule within a fixed

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period of time;

the committee; and

proposed by the agency.

issuance of the final rule;

12 (2) An agency may use the services of a convener to
13 assist in making the determination of need pursuant to
14 subsection (1) and to assist the agency in:

(g) the agency, to the maximum

(e) the negotiated rulemaking procedure will

unreasonably delay the notice of proposed rulemaking and the

commit those resources, including technical assistance, to

consistent with the legal obligations of the agency, will

use the consensus of the committee as the basis for the rule

(f) the agency has adequate resources and is willing to

15 (a) identifying persons who will be significantly16 affected by a proposed rule; and

17 (b) conducting discussions with affected persons on the
18 issues of concern and ascertaining whether the establishment
19 of a negotiated rulemaking committee is feasible and
20 appropriate for the particular rulemaking procedure.

(3) The convener shall report findings and make
recommendations to the agency. Upon request of the agency,
the convener shall ascertain the names of persons who are
willing and gualified to represent the interests that will
be significantly affected by the proposed rule. The report

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extent

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and any recommendations of the convener must be made
 available to the public upon request.

3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 5. Application for membership on 4 committees -- publication of notice. (1) If an agency 5 decides to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the 6 agency shall publish in the Montana Administrative Register 7 and, as appropriate, in newspapers and other publications, a 8 notice that includes:

9 (a) an announcement that the agency intends to
10 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee to negotiate and
11 develop a proposed rule;

12 (b) a description of the subject and scope of the rule13 to be developed and the issues to be considered;

14 (c) a list of interests likely to be significantly
15 affected by the proposed rule;

16 (d) a list of the persons proposed to represent the17 affected interests and the agency;

18 (e) a proposed schedule for completing the work of the19 committee; and

20 (f) an explanation of how a person may apply for or21 nominate another person for membership on the committee.

(2) An agency may include the notice required in
subsection (1) in the notice of intent to promulgate rules
nade pursuant to 2-4-302.

25 (3) The agency shall provide a period of at least 30

days for the submission of comments and applications for
 membership on a negotiated rulemaking committee.

NEW SECTION. Section 6. Establishment of committee --3 determination. (1) If, after considering comments and 4 5 applications submitted under [section 5], the agency determines that a negotiated rulemaking committee can 6 7 adequately represent the interests of the persons that will be significantly affected by a proposed rule and that it is 8 9 feasible and appropriate in the particular rulemaking, the 10 agency may establish a negotiated rulemaking committee.

11 (2) If, after considering comments and applications 12 submitted under [section 5], the agency decides not to 13 establish a negotiated rulemaking committee, the agency 14 shall notify the persons who commented on or applied for membership on the negotiated rulemaking committee of the 15 16 reasons for the decision. The agency shall also publish a 17 notice in the Montana Administrative Register and, as appropriate, in newspapers and other publications. 18

19 (3) The agency shall provide appropriate administrative
20 support to the negotiated rulemaking committee, including
21 technical support.

(4) A negotiated rulemaking committee terminates upon
 promulgation <u>ADOPTION</u> of the final rule under consideration,
 unless the agency, after consulting the committee, or the
 committee itself specifies an earlier termination date.

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NEW SECTION. Section 7. Expansion 1 of committee 2 membership. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee may by consensus expand its membership, either by contacting and 3 4 recruiting persons whose participation the committee believes is essential to the success of the negotiated 5 rulemaking process or upon reviewing a petition submitted 6 7 pursuant to subsection (2).

8 (2) Persons who will be significantly affected by a 9 proposed rule and who believe that their interests will not 10 be adequately represented by any person on a negotiated 11 rulemaking committee may petition for or nominate another 12 person for membership on the negotiated rulemaking 13 committee. Each petition or nomination must be submitted to 14 the negotiated rulemaking committee and must include:

15 (a) the name of the petitioner or nominee and a
16 description of the interests the person represents;

17 (b) evidence that the petitioner or nominee is
18 authorized to represent parties related to the interests the
19 person proposes to represent;

(c) a written commitment that the petitioner or nominee
will actively participate in good faith in the development
of the rule under consideration; and

23 (d) an explanation of reasons that the persons already
24 on the negotiated rulemaking committee do not adequately
25 represent the interests of the person submitting the

1 petition or nomination.

2 (3) Upon receiving a petition pursuant to subsection
3 (2), a negotiated rulemaking committee shall decide by
4 consensus at its next meeting whether or not to expand its
5 membership.

6 NEW SECTION. Section 8. Committee ----duties 7 procedures -- report. (1) A negotiated rulemaking committee shall consider the matter proposed by the agency for 8 9 consideration and shall attempt to reach consensus concerning a proposed rule and any other matter 10 the commaittee determines is relevant to the proposed rule. 11

12 (2) The person representing the agency on a negotiated 13 rulemaking committee shall participate in the deliberations 14 of the committee with the same rights and responsibilities 15 of other members of the committee and is authorized to fully 16 represent the agency in the discussions and negotiations of 17 the committee.

18 (3) A negotiated rulemaking committee may adopt 19 procedures or ground rules for the operation of the 20 committee.

(4) If a negotiated rulemaking committee achieves consensus on a proposed rule, at the conclusion of the negotiations, the committee shall transmit to the agency that established the committee a report containing the proposed rule.

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(5) If a negotiated rulemaking committee does not reach 1 a consensus on the proposed rule, the committee shall 2 transmit to the agency a report specifying areas in which 3 the committee reached consensus and the issues that remain 4 unresolved. The committee may include in the report any 5 other information, recommendations, or materials that the 6 7 committee considers appropriate. Any member of the committee may include as an addendum to the report additional 8 9 information, recommendations, or materials.

10 (6) Pursuant-to-fitle-27-chapter-37-part-2:

11 (a)--the--meetings--of-a-negotiated-rulemaking-committee
12 must-be-open-to-the-public;-and

13 (b)--meeting-minutesy-recordsy-and-reports-must-be--kept
 and--must--be--made--available-for-inspection-by-the-public;
 15 <u>TITLE 2, CHAPTER 3, PART 2, APPLIES TO MEETINGS OF A</u>
 16 NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING COMMITTEE.

NEW SECTION. Section 9. Facilitator -- selection and 17 18 duties. (1) An agency may nominate a person to serve as a 19 facilitator for the negotiations of the committee, subject 20 to the approval of the committee by consensus. If the committee does not approve the agency's nomination for 21 facilitator, the agency shall submit a substitute 22 23 nomination. If a committee does not approve the substitute nomination of the agency for facilitator, the committee 24 shall select by consensus a person to serve as facilitator. 25

A person designated to represent the agency in substantive
 issues may not serve as facilitator or presiding officer for
 the committee.

4 (2) A facilitator approved or selected by a commuttee 5 shall:

6 (a) preside at the meetings of the committee in an
7 impartial manner;

8 (b) impartially assist the members of the committee in
 9 conducting discussions and negotiations and achieving
 10 consensus; and

11 (c) manage the keeping of minutes and records.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 10. Expenses -- convener --13 facilitator -- committee members. (1) An agency may employ 14 or enter into a contract for the services of an organization 15 or individual to serve as a convener or facilitator for a 16 negotiated rulemaking committee or may use the services of a 17 government employee to act as a convener or facilitator for 18 a committee.

(2) An agency shall determine whether a person under
consideration as a convener or facilitator of a negotiated
rulemaking committee has any financial or other interest
that would preclude the person from serving in an impartial
and independent manner. A person disgualified under this
criterion must be dropped from further consideration.

25 (3) Members of a negotiated rulemaking committee are

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responsible for their own expenses of participation.
 However, an agency may pay for a committee member's
 reasonable travel and per diem expenses, expenses to obtain
 technical assistance, and a reasonable rate of compensation
 if:

6 (a) the committee member certifies a lack of adequate7 financial resources to participate in the committee; and

8 (b) the agency determines that the committee member's
9 participation in the committee is necessary to ensure an
10 adequate representation of the interests of the members.

11 (4) An agency may accept grants or gifts from any 12 source to fund the negotiated rulemaking process, provided 13 that:

14 (a) information on the name of the person giving the
15 grant or gift and the amount of the grant or gift is
16 available to the public;

17 (b) the grant or gift is given to and accepted by the 18 agency without placing any condition on the membership of a 19 negotiated rulemaking committee or the outcome of the 20 negotiated rulemaking process; and

(c) there is consensus among the members of the
negotiated rulemaking committee established pursuant to
[section 6] that the acceptance of the grant or gift will
not diminish the integrity of the negotiated rulemaking
process.

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NEW SECTION.Section 11. Codification instruction.Sections 1 through 10] are intended to be codified as anintegral part of Title 2, and the provisions of Title 2

4 apply to [sections 1 through 10].

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