

SENATE BILL NO. 121INTRODUCED BY Hertel

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENT FOR PUBLISHING THE COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT IN A NEWSPAPER; AND AMENDING SECTION 7-5-2123, MCA."

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

**Section 1.** Section 7-5-2123, MCA, is amended to read:

**"7-5-2123. Publication of board proceedings and annual financial statement.** (1) (a) The board of county commissioners has jurisdiction and power, under ~~such the~~ the limitations and restrictions ~~as are~~ prescribed by law, to ~~cause to be published~~ publish in a newspaper:

~~(a)~~ at the adjournment of each session of the board, in full and complete detail or in summary form or by reference, with the full and complete text made available on request, a complete list of all claims ordered paid for all purposes, showing the name, purpose, and amount, and a fair summary of the minutes and records of all of its proceedings;

(b) ~~annually,~~ The board may publish the county clerk's annual statement of the financial condition of the county, in full and complete detail or in summary form. If the board does not publish the annual statement in complete detail or in summary form, it shall publish a notice that the annual statement is available upon request from the county clerk.

(2) Publication in full, in summary, or by reference of ~~such the~~ the minutes and records of proceedings must be made within 21 days after the adjournment of the session. Publication of the financial statement or notice of the availability of the financial statement must be made within 30 days after the presentation of the ~~same~~ financial statement to the board. The board ~~shall~~ may not allow or order paid any claim for any ~~such~~ publication of minutes and records of proceedings or annual financial statement unless the publication is made within the time herein prescribed therefor in this subsection."

-END-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for SB0121, as introduced

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act eliminating the requirement for publishing the county annual report in a newspaper.

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

There would be significant savings to the counties. Publication of annual statements in complete detail can be as many as three newspaper pages for small counties. Cost prohibits most counties from publishing the detailed annual financial report, publishing a summary report instead. This legislation would allow counties to publish a notice that the annual statement is available upon request from the county clerk.

*Dave Lewis* 1-20-95

DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR      DATE  
Office of Budget and Program Planning

*John R. Hertel* 1-30-95

JOHN HERTEL, PRIMARY SPONSOR      DATE

Fiscal Note for SB0121, as introduced

**SB 121**

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29 **NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. [THIS ACT] IS EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1995.**

30 -END-

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## HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 8, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Local Government report that Senate Bill 121 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in as amended.

Signed: William E. Boharski, Jr.  
*Bill Boharski, Chair*

Carried by: Rep. Forbes

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 21.  
Following: "available"  
Insert: "and will be provided"

-END-

SB 121

Committee Vote:  
Yes 11, No 6.

HOUSE

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