

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN DON HARGROVE**, on April 5, 2001 at 10:00 A.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Don Hargrove, Chairman (R)
Sen. John C. Bohlinger, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Edward Butcher (R)
Sen. Pete Ekegren (R)
Sen. Jim Elliott (D)
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Eve Franklin (D)
Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lynette Brown, Committee Secretary
David Niss, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HJ 38, 4/2/2001
Executive Action: HJ 38, SR 22

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

HEARING ON HJ 38

Sponsor: REP. BUTCH WADILL, HD 62, Florence

Proponents: Jim Jacobsen, Montana Veterans Affairs Division
Hal Manson, American Legion

Dan Antionetti, Veterans of Foreign Wars
Ernest LaFountain, Vietnam Veterans of America
Ron Sims, Division of American Veterans
Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner
Jerry LaFountain, Purple Heart

Opponents: None

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. BUTCH WADILL, HD 62, Florence, told the committee this resolution would support the erection of a Montana purple heart memorial. He added this memorial would recognize the Montana men and women who had made significant sacrifices for our nation; many of whom suffered long term psychological and physical effects or gave their lives.

Proponents' Testimony:

Jim Jacobsen, Montana Veterans Affairs Division, stated there were many Montanans who received a purple heart and offered support of this resolution.

Hal Manson, American Legion, said the purple heart recipients deserved recognition for their service and sacrifice.

Dan Antionetti, Veterans of Foreign Wars, strongly supported this bill.

Ernest LaFountain, Vietnam Veterans of America, told the committee Montana had a heavy veterans population. This memorial would be the first of its type in the world. He requested support.

Ron Sims, Division of American Veterans, said it was important to honor those who died for our country. He told the committee there would be over 1,000 from World War II alone. He stressed the importance of honoring the purple heart recipients for their great sacrifices.

Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner, stated the memorial would be placed on the courthouse lawn in Billings. He stated we should not forget the freedom the purple heart recipients made possible.

Jerry LaFountain, Purple Heart, told the committee this memorial would be dedicated on Veterans Day of 2001. **Mr. LaFountain** distributed **EXHIBIT (sts77a01)** articles on veterans and information

on the Montana Purple Heart memorial. He said Billings was chosen because of the location, population, and the memorial committee resided there.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. DON HARGROVE asked **Jerry LaFountain** if the dedication would be at 11:00a.m. on Veteran's Day. **Mr. LaFountain** replied it would.

SEN. HARGROVE asked **Jerry LaFountain** how people could qualify as a Montanan. **Mr. LaFountain** responded they would qualify if: (1) they were born in Montana, (2) the core of the family was here, or (3) they had moved from Montana.

SEN. HARGROVE asked **Jerry LaFountain** how the names would be arranged on the display. **Mr. LaFountain** answered the names on each tablet would be alphabetized. He said it cost around \$20.21 to have each name engraved. He gave two purposes for supporting this legislation: to get all the names and to promote funding for the project.

SEN. JOHN BOHLINGER asked **Jerry LaFountain** what the total cost would be for this project. **Mr. LaFountain** responded the cost was presently over \$60,000.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. BUTCH WADILL, HD 62, closed HJ 38. He asked **SEN. BOHLINGER** to carry the bill on the floor.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 38

Motion/Vote: **SEN. BOHLINGER** moved that **HJ 38 BE ADOPTED.** Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 22

Motion: SEN. HARGROVE moved that RECONSIDER ACTION ON SR 22 DO PASS.

Discussion:

David Niss, legislative services, explained the writing of individual appointees needed to be included in the letter sent to the president of the Senate and referred to this committee. Therefore, the committee should remove the amendment to include Meredith Reider, which was adopted during executive action on SR 22. He added the name of Meredith Reider was included in the third list of appointees, therefore, the amendment would not be needed.

Vote: Motion to RECONSIDER ACTION ON SR 22 DO PASS carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: SEN. ELLIOTT moved TO AMEND SR 22 BY REMOVING MEREDITH REIDER'S NAME. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: SEN. ELLIOTT moved that SR 22 BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:35 A.M.

SEN. DON HARGROVE, Chairman

LYNETTE BROWN, Secretary

DH/LB

EXHIBIT (sts77aad)