

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ARLENE BECKER**, on January 12, 2005 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Arlene Becker, Chairman (D)
Rep. Tom Facey, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Don Roberts, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Emelie Eaton (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. William J. Jones (R)
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Tom McGillvray (R)
Rep. Mike Milburn (R)
Rep. Art Noonan (D)
Rep. Ron Stoker (R)
Rep. Pat Wagman (R)
Rep. Bill Warden (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Susan Fox, Legislative Branch
Mary Gay Wells, Committee Secretary

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HJ 1, 1/7/2005
Executive Action: HB 32 Do Pass; HB 88 Do Pass;
HB 215 Do Pass

HEARING ON HJ 1**Sponsor: REP. EVE FRANKLIN, HD 24, GREAT FALLS****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

REP. EVE FRANKLIN opened the hearing on HJ 1. She pointed out that cooperative efforts between state agencies is greatly needed to combat the substantial effects of substance abuse, especially methamphetamine use, on our society. The agencies should also support substance abuse prevention efforts. She then explained each "Whereas."

Proponents' Testimony:

Vicki Turner, Prevention Resource Center, DPHHS, gave her testimony which she handed in. She also handed out a booklet.

EXHIBIT (huh08a010.PDF)

EXHIBIT (huh08a020.PDF)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 13.2}

Bill Slaughter, Director, Department of Corrections, feels already that the efforts made between DPHHS and his Department have been good. Many of the same people go between these two departments. He stands in strong support of this resolution.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 13.2 - 19.8}

Don Hargrove, Montana Addiction Service Providers, stands in strong support of this resolution.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 19.8 - 22.4}

Candace Payne, Rimrock Foundation, stated that her Foundation stands in strong support of this resolution.

Ali Bovingdon, Attorney General's Office, Department of Justice, remarked that the Department stands in support of HJ 1.

Jim Kembel, Montana Police Protective Association, stated that the Association stands in strong support of HJ 1.

REP. JONATHAN WINDY BOY spoke as an elected Tribal Councilman for the Chippewa-Cree Tribe. He strongly supports this resolution. The reservations have been hard hit by methamphetamine. He requested an amendment to the Resolution that would include the reservations.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 22.4 - 27.6}

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REP. DAVE MCALPIN inquired about where the sources of funding for the coordinated prevention efforts would come from. **Vicki Turner** replied that the Prevention Resource Center is funded through a federal grant. The Center also charges communities for list-of-cost share. There is no general fund monies. They fund raise what they can through their vista resources. **REP. MCALPIN** asked how the Center allocates resources. **Vicki Turner** responded that in the programs with which she is familiar, 93% of the money that comes into the Department is federal dollars. The rest is tobacco resources.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 27.6 - 30}

REPS. TERESA HENRY and MIKE MILBURN inquired if the Resolution is passed, would there then be a request for money to fund it.

Susan Fox responded that the Resolution itself does not have the same effect as a law; but in essence, if this is passed, and these people are being asked to do this, it would make sense that they could turn around to say, 'help us, we need the resources.'

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 2.6}

REP. EVE FRANKLIN felt that the Resolution gives policy guidance to all the agencies that end up accessing funds from drug bust funds.

REP. RON STOKER inquired that since one full-time employee(FTE) has been hired, does that indicate Montana is headed toward a drug czar program either in this session or the next session that would require substantial funding and coordination of all these efforts. **REP. FRANKLIN** replied that the committee will have the opportunity to hear a bill that would state this as an appropriate direction to go. The bill will address whether or not we should have one individual be in charge at an elevated level and coordinate all drug prevention and treatment issues.

REP. DON ROBERTS wanted to know if, during the interim session meetings, they came to the conclusion that the different agencies actually began to dialogue and accomplish things. **REP. FRANKLIN** said that prevention is a buzz word; but unless something meaningful is actually done, nothing is really accomplished.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 2.6 - 6.4}

REP. GORDON HENDRICK inquired how this would affect small communities that don't have big budgets. **REP. FRANKLIN** reiterated that this is just a policy statement but it could be used to say that is where we are going.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 6.4 - 11.9}

REP. TOM MCGILLVRAY asked about Page 1, Line 12. **REP. FRANKLIN** explained that there are pockets of prevention programs in many of the agencies and that this resolution would bring them together so they could work together.

REP. MCGILLVRAY wanted to know just how big the methamphetamine problem is here in Montana. **REP. FRANKLIN** did not have statistics but said that it is definitely growing. **REP. ROBERTS** informed the committee that in 1999, 33 meth houses were busted. In 2004, there were 292 meth houses busted.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 11.9 - 16.5}

Susan Fox and REP. HENRY gave the committee more names of prevention groups within different agencies and reasons to work together.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 16.5 - 19.0}

REP. HENDRICK commented that he still did not see where the State would come up with the money to fund the agencies that would be involved in this coordinating work. **REP. FRANKLIN** proposed that as with all great ideas, each starts with a small step.

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. FRANKLIN stated once again that HJ1 is a policy statement. She would also look into the amendment that **REP. WINDY BOY** asked for.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 18.4 - 30}

{Tape: 2; Side: A}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 32

Motion/Vote: **REP. STOKER** moved that HB 32 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously, 16-0 by voice vote.

Motion/Vote: **REP. MCGILLVRAY** moved that HB 32 BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR. Motion carried unanimously, 16-0 by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 88

Motion/Vote: REP. NOONAN moved that HB 88 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously, 16-0 by voice vote.

Motion/Vote: REP. FACEY moved that HB 88 BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR. Motion carried unanimously, 16-0 by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 215

Motion/Vote: REP. FACEY moved that HB 215 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously, 16-0 by voice vote.

Motion/Vote: REP. HENDRICK moved that HB 215 BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR. Motion carried unanimously, 16-0 by voice vote.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 11}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:25 P.M.

REP. ARLENE BECKER, Chairman

MARY GAY WELLS, Secretary

AB/MW

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([huh08aad0.PDF](#))