

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

1175

2007 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 1175

## 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HB 1175

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 19, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 1443

Committee Clerk Signature

*Morgan Reimel*

Minutes:

**Rep. Carlson:** *This bill allows the members that come to the legislative council report and the members elect to be paid for that, a normal pay. My rational behind that, is because our existing policy today is that we pay mileage and lodging. We spend as a legislature a year and a half working on interim committees where we have been assigned by the legislative council duties to prepare and look at legislation for the next legislative session. When we do that we are required to bring back to the chairman of those committees a report of our findings and our bill drafts that we have for the upcoming session. If in fact we place significant value on the interim committee process where we will actually be developing policies, laws, and procedures for the next session, that all members should be in attendance of those reports. Because of that I believe that it is unfair to expect people to be there and not to be paid because of most of them are leaving their jobs to come here and we loose pay. It would be valuable to ask Rep. Monson how much they deduct in his pay to be here as Superintendent of Schools. Yet when he is required to be here he can't get paid at all. It has never made any sense to me. It is our responsibility to create good public policy. Part of that is the interim committee process.*

**Rep. Carlson:** *I think that if we believe that the interim committees are valuable and their reports then people should be paid to hear it. I got paid to present my report and sit there all*

*three days. The rest of you came because you wanted to know what was going on the interims, you receive only lodging and mileage.*

**Rep. Haas:** In addition to the legislative council members, the legislative interim committee chairs also receive pay?

**Rep. Carlson:** Yes there is 15 committees. But you also understand that the legislative council members are required chair committees. There are not many chairmen outside of the council that are going to be paid for being here.

**Rep. Haas:** I happen to be one of them. I have always attended the Education interim because I felt it was important. I agree with your premise on the rationale for submitting the bill.

**Rep. Schneider:** As a freshman legislature and recent member elect, part of the problem is that I didn't even know that the report was being heard. I was called a couple of days before and urged to come down but I couldn't get out of work due to prior commitments. I think there should be some sort of schedule for the upcoming session with that report on that schedule. I didn't skip because of the pay, I just had to work.

**Rep. Carlson:** It was probably on your information but you would have not known what the report meant. Education is a big part of everything and I agree we do need to make sure we inform everyone. The report is the summary of everything we did in the interim. I believe that it is a valuable meeting and education is a very important part.

**Rep. Froseth:** I believe all the legislatures that have either been defeated or are retiring are also invited to this meeting, would this also compensate them?

**Rep. Carlson:** Yes it would, if they came to the meeting,

**Rep. Haas:** Are there any more questions for Rep. Carlson? Is there any additional testimony for HB 1175? If not we will close the hearing on HB 1175

## 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HB 1175

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 19, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 1448

Committee Clerk Signature

*Morgan Penick*

Minutes:

**Rep. Weiler:** I move a do pass.

**Rep. Potter:** I second that.

**Rep. Amerman:** Nothing like this was in any of the other bills we have heard?

**Rep. Haas:** The motion needs to be a do pass and re referred to appropriations.

**Rep. Weiler:** I move a do pass and re referred to appropriations.

**Rep. Haas:** The motion is a do pass and re referred to appropriations. Is there any other discussion? One comment that I want to make was that the notice that comes out about that session comes from legislative council. I don't have a copy of that right now but it might have been on there. I think you probably missed it because you were in a state of euphoria after the election.

**Rep. Schneider:** I remember looking through it but not seeing it. The only thing I asked is that we work with legislative council to get it on there.

**Rep. Haas:** Any other discussion? We will take a roll call vote on a do pass motion on HB 1175. The do pass motion for HB 1175 passes with a vote of 12-0-1. Is there a volunteer to carry this bill?

**Rep. Weiler:** I will.

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 Requested by Legislative Council  
 01/08/2007

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1175

**1A. State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2005-2007 Biennium		2007-2009 Biennium		2009-2011 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
<b>Revenues</b>						
<b>Expenditures</b>			\$34,556		\$34,556	
<b>Appropriations</b>			\$34,556		\$34,556	

**1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2005-2007 Biennium			2007-2009 Biennium			2009-2011 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

**2A. Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

The bill allows legislators and legislators-elect to receive per diem and expense reimbursement for attending the biennial meeting of the Legislative Council held in each even-numbered year.

**B. Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

**3. State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

**A. Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

**B. Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

The expenditure amounts shown are the estimated additional cost of paying per diem to legislators who are not on the Legislative Council and legislators-elect who attend the meeting. Under current Legislative Council policy, legislators not on the Legislative Council and legislators-elect receive expense reimbursement for attending the meeting. The amounts anticipate an 87.5 percent attendance rate at the meeting.

**C. Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

The appropriation amounts shown are the estimated additional funds needed to pay per diem to legislators not on the Legislative Council and legislators-elect who attend the meeting. The amounts anticipate an 87.5 percent attendance rate at the meeting.

<b>Name:</b>	Jim W. Smith	<b>Agency:</b>	Legislative Council
<b>Phone Number:</b>	328-2916	<b>Date Prepared:</b>	01/10/2007

Date: 1-19-07  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. "Click here to type Bill/Resolution No."

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number HB 1175

Action Taken Do pass + re-referred to appropriations

Motion Made By Rep. Weiler Seconded By Rep. Potter

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. C.B Haas Chairman	X		Rep. Bill Amerman	X	
Rep. Bette Grande V.P	X		Rep. Louise Potter	X	
Rep. Randy Boehning	X		Rep. Jasper Schneider	X	
Rep. Stacey Dahl	X		Rep. Lisa Wolf	X	
Rep. Glen Froseth	X				
Rep. Karen Karls	X				
Rep. Jim Kasper					
Rep. Lisa Meier	X				
Rep. Dave Weiler	X				

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. Weiler

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1175: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Haas, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee**  
(12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1175 was rereferred to the  
**Appropriations Committee.**



2007 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1175

## 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 1175

House Appropriations Committee  
Government Operations Division

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 1/30/07

Recorder Job Number: 2268

Committee Clerk Signature

*Clayton Voegelle*

Minutes:

Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order then turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Carlisle.

Chairman Carlson testified in support of House Bill 1175.

**Chairman Carlson:** Let me explain the bill. I have always had a problem with the fact that we have all our interim committees meet, all session, they all do bills, then we come in here and we do this report and we expect people to drive down here. The only people that get paid are either the people on legislative council or chairman of the committees. My point is that if these reports are actually valuable that you should pay the people to be there to hear the report. That is your interim's work that is supposedly your next session's legislation. This says that when you come to those legislative reports, you get paid. Right now we pay your lodging and your mileage but you are not paid to be there if you are not on the council or a chair of a committee. The fiscal note was \$34,556. It also allows the members-elect to get paid.

**Representative Kempenich:** Why is it costing \$34,556 for one day?

**Chairman Carlson:** It is assuming that everybody is there, at \$125 per day, for three days.

The council reports are always two days plus one travel day.

Page 2  
House Appropriations Committee  
Government Operations Division  
Bill/Resolution No. 1175  
Hearing Date: 1/30/07

**A motion was made by Representative Williams, seconded by Representative Skarphol to make a DO PASS recommendation to the House Appropriations Full Committee. The committee vote was Y=6, N=0, A=2. The bill will be carried by Vice Chairman Carlisle.**

## 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 1175

House Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 2/1/07

Recorder Job Number: 2657

Committee Clerk Signature

*Olanya Vegele*

Minutes:

Chairman Svedjan opened the hearing on House Bill 1175.

Rep. Carlisle described the bill and the suggestions that came out of the Government Operations Subcommittee. One of the changes made by the subcommittee is that the members and members elect will get paid to come to the Legislative Council reports.

**Chairman Svedjan:** Did you change the bill at all?

**Rep. Carlisle:** No we did not

**Chairman Svedjan:** If I understand this correctly this would provide for both mileage and per diem for all legislators who attend the Legislative Council meeting in November and not just the elected Legislative Council Members as well as newly elected members.

**Rep. Carlisle:** That is correct.

**Rep. Nelson:** The new members who had just been elected would not be legislators at that point in November yet. Does this language spell that out?

**Rep. Carlisle:** It does say members elect in line seven.

**Rep. Wald:** You could have two people who can tie the same position so to speak because if one person retired or got replaced you could be paying twice for the same person in that district.

**Rep. Carlisle:** You are correct that could happen because of the December 1<sup>st</sup> date.

**Rep. Gulleason:** Is the addition of the per diem language new? I didn't remember that we were paid per diem I thought it was expenses only.

**Chairman Svedjan:** The per diem is new. It is just elected Legislative Council members who got both mileage and per diem. Also Committee chairs who give reports.

**Chairman Svedjan:** I don't know if this is a critical point or not. I realize what the sponsors are trying to do here. Is there any problem with paying someone who is not yet taken office?

**Rep. Carlisle:** That is addressed in line seven.

**Rep. Carlson:** We asked that question when we were preparing the bill. The example that was given is that it would be the same as someone we pay that is a board member. We pay them on a per diem and they are not elected to anything. If you don't clarify as the members elect there is no possible way they could get paid. In most cases depending on when you have the Council Reports, for example the elections were certified before we had our Council Reports. So there was nobody in question other than two districts across the state that they were member elect.

**Chairman Svedjan:** So this no problem.

**Rep. Carlson:** They told me that as it is written there is no problem.

**Rep. Kreidt:** Currently a new person elected may attend is now paid is that correct?

**Chairman Svedjan:** Only the expenses.

**A motion was made by Vice Chairman Carlisle, seconded by Representative Skarphol to DO PASS House Bill 1175. The committee vote was 23 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Absent and Not Voting. The bill will be carried by Rep. Weiler.**



Date: 2/1/07  
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1175

House Appropriations Full Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken No Pass

Motion Made By Carlisle Seconded By Skarphol

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Svedjan	✓				
Vice Chairman Kempenich	✓				
Representative Wald	✓		Representative Aarsvold	✓	
Representative Monson	✓		Representative Gulleson	✓	
Representative Hawken	✓				
Representative Klein	✓				
Representative Martinson	✓				
Representative Carlson	✓		Representative Glassheim	✓	
Representative Carlisle	✓		Representative Kroeber	✓	
Representative Skarphol	✓		Representative Williams	✓	
Representative Thoreson	✓				
Representative Pollert	✓		Representative Ekstrom	✓	
Representative Bellew	✓		Representative Kerzman	✓	
Representative Kreidt	✓		Representative Metcalf	✓	
Representative Nelson	✓				
Representative Wieland	✓				

Total (Yes) 23 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. Members

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
February 1, 2007 6:26 p.m.

**Module No: HR-19-1871**  
**Carrier: Weller**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1175: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Svedjan, Chairman) recommends DO PASS**  
(23 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1175 was placed on the  
Eleventh order on the calendar.



2007 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HB 1175

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 1175

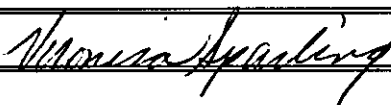
Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 03/08/07

Recorder Job Number: 4672

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Roll was taken and all members were present.

Senator Dever, Chairman, opened the hearing on HB 1175.

Representative Alan Carlson from District 41 introduced the bill. He feels the function of the interim committees is to create the report and give the report. Because in doing so they create legislation for the next legislative session, it should be imperative that the members and members elect of the legislative assembly attend the biennial meeting of the legislative council. He also feels the expenses for it should be reimbursed. In the past attendance at it was not required but just recommended. Newly elected members received mileage and lodging but were not paid. Members of the council were paid and any chairman of the interim committees who gave a report was paid. No one else was paid. Paying members elect would be new but he feels it is important that they attend because there is a lot of money spent on the interim committees and if the legislators do not attend they will not be apprised of what has been accomplished. Attendance will help the learning curve of the freshmen legislators. The additional money spent will be minor compared to the amount already spent for the interim committees and will greatly facilitate the information by getting everyone up to speed on what has been accomplished. The work of the interim committees is very important so it is important

to share the information with everyone in the legislative body. Member elects are not sworn in until December 1<sup>st</sup> but he feels it is important for them to attend so when the session starts they are ready to move forward. He feels it is important not only for freshmen legislators to get acclimated but for returning legislators to use the two days they are there to accomplish something. If they don't accomplish anything they have wasted a lot of money. The fiscal note of \$35,000.00 is peanuts compared to everything spent on the meetings during the interim. They receive a "nice thick book" of all the minutes and the reports of all the interim committees that have met. He feels most legislators do not even bother to read the book. He feels it isn't fair to expect people to come and then to not pay them. He feels even paying for mileage and lodging is not enough because many people leave their jobs to come for those meetings.

Some people see this as a pay raise for legislators but he doesn't see it that way. He sees it as doing their job and preparing for the upcoming session.

Senator Horne asked if being paid would be a problem because at the time of the meeting he was not yet sworn in as a legislator.

Representative Carlson checked with Legislative Council and they said it was legal. The members elect are already being reimbursed for expenses. This would just allow them to also get paid.

Senator Dever said some sections of the bill say \$100.00/ day and some sections say \$125.00/ day. How would that be handled?

Representative Carlson said it is always the case of the last bill passed.

There was discussion about legislative council handling that.

Senator Dever mentioned that during session and during the organizational session a

legislator does not have to submit his or her expenses for reimbursement if he or she doesn't want to but during the interim committees they do have to. So if any legislators felt they should

not be paid for this they don't have to submit their report. He also said many times it is just the freshman senators who attend and every legislator should be in attendance.

Representative Carlson said he struggles with the cost that goes into the book and feels the reports and hearing from the chairman are "as valuable as you can get." It has real value for educating. They are "here for a short period of time with a lot to do." The interim committee studies a significant number of things and the legislators need to be aware of the findings of those committees.

Senator Lee agreed the reports are helpful and she agrees with the bill but she feels there is also value in taking time to catch up with agency people that are not usually available to them when they are in their home districts.

Representative Carlson said there is a lot of listening for 2 ½ days which isn't easy and he does spend some time drafting bills for the upcoming session. He mentioned it is a huge learning curve for freshmen.

Senator Oehlke asked about the interim Committee reports. He was given a copy of it all when he attended the informational meeting about the legislative council reports and then when he came to the organizational meeting he was given all the same information compiled into a book form. He questioned why it couldn't be in a book form to start with.

Representative Carlson explained that the individual reports had not necessarily been accepted and once it was accepted it was put into the book.

Senator Marcellais mentioned that the amount of information was overwhelming to him as a freshman senator. He feels it would be good to designate the committees they were to serve on before they attended the November meeting and then they could concentrate on the

committees they were going to serve on. He also said it may help future freshmen legislators to have an orientation by the different state agencies.

Representative Carlson felt these were good suggestions and said if the agencies were to do an orientation it would have to be just a very thumbnail sketch so it would be helpful and not add to the problem of being overwhelming.

Senator Marcellais said he would like just a summary of each agency and what they get involved in.

Senator Dever said the most important advice Senator Krebsbach gave him when he became the chairman of this committee was to read the employee benefits interim reports.

Representative Carlson said it is still very confusing even after being on the employee benefits committee for 3 sessions.

Senator Dever mentioned that Senator Marcellais had suggested there should be an automated tracking system for keeping track of every action on a bill including any interim committees that had considered the bill.

Representative Carlson said there are software people that will be here in a week to redesign the system and that would be a good feature to build into the new system.

Senator Dever mentioned that the resources available in the library are amazing and that would be important to cover in an orientation session.

Opposition: -

Neutral: -

Chairman Dever closed the hearing on HB 1175.

Senator Judy Lee made a motion to pass the bill and rerefer it to Appropriations.

The motion was seconded by Senator Nelson.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 6 No 0 Absent 0

Carrier: J Lee

Date : 3-8-07  
Roll Call Vote # : 1

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1175

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken do pass & referral to appropriations

Motion Made By Lee Seconded By Nelson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dick Dever - Chairman	✓		Senator Robert Horne	✓	
Senator Dave Oehlke - VC	✓		Senator Richard Marcellais	✓	
Senator Judy Lee	✓		Senator Carolyn Nelson	✓	

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Lee

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
March 8, 2007 12:13 p.m.

**Module No: SR-44-4722**  
**Carrier: J. Lee**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1175: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee**  
(6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1175 was rereferred to the  
**Appropriations Committee.**

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1175



## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 1175

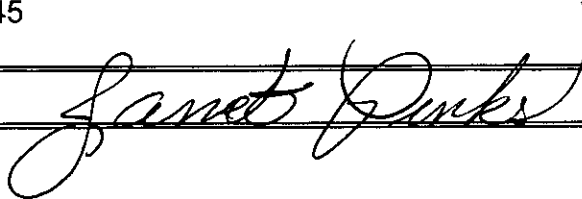
Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 03-15-07

Recorder Job Number: 5145

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Holmberg opened the hearing on 1175.

Representative Alan Carlson, District 41, Garrison, testified on HB 1175 indicating this had previously been in GVA. He stated there were a number of bills dealing with compensation and this is the one that deals with Legislative Council reports. The bill simply says that members and members alike when attending Legislative Council meetings that are usually held in mid November will be compensated on a daily compensation rate. Now it is set up that if you are a member of the council you get paid, if you are a chairman of an interim committee giving a report you will receive a per diem. Anyone else who attends is given lodging and mileage but no per diem. If we put a value on the work the interim committees have done, we should be expecting our people to listen to those reports instead of getting the books and maybe not reading it and then to compensate those people for being there. It is especially important for the newly elected members. We are already paying members elect who are not yet sworn in, the mileage and lodging. There was concern that some don't show up. It's like anything if you don't show up, you don't get paid.

Chairman Holmberg questioned if he thought the fact that some time ago, the caucus began to elect their leadership at these meetings and the caucuses forced their people to attend these meetings.

The response was that from their side they do have their leadership elections the night before the council reports. In most cases, other than emergency, our caucus was in town the night before the council reports. A majority stayed for at least one day of those reports.

Chairman Holmberg indicated the past year the election was late and the legislative council was early. Do we know who the members elect are at that time, have the certificates been issued by a canvassing board.

Representative Carlson indicated they were certified the day before. They also discussed that when an incumbent loses and the new member is elected, should both be paid for the same meeting. The response was yes they should.

Senator Bowman indicated that to eliminate the possibility of people getting paid and not attending the whole session, the pay voucher would be handed out after the last report.

Chairman Holmberg closed the hearing on HB 1175.

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 1001, 1006, 1106, 1107, 1175

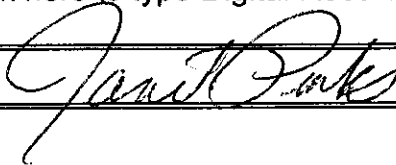
Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 03-19-07

Recorder Job Number: "Click here to type Digital Recorder Job #"

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Holmberg opened the combined hearing on HB 1001, 1006, 1107, 1106, 1175 includes appropriations for legislative reimbursement.

Senator Christmann indicated that this includes language to take care of encoil.

The second amendment changes the compensation package in HB 1006.

Senator Seymour distributed amendments for HB 1106 but the money for this is in HB 1001. This will increase daily pay by 4 and 3.85 percent in the second year. There will be no equity increase as the House didn't fund it.

HB 1107 is an increase for private air travel and that is out.

HB 1175 includes extra pay for the legislative council and we will recommend a do not pass.

HB 1006 is the compensation increase.

HB 1107 is the mileage increase.

HB 1106 is to be paid for legislative council.

Senator Seymour distributed the amendments 0203 for HB 1106, explaining the amendment.

Senator Christmann moved a DO NOT PASS on HB 1175, seconded by Senator Fischer. There was

Discussion and a roll call vote was taken resulting in 12 yes, 1 no, 1 absent. Senator Seymour will carry the bill.

Page 2

Senate Appropriations Committee

Bill/Resolution No. "Click here to type Bill/Resolution No."

Hearing Date: "Click here to type Hearing Date"

B-19-07

HB 1106 amends (0201) the mileage rate which includes all state employees and offices.

Senator Christmann moved a do pass on the amendment 0201, seconded by Senator Fischer. An oral vote was taken resulting in a do pass.

Senator Christmann moved a do pass as amended on HB 1106, Senator Seymour seconded. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 13 yes, 1 no 0 absent. The motion carried and Senator Seymour will carry the bill.

Chairman Holmberg closed the hearing on these bills.

