

2-11-82

HOB 697

HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE
STANDING COMMITTEE
February 11, 1982
1:07 p.m.

Members Present: Rep. Martin, Chairman
Rep. Bylsma, Vice-Chairman
Rep. Rogers

Members Absent: Rep. Randolph
Rep. Gardiner

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

HB 697 An Act relating to appointment of
nonpermanent employees for certain work
assignments; and providing for an effective
date.

HB 557 An Act relating to telephone cooperatives.

WITNESS REGISTER

Beverly Rayon
Department of Fish & Game
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Position Statement: Distributed report; discussed HB 697.

Andrew Hoge, counsel
Matanuska Telephone Association
437 E Street
Anchorage, Alaska
276-1726
Position Statement: Spoke in support of HB 557.

Sharon Macklin, lobbyist
Matanuska Telephone Association
no address or phone given
Position Statement: Spoke in support of HB 557.

Allen Blume
Telelink Communications, Inc.
PO Box 1608
Juneau, Alaska 99801
586-9685
Position Statement: Comments on HB 557.

PREVIOUS ACTION

HB 697 No previous action.

Statutory Reference: AS 39.25.

Action taken: Rep. Bylsma moved to report SSHB 697 from committee. There being no objection, motion passed.

HB 557

No previous action.

Statutory Reference: AS 10.25.640(4).

Action Taken: No action taken. Mention was made of rescheduling bill for hearing at a later date.

ACTION NARRATIVE

Tape #13
Recording
Number 000

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Martin at 1:07 p.m. Members present were: Representatives Martin, Pylsma, and Rogers. Members absent were: Representatives Randolph and Gardner. Rep. Martin brought SSHB 697 before the committee.

Number 011

Rep. Bylsma, prime sponsor of HB 697, explained the intent of the bill.

Number 019

Beverly Rayon, Fish & Game, distributed a report. She spoke of problems hiring short-term, seasonal employees. She went over the high costs of benefits and of recruiting.

Number 108

Rep. Rogers said there were concerns about abuses in the Department of Fish & Game. Rayon said there had been abuses. She said longer-term positions should not come under this, but shorter-term positions should.

Number 134

Jeff Barry, committee aide, said the sponsor substitute addresses the historical context. He explained how concerns are addressed in the sponsor substitute. There was discussion. Rep. Rogers asked whether the APEA were notified; Mary Isaacs, committee aide, thought not. There was further discussion. Rayon said the APEA was represented at a hearing on the similar senate bill and offered no comment at that time.

Rep. Bylsma moved to report SSHB 697 from committee. There being no

objection, the motion passed.

- Number 166 House Bill 166 was brought before the committee. Rep. Rogers explained the bill. He said it would allow telephone cooperatives to get loans.
- Number 179 Andrew Hoge, attorney for Matanuska Electric Association, said the bill updates the definition of telecommunications. He said that REA funding was being cut by \$1-billion. There was discussion about the scope of the bill.
- Number 238 Rep. Martin had questions about cable television in relation to telephone cooperatives like MTA, and possible APUC or FCC conflicts. There was discussion. Rep. Martin pointed out that the legislature is planning to pick up a good portion of the REA funding.
- Number 305 Rep. Bylsma felt the definition would mean cooperatives can control all media--radio, etc. Hoge said this is presently done.
- Number 317 Sharon Macklin, on behalf of Matanuska Telephone Association, said the bill updates the statutes to reflect processes the APUC has already certificated cooperatives to provide. She said it is also for purposes of obtaining loans. She said it does not supersede going through the APUC, and said this is the same definition APUC uses for telephone service. There was discussion. Macklin said the bill does not give monopolistic authority to cooperatives, as everyone goes through the APUC. She said it also gives corporate authority for use in applying for loans. There was discussion.
- Number 456 Barry referenced AS 10.25.010, and asked Macklin whether changing the definition will bring coops into competition with private telecommunications providers. He said it may change the full effect of the entire statute as worded.
- Number 507 Hoge explained deregulation of terminal equipment and how it interconnects with the telephone system. He said they need the capability, as common carrier, to carry various transmissions. There was discussion of the purpose of the bill, and of eminent

domain.

Number 705

Allen Elume, Telelink Communications, Inc., had no difficulties with the definition proposed for his own needs. He asked if the service provider agency which is the end point provider would be classified as a telephone provider. Hoge said it would only affect cooperatives. There was discussion.

Side B, Number 011

Rep. Martin said he would notify the participants of the next meeting on HB 557. He requested Jeff Barry to contact the Attorney General for further information. He predicted the first week of March as the earliest possible date of next hearing. As there was no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

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!mHLC!x

February 11, 1982

1:07 p.m.

!mMP1!xRep. Martin, Chairman

!mMP2!xRep. Bylsma, Vice-Chairman

!mMP2!xRep. Rogers

!mMA1!xRep. Randolph

!mMA2!xRep. Gardiner

!mCAL!x

HB 697

An Act relating to appointment of nonpermanent employees for certain work assignments; and providing for an effective date.

HB 557

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!mREG!x

!mWI!xBeverly Rayon

Department of Fish & Game

Juneau, Alaska 99811

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437 E Street

Anchorage, Alaska

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Teleink Communications, Inc.

PO Box 1608

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!mPA!x

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Number 019 Beverly Rayon, Fish & Game, distributed a report. She spoke of problems hiring short-term, seasonal employees. She went over the high costs of benefits and of recruiting.

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whether changing the definition will bring coops into competition with private telecommunications providers. He said it may change the full effect of the entire statute as worded.

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!mEND!x

Corrections

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1:07

LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE
DAILY COMMITTEE HEARING

Date: 5/11

Place: _____

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Time Arrived</u>	<u>Time Left</u>
Rep. B. Bylsma, V. Chair	✓	✓	1:05	
Rep. D. Randolph				
Rep. B. Rogers	✓		1:00	
Rep. T. Gardiner		✓		
Rep. T. Martin, Chair	✓		1:00	

Subject Matter:

House Bill No. 697(55) HB 557 _____

Senate Bill No. _____

Special Orders:

2/11/82

- i:07
- 000 HB 697 (sponsor sub) by Bylsma
- 011 Bylsma - reason for bill
- 019 Beverly Rayon, Fish & Game - distributed report.
Spoke of problems hiring short-term (seasonal) employees.
High cost of benefits & of recruiting
- 108 Rogers There were concerns abt abuses in Dept of F & G
Rayon - there were abuses; longer-term posns shd not be
come under this, but shorter-term posns shd
discussion.
- 134 Barry - sponsor sub addresses hist. context. Explained
how concerns addressed in SS.
Discussion; Rogers asked if APEA were notified; M. Isaacs
thought not. Discussion. Rayon said APEA was
represented at leg on similar Senate bill. & offered no
comment then.
Bylsma moved to pass SS HB 697
passed by unan consent
- 166 HB 557 Rogers explained bill - allow coops to get
loans.
- 179 Andrew Hoge, a Hy, MTA - updates defn of telecomm.
REA funds being cut \$1B. broader
Discussion; Martin concerned about scope of defn.
Explained by Hoge.

- 238 Martin - got into alt cable TV in relation to telephone coops (MTA) & possible APUC or FCC ~~actions~~ ^{conflicts}. Discussion. Martin pointed out legis planning to pick up a good portion of REA funds.
- 305 Byloma - this means coops can control all media - radio etc. Hoge said this is presently done - using radio, etc -
- 317 Sharon Shacklin, MTA - bill allows processes APUC has already certificated coops to provide Avca; updates statutes. Also for loans. Does not supersede going through APUC; same definition as APUC uses. Discussion Martin elaborated on plans for telecomm. policy for state. Shacklin said bill doesn't give monopolistic authority to coops, everyone goes th/APUC; also gives corporati authority for use in applying for loans
- 406 Hoge - presented ^{newspaper} clipping re REA funds. Discussion.
- 456 Barry - AS ~~AS~~ 10.25.010; question of whether changing definition will bring coops into competition w/ private telecomm. providers. May change ~~the~~ full effect of entire statute as worded.
- 507 Hoge - explained de-regulation of terminal eqpt & how it interconnects w/ telephone system. Need capability as common carrier to carry various xmons. Less revenue if these don't go through local coops.

560 Martin - changing meaning of word to rationalize why
REA funds being decreased; quasi-monopoly enables
coops to become greater risk to lending institutions
Consumers will pay price.

Hog - Discussion.

617 Barry - w/defn in bill, gets may come up as to eminent
domain.

Discussion.

705 Allen Blume - Telelink Comm Inc - no ~~pro~~ difficulties
w/defn as prop'd for his needs. asked if he provides
agency which is end point provider, wd be classified
as telephone provider

side 7
000

Hog - no, wd only affect coops.

Blume asked implicatns for non-coop teleph svcs; does it
change defn

Hog - no.

Martin said wd notify participants of next mtg

Requested Barry to contact ALT for further info.

Predicted 1st wk of March earliest for next mtg.

Arij 11:55