The Civil Rights Bill and Montana

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THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL AND MONTANA

The Civil Rights bill will have no practical effect on the State of Montana because in the first instance there is no problem of discrimination in Montana. The first section of the bill deals with giving voting rights to those regardless of national origin, religion, or race. This has never been a problem in Montana.

The second section of the bill deals with public accommodations which has no effect on Montana because the Montana public accommodations law takes precedence.

Titles three and four of the bill deal with desegregation of public facilities and public schools. This is not a problem in Montana.

Title five merely extends the Civil Rights Commission, and this has no effect on any states including Montana.

Title six of the bill deals with the cut-off of Federal funds to Federal programs found to be discriminatory. This is not a problem in Montana and doesn't apply to Montana.

Title seven deals with fair employment practices and is not effective until one year after final enactment of the bill and would apply only to those companies which employ more than 100 employees. The bill and this section of the bill specifically provide that no quota on a racial or any other basis is to be set up. Since in Montana discrimination is not a problem, the practical effect will not be noticeable, because people will be hired on the basis of ability and qualification and not on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

Title eight through eleven of the bill are primarily technical titles of the bill and do not contain any substantive law provision. They purely provide for procedure rights and will have no effect in Montana.