

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: By Chairman Edward B. Butcher, on February 6, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Edward B. Butcher, Chairman (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Julie French (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Krayton Kerns (R)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)
Rep. Diane Rice (R)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Llew Jones
Rep. Dan Villa
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary
Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HB 431, HB 432, HB 493
Executive Action: HB 431, HB 380

HEARING ON HB 431

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:17 Rep. Mark Blasdel (R), HD 10, opened the hearing on HB 431, Revise procedure for defining classifications of milk-related products.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:01 Bill Hadstrom, Dairy Producer

00:04:03 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:04:42 Rep. Jopek

00:05:20 Mr. Hadstrom

00:06:03 Rep. Rice

00:06:36 Mr. Hadstrom

00:06:55 Chairman Butcher

00:07:06 Mr. Hadstrom

Closing by Sponsor:

00:07:29 Rep. Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 493

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:08:03 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 493, Labeling for genetically modified seeds.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:12:40 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers Union

Opponents' Testimony:

00:16:52 Michael Kakuk, Attorney, Western Environmental Trade
[EXHIBIT](#)(agh26a01)

00:20:19 Bruce Wright, Fourth Generation Farmer, Belgrade
00:21:48 Sen. Don Steinbeisser
00:25:43 John Stoner, Montana Grain Growers Association
00:27:19 Mike DeVries, Montana Seed Company
00:29:04 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau
00:30:04 Al Skogen, Chairman of Growers for Biotechnology

EXHIBIT (agh26a02)

00:34:40 Ron Ueland, American Seed Trade Association

EXHIBIT (agh26a03)

00:36:29 Curtis Hershberger

00:36:55 Jim Lynch

EXHIBIT (agh26a04)

EXHIBIT (agh26a05)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:37:38 Rep. Rice
00:37:51 Mr. Kakuk
00:38:59 Rep. Ross
00:39:28 Rep. Cohenour
00:40:39 Rep. Ross
00:40:42 Rep. Cohenour
00:40:58 Rep. Ross
00:41:22 Dave Christensen
00:41:31 Rep. Ross
00:41:35 Mr. Christensen
00:41:56 Rep. French
00:42:25 Rep. Steinbeisser
00:42:58 Rep. Lambert
00:43:22 Mr. Christensen
00:44:37 Rep. Lambert
00:44:51 Mr. Christensen
00:45:34 Rep. Jopek
00:47:20 Ms. Kassmier
00:47:25 Rep. Jopek
00:48:33 Mr. Christensen
00:48:46 Rep. French
00:49:28 Rep. Cohenour
00:49:53 Rep. French
00:49:58 Rep. Cohenour
00:50:22 Ms. Kassmier

Closing by Sponsor:

00:50:41 Rep. Cohenour

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 431

00:53:09 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Keane moved that **HB 431 DO PASS**.
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote 18-0. Rep.
Windy Boy, Villa and Jones voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 380

00:56:15 **Motion:** Rep. Jopek moved that **HB 380 DO PASS**.

00:56:32 **Motion:** Rep. Caferro moved that **HB 380 BE AMENDED**.
EXHIBIT (agh26a06)

Discussion:

00:57:09 Krista Lee Evans

00:58:09 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 380 BE AMENDED** carried by voice
vote 17-1. Rep. Ross voted no. Reps. Windy Boy, Villa
and Jones voted by proxy.

00:58:39 **Motion:** Rep. Jopek moved that **HB 380 DO PASS AS**
AMENDED.

Discussion:

00:58:46 Rep. Malcolm

00:58:52 Chairman Butcher

01:00:12 Rep. Jopek

01:00:19 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 380 DO PASS AS AMENDED** carried by
roll call vote 10-8. Reps. Lambert, Rice, Augare,
Ross, Heinert, Boggio, Mendenhall and Malcolm voted no.
Reps. Windy Boy, Villa and Jones voted by proxy.

HEARING ON HB 432

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:02:11 Rep. Brady Wiseman (D), Hd 65, opened the hearing on HB
432, Liability for GMO's that escape property
boundaries.

EXHIBIT (agh26a07)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:05:01 Thad Willis

EXHIBIT (agh26a08)

01:09:04 Christina Hubbard, Alternative Energy Resources
Organization

01:13:43 Mr. Christensen

01:17:41 Ana Pederson

01:18:45 Rick Moore, Northern Plains Resource Council

01:19:38 Becky Weed

EXHIBIT (agh26a09)

01:22:35 Sedron Jones

Opponents' Testimony:

01:23:41 Mr. Kakuk

EXHIBIT (agh26a10)

01:27:29 Mr. Wright

01:27:55 Sen. Steinbeisser

01:29:22 Mr. Stoner

01:31:23 Shane Strecker, Mountain States Beet Growers
Association

01:32:08 Luther Talbert, Professor, Montana State University

01:33:26 Kelly Brester

01:34:17 Dan Biggerstaff

01:38:17 Mr. Hershberger

01:39:53 Mr. Skogen

EXHIBIT (agh26a11)

01:43:22 Mr. Youngberg

01:44:02 Mr. Ueland

01:46:44 Mr. Lynch

01:47:15 Pam Langley, American Seed Trade Association

EXHIBIT (agh26a12)

01:47:41 Rod Leafdale, Forage Genetics

01:48:42 Bing VonBergen

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:49:45 Rep. French

01:50:35 Ms. Hubbard

01:51:35 Rep. French

01:51:52 Mr. Christensen

01:52:12 Rep. Henry

01:52:23 Mr. Ueland

01:53:05 Mr. Willis

01:53:44 Rep. French

01:54:14 Mr. Willis
01:55:35 Rep. French
01:55:51 Mr. Willis
01:56:19 Rep. Caferro
01:57:16 Mr. Christensen
01:58:09 Rep. Caferro
01:58:31 Mr. Christensen
01:58:44 Rep. Caferro
01:59:05 Mr. Stoner
01:59:22 Rep. Caferro
01:59:29 Mr. Stoner
01:59:33 Rep. Caferro
01:59:45 Mr. Stoner
02:01:26 Rep. Caferro
02:01:40 Mr. Stoner
02:02:49 Rep. Henry
02:03:09 Mr. Stoner
02:03:23 Rep. Jopek
02:03:44 Mr. Skogen
02:04:45 Rep. Jopek
02:05:03 Mr. Talbert
02:05:25 Rep. Jopek
02:06:10 Ms. Hubbard
02:06:30 Rep. Jopek
02:07:03 Ms. Hubbard
02:08:17 Rep. Jopek
02:08:51 Rep. Wiseman
02:10:17 Rep. Jopek
02:11:07 Mr. Christensen
02:11:55 Chairman Butcher
02:12:01 Mr. Skogen
02:13:37 Chairman Butcher
02:13:48 Mr. Skogen
02:14:47 Chairman Butcher
02:15:44 Rep. Wiseman
02:16:59 Chairman Butcher
02:17:08 Mr. Biggerstaff
02:20:47 Chairman Butcher
02:21:27 Mr. Biggerstaff
02:21:33 Mr. Willis
02:23:37 Chairman Butcher
02:24:13 Rep. Jopek
02:24:42 Mr. Biggerstaff
02:25:01 Rep. Jopek
02:25:08 Mr. Biggerstaff
02:25:51 Rep. Jopek
02:26:34 Mr. Biggerstaff
02:26:54 Chairman Butcher

02:27:02 Ms. Evans
02:28:47 Rep. Lambert
02:29:23 Ms. Evans
02:30:03 Rep. Rice
02:31:13 Rep. Wiseman
02:31:50 Rep. Caferro
02:32:28 Mr. Stoner
02:33:11 Rep. Mendenhall
02:33:52 Mr. Talbert

Closing by Sponsor:

02:34:30 Rep. Wiseman

ADJOURNMENT

02:36:18 Adjournment

REP. EDWARD B. BUTCHER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

EB/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([agh26aad.pdf](#))