

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 6, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Hal Jacobson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Gary Branae (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. William J. Jones (R)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Alan Olson (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Debby Barrett
Rep. Scott Sales

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary
Sheri Heffelfinger, 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 487, HB 520, HB 528
Executive Action: HB 288, HB 399

HEARING ON HB 520

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:24 Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB 520, Generally revise election laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:49 Janice Doggett, Chief Legal Council, Secretary of State's Office
00:19:51 Robert Throssell, Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders
00:20:43 Harold Blattie, Executive Director of the Montana Association of Counties
00:20:58 Bonnie Ramey, Jefferson County, Clerk and Recorder Administrator

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:21:42 Rep. Henry
00:22:12 Rep. Arntzen

Closing by Sponsor:

00:23:13 Rep. Arntzen

HEARING ON HB 487

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:24:47 Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D), HD 85, opened the hearing on HB 487, Revise threshold for local government audit.

EXHIBIT (sth26a01)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:27:10 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties

Informational Testimony:

00:30:07 Jules Waber, Powell County School Superintendent
00:33:04 Paul Christofferson, Department of Administration

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:34:16 Rep. Dickenson
00:35:26 Rep. Hiner
00:35:39 Rep. Dickenson
00:35:45 Rep. Hiner
00:35:57 Rep. Dickenson
00:36:07 Mr. Waber
00:36:42 Rep. Dickenson
00:36:53 Mr. Waber
00:36:59 Chairman Himmelberger
00:37:15 Mr. Christofferson
00:37:51 Rep. Malcolm
00:39:04 Mr. Christofferson
00:39:35 Rep. Malcolm
00:40:04 Mr. Christofferson
00:40:48 Chairman Himmelberger
00:41:02 Mr. Christofferson
00:41:12 Rep. Wilmer
00:41:28 Rep. Hiner
00:42:30 Chairman Himmelberger
00:43:00 Mr. Waber
00:43:22 Chairman Himmelberger
00:43:34 Mr. Waber
00:43:47 Chairman Himmelberger
00:43:55 Mr. Waber

Closing by Sponsor:

00:44:11 Rep. Hiner

HEARING ON HB 528

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:44:50 Rep. Bill Thomas (D), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 528, Revise state document systems to reflect actual names.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:50:14 Joe Mazurek, Montana Interconnect Representative

Opponents' Testimony:

00:51:17 Brenda Nordlund, Department of Justice

Informational Testimony:

00:56:08 Randy Morris, Department of Administration

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:36 Rep. Olson

00:57:02 Rep. Thomas

Closing by Sponsor:

01:00:42 Rep. Thomas

Additional Discussion:

01:03:33 Rep. Himmelberger

01:03:58 Rep. Hendrick

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 288

01:05:06 **Motion:** Rep. Jacobson moved that **HB 288 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:05:33 Rep. Wilmer

01:05:46 Rep. McNutt

01:06:22 Rep. Jacobson withdrew his motion that HB 288 do pass.

01:06:46 Rep. Henry

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 399

01:07:17 **Motion:** Rep. Hendrick moved that **HB 399 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:07:37 Rep. Ingraham

01:08:09 Rep. Caferro

01:09:35 Rep. McNutt

01:10:25 Rep. Olson

01:10:38 Rep. Caferro

01:11:27 Rep. Hendrick

01:12:02 Rep. Ingraham

01:13:09 Rep. Jacobson
01:13:54 Rep. Wilmer
01:14:41 Rep. Olson
01:15:23 Rep. Jones
01:15:44 Rep. Caferro
01:16:55 Rep. Henry
01:17:55 Rep. Jones
01:18:33 Rep. Caferro
01:19:43 Rep. Jones
01:20:44 Rep. Malcolm
01:21:39 Rep. Dickenson
01:22:13 Chairman Himmelberger

01:23:36 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 399 DO PASS** failed by roll call vote 8-10. Reps. Jacobson, Branae, Caferro, Dickenson, Henry, Phillips, Small-Eastman and Wilmer voted aye. Reps. Barrett and Sales voted by proxy.

01:24:57 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ankney made a substitute motion that **HB 399 BE TABLED**. The motion carried by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Barrett and Sales voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

01:25:15 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth26aad.pdf](#))