

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 8, 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. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Gary Branae (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. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mary Caferro
Rep. Mike Phillips
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 95, HB 131, HB 547, HB 562

HEARING ON HB 131

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:17 Rep. Jon Sesso (D), HD 76, opened the hearing on HB 131, Generally revise public employee retirement laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:32 Sen. Dave Lewis

00:13:06 David Ewer, Budget Director, Office of the Governor

00:22:55 Leo Berry, Association of Retired Public Employees

00:26:54 Boyce Fowler, Volunteer Advocate for AARP Montana

EXHIBIT(sth28a01)

00:28:47 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees' Association

00:31:54 Denver Henderson, Student Lobbyist, UM

Opponents' Testimony:

00:34:25 Roxanne Minnehan, Executive Director, Public Employees' Retirement System

EXHIBIT(sth28a02)

00:42:35 Carole Carey, President, Public Employees' Retirement System Board

EXHIBIT(sth28a03)

00:45:57 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties

00:47:26 Jim Kembel, Montana Police Protective Association and Montana Association of Chiefs of Police

EXHIBIT(sth28a04)

00:49:13 Mark Taylor, Montana State Highway Patrol

00:50:46 Doug Neil, Montana State Firemens' Association

00:51:51 Jack Tretheway, Montana State Council Of Firefighters

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:52:35 Rep. Jacobson

00:54:06 Mr. Berry

00:55:50 Rep. Jacobson

00:56:11 Ms. Minnehan

00:56:19 Rep. Jacobson

00:56:45 Mr. Ewer

00:58:18 Rep. Jacobson

00:58:58 Mr. Ewer

01:01:24 Rep. Dickenson

01:01:35 Mr. Ewer

01:04:19 Rep. Barrett
01:05:26 Mr. Henderson
01:06:11 Rep. Barrett
01:06:26 Mr. Henderson
01:06:34 Rep. Barrett
01:07:20 Mr. Ewer
01:10:18 Rep. Barrett
01:10:24 Rep. Small-Eastman
01:10:45 Carroll South, Executive Director, Montana Board of
Investments
01:12:53 Rep. Small-Eastman
01:13:09 Mr. South
01:13:42 Rep. Wilmer
01:14:06 Mr. South
01:15:16 Rep. Wilmer
01:15:34 Mr. South
01:16:57 Chairman Himmelberger
01:17:20 Rep. Wilmer
01:17:54 Mr. Ewer
01:18:49 Rep. Wilmer
01:19:11 Mr. Ewer
01:19:38 Rep. Olson

Closing by Sponsor:

01:20:03 Rep. Sesso
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth28a05)

HEARING ON HB 95

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:28:40 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB
95, Provide increase in employer contribution to
optional retirement program.
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth28a06)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:32:59 Michael Kupilik, Professor, Montana State University
01:36:39 Craig Paulauskis, Professor, Montana State University
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth28a07)
01:45:06 Erik Burke, Montana Education Association/Montana
Federation of Teachers
01:47:17 Denver Henderson, Student Lobbyist, UM

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:47:48 Kevin McRae, Director of Labor Relations, Montana
University System

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:50:36 Rep. Jones
01:50:50 Mr. McRae
01:52:09 Rep. Henry
01:53:15 Rep. Olson
01:54:18 Rep. Barrett
01:54:56 Mr. Kupilik
01:57:02 Mr. Paulauskis

Closing by Sponsor:

01:57:10 Rep. Olson

01:59:52 Break
02:16:43 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 547

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:17:01 Rep. John Sinrud (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB
547, Revise laws governing legislative branch.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

02:18:52 Mr. Ewer

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:24:01 Rep. Ingraham
02:24:15 Rep. Sinrud
02:26:23 Chairman Himmelberger
02:26:43 Rep. Dickenson
02:26:53 Sheri Heffelfinger
02:30:22 Rep. Small-Eastman
02:30:30 Ms. Heffelfinger
02:31:09 Rep. Hendrick

02:31:24 Susan Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services
Division
02:34:55 Rep. Hendrick
02:35:15 Ms. Fox
02:35:34 Chairman Himmelberger
02:35:56 Ms. Fox
02:36:46 Chairman Himmelberger
02:36:57 Ms. Fox
02:39:08 Rep. Small-Eastman
02:40:08 Rep. Sinrud
02:40:49 Rep. Small-Eastman
02:41:44 Rep. Sinrud
02:42:08 Rep. Wilmer
02:42:37 Rep. Sinrud

Closing by Sponsor:

02:42:46 Rep. Sinrud

HEARING ON HB 562

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:44:43 Rep. Wanda Grinde (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB
562, Revise laws governing constituency accounts.

EXHIBIT(sth28a08)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:51:35 Rep. Dickenson
02:52:15 Rep. Grinde
02:53:02 Rep. Dickenson
02:54:08 Rep. Grinde
02:54:16 Rep. Hendrick
02:55:31 Rep. Grinde
02:56:05 Rep. Hendrick
02:56:29 Rep. Grinde
02:56:51 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner of Political Practices
02:57:42 Rep. Hendrick
02:58:14 Mr. Unsworth
02:59:02 Rep. Olson

02:59:28 Mr. Unsworth
03:01:30 Rep. Olson
03:02:01 Chairman Himmelberger
03:02:26 Mr. Unsworth
03:03:27 Rep. Ankney
03:04:16 Rep. Grinde
03:04:50 Rep. Jacobson
03:05:29 Rep. Grinde
03:05:42 Rep. Jacobson
03:06:09 Rep. Grinde
03:06:29 Rep. Jacobson
03:06:46 Rep. Grinde

Closing by Sponsor:

03:06:56 Rep. Grinde

ADJOURNMENT

03:09:38 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth28aad.pdf](#))