

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 13, 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 544, HB 570
Executive Action: HB 562, HB 547, HB 520

HEARING ON HB 544

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:10:49 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 544, Allow organization dues to be withheld from retirement benefit, then paid to org.

[EXHIBIT \(sth32a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth32a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:50 Bert Obert, Montana Highway Patrol Retirees
00:13:03 Mark Taylor, Montana Association of Troopers
00:15:12 Jim Kembel, Montana Police Protective Association
00:15:32 Don Kinman, Executive Director for Montana Retired Public Employees Council

[EXHIBIT \(sth32a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:16:33 Roxanne Minnehan, Public Employees Retirement Board

[EXHIBIT \(sth32a04\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:19:46 Rep. Phillips
00:20:28 Ms. Minnehan
00:21:05 Rep. Ingraham
00:21:55 Rep. Olson
00:22:19 Rep. Ingraham
00:22:36 Mr. Taylor
00:23:31 Rep. Branae
00:24:11 Mr. Kinman
00:25:25 Rep. Wilmer
00:26:08 Mr. Obert

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:51 Rep. Olson

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 562

00:38:14 **Motion:** Rep. Olson moved that **HB 562 DO PASS.**

00:38:25 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **HB 562 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT \(sth32a05\)](#)

Discussion:

00:39:46 Chairman Himmelberger

00:40:28 Sheri Heffelfinger

00:43:01 Rep. Henry

00:43:12 Ms. Heffelfinger

00:44:04 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 562 BE AMENDED** carried
unanimously by voice vote 18-0. Reps. Sales, Barrett,
Small-Eastman and Dickenson voted by proxy.

00:44:37 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **HB 562 BE FURTHER**
AMENDED.
[EXHIBIT \(sth32a06\)](#)

Discussion:

00:44:53 Chairman Himmelberger

00:46:06 Ms. Heffelfinger

00:47:50 Rep. Hendrick

00:49:13 Rep. Jacobson

00:50:58 Rep. Olson

00:51:01 Chairman Himmelberger

00:51:12 Rep. Henry

00:52:27 Rep. Hendrick

00:53:06 Rep. Henry

00:53:24 Ms. Heffelfinger

00:53:45 Rep. Phillips

00:54:23 Rep. Henry

00:55:15 Rep. Phillips

00:55:29 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 562 BE FURTHER AMENDED** failed by
voice vote 1-17. Rep. Dickenson voted aye. Reps.
Sales, Barrett, Small-Eastman and Dickenson voted by
proxy.

00:56:54 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **HB 562 DO PASS AS**
AMENDED.

Discussion:

00:56:58 Rep. Phillips
00:57:11 Rep. Jones
00:58:33 Rep. Ankney
00:59:35 Rep. Jacobson
01:01:02 Rep. McNutt
01:01:57 Rep. Phillips
01:03:00 Rep. Olson
01:03:27 Rep. Branae

01:04:31 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 562 DO PASS AS AMENDED** failed by a tie roll call vote, 9-9. Reps. Jacobson, Branae, Dickenson, Henry, Ingraham, Phillips, Small-Eastman and Wilmer and Himmelberger voted aye. Reps. Sales, Barrett, Small-Eastman and Dickenson voted by proxy.

HEARING ON HB 570**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:06:17 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 570, Special write-in absentee ballot for military and overseas electors.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:07:40 Roger Hagen, Chief Master Sargent Retired, Montana National Guard

[EXHIBIT \(sth32a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth32a08\)](#)

01:16:40 Jim Jacobson, Retired Army Colonel, American Legion Representative

01:18:15 Elaine Graveley, Election Deputy, Secretary of State's Office

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:19:48 Rep. Ingraham
01:20:08 Mr. Hagen
01:20:55 Ms. Graveley

01:21:04 Rep. Ingraham
01:21:39 Ms. Graveley
01:21:46 Rep. Olson
01:21:55 Ms. Graveley
01:22:03 Rep. Olson
01:22:11 Ms. Graveley
01:22:19 Rep. Olson

Closing by Sponsor:

01:22:32 Rep. Cohenour

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 547

01:24:00 **Motion:** Rep. Ingraham moved that **HB 547 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:24:09 Rep. Ingraham
01:25:04 Rep. Jones
01:25:34 Rep. Malcolm
01:26:31 Rep. McNutt

01:27:19 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 547 DO PASS** carried unanimously by roll call vote, 18-0. Reps. Sales, Barrett, Dickenson and Small-Eastman voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 520

01:29:13 **Motion:** Rep. Ingraham moved that **HB 520 DO PASS.**

01:29:20 **Motion:** Rep. Ingraham moved that **HB 520 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT (sth32a09)
EXHIBIT (sth32a10)

Discussion:

01:30:20 Rep. Ingraham

01:34:10 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 520 BE AMENDED** carried by voice vote 17-1. Rep. Caferro voted no. Reps. Sales and Barrett voted by proxy.

01:34:39 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Olson moved that **HB 520 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried by voice vote 16-2. Rep. Caferro and Dickenson voted no. Reps. Barrett and Sales voted by proxy.

Additional Discussion:

01:36:11 Rep. Phillips

01:36:47 Chairman Himmelberger

ADJOURNMENT

01:37:01 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth32aad.pdf](#))