

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 14, 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. 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. 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 578, HB 604, HB 619, HB 647
Executive Action: HB 647, HB 97, HB 487

HEARING ON HB 619

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:24 Rep. John Sinrud (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB 619, Revise exempt economic development positions.

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:06:19 Rep. Sinrud

HEARING ON HB 578

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:07:10 Rep. John Musgrove (D), HD 34, opened the hearing on HB 578, Revise bonding authority and volume cap.

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:39 David Ewer, Budget Director, Governor's Office

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:23:17 Jim Stipich, Executive Director, Student Assistance Foundation

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(sth33a08\)](#)

00:41:29 James Bell, Chairman of the Board, Student Assistance Foundation

00:48:03 Heather O'Loughlin, Board Member, Student Assistance Foundation, University of Montana Student

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:51:16 Rep. Barrett
00:51:29 Ms. O'Loughlin
00:52:05 Rep. Barrett
00:52:20 Ms. O'Loughlin
00:53:00 Rep. Barrett
00:53:50 Mr. Stipich
00:54:07 Rep. Barrett
00:54:17 Mr. Stipich
00:54:32 Rep. Jacobson
00:55:08 Mr. Ewer
00:55:13 Mr. Jacobson
00:56:52 Mr. Stipich
00:56:56 Mr. Jacobson
00:57:36 Mr. Stipich
00:58:40 Rep. Jacobson
00:59:49 Rep. Malcolm
01:00:31 Mr. Stipich
01:01:25 Rep. Dickenson
01:02:38 Mr. Stipich
01:03:06 Rep. Dickenson
01:03:12 Mr. Stipich
01:03:27 Rep. Dickenson
01:03:40 Ms. O'Loughlin
01:04:36 Rep. Barrett
01:05:13 Mr. Stipich
01:06:08 Rep. Barrett
01:06:17 Mr. Stipich
01:06:31 Rep. Wilmer
01:07:08 Mr. Stipich
01:07:51 Rep. Wilmer
01:08:10 Mr. Stipich
01:08:39 Rep. Wilmer
01:09:09 Mr. Stipich
01:10:35 Rep. Ingraham
01:11:17 Rep. Musgrove

Closing by Sponsor:

01:12:53 Rep. Musgrove

HEARING ON HB 647

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:17:17 Rep. Kevin Furey (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB 647, Provide workplace conflict resolution as job benefit.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:19:15 Rep. Furey

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 647

01:20:08 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ankney moved that **HB 647 BE TABLED**
The motion carried unanimously by voice vote, 18-0.
Rep. Sales voted by proxy.

HEARING ON HB 604

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:20:55 Rep. Mike Jopek (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 604, Revise ethics laws.

EXHIBIT (sth33a09)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:26:48 Eric Stern, Governor's Office
01:31:32 Rep. McAlpin
01:32:59 Elizabeth Andrews, Montana Common Cause

Opponents' Testimony:

01:34:04 Ronna Alexander, Montana Society of Association Executives

Informational Testimony:

01:40:10 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner of Political Practices

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:44:02 Rep. Jones
01:44:48 Mr. Unsworth
01:45:08 Rep. Jones
01:45:17 Mr. Unsworth
01:46:30 Rep. Jones
01:46:57 Mr. Unsworth
01:47:09 Rep. Dickenson
01:47:46 Rep. McAlpin
01:48:18 Rep. Dickenson
01:48:57 Sheri Heffelfinger
01:51:02 Rep. Ingraham
01:52:17 Rep. Jopek
01:53:20 Rep. Wilmer
01:53:45 Mr. Stern
01:55:23 Rep. Wilmer
01:56:00 Ms. Andrews
01:56:31 Chairman Himmelberger
01:57:03 Mr. Unsworth
01:57:21 Chairman Himmelberger
01:57:48 Mr. Unsworth

Closing by Sponsor:

01:57:54 Rep. Jopek

02:02:04 Break
02:17:47 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 97

02:17:56 **Motion:** Rep. Barrett moved that **HB 97 DO PASS.**

02:18:10 **Motion:** Rep. Barrett moved that **HB 97 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT (sth33a10)

Discussion:

02:18:16 Rep. Barrett
02:19:45 Ms. Heffelfinger

02:21:32 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 97 BE AMENDED** carried by voice vote, 18-0. Rep. Sales and Caferro voted by proxy.

02:21:56 **Motion:** Rep. Barrett moved that **HB 97 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

02:22:11 Rep. McNutt
02:22:51 Rep. Phillips
02:23:08 Rep. Barrett
02:23:49 Rep. Wilmer
02:24:17 Rep. Ingraham
02:24:33 Rep. Barrett

02:25:51 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 97 DO PASS AS AMENDED** carried by voice vote 18-0. Rep. Sales and Caferro voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 487

02:26:52 **Motion:** Rep. Malcolm moved that **HB 487 DO PASS.**

02:27:20 **Motion:** Rep. Malcolm moved that **HB 487 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT (sth33a11)

Discussion:

02:27:34 Rep. Malcolm
02:29:16 Ms. Heffelfinger
02:31:17 Rep. Dickenson
02:31:43 Ms. Heffelfinger
02:32:12 Rep. Ankney
02:32:29 Rep. Malcolm
02:32:32 Rep. McNutt

02:32:54 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 487 BE AMENDED** carried by voice vote, 18-0. Rep. Sales, Wilmer and Caferro voted by proxy.

02:33:41 **Motion:** Rep. Malcolm moved that **HB 487 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

02:33:55 Rep. Ingraham
02:34:41 Rep. Malcolm

02:34:55 Rep. Ankney
02:35:13 Rep. Dickenson
02:35:22 Rep. Malcolm
02:35:42 Rep. Dickenson
02:35:58 Chairman Himmelberger
02:36:10 Rep. Ingraham

02:36:50 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 487 DO PASS AS AMENDED** carried by voice vote 18-0. Rep. Sales and Caferro voted by proxy.

Additional Exhibits:

Document pertaining to HB 578, Hearing 02/14/07

EXHIBIT(sth33a12)

ADJOURNMENT

02:37:43 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth33aad.pdf](#))