

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: By Chairman Edward B. Butcher, on February 20, 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. Jonathan Windy Boy, Vice Chairman (D)
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. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Krayton Kerns (R)
Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R)
Rep. Diane Rice (R)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Dan Villa (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Bruce Malcolm

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 705, HB 720, HB 726
Executive Action: HB 400, HB 537

HEARING ON HB 726

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:17 Rep. Dave Gallik (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on HB 726, Revise animal cruelty law and create emergency animal evacuation plan.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:57 Dave Pauli, Montana Animal Care Association

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh38a01)

00:16:50 Vicki Dawson, Manager, Bitterroot Humane Association

00:21:29 Gina Wiest, Director, Lewis & Clark Humane Society

00:23:40 Linda Metzger, Registered Nurse

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh38a02)

00:28:37 Stuart Doggett, Montana Veterinary Medical Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:29:59 Dan McGowan, Administrator, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:31:33 Rep. Boggio

00:33:12 Rep. Gallik

00:34:55 Rep. Boggio

00:36:08 Rep. Gallik

00:36:26 Rep. Boggio

00:36:35 Rep. Lambert

00:37:10 Rep. Gallik

00:37:27 Rep. Heinert

00:38:13 Rep. Gallik

00:39:15 Chairman Butcher

00:39:22 Rep. Gallik

00:39:42 Chairman Butcher

00:40:09 Mr. McGowan

00:41:36 Chairman Butcher

00:42:04 Mr. McGowan

00:43:06 Chairman Butcher

00:43:15 Mr. McGowan

00:43:49 Rep. Henry

00:45:11 Mr. McGowan

00:46:35 Rep. Henry
00:47:17 Chairman Butcher
00:47:50 Ms. Dawson
00:48:54 Chairman Butcher
00:49:21 Ms. Dawson
00:49:33 Chairman Butcher
00:49:43 Mr. McGowan
00:50:46 Chairman Butcher
00:50:59 Mr. McGowan
00:52:46 Rep. Jopek
00:53:12 Mr. McGowan
00:53:55 Rep. French
00:54:50 Mr. McGowan

Closing by Sponsor:

00:56:20 Rep. Gallik

HEARING ON HB 720

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:07:39 Rep. Dave McAlpin (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HB 720, Require inspections for dog breeding facilities.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:12:55 Gina Wiest, Director, Lewis & Clark Humane Society
[EXHIBIT \(agh38a03\)](#)
[EXHIBIT \(agh38a04\)](#)
[EXHIBIT \(agh38a05\)](#)
[EXHIBIT \(agh38a06\)](#)
01:15:31 Vicki Dawson, Manager, Bitterroot Humane Association
01:18:26 Dave Pauli, Montana Animal Care Association

Opponents' Testimony:

01:21:05 Barbara Aspevig

Informational Testimony:

01:21:52 Dr. Jeanne Rankin, State Veterinarian, Department of Livestock
01:25:20 George Harris, Board of Livestock

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:27:58 Rep. Henry
01:29:01 Dr. Rankin
01:29:58 Rep. Henry
01:32:26 Dr. Rankin
01:32:33 Chairman Butcher
01:34:54 Dr. Rankin
01:36:04 Rep. French
01:37:34 Dr. Rankin
01:37:44 Rep. French
01:38:14 Dr. Rankin
01:38:35 Rep. French
01:38:53 Dr. Rankin
01:39:13 Rep. Jopek
01:40:01 Mr. Pauli
01:40:11 Rep. Jopek
01:40:36 Mr. Pauli
01:40:55 Rep. Jopek
01:41:16 Rep. McAlpin

Closing by Sponsor:

01:41:44 Rep. McAlpin

01:42:57 Break
01:50:57 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 705

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:51:31 Rep. Carol Lambert (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 705, Revise brand laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:52:48 Jeremy Seidleitz, Executive Director, Montana Cattlemens Association
01:54:41 Jack Owen, Director, Montana Cattlemens Association
02:01:01 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farming Economics
02:02:51 Paul Ringling, Rancher, Retired Legislator
02:05:12 Hugh Broadus, Chairman, Montana Cattlemens Association

Opponents' Testimony:

02:08:41 Nancy Schlepp, Montana Farm Bureau
02:12:51 Errol Rice, Montana Stock Growers Association

Informational Testimony:

02:21:22 George Harris, Board of Livestock
02:24:24 Dr. Jeanne Rankin, State Veterinarian, Department of
Livestock

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

02:26:54 Rep. Lambert

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 400

02:28:56 **Motion:** Rep. Villa moved that **HB 400 DO PASS.**

02:29:05 **Motion:** Rep. moved that **HB 400 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT (agh38a07)

Discussion:

02:29:34 Rep. Villa

02:30:00 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 400 BE AMENDED** carried
unanimously by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Malcolm and
Caferro voted by proxy.

02:30:48 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Villa moved that **HB 400 DO PASS AS**
AMENDED. Motion that **HB 400 DO PASS AS AMENDED** carried
by roll call vote, 18-0. Reps. Malcolm and Caferro
voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 537

02:32:35 **Motion:** Rep. Rice moved that **HB 537 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:32:44 Rep. French
02:34:20 Chairman Butcher

02:34:26 Rep. Lambert
 02:34:31 Rep. Villa
 02:35:35 Rep. Jones
 02:36:08 Rep. Ross
 02:36:26 Chairman Butcher
 02:37:50 Rep. Ross
 02:38:38 Rep. Keane
 02:38:49 Chairman Butcher
 02:38:59 Rep. Mendenhall
 02:40:14 Rep. Jones

02:41:43 **Motion:** Rep. Ross moved that **HB 537 BE AMENDED BY CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT**, "Increase the \$40 figure by \$10 and increase the \$56 figure by \$20."

Discussion:

02:42:10 Rep. Windy Boy
 02:42:40 Krista Evans
 02:43:10 Rep. Keane
 02:43:17 Ms. Evans
 02:44:02 Chairman Butcher
 02:44:19 Rep. Villa
 02:44:51 Rep. Windy Boy
 02:44:56 Ms. Evans

02:45:50 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 537 BE AMENDED BY CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT** carried by voice vote, 16-2. Reps. Villa and Caferro voted no. Rep. Malcolm voted by proxy.

02:46:32 **Motion:** Rep. Windy Boy moved that **HB 537 DO PASS AS AMENDED BY CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT**.

Discussion:

02:47:15 Rep. Mendenhall
 02:47:20 Rep. Jopek
 02:49:06 Rep. Windy Boy
 02:49:47 Chairman Butcher
 02:49:52 Ms. Evans
 02:50:46 Rep. French
 02:52:11 Chairman Butcher
 02:52:35 Rep. Keane

02:52:46 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 537 DO PASS AS AMENDED** carried by roll call vote, 15-3. Reps. Keane, Kerns and Mendenhall voted no. Rep. Malcolm voted by proxy.

Additional Exhibits:

Document Pertaining to HB 720/726, Hearing date 02/20/07

EXHIBIT(agh38a08)

Document Pertaining to HB 720/726, Hearing date 02/20/07

EXHIBIT(agh38a09)

ADJOURNMENT

02:54:04 Adjournment

REP. EDWARD B. BUTCHER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

EB/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([agh38aad.pdf](#))