

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ELSIE ARNTZEN**, on February 20, 2007
at 3:40 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Elsie Arntzen, Chairman (R)
Rep. Wayne Stahl, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Brady Wiseman, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)
Rep. Bob Ebinger (D)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. Hal Jacobson (D)
Rep. William J. Jones (R)
Rep. Deborah Kottel (D)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Bill Nooney (R)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)
Rep. Diane Sands (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Sonja Lee, Legislative Branch
Pam Schindler, Committee Secretary

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 & Date Posted:	HB 649, HB 662, HB 690, HB 729, 2/13/2007
Executive Action:	HB 415, HB 690, HB 662, HB 372, HB 551, HB 588

HEARING ON HB 690

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:47__Rep. Bob Bergren (D), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 690, Revise employer suspension laws for municipal firefighters.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:04 Harry Payne, City Resource Director, City of Helena
00:05:04 Steve Larson, Fire Chief, City of Helena
00:05:30 Doug Neil, Montana Firefighters Association
00:06:28 Steve Trethaway, Montana State Council for Professional Firefighters

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:07:08 Rep. MacLaren
00:07:17 Rep. Bergren
00:08:04 Rep. Arntzen
00:08:17 Rep. Bergren

Closing by Sponsor:

00:10:09 Rep. Bergren

HEARING ON HB 662

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:10:33 Rep. Dan Villa (D), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 662, Revise sanitation in subdivisions law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:12:21 Steve Kilbreath, Subdivision Director, Department of Environmental Quality, State of Montana
[EXHIBIT\(loh38a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:28 Rep. Nooney

00:16:51 Rep. Villa

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:57 Rep. Villa

HEARING ON HB 729

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:17:31 Rep. Holly Raser (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB 729, Amend county advertising requirements.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:19:05 John Barrows, Executive Director, Montana Newspaper Association

00:27:57 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties

EXHIBIT(loh38a02)

00:29:20 Matt Gibson, Publisher, Missoula Independent

EXHIBIT(loh38a03)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:33:17 Candace Payne, Lee Enterprises

00:37:07 Pat Schlauch, Publisher, Independent Record, Lee Enterprises

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:40:29 Rep. Stahl

00:40:47 Ms. Wood

00:43:03 Rep. Nooney

00:43:38 Rep. Raser

00:44:22 Rep. Hands

00:45:14 Mr. Gibson

00:47:30 Ms. Payne

00:47:40 Mr. Schlauch

00:48:13 Rep. Arntzen

00:48:37 Mr. Schlauch

00:50:08 Rep. Hands

00:50:23 Mr. Gibson

00:52:26 Mr.Schlauch

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:49 Rep. Raser

HEARING ON HB 649

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:53:57 Rep. John Sinrud (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB 649, Revise child abuse reporting laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:58:18 Corbert Harrington, Deputy County Attorney, Yellowstone County Attorney

01:10:07 Jane Dubbe, Coordinator, First Step Resource Center, St. Patrick Hospital, Missoula, Montana

[EXHIBIT\(loh38a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(loh38a05\)](#)

01:16:05 Danna Tool, self, Masters of Social Work, Child Advocacy

01:18:13 Kathleen Jenks, Assistant Attorney General, Child Protection Unit, Department of Justice, State of Montana

01:25:17 Jim Smith, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, Montana County Attorneys Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:27:00 Shirley Brown, Division Administrator, Child and Family Services, Department of Public Health and Human Services, State of Montana

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:31:16 Rep. Kottel

01:32:07 Rep. Sinrud

01:32:59 Mr. Harrington

01:46:33 Rep. Nooney

01:46:42 Rep. Sinrud

01:48:02 Ms. Jenks

01:53:50 Rep. Stahl

01:54:50 Mr. Harrington

01:58:54 Rep. Stahl

01:59:19 Ms. Brown

02:00:21 Rep. Hands

02:00:47 Ms. Brown

02:04:56 Rep. Sinrud
02:06:34 Rep. Ingraham
02:07:15 Rep. Sinrud
02:09:30 Mr. Smith
02:10:43 Rep. Ankney
02:11:22 Rep. Sinrud

Closing by Sponsor:

02:12:59 Rep. Sinrud

02:15:04 Chairman Arntzen, Committee Business
02:15:22 Rep. Stahl

EXHIBIT(loh38a06)

02:16:03 Break
02:22:41 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 372

02:23:23 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ingraham moved to **RECONSIDER THE MOTION on HB 372**. (Tied 8-8, 2/6/07) Motion carried present and voting unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion:

02:24:11 **Motion:** Rep. Ingraham moved that **HB 372 DO PASS**.

02:24:51 Rep. Ebinger
02:25:05 Rep. Ankney
02:25:16 Rep. Sands
02:25:31 Rep. Ingraham
02:25:50 Rep. Nooney
02:25:56 Rep. Stahl

02:27:21 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 372 DO PASS** carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Jacobson, Kottel, Hands, Blasdel, MacLaren, and O'Hara voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 415

02:28:50 **Motion:** Rep. Wiseman moved that **HB 415 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:29:06 Rep. Ankney

02:29:17 Rep. Stahl

02:29:39 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 415 DO PASS** carried 10-6 by roll call vote with Reps. Stahl, Ankney, Blasdel, Jones, MacLaren, and O'Hara voting no. Reps. Blasdel, Jacobson, Kottel, MacLaren and O'Hara voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 551

Motion: Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 551 DO PASS.**

02:31:08 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 551 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Jacobson, Kottel, O'Hara, Blasdel, and MacLaren voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT(loh38a07)

02:32:54 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 551 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Jacobson, Kottel, O'Hara, Blasdel, and MacLaren voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 588

02:35:31 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 588 DO PASS.**

02:35:43 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 588 BE AMENDED.** (with amendment from hearing 2/15/07)

EXHIBIT(loh38a08)

Discussion:

02:36:02 Rep. Stahl

02:36:17 Ms. Sonja Lee, Legislative Services

02:37:15 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 588 BE AMENDED** carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Blasdel, MacLaren, Jacobson, and Kottel voted by proxy.

02:37:50 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 588 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

02:38:01 Rep. Nooney
 02:38:25 Rep. Ankney
 02:38:48 Rep. Ingraham
 02:39:14 Rep. Hands
 02:39:38 Rep. Wiseman
 02:40:08 Rep. Ankney
 02:40:57 Rep. O'Hara
 02:42:02 Rep. Jones
 02:42:40 Rep. Stahl

02:43:34 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 588 DO PASS** failed 4-12 by roll call vote with Reps. Stahl, Ankney, Blasdel and Jones voting aye. Reps. Blasdel, Jacobson, Kottel, and MacLaren voted by proxy.

02:44:46 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 588 BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Blasdel, Jacobson, Kottel, and MacLaren voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 589

02:45:42 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 589 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

02:45:51 Rep. Stahl
 02:46:45 Rep. Wiseman
 02:47:21 Rep. Ingraham
 02:47:32 Rep. Nooney

02:47:56 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 589 DO PASS** failed 8-8 by roll call vote with Reps. Stahl, Ankney, Blasdel, Jones, MacLaren, Nooney, O'Hara, and Arntzen voting aye. Reps. Blasdel, Jacobson, Kottel, and MacLaren voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 690

02:49:45 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 690 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

02:50:04 Rep. Rice
 02:50:31 Rep. Ingraham

02:50:39 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 690 DO PASS** carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Kottel, Blasdel, MacLaren, and Jacobson voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 662

02:51:37 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 662 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Blasdel, MacLaren, Kottel and Jacobson voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:38 P.M.

REP. ELSIE ARNTZEN, Chairman

PAM SCHINDLER, Secretary

EA/ps

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([loh38aad.pdf](#))