

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By Vice Chair Janna Taylor on March 9, 2007 at 8:04 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Eve Franklin, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tim Callahan (D)
Rep. Edith Clark (R)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. John L. Musgrove (D)
Rep. Rick Ripley (R)
Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)
Rep. Craig Witte (R)

Members Excused: Rep. John Sinrud, Chairman (R)
Rep. Bill Beck (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jon Moe, 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 & Date Posted: HB 294, HB 273, HB 114, HB 195, HB 196, HB 148, HB 27, HB 201, HB 240, HB 278, HB 293, 3/5/2007
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 294

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:31 Rep. Sue Dickenson (D), HD 25, opened the hearing on HB 294, Soldier appreciation scholarships.

[EXHIBIT](#) (aph50a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:51 Colonel Jim Jacobson, United States Army-Retired

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:08:30 Joe Foster, Administrator, Montana Veterans Affairs Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:08:50 Rep. Ripley
00:09:12 Rep. Dickenson
00:10:25 Rep. Taylor
00:10:27 Rep. Dickenson
00:11:56 Rep. Sesso
00:12:09 Rep. Dickenson
00:14:17 Rep. Dickenson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:14:58 Rep. Dickenson

HEARING ON HB 273

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:16:14 Rep. Scott Mendenhall (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 273, Revise motor vehicle registration laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:19:20 Rhonda Wiggers, County Treasurers' Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:21:03 Dean Roberts, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:25:42 Rep. Musgrove
00:26:16 Mr. Roberts
00:26:34 Rep. Sesso
00:27:05 Mr. Roberts
00:28:53 Mr. Roberts
00:30:31 Rep. Ripley
00:30:51 Rep. Mendenhall
00:31:30 Rep. Kasten
00:32:26 Rep. Mendenhall

Closing by Sponsor:

00:33:53 Rep. Mendenhall

HEARING ON HB 114

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:34:55 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 114; Establish Montana electrical transmission and pipeline authority.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:36:35 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
00:36:58 Leo Berry, Attorney, Great Northern Power Development
00:39:56 Tom Ebzery, Attorney, Puget Sound, Portland Electric, Avista Corp
00:41:17 Bud Clinch, Executive Director, Montana Coal Council
00:41:52 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA)
00:42:54 Daniel Watson, Roosevelt County Commissioner

Opponents' Testimony:

00:44:10 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:45:53 Rep. Kasten
00:46:14 Mr. Berry
00:46:53 Rep. Kasten
00:47:53 Rep. Olson

00:48:25 Rep. McChesney
00:48:33 Rep. Olson
00:50:27 Rep. Olson
00:51:11 Rep. Ripley
00:51:44 Rep. Olson
00:52:37 Rep. Witte
00:52:59 Rep. Olson
00:53:09 Mr. Moe
00:55:20 Rep. Kasten
00:55:25 Mr. Moe
00:55:43 Rep. Kasten

Closing by Sponsor:

00:55:50 Rep. Olson

HEARING ON HB 195

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:59:00 Rep. Michael Lange (R), HD 55, opened the hearing on HB 195, Revise developmental disabilities services.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:04:06 Rep. Witte
01:04:28 Rep. Lange

Closing by Sponsor:

01:04:34 Rep. Lange

HEARING ON HB 196

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:04:44 Rep. Michael Lange (R), HD 55, opened the hearing on HB 196, Create coal development impact fund.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:09:13 Rep. Kasten
01:10:13 Rep. Lange
01:11:04 Rep. McChesney
01:12:10 Rep. Lange
01:12:21 Rep. Sesso
01:21:36 Rep. Lange
01:22:38 Rep. Morgan
01:23:08 Rep. Lange
01:25:48 Rep. Witte
01:28:36 Rep. Lange
01:30:03 Rep. McChesney
01:34:04 Rep. Lange
01:35:29 Rep. Kasten

Closing by Sponsor:

01:36:56 Rep. Lange

HEARING ON HB 148

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:39:17 Rep. Wanda Grinde (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB 148, Pool inspection fee.

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:41:37 Kathleen McCarthy, Bureau Chief for Disease Prevention and Control, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
01:42:41 Jim Carlson, Director Environmental Health, Missoula City County Health Department; on behalf of Health Departments in Missoula, Yellowstone, Gallatin, Flathead, Lewis and Clark, Silver Bow, and Cascade Counties

[EXHIBIT \(aph50a05\)](#)

01:45:50 Mike Henderson, Administrator, Communicable Disease Control Division, Lewis and Clark County Health Department

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:47:20 Rep. Kasten

01:48:35 Rep. Grinde

Closing by Sponsor:

01:49:18 Rep. Grinde

HEARING ON HB 27

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:49:45 Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on HB 27, Establish wireless enhanced 9-1-1 system.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:51:51 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

01:53:05 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association

01:53:34 Michael Strand, CEO and General Counsel, Montana Communications Systems

01:54:59 Margaret Morgan, ALLTEL Communications

01:55:47 Jim Kembel, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police, on behalf of Kevin Myrehy, Lewistown

Opponents' Testimony:

01:56:18 Dennis Lopach, TRACFONE

Informational Testimony:

01:57:57 Jeff Brandt, Deputy Chief of Administration, Department of Administration

01:58:39 Jim McKeon, Miscellaneous Tax Unit Manager, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:59:11 Rep. Morgan

02:00:46 Mr. Brandt

02:02:16 Rep. Morgan

02:05:17 Ms. Morgan

02:06:23 Ms. Morgan

02:07:53 Mr. Lopach

02:08:51 Rep. Kasten
02:10:11 Ms. Morgan
02:13:11 Rep. Kasten
02:14:17 Mr. Brandt
02:15:36 Rep. Kasten
02:15:41 Mr. Brandt
02:16:54 Rep. Sesso
02:17:30 Mr. Strand
02:18:00 Rep. Sesso
02:19:03 Mr. Strand
02:21:57 Rep. Sesso
02:24:09 Mr. Strand
02:26:31 Rep. Ripley
02:26:39 Rep. Witte
02:27:11 Rep. Driscoll
02:27:18 Rep. Witte
02:27:52 Mr. Brandt
02:29:12 Rep. Witte

Closing by Sponsor:

02:29:31 Rep. Driscoll

HEARING ON HB 201

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:31:40 Rep. Mike Jopek (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 201, Revise opencut mine laws and set fees.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:37:12 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors' Association
02:43:39 Neil Harrington, Department of Environmental Quality

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:48:07 Rep. Ripley
02:48:35 Rep. Jopek
02:48:51 Rep. Ripley
02:49:29 Mr. Harrington

Closing by Sponsor:

02:52:16 Rep. Jopek

HEARING ON HB 240

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:55:00 Rep. Bill Nooney (R), HD 100, opened the hearing on HB 240, Short-term emergency lodging tax credit.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:56:12 James Royan, letter from Cynthia Weese, Executive Director, YMCA, Missoula

EXHIBIT (aph50a06)

03:02:25 Mary Smith, Office Manager, Helena Salvation Army

03:03:38 Stuart Doggett, Montana Inn Keepers Association

03:04:47 Jennifer Hill-Hart, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

03:06:12 Jim McKeon, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:06:29 Rep. Morgan

03:10:33 Mr. McKeon, DOR

03:11:14 Rep. Jayne

03:12:12 Rep. Nooney

03:12:59 Rep. Hawk

03:14:25 Rep. Nooney

Closing by Sponsor:

03:16:45 Rep. Nooney

HEARING ON HB 278

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:17:25 Rep. Ron Stoker (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 278, Continue genetics program and fee.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:21:08 Jack Casey, Administrator, Shodair Hospital, Helena

03:25:58 Jim Ahrens, Montana Hospital Association; named as a proponent by Rep. Himmelberger

03:26:05 Mona Jamison, Montana Hospital Association

Opponents' Testimony:

03:27:07 Frank Kotee, Health Insurance Plans; also representing
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana for Tanya Ask
03:34:06 Jacklyn Lenmark, American Council of Life Insurers
(ACLI); American Insurance Association (AIA); also, on
behalf of Greg Van Horsen, State Farm Insurance
EXHIBIT (aph50a07)
03:37:24 Don Allen, Montana Association of Insurance and
Financial Advisers

Informational Testimony:

03:38:13 Joanne Dotson, State Health Department, Genetics
Contracts administration
03:38:38 John Huth, Division Administrator, State Auditor's
Office
03:38:57 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Analysis Staff

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:40:10 Rep. Morgan
03:40:39 Ms. Wilkinson
03:41:27 Ms. Wilkinson
03:42:44 Rep. Morgan
03:45:41 Mr. Casey
03:47:11 Rep. Taylor
03:47:15 Mr. Casey
03:47:28 Rep. Taylor
03:48:39 Mr. Huth
03:48:54 Rep. Taylor
03:48:58 Rep. Stoker

Closing by Sponsor:

03:49:17 Rep. Stoker

HEARING ON HB 293

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:51:12 Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R), HD 47, opened the hearing
on HB 293, Allocate lottery money to teacher's
retirement system.
EXHIBIT (aph50a08)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

03:55:08 Eric Feaver, MEA/MFT

Informational Testimony:

03:58:26 David Senn, Executive Director, Teachers' Retirement
System

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

03:59:27 Rep. Himmelberger

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12 P.M.

REP. JOHN SINRUD, Chairman

LINDA KEIM, Secretary

JS/lk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([aph50aad.pdf](#))