

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By Vice Chairman Janna Taylor, on March 13, 2007
at 8:06 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Eve Franklin, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Bill Beck (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)

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 630, HB 790, HB 644, HB 330, HB
401, HB 556, HB 637, HB 667, HB 719,
HB 734, HB 740, HB 569, HB 304, HB
354, 3/9/2007

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 630

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:13 Rep. Dave Gallik (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on HB 630, Restrict internet phishing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:18 Amy Grmoljez, Montana Bankers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:04:58 Rep. Gallik

HEARING ON HB 790

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:05:26 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 790, Revise unemployment insurance contribution rates and administrative assessments.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:22 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Federated Business; also representing John Barrows, Federated Newspaper Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:10:12 Roy Mulvaney, Administrator, Unemployment Insurance Program

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:11:07 Rep. Beck
00:11:30 Mr. Jones
00:12:12 Rep. Wells
00:12:52 Rep. Jones

00:14:21 Rep. Witte

00:16:05 Rep. Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Llew Jones

HEARING ON HB 330

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:17:50 Rep. Bob Bergren (D), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 330, Clean and renewable energy bonding.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:19:07 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

00:21:51 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved In Farm Economics (WIFE)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:22:36 Rep. Bergren

HEARING ON HB 401

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:22:53 Rep. Dan Villa (D), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 401, Revise laws relating to water and wastewater treatment plant operators.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:23:37 Rep. Villa

HEARING ON HB 644

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:23:52 Rep. Jon Sonju (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 644,
Revise net operating loss to conform to federal law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:25:32 Holly Franz, Montana Society of CPAs

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:27:07 Brian Stahley, Corporate Tax Unit Manager, Department
of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:27:32 Rep. Jayne
00:28:01 Rep. Sonju
00:29:07 Rep. Sonju
00:29:23 Rep. Jayne
00:31:56 Mr. Stahley
00:32:18 Rep. Taylor
00:32:34 Mr. Stahley

Closing by Sponsor:

00:32:51 Rep. Sonju

HEARING ON HB 556

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:33:25 Rep. Bill McChesney (D), HD 40, opened the hearing on
HB 556, Allow special fuel user to use dyed fuel under
certain conditions.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:34:26 Gayle Abercrombie, Montana Contractors' Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:35:57 Rep. Witte

00:36:41 Rep. McChesney

Closing by Sponsor:

00:38:37 Rep. McChesney

HEARING ON HB 637

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:45 Rep. Harry Klock (R), HD 83, opened the hearing on HB 637, Provide income tax exemption for military service.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:39:49 Roger Hagan, National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations of Montana

[EXHIBIT \(aph53a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:45:04 Brian Olson, Income Tax Specialist, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:45:24 Rep. Wells

00:46:00 Mr. Olson

00:46:55 Rep. Witte

00:47:32 Rep. Klock

00:48:43 Rep. Witte

00:48:51 Mr. Olson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:49:15 Rep. Klock

HEARING ON HB 667

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:49:36 Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 667, Funding for Lewis and Clark tourism site endowments.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:51:25 Rep. Bill Nooney
00:51:45 Charles Brooks, Billings, Yellowstone County
Commissioners; Yellowstone Lewis and Clark Commission
00:52:41 Jay Russell, Executive Director, Lewis and Clark
Interpretive Center
00:53:42 Loren Flynn, Executive Directive, Travelers Rest
Preservation and Heritage Association, Lolo

EXHIBIT (aph53a02)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:55:00 Richard Sims, Director, Montana Historical Society

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:08 Mr. Moe
00:57:42 Mr. Russell
00:58:11 Mr. Moe
00:58:27 Rep. O'Hara
00:58:37 Rep. Witte
00:58:42 Rep. Wells
00:59:54 Mr. Moe
01:00:19 Rep. Kasten
01:01:34 Rep. O'Hara
01:01:49 Mr. Russell
01:02:43 Rep. Sesso
01:04:38 Mr. Sims
01:05:16 Mr. Moe

Closing by Sponsor:

01:05:44 Rep. O'Hara

HEARING ON HB 719

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:06:05 Rep. Franke Wilmer (D), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 719, Child and dependent care tax credit.

[EXHIBIT\(aph53a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(aph53a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:12:41 Brian Olson, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:13:05 Rep. Wilmer

HEARING ON HB 734

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:13:53 Rep. Dave McAlpin (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HB 734, Critical funding for community mental health.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:16:56 Kathy McGowan, Montana County Attorneys Association; Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association

01:18:54 Anita Roessmann, Montana Advocacy Program

01:22:38 Charles Brooks, Board of County Commissioners, Yellowstone County

01:23:21 Gloria Hermanson, Clinical Mental Health Counselors

01:23:44 Cheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:24:21 Bob Mullen, Department of Public Health and Human Services, Addictive Mental Illness Services Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:24:52 Rep. Kasten
01:26:20 Ms. McGowan
01:28:48 Rep. Hawk
01:31:41 Ms. McGowan

Closing by Sponsor:

01:33:04 Rep. McAlpin

01:33:48 Break
01:49:26 Resume

HEARING ON HB 740

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:49:45 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 740, State purchase of military headstones.

[EXHIBIT](#)(aph53a05)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:51:56 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Officer Enlisted Associations
01:53:06 Cheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

[EXHIBIT](#)(aph53a06)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:54:06 Rep. Morgan
01:54:24 Rep. Olson

Closing by Sponsor:

01:54:44 Rep. Olson

HEARING ON HB 569

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:55:56 Rep. Diane Rice (R), HD 71, opened the hearing on HB 569, Generally revise nursery laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:58:07 Chris Wagner, Montana Nursery and Landscape Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:59:10 Greg Ames, Administrator, Agricultural Science
Division, Montana Department of Agriculture

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:59:36 Rep. Morgan
02:00:02 Mr. Ames

Closing by Sponsor:

02:00:52 Rep. Rice

HEARING ON HB 304

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:01:33 Rep. Kevin Furey (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB
304, Create interim water policy committee.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:03:13 Rep. Taylor noted that Rep. McNutt expressed support
but was unable to stay for the hearing
02:03:17 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and
Conservation
02:06:31 Sen. Verdell Jackson, SD 5
02:09:38 Holly Franz, Pacific Power and Light (PPL Montana)
02:11:11 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center
02:11:25 Bob Lane, Chief Legal Counsel, Montana Fish, Wildlife
and Parks Department
02:14:11 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved In Farm Economics (WIFE)
02:14:36 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

02:17:14 Thomas Patton, Montana Mines and Geology

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:17:33 Rep. Kasten
02:22:46 Mr. Tubbs
02:24:10 Rep. Sesso
02:26:02 Rep. Furey
02:27:05 Rep. Taylor
02:27:25 Rep. Furey

Closing by Sponsor:

02:29:40 Rep. Furey

HEARING ON HB 354

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:30:41 Rep. Mary Caferro (D), HD 80, opened the hearing on HB 354, Expand services for deaf children in schools.

[EXHIBIT](#)(aph53a07)

Proponents' Testimony:

02:33:24 Cleo Klepzig, Montana City parent
02:41:21 Lois Gilge, Havre parent
02:43:26 Carl Schweitzer, Montana Association for the Blind
02:45:34 Steve Gettel, Superintendent, Montana State School for the Deaf and Blind (MSDB)

[EXHIBIT](#)(aph53a08)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

02:49:40 Bob Runkel, Office of Public Instruction
02:52:52 Chris Wilkenson, Legislative Fiscal Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:54:17 Rep. Morgan
02:59:00 Mr. Gettel
03:00:38 Rep. Morgan
03:01:31 Ms. Klepzig
03:02:12 Rep. Franklin
03:03:21 Mr. Gettel
03:05:08 Rep. Jayne
03:05:46 Mr. Runkel

Closing by Sponsor:

03:07:33 Rep. Caferro

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:17 A.M.

REP. JOHN SINRUD, Chairman

LINDA KEIM, Secretary

JS/lk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([aph53aad.pdf](#))