

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: By Chairman Elsie Arntzen, on March 29, 2007 at 4:06 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. 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: Rep. Betsy Hands (D)

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: SB 264, HJR 50, 3/26/2007
Executive Action: SJR 26, SB 244, SB 349, SB 406, SB 503, SB 527, HJR 50, SB 264

HEARING ON HJR 50

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:27 Rep. Arlene Becker (D), HD 52, opened the hearing on HJ 50, Study mental health pre-commitment process.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:27 Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner,
Chairman, Health and Human Services Committee, Montana
Association of Counties

00:07:55 Jani McCall, Billings Clinic

00:10:21 Carl Seilstad, County Commissioner, Fergus County

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:11:33 Rep. Jones

00:12:16 Rep. Becker

00:13:38 Rep. Arntzen

00:14:09 Ms. McCall

00:17:02 Mr. Kennedy

Closing by Sponsor:

00:19:43 Rep. Becker

00:21:08 Break

00:37:54 Reconvene

Committee Business:

00:38:15 Chairman Arntzen

00:39:02 Rep. Wiseman

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 26

00:39:51 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SJR 26 BE CONCURRED IN.**

00:40:01 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SJR 26 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(loh67a01)

Discussion:

00:40:22 Sonja Lee, Legislative Staffer

00:40:48 **Vote:** Motion that **SJR 26 BE AMENDED** carried
unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Hands voted by proxy.

00:41:32 **Motion:** Rep. Sands moved that **SJR 26 BE CONCURRED IN
AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

00:41:39 Rep. Ebinger

00:42:32 Rep. Sands

00:42:56 Rep. Nooney

00:43:19 **Vote:** Motion that **SJR 26 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**
carried 12-4 by voice vote with Reps. Blasdel,
Ingraham, Stahl, and Arntzen voting no. Rep. Hands
voted by proxy. Rep. Nooney to carry on the House
Floor.

HEARING ON SB 264

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:44:41 Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D), SD 41, opened the hearing
on SB 264, Low-income rates for local government
utilities.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:46:32 Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities and Towns

00:48:47 Dave Nielsen, City Attorney, City of Helena, Helena,
Montana

00:49:17 Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner,
Chairman, Health and Human Services Committee, Montana
Association of Counties

00:50:49 Jackie Boyle, AARP-Montana

EXHIBIT(loh67a02)

00:54:12 Olivia Riutta, Working for Equality and Economic
Liberation (WEEL)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:23 Rep. Ankney
00:57:00 Mr. Hansen
00:57:22 Rep. Ebinger
00:57:53 Sen. Kaufmann
00:58:37 Rep. Ingraham
00:59:25 Mr. Hansen
01:00:21 Rep. Stahl
01:00:42 Mr. Hansen
01:01:14 Rep. Ebinger
01:01:28 Rep. Jones
01:02:12 Mr. Nielsen
01:03:25 Rep. Nooney
01:03:46 Sen. Kaufmann
01:05:00 Rep. Kottel
01:05:42 Sen. Kaufmann
01:06:13 Rep. Arntzen
01:06:44 Mr. Hansen

Closing by Sponsor:

01:07:37 Sen. Kaufmann

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 244

01:09:24 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SB 244 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:09:30 Ms. Lee
01:09:53 Rep. Jacobson
01:11:39 Rep. Ankney
01:12:10 Rep. Ebinger
01:12:38 Rep. Stahl
01:13:21 Rep. Jones
01:14:46 Rep. Ebinger
01:16:01 Rep. Nooney
01:17:30 Rep. Jones
01:18:15 Rep. Jacobson
01:18:57 Rep. Sands
01:19:24 Rep. Arntzen
01:20:37 Rep. Sands
01:21:26 Rep. Arntzen
01:22:45 Ms. Lee

01:21:47 **Motion:** Rep. Ebinger moved that **SB 244 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(loh67a03)

Discussion:

01:23:44 Rep. Jones

01:23:58 Rep. Kottel

01:24:26 Rep. Ebinger withdrew motion to amend SB 244.

01:24:35 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 244 BE CONCURRED IN** failed 8-8 by roll call vote with Reps. Wiseman, Ebinger, Grinde, Hands, Jacobson, Jones, Kottel, and Sands voting aye. Rep. Hands voted by proxy.

01:25:41 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved to **RECONSIDER THE MOTION AND TABLE SB 244.** Motion carried 9-7 by voice vote with Reps. Ebinger, Grinde, Kottel, Jones, and Hands voting no. Rep. Hands voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 349

01:27:10 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SB 349 BE CONCURRED IN.**

01:27:30 **Motion:** Rep. Jacobson moved that **SB 349 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(loh67a04)

Discussion:

01:27:59 Ms. Lee

01:28:43 Rep. Stahl

01:29:02 Rep. Arntzen

01:29:40 Rep. Sands

01:30:28 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 349 BE AMENDED** carried 11-5 by roll call vote with Reps. Ankney, Blasdel, Jones, Kottel, and MacLaren voting no. Rep. Ankney and Hands voted by proxy.

01:31:22 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Wiseman moved that **SB 349 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion failed 8-8 by roll call vote with Reps. Wiseman, Grinde, Hands, Ingraham, Jacobson, Kottel, O'Hara, and Sands voting aye. Reps. Ankney and Hands voted by proxy.

01:32:35 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved to **REVERSE THE VOTE AND TABLE SB 349.** Motion carried 12-4 by voice vote with Reps. O'Hara, Wiseman, Hands and Grinde voting no. Rep. Ankney and Hands voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 406

01:33:33 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SB 406 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:33:46 Rep. Stahl

01:34:49 Rep. Arntzen

01:34:54 Rep. Sands

01:35:09 **Vote:** **Motion** that **SB 406 BE CONCURRED IN** carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Ankney and Hands voted by proxy. Rep. Stahl to carry on House Floor.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 503

01:37:56 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SB 503 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion failed 0-16 by roll call vote. Reps. Hands and O'Hara voted by proxy vote.

01:39:19 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Wiseman moved that **SB 503 BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED.** Motion carried. Rep. Hands and O'Hara voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 527

01:39:50 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SB 527 BE CONCURRED IN.**

01:40:44 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Sands moved that **SB 527 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried 15-1 by voice vote with Rep. Stahl voting no. Rep. Hands voted by proxy.

EXHIBIT (loh67a05)

Discussion:

01:42:07 Rep. Wiseman

01:42:10 Rep. Ankney

01:44:13 Rep. Kottel

01:46:15 Rep. Ebinger

01:46:31 Rep. Ingraham

01:46:44 Rep. Sands

01:48:03 Rep. Jacobson

01:48:39 Rep. Nooney

01:48:48 Rep. Stahl

01:49:21 Rep. Ebinger

01:49:32 Rep. Arntzen

01:50:26 Rep. MacLaren

01:50:43 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 527 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED** carried 12-4 by roll call vote with Reps. Stahl, Ankney Blasdel, Arntzen voting no. Reps. Hands and O'Hara voting by proxy. Rep. Ingraham to carry on House Floor.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 50

01:52:27 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HJR 50 BE ADOPTED**.

Discussion:

01:53:47 Rep. Jacobson

01:53:51 **Vote:** Motion that **HJR 50 BE ADOPTED** carried unanimously by voice vote. Reps. Hands, O'Hara and Blasdel voted by proxy. Rep. Becker to carry on House Floor.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 264

01:55:06 **Motion:** Rep. Jacobson moved that **SB 264 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

01:55:14 Rep. Ankney

01:55:32 Rep. Arntzen

01:55:52 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties

01:57:06 Rep. Ebinger

01:57:47 Rep. Nooney

01:58:06 Rep. Kottel

02:00:52 Rep. Ebinger

02:02:08 Mr. Blattie

02:03:18 Rep. Jones

02:05:47 Rep. Stahl

02:06:36 Rep. Kottel

02:07:28 Rep. Ankney

02:08:20 Rep. Nooney

02:09:02 Rep. Ebinger

02:10:03 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 264 BE CONCURRED IN** failed 7-9 by roll call vote with Reps. Wiseman, Ebinger, Grinde, Hands, Jacobson, Kottel, and Sands voting aye. Reps. Grinde, Hands, MacLaren, and O'Hara voted by proxy.

02:11:16 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **SB 264 BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED**. Motion carried. Reps. Grinde, Hands, MacLaren, and O'Hara voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:40 P.M.

REP. ELSIE ARNTZEN, Chairman

PAM SCHINDLER, Secretary

EA/ps

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([loh67aad.pdf](#))