

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By Chairman John Sinrud, on April 3, 2007 at
8:04 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. John Sinrud, Chairman (R)
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: None.

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: SB 113, SB 235, SB 206, SB 131, SB
445, SB 163, SB 149, SB 137, SB
161, SB 301, SB 413, SB 359, SB
498, 3/30/2007

HEARING ON SB 113

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:51 Sen. Dave Lewis (R), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 113, Increase meal reimbursement rates for state employees.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:53 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association
00:06:55 J. C. Weingartner, MEA-MFT
00:07:11 Don Judge, Teamsters Local 190

Opponents' Testimony:

Informational Testimony:

00:07:38 Paul Kristofferson, Department of Administration

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:08:05 Sen. Lewis

HEARING ON SB 235

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:08:33 Sen. Steven Gallus (D), SD 37, opened the hearing on SB 235, Establish SW Montana veterans' home - use 2 cents cigarette tax money.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:12:18 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, U. S. Army - Retired; Chairman of Montana American Legion
00:15:05 Jim Davison, Anaconda
00:16:59 Rebecca Gay, Chief Executive Officer, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:18:08 Kelly Williams, Administrator, Senior and Long Term Care Division, Department of Human Health and Services (DPHHS)

00:18:58 Joe Foster, Administrator, Montana Veterans Affairs
Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:19:22 Rep. Beck
00:24:31 Ms. Williams
[EXHIBIT\(aph71a01\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(aph71a02\)](#)
00:25:34 Rep. Kasten
00:27:15 Ms. Williams

Closing by Sponsor:

00:28:21 Sen. Gallus

HEARING ON SB 206

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:00 Sen. John Cobb (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on
SB 206, Health insurance incentives for Medicaid
healthcare workers.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:33:12 Mike Hanshaw, Nightengale Home Nursing and Personal
Care Services
00:38:15 Charlie Briggs, Community Disability Services
Corporation
00:38:49 Dell Lonquist, for Sandy Jankowski; AARP Montana
[EXHIBIT\(aph71a03\)](#)
00:39:54 Jani McCall, Montana Childrens' Initiative Provider
Association
00:40:50 Rep. Bill Thomas, HD 26, Great Falls

Opponents' Testimony:

00:42:19 Nancy Heyer, RN, Missoula
[EXHIBIT\(aph71a04\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

00:46:57 Kelly Williams, Senior and Long Term Care Division,
DPHHS

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:47:47 Sen. Cobb

HEARING ON SB 131

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:51:15 Sen. John Cobb (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 131, Revise land banking laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:52:54 Tom Schultz, Administrator, Trust Land Division,
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

EXHIBIT (aph71a05)

00:56:49 Kathy Bramer, representing Superintendent Linda McCullough, a member of the Land Board

01:00:04 John Prinkki, President, Montana Association of Counties (Maco)

01:01:09 Ms. West on behalf of Mike McGrath, Attorney General

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:03:09 Rep. Taylor

01:04:01 Mr. Schultz

01:05:15 Rep. Ripley

01:08:08 Mr. Schultz

01:06:25 Rep. Kasten

01:08:27 Mr. Schultz

01:08:55 Rep. Sinrud

01:13:16 Mr. Schultz

01:13:25 Rep. McChesney

Closing by Sponsor:

01:14:41 Sen. Cobb

HEARING ON SB 445

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:15:30 Sen. Mitch Tropila (D), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 445, Expand energy conservation and efficiency program.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:18:29 Rep. Allan Olson, HD 45
01:19:36 Rep. Bill Thomas, HD 26
01:20:43 Louise Moore, Chief, Air and Pollution Bureau,
Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
01:22:06 Pat Torgerson, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:22:37 Rep. Ripley
01:25:17 Ms. Moore

Closing by Sponsor:

01:25:58 Sen. Tropila

HEARING ON SB 163

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:27:01 Sen. Jim Shockley (R), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB
163, Clarify nolo contendere plea acceptance as
discretionary.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:30:38 Allie Bovington, Attorney Generals' Office

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:31:48 Sen. Shockley

HEARING ON SB 149

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:32:15 Sen. Bill Tash (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB
149, Revise use of Xanthopoulos building.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:34:27 Deb Matussi, Behavioral Health Coordinator, DPHHS
01:38:52 Ed Amberg, Director, Montana State Hospital, Warm
Springs
01:46:14 Mike Ferriter, Director, Montana Department of
Corrections

Opponents' Testimony:

01:50:07 Anita Roessmann, Montana Advocacy Program

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:59:41 Rep. Morgan
02:01:40 Bob Anderson, Governor's Budget Office
02:05:29 Rep. Morgan
02:06:12 Rep. Sinrud
02:06:22 Rep. Kasten
02:07:10 Rep. Sinrud
02:07:19 Rep. Kasten
02:07:24 Rep. Morgan
02:07:40 Rep. Beck
02:09:01 Mike Ferriter, Director, Department of Corrections
02:10:59 Mr. Amberg
02:11:38 Rep. Beck
02:16:14 Ms. Roessmann
02:16:30 Rep. Kasten
02:20:37 Ms. Roessmann
02:21:12 Rep. Hiner
02:21:40 Mr. Amberg
02:24:03 Rep. Witte
02:25:40 Mr. Amberg
02:26:10 Rep. Sinrud
02:34:44 Ms. Matucci
02:40:00 Mr. Amberg
02:40:55 Rep. Sinrud
02:43:19 Ms. Matucci
02:43:32 Rep. Sinrud
02:43:54 Ms. Roessmann
02:45:32 Rep. Sinrud
02:48:20 Mr. Ferriter

Closing by Sponsor:

02:52:34 Sen. Tash

HEARING ON SB 137

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:59:06 Sen. Rick Laible (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SB 137, Create budget stabilization fund.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:07:03 Amy Carlson, Governor's Budget Office

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

03:08:38 Sen. Laible

HEARING ON SB 161

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:09:40 Sen. Rick Laible (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SB 161, Revise captive insurance laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:14:57 Pat Driscoll, Chief Legal Counsel, Auditor's Office

03:15:31 Amy Minto, Attorney, Liability Insurance Protection Management

03:16:37 Dick Brown, Senior Vice President, Montana Hospital Association (MHA); Attorney for MHA Self Insured Reciprocal; Work Comp Program; Yellowstone Insurance Company

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

03:18:36 John Huth, Captive Insurance Coordinator, State Auditor's Office

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:18:58 Rep. Morgan

03:20:22 Mr. Huth

03:20:40 Rep. Franklin
03:20:51 Mr. Huth
03:21:21 Rep. Jayne
03:22:03 Sen. Laible
03:23:24 Mr. Huth
03:23:38 Rep. Sinrud
03:24:16 Mr. Huth

Closing by Sponsor:

03:25:15 Sen. Laible

HEARING ON SB 301

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:26:07 Sen. Lynda Moss (D), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB
301, Authorize bond issuance for historic preservation.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:27:07 Chere Jiusto, Executive Director, Montana Preservation
Alliance
03:29:58 John Prinkki, Montana Associatin of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony:

03:30:31 Mike Fellows, Missoula

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

03:31:39 Sen. Moss

HEARING ON SB 413

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:32:14 Sen. Lynda Moss (D), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB
413, Timely deposit of funds by state contractors and
agents.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

03:34:41 Monica Smith, Legal Counsel, Legislative Audit Division
03:35:03 Paul Kristofferson, Department of Administration
03:35:41 Margaret Kauska, Montana Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:36:00 Rep. Sesso
03:39:14 Ms. Smith
03:39:26 Mr. Kristofferson
03:39:43 Rep. Beck
03:41:47 Ms. Smith

Closing by Sponsor:

03:42:18 Sen. Moss

HEARING ON SB 359

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:43:17 Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D), SD 47, opened the hearing
on SB 359, Revise horse racing board members/move to
Dept. of Agriculture.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:48:06 Sherry Meador, Montana Task Force

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

03:50:18 Chris Aageson, Department of Agriculture
03:50:53 George Harris, Board of Livestock

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:51:07 Rep. Musgrove
03:53:53 Sen. Cocchiarella

Closing by Sponsor:

03:54:21 Sen. Cocchiarella

HEARING ON SB 498

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

03:55:12 Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 498, Plan for universal health care system for all Montanans.

Proponents' Testimony:

04:02:32 Betty Beverly, Montana Senior Citizen's Association

04:05:30 Oliva Riutta, Working for Equality and Economic Liberation (WEEL)

EXHIBIT(aph71a06)

04:08:57 Kim Abbott, Montana Human Rights Network

EXHIBIT(aph71a07)

04:10:57 Don Judge, Teamsters' Local 190

04:12:52 Claudia Clifford, Associate State Director, AARP

EXHIBIT(aph71a08)

04:14:24 Verner Bertelsen, self

04:14:48 Terry Kendrick, Policy Institute

Opponents' Testimony:

04:15:36 Mike Fellows, Chair, Montana Libertarian Party

EXHIBIT(aph71a09)

Informational Testimony:

04:21:38 Gayle Brieese-Zimmer, DPHHS

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

04:22:02 Rep. Musgrove

04:22:25 Mr. Fellows

04:23:34 Rep. Kasten

04:25:44 Ms. Riutta

04:26:56 Rep. Franklin

04:27:49 Ms. Riutta

04:29:49 Sen. Kauffman

04:30:40 Rep. Taylor

04:30:57 Sen. Kauffman

04:31:04 Rep. Sinrud

04:32:42 Ms. Riutta

04:33:16 Ms. Abbott

Closing by Sponsor:

04:33:53 Sen. Kauffman

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:40 P.M.

REP. JOHN SINRUD, Chairman

LINDA KEIM, Secretary

JS/lk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([aph71aad.pdf](#))