

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN GERALD PEASE**, on January 16, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Gerald Pease, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)  
Sen. Roy Brown (R)  
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)  
Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)  
Sen. Sam Kitzenberg (D)  
Sen. Jesse Laslovich (D)  
Sen. Frank Smith (D)  
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Andrew Geiger, Legislative Branch  
Lois O'Connor, 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 36, 1/11/2007; SB 185,  
1/11/2007; SB 122, 1/11/2007; SB  
194, 1/11/2007  
Executive Action: SB 36

00:00:32

**HEARING ON SB 36**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:13 **SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA (D), SD 47**, opened the hearing on **SB 36**, Clarify motor vehicle registration fees.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:01:51 Greg Petesch, Code Commissioner, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:04:28 Brenda Nordland, Attorney, Motor Vehicle Division Department of Justice (DOJ)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:05:12 Sen. Cocchiarella closed on SB 36.

**HEARING ON SB 185**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:06:08 **SEN. BOB HAWKS (D), SD 33**, opened the hearing on **SB 185**, Provide for medium speed electric vehicles.

**EXHIBIT** (his10a01)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:11:04 Ron Gompertz, Bozeman

**EXHIBIT** (his10a02)

**EXHIBIT** (his10a03)

00:18:24 Steve Titus, Free Drive EV, Inc., Bozeman

**EXHIBIT** (his10a04)

**EXHIBIT** (his10a05)

00:21:47 Dean Roberts, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Division,  
Department of Justice (DOJ)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:24:55 Sen. Frank Smith to Mr. Gompertz, Bozeman

00:27:15 Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella to Sen. Hawks

00:30:32 Sen. Cocchiarella to Ms. Nordland, Department of  
Justice (DOJ)

00:32:50 Sen. Jesse Laslovich to Ms. Nordland, DOJ

00:36:57 Sen. Cocchiarella to Ms. Nordland, DOJ

00:38:53 Sen. Laslovich to Sen. Hawks

00:42:16 Sen. Jerry Black to Sen. Hawks rereferred to Mr. Titus,  
Free Drive EV, Inc.

00:44:20 Sen. Smith to Mr. Titus, Free Drive EV, Inc.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:45:40 Sen. Hawks closed on SB 185.

**HEARING ON SB 122**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:47:41 **SEN. SAM KITZENBERG (D), SD 18**, opened the hearing on  
**SB 122**, Establish ethanol education board.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:50:42 Shirley Ball, Executive Director, Ethanol Producers and  
Consumers (EPAC)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a09\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a10\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a11\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a12\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his10a13\)](#)

00:59:50 Pat Torgerson, Women in Farming Economics (WIFE)

01:00:48 Jack Gunderson, Self

01:02:20 Megan Brower, Montana Farm Bureau

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:03:23 Sen. Smith to Sen. Kitzenberg

01:04:15 Sen. Roy Brown to Sen. Kitzenberg

01:12:09 Sen. Don Steinbeisser

01:12:54 Sen. Smith to Ms. Ball, Ethanol Producers and Consumers (EPAC)

01:15:47 Sen. Cocchiarella to Rona Alexander, Department of Revenue (DOR)

01:18:59 Sen. Black to Sen. Kitzenberg

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:20:45 Sen. Kitzenberg closed on SB 122.

**HEARING ON SB 194**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:21:42 **SEN. SAM KITZENBERG (D), SD 18**, opened the hearing on **SB 194**, Require driving with headlights on at all times.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:31:06 Jack Gunderson, Self

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:34:04 Sen. Laslovich to Sen. Kitzenberg

01:36:15 Sen. Brown to Sen. Kitzenberg

01:37:16 Sen. Cocchiarella to Sen. Kitzenberg

01:39:18 Sen. Steinbeisser to Sen. Kitzenberg

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:40:00 Sen. Kitzenberg closed on SB 194.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 36**

01:41:00 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that SB 36 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:45 P.M.

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SEN. GERALD PEASE, Chairman

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LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

GP/lo

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([his10aad.pdf](#))**