

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN GERALD PEASE**, on February 20, 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 449, 2/13/2007; SJ 22,
2/13/2007; SB 463, 2/13/2007; SB
441, 2/13/2007
Executive Action: SJ 22, SB 463, SB 441, SB 449

00:03:54

HEARING ON SB 449

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:58 **SEN. KIM GILLAN (D), SD 24**, opened the hearing on **SB 449**, Fuel economy standards for state purchased vehicles.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:41 Matt Leow, Montana Public Interest Research Group
(MontPIRG)

[EXHIBIT\(his38a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his38a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his38a03\)](#)

00:14:19 Sarah Cobler, Montana Conservation Voters

00:18:04 Wade Sikorski, Political Ecologist

00:19:29 Tyler Evilsizer, S.A.V.E. Foundation

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:21:58 Bruce Spencer, MT Automobile Dealers Association
(MTADA)

00:22:11 John Blacker, Montana Department of Transportation
(DOT)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:25:33 Sen. Frank Smith to Mr. Sikorski, Political Ecologist

00:27:31 Sen. Roy Brown to Sen. Gillan

00:29:02 Sen. Brown to Mr. Leow, MontPIRG

00:30:09 Sen. Gerald Pease

Closing by Sponsor:

00:30:23 Sen. Gillan

HEARING ON SJ 22

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:31:57 **SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA (D), SD 47**, opened the hearing on **SJ 22**, Urge Congress to lift restriction on vehicle length.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:34:58 Barry "Spook" Stang, Executive Vice President, Montana Motor Carriers Association

00:37:53 Willie Duffield, Duffield Express

Opponents' Testimony:

00:40:41 Don Judge, Policy Advisor, Teamsters Local #190

Informational Testimony:

00:42:58 Jim Lynch, Director, Montana Department of Transportation (DOT)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:44:01 Sen. Cocchiarella

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 22

00:46:39 **Motion:** **SEN. COCCHIARELLA** moved that **SJ 22 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

00:46:59 Sen. Smith

00:47:27 Sen. Don Steinbeisser

00:47:39 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

HEARING ON SB 463

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:48:30 **SEN. SAM KITZENBERG (D), SD 18**, opened the hearing on
SB 463, Revise 4-lane construction on Highway 2.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:53:42 Bob Sivertsen, President, Highway 2 Association

00:55:53 Jim Lynch, Director, Montana Department of
Transportation (DOT)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:59 Sen. Brown to Sen. Kitzenberg

00:59:29 Sen. Brown to Director Lynch, DOT

01:01:45 Sen. Jerry Black to Sen. Kitzenberg

Closing by Sponsor:

01:05:35 Sen. Kitzenberg

HEARING ON SB 441

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:09:36 **SEN. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN (D), SD 41**, opened the hearing
on **SB 441**, Prohibit cell phone use while driving.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:14:42 Captain Butch Huseby, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)

01:15:58 Wade Sikorski

01:16:37 Mike Mikota

Opponents' Testimony:

01:18:37 Aimee Grmoljez, Verizon Wireless

01:21:09 Margaret Morgan, Altell Communication
01:24:41 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association (MTTA)
01:28:32 Willie Duffield, Duffield Express
01:29:13 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association
01:29:58 Mona Jamison, General Motors
01:32:22 Barry "Spook" Stang, Executive Vice President, Montana
Motor Carriers Association

Informational Testimony:

01:33:16 Jim Lynch, Director, Montana Department of
Transportation (DOT)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:33:44 Sen. Smith to Mr. Gilbert, Montana Tow Trucks
Association
01:34:26 Sen. Jesse Laslovich to Mr. Gilbert, MTTA
01:40:08 Sen. Laslovich to Sen. Kaufmann
01:42:13 Sen. Brown to Sen. Kaufmann
01:44:26 Sen. Black to Captain Huseby, MHP
01:45:53 Sen. Smith to Captain Huseby, MHP
01:46:44 Sen. Black to Captain Huseby, MHP
01:48:22 Sen. Cocchiarella to Captain Huseby, MHP

Closing by Sponsor:

01:49:19 Sen. Kaufmann

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 463

01:52:55 **Motion:** SEN. KITZENBERG moved that SB 463 DO PASS.

01:53:09 Motion/Vote: SEN. KITZENBERG moved to amend SB 463 with amendment #SB046301.AAG. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(his38a04)

01:54:29 Motion/Vote: SEN. KITZENBERG moved that SB 463 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried 7-2 by voice vote with SEN. BROWN and SEN. STEINBEISSER voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 441

01:55:28 Motion: SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that SB 441 DO NOT PASS.

Discussion:

01:55:51 Sen. Cocchiarella

01:56:04 Substitute Motion/Vote: SEN. BLACK made a substitute motion that SB 441 BE TABLED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 449

01:56:42 Motion: SEN. SMITH moved that SB 449 DO PASS.

Discussion:

01:57:06 Sen. Pease

01:57:11 SEN. SMITH withdrew the DO PASS MOTION. No further action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:00 P.M.

SEN. GERALD PEASE, Chairman

LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

GP/lo

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([his38aad.pdf](#))