

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: Chairman Jon C. Sesso, on March 9, 2009 at 9:00
A.M., in Room 102 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jon C. Sesso, Chairman (D)
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)
Rep. Dennis Getz (D)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Roy Hollandsworth (R)
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Robert Mehlhoff (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. Carolyn Pease-Lopez (D)
Rep. Don Roberts (R)
Rep. Cheryl Steenson (D)
Rep. Dan Villa (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Bill Nooney (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jon Moe, Legislative Branch
Samuel Speerschneider, 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: HB 42, 3/4/2009; HB 512, 3/4/2009;
HB526, 3/4/2009; HB 246, 3/4/2009;
HB 565, 3/4/2009; HB 145, 3/4/2009;
HB 12, 3/4/2009; HB 50, 3/4/2009;
HB 56, 3/4/2009; HB 279, 3/4/2009

Executive Action: None

00:00:24 Chairman Sesso

HEARING ON HB 50

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:05:07 Rep. Bob Lake (R), HD 88, opened the hearing on HB 50,
Require rules be consistent with legislative intent.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:08:23 Anne Brodsky, Chief Legal Counsel, Governor's Office
00:11:56 Candice West, Chief Counsel, Department of Natural
Resources and Conservation
00:14:05 Mark Cadwallader, Staff Attorney, Montana Department of
Labor and Industry
00:15:48 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:24 Rep. Henry
00:18:00 Rep. Lake
00:18:54 Rep. McChesney
00:19:30 Ms. Brodsky
00:20:08 Rep. McChesney
00:20:41 Ms. Brodsky
00:22:57 Rep. McChesney
00:24:05 Rep. Getz
00:24:20 Ms. Brodsky

Closing by Sponsor:

00:24:37 Rep. Lake

00:26:00 Chairman Sesso

HEARING ON HB 56

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:58 Rep. Russell Bean (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on
HB 56, Increase pupil transportation reimbursements.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:28:26 Bob Gilbert, Montana School Bus Contractors Association
00:28:51 Denise Ulberg, School Finance Administrator, Office of
Public Instruction

EXHIBIT (aph52a01)

00:32:21 Bob Vogel, Montana School Board Association; School
Administrators Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:35 Rep. Kasten
00:34:00 Ms. Ulberg
00:34:33 Rep. Kasten
00:34:47 Ms. Ulberg
00:35:25 Chairman Sesso
00:35:39 Mr. Vogel
00:36:04 Rep. Getz
00:36:21 Rep. Bean
00:36:46 Rep. Getz
00:37:05 Rep. Bean

Closing by Sponsor:

00:37:27 Rep. Bean

HEARING ON HB 565

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:28 Rep. Timothy Furey (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on
HB 565, Implement Montana veterans supplemental health
insurance program.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:43:44 Charlie Cromwell, Law Student; Veteran
[EXHIBIT\(aph52a02\)](#)

00:46:55 Staff Sergeant Adam Reid

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:48:53 Rep. Mehlhoff
00:49:22 Rep. Furey
00:49:30 Rep. Mehlhoff
00:50:21 Rep. Ankney
00:50:42 Rep. Furey
00:51:15 Rep. Ankney
00:51:57 Mr. Cromwell
00:52:32 Chairman Sesso
00:53:14 Mr. Cromwell

Closing by Sponsor:

00:53:29 Rep. Furey

HEARING ON HB 145

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:56:09 Rep. Dave McAlpin (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on
HB 145, Legislator stipend during interim.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:02:15 Kate Cholewa, Montana Common Cause

Opponents' Testimony:

01:04:06 Mark French, Farmer

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:06:04 Rep. Morgan
01:06:24 Rep. McAlpin
01:06:50 Rep. Morgan

01:07:17 Mr. French
01:07:27 Rep. Morgan
01:08:20 Mr. French
01:08:46 Rep. Glaser
01:09:28 Rep. McAlpin
01:09:35 Rep. Glaser
01:10:37 Rep. McAlpin
01:10:43 Rep. Glaser
01:11:35 Rep. Kasten
01:12:42 Mr. French
01:12:48 Rep. Kasten
01:13:01 Rep. Hollenbaugh
01:13:49 Rep. McAlpin

Closing by Sponsor:

01:14:17 Rep. McAlpin

HEARING ON HB 12

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:15:43 Rep. Franke Wilmer (D), HD 64, opened the hearing on
HB 12, Require employer contributions on working
retirees under certain conditions.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:19:17 Roxanne Minnehan, Executive Director, Montana Public
Employee Retirement Administration
01:22:08 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association
01:22:28 Tom Bilodeau, MEA-MFT

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:23:58 Rep. Roberts
01:24:20 Rep. Wilmer
01:25:24 Rep. Roberts
01:26:10 Rep. Wilmer

Closing by Sponsor:

01:27:03 Rep. Wilmer

HEARING ON HB 246

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:28:13 Rep. Joel Boniek (R), HD 61, opened the hearing on
HB 246, Exempt Montana-made firearms and ammunition
from commerce clause.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:29:47 Doug Nulle, Attorney (retired)
01:31:57 Mark French, Farmer

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:33:14 Rep. Boniek

HEARING ON HB 279

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:34:04 Rep. Michele Reinhart (D), HD 97, opened the hearing on
HB 279, Revise laws relating to transportation.

[EXHIBIT\(aph52a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(aph52a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:43:01 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association
of Counties

[EXHIBIT\(aph52a05\)](#)

01:46:36 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Planners
01:47:23 Gordon Morris, Lewis and Clark County
01:48:09 Alec Hanson, Montana League of Cities and Towns
01:49:37 Ed Bartlett, Yellowstone County
01:49:52 Rep. Tim Furey, HD 91
01:50:59 Jon McDonald, City of Missoula

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:51:40 Jim Lynch, Director, Department of Transportation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:55:37 Rep. Villa
01:56:42 Rep. Reinhart
01:59:10 Rep. Villa
02:00:12 Rep. Reinhart
02:01:34 Rep. Hollenbaugh
02:02:08 Mr. Lynch
02:05:02 Rep. Hollenbaugh
02:05:16 Rep. McChesney
02:05:40 Mr. Lynch
02:06:12 Rep. McChesney
02:06:22 Mr. Lynch

Closing by Sponsor:

02:06:33 Rep. Reinhart

HEARING ON HB 42

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:07:58 Rep. Chas Vincent (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on
HB 42, Forest management program for FWP land.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:09:54 Ellen Simpson, Montana Wood Products Association
02:10:46 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association
02:11:22 Chris Smith, Deputy Director, Department of Fish,
Wildlife and Parks
02:12:47 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties
02:13:06 Jerry Wiese, Private Contractor

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:13:55 Rep. Getz
02:14:22 Rep. Vincent

Closing by Sponsor:

02:14:29 Rep. Vincent

HEARING ON HB 512

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:15:22 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 512, Carry over of school district general fund balances.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:17:18 Bob Vogel, Montana School Board Association

02:19:56 Dave Puyear, Director, Montana Rural Education Association

Opponents' Testimony:

02:22:02 Tom Bilodeau, MEA-MFT

Informational Testimony:

02:26:18 Joan Anderson, Office of Public Instruction

EXHIBIT(aph52a06)

02:29:30 Jim Standeart, Legislative Fiscal Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

02:29:51 Rep. Cohenour

HEARING ON HB 526

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:32:30 Rep. Scott Sales (R), HD 68, opened the hearing on HB 526, Prohibit use of certain salts on local and state roads.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

02:34:14 Dan Williams, self

02:39:22 Vern Hisler, City of Billings

02:42:36 Jon McDonald, City of Missoula

02:44:46 Gordon Morris, Lewis and Clark County

02:46:26 Gary Amestoy, Richland County Commissioners

02:47:23 Harold Blattie, Director, Montana Association of
Counties

02:48:40 Alec Hanson, League of Cities and Towns

02:49:45 Richard Vick, Montana Vendors

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:50:48 Rep. Hollandsworth

02:51:13 Mr. Williams

Closing by Sponsor:

02:52:05 Rep. Sales

Announcements:

02:53:58 Chairman Sesso

ADJOURNMENT

02:55:39 Adjournment: 12:00 P.M.

Samuel Speerschneider, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([aph52aad.pdf](#))