

MINUTES

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on March 19, 2009 at 9:04 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Sue Dickenson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Joel Boniek (R)
Rep. Dee Brown (R)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Sue Malek (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Ted Washburn (R)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mike Phillips (D)

Members Absent: Rep. Jesse O'Hara, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. Frosty Boss Ribs (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Betsy Hands (D)

Staff Present: Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch
Marshall McEwen, 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 124, SB 276, 3/12/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 124

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:03 Sen. Mike Cooney (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 124, Revise absentee ballot laws and changes caused by death. Sen. Cooney is carrying the bill for the sponsor, Sen. Carolyn Squires (D), SD 48.

EXHIBIT (sth61a01)

00:05:49 Rep. Boss Ribs and Rep. Hands entered the room.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:24 Lisa Kimmet, Elections Deputy, Montana Secretary of State's Office

00:08:33 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:23 Rep. Bean
00:10:04 Ms. Kimmet
00:11:14 Rep. Washburn
00:12:01 Ms. Kimmet
00:12:25 Rep. Washburn
00:12:56 Ms. Kimmet
00:13:07 Rep. Malek
00:13:57 Sen. Cooney
00:16:06 Rep. Malek
00:16:13 Sen. Cooney
00:17:14 Rep. Dickenson
00:17:42 Ms. Kimmet
00:17:54 Sen. Cooney
00:18:42 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

00:18:46 Sen. Cooney
00:18:58 Chairman Himmelberger

HEARING ON SB 276

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:19:11 Rep. Diane Sands (D), HD 95, opened the hearing on SB 276, Require absentee voter confirmation forms to be mailed annually, only in January. Rep. Sands is carrying the bill for the sponsor, Sen. Carolyn Squires (D), SD 48.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:21:00 Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State
EXHIBIT (sth61a02)

00:23:47 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Clerks and
Recorders

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:24:24 Rep. Brown
00:24:50 Ms. Heffelfinger, Legislative Services Division
00:25:15 Chairman Himmelberger
00:25:20 Rep. Brown
00:25:27 Rep. Van Dyk
00:27:04 Ms. McCulloch
00:27:24 Rep. Van Dyk
00:27:30 Rep. Ingraham
00:28:17 Ms. McCulloch
00:28:25 Rep. Dickenson
00:29:16 Ms. Stoll
00:29:36 Rep. Dickenson
00:30:02 Ms. Stoll
00:30:34 Rep. Malek
00:31:11 Ms. McCulloch
00:31:50 Rep. Malek
00:32:01 Ms. McCulloch
00:32:15 Rep. Malek
00:32:37 Ms. McCulloch
00:33:07 Rep. Brown
00:33:42 Ms. McCulloch
00:34:56 Rep. Hands
00:36:05 Ms. McCulloch
00:36:55 Rep. Bean
00:37:18 Ms. Heffelfinger
00:37:42 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

00:37:46 Rep. Sands
00:38:24 Chairman Himmelberger

Committee Discussion on State Bonuses:

00:39:39 Rep. Bean
00:41:04 Rep. Hands
00:42:19 Chairman Himmelberger
00:42:24 Rep. Hands
00:43:39 Rep. Ingraham
00:44:52 Chairman Himmelberger
00:45:22 Ms. Heffelfinger
00:47:30 Chairman Himmelberger
00:47:56 Ms. Heffelfinger
00:48:51 Chairman Himmelberger
00:49:17 Ms. Heffelfinger
00:49:59 Chairman Himmelberger
00:50:07 Rep. Wilmer
00:52:11 Rep. Brown
00:53:22 Rep. Washburn
00:55:31 Rep. Boniek
00:56:23 Rep. Hendrick
00:56:54 Ms. Heffelfinger
00:57:02 Rep. Hendrick
00:57:30 Rep. Bean
00:58:22 Ms. Heffelfinger
00:58:40 Rep. Bean
00:58:54 Rep. Hands
01:00:20 Rep. Wilmer
01:01:41 Rep. Malek
01:03:03 Chairman Himmelberger
01:04:49 Rep. Hands
01:05:08 Chairman Himmelberger
01:05:12 Rep. Bean
01:05:41 Chairman Himmelberger
01:06:30 Rep. Brown
01:07:18 Rep. Hands
01:08:12 Rep. Dickenson
01:08:50 Ms. Heffelfinger
01:09:00 Rep. Brown
01:09:30 Rep. Wilmer
01:11:42 Rep. Malek
01:12:11 Rep. Hands
01:12:15 Chairman Himmelberger

ADJOURNMENT

01:12:58 Adjournment: 10:17 A.M.

Marshall McEwen, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([sth61aad.pdf](#))