

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on March 20, 2009 at 9:02 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Sue Dickenson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Joel Boniek (R)
Rep. Frosty Boss Ribs (D)
Rep. Dee Brown (R)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Sue Malek (D)
Rep. Ted Washburn (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)

Members Absent: Rep. Betsy Hands (D)
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (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. Due to audio technical difficulties, the first 3:05 minutes of this meeting are missing.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 229, SB 394, 3/13/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 394

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:43 Sen. Keith Bales (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 394, Expand types of elections that may be conducted by mail ballot election.

00:05:39 Rep. Hands, Rep. Van Dyk, and Rep. Wilmer entered the room.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:48 Duane Winslow, Election Administrator, Yellowstone County

EXHIBIT(sth62a01)

00:13:35 Rep. Boss Ribs and Rep. Brown exited the room.

00:13:49 Vicki Zeier, Clerk and Recorder Treasurer, Missoula County

00:18:06 John Ostlund, Yellowstone County Commissioner; Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:18:54 Bob Gilbert, Musselshell County; Dawson County

00:19:18 Jean Curtiss, Missoula County Commissioner

EXHIBIT(sth62a02)

00:24:53 John Gallaher, Self

00:27:54 Florence Young, Big Horn County

00:30:26 John MacDonald, City of Missoula

EXHIBIT(sth62a03)

00:31:18 Drew Geiger, Montana League of Women Voters

00:32:20 Sandy Davis, Self

00:33:18 Bret Rutherford, Deputy Election Administrator, Yellowstone County

00:37:38 Shantell McGraw, Election Supervisor, Cascade County

EXHIBIT(sth62a04)

00:38:37 Glenda Hall, Clerk and Recorder, Election Administrator, Glacier County

00:39:58 Sandra Boardman, Clerk and Recorder, Blaine County

00:41:26 Michael DesRosier, Chairman, Glacier County Commissioners

00:41:35 Rep. O'Hara and Rep. Van Dyk exited the room.

00:42:34 Diane Mellem, Clerk and Recorder, Hill County

EXHIBIT(sth62a05)

00:46:00 Anne Mary Dussault, Dawson County

00:48:55 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

00:49:58 Kandy Sonsteng, Clerk and Recorder, Cascade County

EXHIBIT(sth62a06)

00:50:10 Donna Ross, Clerk and Recorder, Roosevelt County

EXHIBIT(sth62a07)

00:50:23 Bob Ross, Roosevelt County

[EXHIBIT\(sth62a08\)](#)

00:50:34 Janice Hoppes, Clerk and Recorder, Pondera County

[EXHIBIT\(sth62a09\)](#)

00:50:59 Laurel Hines, Clerk and Recorder, Phillips County

00:51:08 Charlotte Mills, Clerk and Recorder, Gallatin County

00:51:20 Misti Wood, Clerk and Recorder, Fergus County

00:51:30 Paula Jaconetty, Clerk and Recorder, Teton County

00:51:46 Jennine Robbins, Self

Opponents' Testimony:

00:52:33 Travis Hoffman, Montana's Independent Living Centers

[EXHIBIT\(sth62a10\)](#)

00:56:16 Rep. Boss Ribs and Rep. Brown entered the room.

00:58:34 Bob Maffit, Director, Independent Living Center; Board Member, Association for the Blind

01:09:40 Sarah Cobler, Montana Conservation Voters

[EXHIBIT\(sth62a11\)](#)

01:18:00 Chuck Denowh, Self

01:22:10 Rep. Caferro, Rep. O'Hara and Rep. Van Dyk entered the room.

01:23:05 Joy Bruck, Volunteer Advocate, AARP

01:25:00 Alysha Goheen Jannotta, Montana Women Vote

[EXHIBIT\(sth62a12\)](#)

01:27:28 Terry Minow, MEA-MFT

01:28:58 Kate Cholewa, Common Cause

[EXHIBIT\(sth62a13\)](#)

01:32:43 Niki Zupanic, American Civil Liberties Union

01:33:12 Harris Hines, Pastor, Big Sky Christian Center

01:33:39 Rep. Franke Wilmer, HD 64, Bozeman

[EXHIBIT\(sth62a14\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:34:10 Rep. O'Hara

01:34:33 Ms. Minow

01:34:56 Chairman Himmelberger

01:35:07 Rep. O'Hara

01:35:12 Ms. Minow

01:35:20 Rep. Van Dyk

01:36:12 Mr. Ostlund

01:36:51 Rep. Van Dyk

01:37:03 Mr. Ostlund

01:37:18 Rep. Washburn

01:37:49 Ms. Cobler

01:38:29 Rep. Washburn

01:38:33 Ms. Cobler
01:39:14 Rep. Dickenson
01:39:41 Ms. Zeier
01:40:29 Rep. Dickenson
01:41:12 Ms. Boardman
01:41:34 Rep. Boniek
01:42:27 Mr. Maffit
01:43:33 Rep. Wilmer
01:44:01 Ms. Cobler
01:44:19 Rep. Ingraham
01:44:43 Mr. Winslow
01:45:57 Rep. Ingraham
01:46:43 Mr. Winslow
01:47:48 Rep. Ingraham
01:48:01 Mr. Winslow
01:48:42 Rep. Hands
01:49:55 Sen. Bales
01:51:38 Rep. Hands
01:52:57 Sen. Bales
01:54:13 Rep. MacLaren
01:54:48 Ms. Cobler
01:55:12 Rep. MacLaren
01:55:26 Ms. Cobler
01:55:48 Rep. MacLaren
01:56:01 Ms. Cobler
01:56:26 Rep. Malek
01:57:36 Sen. Bales
01:58:09 Rep. Malek
01:58:44 Sen. Bales
01:59:11 Rep. Malek
01:59:16 Sen. Bales
01:59:21 Rep. Malek
02:00:17 Sen. Bales
02:01:53 Chairman Himmelberger
02:02:11 Mr. Winslow
02:04:03 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

02:04:10 Sen. Bales
02:10:06 Chairman Himmelberger

02:10:29 Committee recesses.
02:20:55 Committee reconvenes. Rep. Belcourt, Rep. Hands, and
Rep. Phillips were not present after the break.

HEARING ON SB 229

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:21:21 Sen. Gary Perry (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on
SB 229, Use party affiliation on canvass for organizing
legislature.

EXHIBIT(sth62a15)

Proponents' Testimony:

02:45:23 Doug Nulle, Self
02:46:22 Dallas Erickson, Montana Citizens for Democracy for Law
02:46:53 Harris Hines, Pastor, Big Sky Christian Center

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:47:32 Rep. Wilmer
02:47:57 Sen. Perry
02:49:22 Chairman Himmelberger
02:49:37 Sen. Perry
02:49:40 Chairman Himmelberger

Closing by Sponsor:

02:49:45 Sen. Perry
02:49:48 Chairman Himmelberger

ADJOURNMENT

02:51:15 Adjournment: 11:53 A.M.

Marshall McEwen, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([sth62aad.pdf](#))