

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chairman Keith Bales, on March 5, 2009 at 8:00
A.M., in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Keith Bales, Chairman (R)
Sen. Dave Lewis, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Debby Barrett (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)
Sen. Trudi Schmidt (D)
Sen. Ryan Zinke (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

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 452, 3/26/2009; SB 435,
3/26/2009; SB 309, 3/26/2009;
SB 429, 3/26/2009

Executive Action:

00:00:01 Sen. Bales
00:01:34 Sen. Laible
00:01:57 Sen. Bales

HEARING ON SB 452

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:05 Sen. Aubyn Curtiss (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB
452, Revise federal mandates act.

00:02:47 Sen. Tropila now present
00:03:42 Sen. Brueggeman now present

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:04:20 Ann Brodsky, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the
Governor

Informational Testimony:

00:15:00 Amy Sessano, Governor's Budget Office
00:15:48 Tori Hunthausen, Legislative Auditor
[EXHIBIT \(fcs49a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony

00:18:33 Betty Lou Kasten

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:20:31 Sen. Tropila
00:21:08 Ms. Hunthausen
00:22:00 Sen. Williams now present
00:22:46 Sen. Tropila

00:23:01 Ms. Hunthausen
00:23:34 Sen. Tropila
00:24:04 Ms. Hunthausen
00:24:18 Sen. Brueggeman and Sen. Barrett not present
00:26:27 Sen. Laible
00:27:37 Ms. Hunthausen
00:28:46 Sen. Laible
00:30:20 Ms. Hunthausen
00:32:25 Sen. Bales
00:32:28 Sen. Hawks
00:33:29 Ms. Hunthausen
00:36:01 Sen. Hawks
00:36:20 Ms. Hunthausen
00:36:51 Sen. Bales
00:38:10 Ms. Brodsky
00:39:05 Sen. Brueggeman now present and Sen. Esp not present
00:40:46 Sen. Bales

Closing by Sponsor:

00:41:24 Sen. Curtiss
00:41:57 Sen. Barkus not present
00:43:08 Sen. Schmidt not present
00:43:20 Sen. Barkus now present
00:44:59 Sen. Bales

HEARING ON SB 435

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:45:55 Sen. John Brenden (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB
435, No net gain in state land.
00:49:16 Sen. Bales

Proponents' Testimony:

00:49:21 Ariel Overstreet
00:50:11 Chuck Denowh, Montana Property Owners of Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

00:50:58 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation (DNRC)
00:52:05 Sen. Barrett now present
00:53:52 Sen. Brueggeman not present
00:54:09 Sen. Schmidt now present
00:54:17 Paul Sihler, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT (fcs49a02)

00:58:11 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

00:59:31 Sen. Bales

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:59:52 Sen. Zinke

00:59:58 Sen. Brendan

Sen. Brueggeman now present and Sen. Williams and Sen. Ripley not present

01:01:41 Sen. Zinke

Sen. Gallus now present

01:01:54 Sen. Brendan

01:02:19 Sen. Gallus

01:03:09 Sen. Brendan

01:04:37 Sen. Williams now present

01:05:56 Sen. Gallus

01:06:06 Sen. Bales

01:06:08 Sen. Barkus

01:06:36 Mr. Sihler, FWP

01:06:49 Sen. Barkus

01:06:59 Mr. Sihler

01:07:55 Sen. Barkus

01:08:15 Mr. Sihler

01:08:22 Sen. Barkus

01:08:38 Mr. Sihler

01:09:18 Sen. Barkus

01:09:43 Mr. Sihler

01:10:10 Sen. Barkus

01:10:35 Mr. Sihler

01:11:01 Sen. Barkus

01:11:38 Mr. Sihler

01:11:46 Sen. Barkus

01:11:48 Sen. Bales

01:11:52 Sen. Schmidt

01:12:20 Ms. Sexton

01:13:08 Sen. Bales

01:13:12 Sen. Hansen

01:13:59 Sen. Brendan

01:16:26 Sen. Bales

01:16:28 Sen. Brueggeman

01:17:05 Ms. Sexton

01:18:22 Sen. Bales

01:18:25 Sen. Peterson

01:18:49 Sen. Brendan

01:18:58 Sen. Williams

01:19:39 Sen. Brendan

01:19:50 Sen. Esp and Sen. Schmidt not present
01:20:43 Sen. Brendan
01:22:22 Sen. Bales
01:22:25 Sen. Hawks
01:23:48 Sen. Brendan
01:28:00 Sen. Hawks
01:28:39 Sen. Brendan
01:28:48 Sen. Bales
01:28:49 Sen. Barrett
01:29:59 Sen. Brendan
01:30:25 Sen. Hawks not present
01:30:38 Sen. Bales
01:30:46 Sen. Barrett
01:31:25 Sen. Tropila not present
01:32:36 Mr. Sihler
01:33:44 Sen. Barrett
01:34:29 Mr. Sihler
01:35:03 Sen. Barrett
01:35:31 Mr. Sihler
01:35:53 Sen. Bales
01:35:57 Sen. Tropila
01:36:25 Sen. Brendan
01:36:44 Sen. Tropila
01:37:15 Ms. Sexton, DNRC
01:38:37 Sen. Ripley
01:38:59 Ms. Sexton
01:39:16 Sen. Ripley
01:39:33 Ms. Sexton
01:40:13 Sen. Ripley
01:40:28 Sen. Cooney not present
01:40:36 Ms. Sexton
01:40:53 Sen. Bales
01:41:34 Ms. Sexton
01:41:39 Sen. Cooney now present
01:42:06 Sen. Bales
01:42:30 Ms. Sexton
01:43:29 Sen. Bales
01:43:56 Ms. Sexton
01:44:37 Sen. Bales
01:45:13 Mr. Sihler
01:46:34 Sen. Bales
01:47:02 Mr. Sihler
01:48:18 Sen. Bales
01:48:24 Sen. Barrett
01:49:00 Sen. Bales

Closing by Sponsor:

01:49:04 Sen. Brendan

01:52:16 Sen. Bales

HEARING ON SB 309

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:53:13 Sen. Jim Shockley (R), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 309, Increase lodging and per diem reimbursement for state employees.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:55:00 Sen. Kelly Gebhardt
01:55:17 Sen. Esp, Sen. Gallus and Sen. Laible are now present.
01:56:38 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association
01:57:39 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
01:58:40 Sen. Brueggeman not present
01:59:21 Terri Minow, MEA-MFT
01:59:57 Aimee Grmoliez, Montana Innkeepers Association

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

02:00:37 Julie Feldman, Department of Administration (DOA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:01:11 Sen. Laible
02:01:56 Ms. Feldman, DOA
02:02:04 Sen. Brueggeman now present
02:03:24 Sen. Laible
02:04:10 Ms. Feldman
02:04:36 Sen. Laible
02:05:34 Sen. Esp now present and Sen. Barkus not present
02:05:52 Ms. Feldman
02:06:15 Sen. Laible

Closing by Sponsor:

02:06:37 Sen. Shockley

02:06:51 Sen. Bales

02:07:11 Recess

02:21:57 Reconvene

02:21:59 Sen. Bales
Sen. Gallus, Sen. Schmidt not present

HEARING ON SB 429

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:22:22 Sen. Ryan Zinke (R), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB 429, General fund transfers to legislative branch for retirement and computer reserve.

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

02:23:11 Susan Fox, Director, Legislative Services Division
(LSD)

[EXHIBIT \(fcs49a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(fcs49a04\)](#)

02:29:13 Hank Trenk, Office of Legislative Information
Technology (OLIT)

02:33:25 Sen. Bales

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:33:34 Sen. Hawks

02:34:32 Mr. Trenk, OLIT

02:35:13 Sen. Hawks

02:35:34 Mr. Trenk

02:35:55 Sen. Bales

02:35:59 Sen. Tropila

02:36:02 Sen. Wanzonried and Sen. Gallus now present

02:36:35 Sen. Zinke

02:36:56 Sen. Tropila

02:37:22 Ms. Fox, LSD

02:38:01 Sen. Tropila

02:38:04 Ms. Fox

02:38:06 Sen. Bales

02:38:09 Sen. Peterson

02:38:24 Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division

02:38:55 Sen. Lewis
02:39:41 Ms. Fox
02:40:17 Sen. Lewis
02:40:37 Sen. Brendan
02:41:07 Ms. Fox
02:42:04 Sen. Brendan
02:42:29 Ms. Fox

Closing by Sponsor:

02:43:26 Sen. Zinke

02:44:05 Sen. Bales
02:45:26 Sen. Williams
02:46:04 Sen. Bales
02:47:14 Sen. Wanzenried
02:47:34 Sen. Bales
02:47:41 Sen. Peterson
02:47:52 Sen. Brendan
02:48:26 Sen. Bales

Discussion on Reassignment of SB 433

02:49:23 Sen. Wanzenried
02:50:27 Sen. Bales
02:50:29 Sen. Esp
02:51:52 Sen. Wanzenried
02:52:19 Sen. Esp
02:52:42 Sen. Wanzenried
02:53:05 Sen. Esp

02:53:12 Sen. Bales

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:55 P.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([fcs49aad.pdf](#))