

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chairman Keith Bales, on March 6, 2009 at 8:00
P.M., in Room 317-A 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. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)
Sen. Ryan Zinke (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Trudi Schmidt (D)
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 100, 3/23/2009; SB 343,
3/23/2009 SB 69, 3/26/2009; SB 70,
3/26/2009;

Executive Action: None

00:00:03 Sen. Bales

HEARING ON SB 100

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:30 Sen. Jerry Black (R), SD 14, opened the hearing on SB
100, Increase coal board funding.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:23 Kathie Bailey, Snowy Mountain Development Corporation
and representing Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana
Development Corporation

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a04\)](#)

00:12:29 Bob Gilbert, Musselshell County, City of Roundup,
Roundup Public Schools, Rosebud County, and
representing Willie Duffield, Montana Association of
Oil, Gas and Coal Counties, Inc.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a05\)](#)

00:14:36 Sue Olson, Musselshell County Commissioner

00:21:28 Monty Sealey, Roundup

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a06\)](#)

00:33:16 Larry Lekse, Musselshell County Commissioner

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a07\)](#)

00:35:04 Bill Edwards, Mayor of Roundup

00:35:32 Alan Olson, Roundup

00:36:58 Rep. Tom Berry

00:37:39 Willie Duffield, Executive Director, Montana
Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties, Inc.

00:38:47 Woodrow Weitzeil, Musselshell County Sheriff's Office

00:39:39 John LaPierre, Roundup City Council

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:40:16 Sen. Laible
00:40:50 Sen. Black
00:41:32 Sen. Laible
00:41:53 Sen. Black
00:42:31 Sen. Laible
00:43:06 Sen. Black
00:44:01 Sen. Laible
00:44:21 Sen. Black
00:44:48 Sen. Ripley
00:45:29 Sen. Black
00:45:34 Sen. Ripley
00:45:42 Sen. Black
00:45:47 Sen. Bales
00:45:49 Sen. Schmidt
00:46:17 Sen. Black
00:46:43 Sen. Schmidt
00:47:13 Sen. Black
00:47:16 Sen. Peterson
00:47:53 Sen. Black
00:48:53 Sen. Hawks
00:50:31 Sen. Black
00:51:15 Sen. Hawks
00:51:30 Mr. Sealey
00:52:15 Ms. Olson
00:52:57 Sen. Hawks
00:53:09 Ms. Olson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:53:47 Sen. Black

HEARING ON SB 343

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:56:12 Sen. Verdell Jackson (R), SD 5, opened the hearing on SB 343, Regulation of zebra mussel and other invasive species.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a09\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a10\)](#)

01:06:24 Sen. Bales

Proponents' Testimony:

01:06:41 Ron de Yong, Director, Department of Agriculture

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a11\)](#)

01:15:10 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

01:15:48 Jeff Tiberi, Executive Director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts

01:16:36 Ed Heger, Flathead Basin Commission

01:18:06 Brianna Randall, Clark Fork Coalition and Clark Fork Basin Taskforce

01:19:31 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

01:20:19 Tom Ebzery, Avista Corporation

01:21:07 Bob Gilbert, Walleyes Unlimited and for Robert Cunningham, Outfitters Association, and Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

01:22:48 Jan Metzmaker, Flathead Basin Commission

01:23:34 Christa Lee Evans, Association of Gallatin Agriculture Irrigators

01:24:07 Ken Morrison, PPL Montana

01:24:21 Casey Perkins, Montana Audubon

01:24:42 Ariel Overstreet, Montana Stockgrowers Association

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:25:41 Sen. Schmidt

01:26:13 Director de Yong

01:27:08 Sen. Schmidt

01:27:40 Director de Yong
 01:28:33 Sen. Bales
 01:28:34 Sen. Barrett
 01:29:14 Director de Yong
 01:30:14 Sen. Barrett
 01:30:42 Director de Yong
 01:31:08 Sen. Bales
 01:31:10 Sen. Ripley
 01:31:45 Sen. Jackson
 01:32:36 Sen. Ripley
 01:32:46 Sen. Jackson
 01:33:06 Sen. Ripley
 01:34:08 Sen. Jackson
 01:35:36 Sen. Bales
 01:35:37 Sen. Peterson
 01:36:38 Sen. Jackson
 01:39:32 Sen. Bales
 01:39:35 Sen. Brendan
 01:40:32 Sen. Jackson
 01:41:29 Sen. Zinke
 01:42:41 Sen. Jackson
 01:43:48 Sen. Zinke
 01:43:59 Sen. Jackson
 01:44:26 Sen. Barrett
 01:44:48 Sen. Jackson
 01:45:44 Sen. Schmidt
 01:46:22 Dr. Eileen Ryce, State Aquatic Species Coordinator,
 Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
 01:50:03 Sen. Bales
 01:50:05 Sen. Zinke
 01:50:28 Dr. Ryce, FWP
 01:51:43 Sen. Zinke
 01:52:00 Dr. Ryce
 01:52:39 Sen. Bales
 01:52:55 Dr. Ryce
 01:53:47 Sen. Bales
 01:54:09 Dr. Ryce
 01:54:32 Sen. Bales
 01:55:31 Mr. Ebzery, Avista
 01:56:46 Sen. Bales
 01:56:52 Mr. Morrison
 01:57:21 Sen. Bales

Closing by Sponsor:

01:57:27 Sen. Jackson
 01:59:27 Sen. Bales
 01:59:38 Recess

02:16:09 Reconvene

02:16:14 Sen. Bales

HEARING ON SB 69

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:16:30 Sen. Gary Branae (D), SD 27, opened the hearing on SB 69, Increase the quality educator payment.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:20:39 Denise Juneau, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

02:22:34 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

02:24:01 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a12\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a13\)](#)

02:26:01 Bruce Messinger, Superintendent, Helena Public Schools

02:28:50 Darrell Rud, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)

02:30:24 Dave Puyear, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

02:32:17 Lynda Brannon, Montana Association of School Business Officials (MASBO), Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:33:18 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a14\)](#)

02:39:08 Sen. Bales

Informational Testimony:

02:39:16 Jim Standaert, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs50a15\)](#)

02:41:55 Sen. Bales

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:42:03 Sen. Hawks

02:43:24 Ms. Whittinghill

02:45:00 Sen. Hawks

02:46:04 Ms. Whittinghill

02:47:03 Sen. Laible
02:47:23 Mr. Standaert
02:47:44 Sen. Laible
02:47:56 Mr. Standaert
02:48:39 Sen. Laible
02:49:03 Mr. Standaert
02:49:24 Sen. Laible
02:49:42 Mr. Standaert
02:49:52 Sen. Laible
02:50:08 Mr. Standaert
02:50:29 Sen. Laible
02:51:18 Mr. Standaert
02:51:48 Sen. Laible
02:51:54 Mr. Standaert
02:52:02 Sen. Laible
02:52:40 Mr. Standaert
02:53:41 Sen. Laible
02:53:43 Sen. Bales
02:54:03 Sen. Schmidt
02:54:26 Madalyn Quinlan, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
02:56:13 Sen. Lewis

Closing by Sponsor:

02:56:23 Sen. Branae
02:57:10 Sen. Lewis

HEARING ON SB 70

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:57:19 Sen. Gary Branae (D), SD 27, opened the hearing on SB 70, Apply inflationary adjustments to K-12 BASE aid and general fund components.

EXHIBIT (fcs50a16)

03:00:55 Sen. Lewis

Proponents' Testimony:

03:01:00 Ms. Juneau, OPI
03:03:13 Mr. Feaver, MEA-MFT
03:05:04 Mr. Melton, MTSBA
03:08:07 Ms. Brannon
03:08:52 Superintendent Messinger
03:11:21 Mr. Rud, SAM

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

03:12:01 Mr. Standaert, LFD

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:12:31 Sen. Barrett
03:12:58 Mr. Standaert
03:13:22 Sen. Bales
03:14:04 Mr. Standaert
03:15:01 Sen. Bales
03:15:24 Mr. Standaert
03:15:53 Sen. Bales
03:16:03 Ms. Quinlan
03:17:44 Sen. Bales

Closing by Sponsor:

03:17:52 Sen. Branae

03:19:11 Sen. Bales
03:20:43 Sen. Hawks
03:21:23 Sen. Bales
03:21:57 Sen. Tropila

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 1:23 P.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([fcs50aad.pdf](#))