

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Taylor Brown, on January 27, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 335  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Taylor Brown, Chair (R)  
Sen. Brian Hoven, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D) - arrived after roll call  
Sen. Kris Hansen (R)  
Sen. David Howard (R)  
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R) - arrived after roll call  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)  
Sen. Nels Swandal (R)  
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D) - arrived after roll call

**Members Excused:** Sen. Mary Caferro (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Taylor Fridrich, Committee Secretary  
Sue O'Connell, 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: HB 108, 1/22/2015; HB 109, 1/22/2015; SB 183, 1/22/2015

**HEARING ON HB 108**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:13 Rep. Daniel Salomon (R), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 108, Revise noxious weed budget laws.

00:03:31 Sen. Wolken entered the hearing.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:04 Cort Jensen, attorney, Department of Agriculture (AGR)

00:05:23 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

00:05:53 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

00:06:14 Dave Schulz, president, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:07:28 Shane Morigeau, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

[EXHIBIT\(ags18a01\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:08:59 Libbi Lovshin, administrator, Central Services Division, Department of Agriculture (AGR)

00:09:24 Greg Ames, administrator, Agricultural Sciences Division, Department of Agriculture (AGR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:09:49 Sen. Pomnichowski

00:11:00 Ms. Lovshin, AGR

00:12:08 Chairman Brown

00:12:43 Ms. Lovshin

00:13:39 Chairman Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:13:50 Rep. Salomon

**HEARING ON HB 109**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:14:24 Rep. Daniel Salomon (R), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 109, Allow department of agriculture to provide plant sampling services.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:15:30 Cort Jensen, attorney, Department of Agriculture (AGR)

00:17:55 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

00:18:53 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)  
00:19:16 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers Association (MGGA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:19:59 Sen. Swandal  
00:20:14 Mr. Jensen, AGR  
00:20:29 Sen. Swandal  
00:20:32 Mr. Jensen  
00:20:45 Sen. Swandal  
00:20:59 Mr. Jensen  
00:21:08 Sen. Hansen  
00:21:48 Mr. Jensen  
  
00:22:48 Sen. Cohenour entered the hearing.  
  
00:23:06 Sen. Hansen  
00:23:22 Mr. Jensen  
  
00:23:58 Sen. Moore entered the hearing.  
  
00:25:21 Sen. Hansen  
00:26:06 Ms. Cremer, MFBF  
00:26:28 Mr. Jensen  
00:29:01 Sen. Pomnichowski  
00:29:32 Mr. Jensen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:29:44 Rep. Salomon  
00:30:30 Vice Chair Hoven assumes the role as Chair.

**HEARING ON SB 183**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:31:04 Sen. Taylor Brown (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 183, Revise milk licensing assessments.

[EXHIBIT\(ags18a02\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:35:57 Jock Anderson, Meadow Gold Dairy (MGD)

[EXHIBIT\(ags18a03\)](#)

00:37:14 Ed Waldner, vice president, Montana Milk Producers Association (MMPA)  
[EXHIBIT\(ags18a04\)](#)

00:38:15 Ruben Wurz, Montana Milk Producers Association (MMPA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:38:52 Chad Lee, administrator, Milk Control Bureau, Department of Livestock (DOL)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:42:01 Sen. Moore

00:42:33 Mr. Lee, DOL

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:43:01 Sen. Brown

**Committee Business:**

00:44:01 Chairman Brown

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:44 P.M.

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Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([ags18aad.pdf](#))**