

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Chas Vincent, on March 23, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R) - arrived after roll call
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D) - arrived after roll call
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D) - arrived after roll call
Sen. Jim Keane (D) - arrived after roll call
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Pat Connell (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Taylor Fridrich, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, 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 525, 3/16/2015; HB 553, 3/16/2015; SB 409, 3/16/2015

Executive Action: SB 20 - Do Pass

00:02:01 Vice Chair Ripley assumed the role as chair.

HEARING ON SB 409

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:29 Sen. Chas Vincent (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 409, Revise metal mine laws.

00:03:06 Sen. Kaufmann entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:29 Tammy Johnson, executive director, Montana Mining Association (MMA)

00:11:56 Sen. Hamlett entered the hearing.

00:16:28 Mark Thompson, president, Montana Mining Association (MMA)

[EXHIBIT\(nas60a01\)](#)

00:25:58 Mark Aagenes, conservation director, Montana Trout Unlimited (TU)

00:27:01 Warren McCullough, chief, Environmental Management Bureau, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

00:29:13 Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:29:36 Dan Banghart, general manager, Barrick Golden Sunlight Mines

00:35:11 John Beaudry, public affairs manager, Stillwater Mining Company

[EXHIBIT\(nas60a02\)](#)

00:37:14 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:37:41 Steve Wade, Treasure State Resource Industry Association (TSRIA)

00:38:27 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

[EXHIBIT\(nas60a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:43:44 Sen. Phillips

00:44:03 Sen. Vincent

00:45:06 Sen. Kaufmann

00:45:40 Mr. McCullough, DEQ

00:46:11 Sen. Kaufmann

00:46:48 Mr. McCullough

00:47:14 Sen. Kaufmann

00:48:11 Mr. Thompson, MMA

00:48:43 Sen. Larsen

00:49:13 Sen. Vincent

00:49:20 Sen. Hoven
00:50:19 Sen. Keane entered the hearing.
00:50:24 Sen. Vincent
00:50:57 Sen. Hoven
00:51:30 Sen. Vincent
00:52:31 Mr. Thompson
00:52:47 Sen. Hoven
00:53:32 Mr. Thompson
00:54:25 Sen. Ripley

Closing by Sponsor:

00:54:36 Sen. Vincent
00:56:04 Chairman Vincent assumed the role as chair.

HEARING ON HB 553

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:56:50 Rep. Mark Noland (R), HD 10, opened the hearing on HB 553, Generally revise aquatic invasive species laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:00:12 Caryn Miske, executive director, Flathead Basin Commission (FBC)
01:03:17 Celestine Duncan, self

EXHIBIT(nas60a04)

01:04:40 John Moodry, Butte Silver Bow Weed District (BSBWD)
01:05:22 Mark Aagenes, conservation director, Montana Trout Unlimited (TU)
01:05:49 Karen Laitala, project coordinator, Blackfoot Challenge (BC)
01:06:42 Robin Cunningham, Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana (FOAM)
01:07:39 Art Noonan, NorthWestern Energy
01:09:06 Lindsey Bona Eggeman, Missoula County Weed District
01:09:40 Maureen Connor, president, Montana Weed Control Association (MWCA)
01:10:11 Alicia Stickney, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
01:10:23 Jim Beck, Broadwater Conservation District
01:11:09 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
01:11:56 Tom Ebzery, attorney, Avista Corporation (AC)
01:12:34 Bruce Rich, administrator, Fisheries Division, Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
01:13:30 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
01:13:47 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
01:14:30 Jeff Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
01:14:43 Holly Franz, Clark Fork Kootenai Task Force
01:15:07 Shane Morigeau, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:15:49 Duane Williams, administrator, Motor Carriers Division, Department of Transportation (MDT)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:16:33 Sen. Ripley
01:18:00 Rep. Noland
01:19:19 Sen. Ripley
01:19:45 Rep. Noland
01:20:05 Sen. Ripley
01:20:17 Sen. Keane
01:20:39 Mr. Rich, FWP
01:20:53 Sen. Keane
01:21:29 Mr. Rich
01:22:07 Sen. Keane
01:22:37 Mr. Rich
01:22:51 Sen. Keane
01:23:02 Mr. Rich
01:23:16 Sen. Keane
01:23:48 Mr. Williams, MDT
01:24:52 Sen. Keane
01:25:02 Mr. Williams
01:25:09 Sen. Brenden
01:26:11 Rep. Noland
01:26:24 Ms. Miske, FBC
01:27:03 Sen. Brenden
01:27:22 Ms. Miske
01:27:35 Sen. Fielder
01:28:30 Thomas Boos, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
01:29:29 Sen. Fielder
01:29:44 Mr. Boos, FWP
01:30:20 Sen. Fielder
01:30:28 Mr. Boos
01:30:32 Sen. Kaufmann
01:30:55 Ms. Duncan, self
01:32:07 Sen. Kaufmann
01:32:29 Ms. Duncan
01:33:13 Sen. Keane
01:33:24 Ms. Duncan
01:33:59 Sen. Hoven
01:34:38 Mr. Boos
01:35:35 Sen. Hoven
01:35:43 Mr. Boos
01:36:15 Chairman Vincent
01:37:53 Rep. Noland

01:39:09 Chairman Vincent
01:39:24 Mr. Rich
01:40:51 Chairman Vincent
01:41:29 Mr. Rich
01:41:45 Sen. Keane
01:42:23 Mr. Rich
01:42:52 Sen. Keane
01:43:09 Mr. Rich
01:43:23 Mr. Boos
01:44:27 Sen. Keane
01:44:52 Mr. Boos

Closing by Sponsor:

01:45:03 Rep. Noland

HEARING ON HB 525

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:47:18 Rep. Mark Noland (R), HD 10, opened the hearing on HB 525, Revise aquatic invasive species fund laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:49:16 Celestine Duncan, self

[EXHIBIT\(nas60a05\)](#)

01:49:58 Caryn Miske, executive director, Flathead Basin Commission (FBC)
01:50:23 Mark Aagenes, conservation director, Montana Trout Unlimited (TU)
01:51:03 Robin Cunningham, Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana (FOAM)
01:51:23 Karen Laitala, project coordinator, Blackfoot Challenge
01:52:59 Lindsey Bona Eggeman, Missoula County Weed District
01:53:30 Alicia Stickney, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
01:53:44 John Moodry, Butte Silver Bow Weed District (BSBWD)
01:55:47 Maureen Connor, Montana Weed Control Association (MWCA)
01:56:59 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
01:57:13 Bruce Rich, administrator, Fisheries Division, Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
01:57:27 Holly Franz, Clark Fork Kootenai Task Force (CFKTF)
01:57:42 Shane Morigeau, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
01:58:37 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
01:59:03 Jeff Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
01:59:17 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
01:59:38 Jim Beck, Broadwater Conservation District
02:00:22 Tom Ebzery, attorney, Avista Corporation (AC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:01:20 Sen. Keane
02:01:41 Mr. Ebzery, AC
02:01:59 Sen. Keane
02:02:21 Rep. Noland
02:03:00 Sen. Keane
02:03:27 Sen. Hoven
02:04:19 Rep. Noland
02:04:34 Sen. Ripley
02:05:03 Rep. Noland
02:05:42 Sen. Ripley
02:06:05 Rep. Noland
02:06:49 Chairman Vincent
02:07:28 Mr. Moodry, BSBWD
02:08:07 Sen. Keane
02:08:34 Rep. Noland

Closing by Sponsor:

02:08:43 Rep. Noland
02:11:19 Recess
02:11:30 Sen. Ankney and Sen. Keane left the hearing.
02:18:48 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 20

02:21:02 **Motion:** Sen. Vincent moved that **SB 20 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:21:10 Sen. Kaufmann
02:21:29 Sen. Ripley
02:21:50 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Kaufmann voting no. Sen. Ankney, Sen. Connell and Sen. Keane voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:25 PM

Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas60aad.pdf](#))