

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chair Ray L. Shaw, on February 14, 2019 at 4:10 PM, in Room 137
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ray L. Shaw, Chair (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Molly Murray, 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 431, 2/14/2019; HB 389, 2/14/2019; HB 332, 2/14/2019

16:11:31 Chair Shaw

HEARING ON HB 431

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:12:08 Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 431, Create farmer loan assistance program by revising GTA laws.

EXHIBIT(agh31a01)

16:12:30 Rep. Mortensen entered the meeting.

16:14:06 Rep. Funk entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:22:32 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

16:25:11 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrower's Association (MSGA)

16:26:16 Geneva Zoltek, Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU)

16:27:20 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council

16:29:31 Sam Forstag, Montana Associated Students (MAS)

16:30:00 Rep. McKamey entered the meeting.

Opponents' Testimony:

16:31:16 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

16:32:53 Rick Edwards, Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)

16:35:09 Paul Tuss, Bear Paw Development Corporation

16:37:00 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Informational Testimony:

16:37:44 Cort Jensen, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)

16:38:03 Janice Brown, Montana Cooperative Development Center (MCDC)

16:38:51 Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA)

EXHIBIT(agh31a02)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:41:32 Vice Chair Knudsen

16:42:27 Rep. Beard

16:42:45 Rep. Brown

16:44:59 Rep. Curdy

16:46:05 Mr. Jensen, MDA

16:47:05 Rep. Dooling

16:47:29 Rep. Brown

16:48:32 Rep. Dooling

16:48:52 Rep. Brown

16:49:41 Rep. Keogh

16:50:10 Rep. Brown

16:51:09 Rep. Keogh

16:51:19 Chair Shaw

16:51:30 Rep. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

16:51:37 Rep. Brown

16:56:57 Rep. Bishop left the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 389**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:57:49 Rep. Joel Krautter (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 389, Exempt certain vehicles from height restrictions.

[EXHIBIT\(agh31a03\)](#)**Proponents' Testimony:**

17:00:58 Craig Steinbeisser, VS Inc.

17:03:24 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrower's Association (MSGA)

Opponents' Testimony:

17:04:18 Doug Hardy, Central Montana Electric Power Cooperative

17:05:11 Duane Williams, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

17:06:52 Rep. McKamey left the meeting.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:08:32 Vice Chair Knudsen

17:08:52 Mr. Williams, MDT

17:09:06 Rep. Mortensen

17:09:38 Rep. Krautter

17:10:02 Rep. Curdy

17:10:27 Spook Stang, Motor Carriers of Montana (MCM)

Closing by Sponsor:

17:12:42 Rep. Krautter

17:14:46 Recessed.

17:22:49 Reconvened with Rep. McKamey and Vice Chair Knudsen excused.

HEARING ON HB 332**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

17:23:00 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 332, Require county approval to relocate bison.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:24:32 Brian Quigley, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association (RMSGA)

17:26:21 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

17:30:59 Jerry Collins, Garfield County

17:31:23 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrower's Association (MSGA)

17:32:51 Chuck Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana (UPOM)

Opponents' Testimony:

17:34:30 Rick Kirn, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes (Fort Peck Tribes)
17:37:56 Ben Lamb, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF), National Wildlife Federation (NWF)
17:44:47 Mike Volesky, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
17:50:39 Shana Drimal, Greater Yellowstone Coalition (GYC)
17:52:37 Jim Vogel, Fort Belknap Indian Community Council (FBIC)
17:56:38 Rep. Bachmeier
17:56:48 Rep. Windyboy
17:57:54 Brandi King, Fort Belknap Indian Community Council (FBIC)
18:00:18 White Horse, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes (Fort Peck Tribes)
18:02:13 Rep. Bridget Smith
18:02:52 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
18:06:59 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

EXHIBIT(agh31a04)

18:07:27 Russ Talmo, Defenders of Wildlife
18:07:51 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
18:08:02 Garrett Lankford, Montana Human Rights Network (MHRN)

Informational Testimony:

18:08:31 Mike Honeycutt, Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

18:08:57 Rep. Redfield
18:09:25 Rep. Kassmeier
18:09:59 Rep. Curdy
18:10:36 Mr. Honeycutt, MDOL

Closing by Sponsor:

18:11:25 Rep. Kassmeier

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:13:13

Molly Murray, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([agh31aad.pdf](#))