

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Bob Brown, on February 21, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bob Brown, Chair (R)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Zac Perry, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Seth Berglee (R)
Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)
Rep. John Fuller (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Runningwolf (D)
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Mark Sweeney (D)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Joel G. Krautter (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)
Rep. Kerry White (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Hope Stockwell, Legislative Branch
Pad McCracken, Legislative Branch
Hannah Winn, Committee Secretary

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 509, 2/15/2019; HB 551, 2/19/2019; HB 552, 2/19/2019

Executive Action: HB 497, HJ 18

HEARING ON HB 509**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:27:50 Rep. Gordon Pierson (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 509, Require third party verification of wildlife population counts.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:28:10 Rep. Vinton joined the meeting.
15:28:37 Scott Perkins, Self
15:31:55 Brian Quigley, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association (RMSGGA)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:32:27 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
15:32:35 Rep. Krautter joined the meeting.
15:33:23 Ken McDonald, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
15:39:47 Wyatt Smith, Montana Audubon

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:40:19 Rep. Loge
15:40:44 Scott Perkins, Self
15:40:55 Vice Chair Fitzgerald left the meeting.
15:41:29 Rep. Loge
15:41:57 Mike Thompson, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
15:43:47 Rep. Krautter
15:44:10 Ken McDonald, FWP
15:44:25 Rep. Krautter
15:44:35 Ken McDonald, FWP
15:44:49 Rep. Sweeney
15:45:36 Mike Thompson, FWP
15:49:28 Chair Brown
15:51:15 Mike Thompson, FWP
15:52:44 Chair Brown
15:53:01 Mike Thompson, FWP
15:53:14 Chair Brown
15:53:53 Mike Thompson, FWP
15:54:10 Rep. Sweeney
15:54:54 Mike Thompson, FWP
15:55:54 Rep. B. Smith
15:56:14 Mike Thompson, FWP
15:57:48 Rep. Krautter
15:58:07 Rep. White joined the meeting.
15:58:14 Rep. Rep. Pierson
15:58:18 Rep. Krautter
15:58:37 Scott Perkins, Self
15:59:26 Rep. Z. Brown
16:00:00 Ken McDonald, FWP
16:00:42 Rep. Z. Brown
16:00:53 Rep. Pierson

16:01:18 Rep. Sweeney
16:01:48 Rep. Pierson

Closing by Sponsor:

16:01:56 Rep. Pierson

16:03:18 Vice Chair Perry assumed the Chair.

HEARING ON HB 551

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:04:54 Rep. Bob Brown (R), HD 13, opened the hearing on HB 551, Allow wolf hunting at night.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:07:25 Garrett Bacon, Self
16:08:41 Scott Blackman, Self

Opponents' Testimony:

16:10:34 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
16:11:46 Mark Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

EXHIBIT(fih37a01)

16:14:36 Wyatt Smith, Montana Audubon
16:16:23 KC York, Self
16:16:36 Vice Chair Fitzgerald returned to the meeting.
16:17:44 Art Compton, Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club
16:20:32 Ken McDonald, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
16:22:51 Zach Ostrovsky, Self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:26:33 Rep. White
16:26:53 Rep. B. Brown
16:27:05 Rep. White
16:27:16 Rep. B. Brown
16:27:25 Rep. Vinton
16:27:50 Zach Ostrovsky, Self
16:28:19 Rep. Loge
16:28:46 Ken McDonald, FWP
16:29:30 Rep. Loge
16:29:37 Ken McDonald, FWP
16:29:42 Rep. Loge
16:29:45 Ken McDonald, FWP
16:29:59 Rep. Sweeney
16:30:53 Rep. B. Brown
16:31:55 Rep. Z. Brown
16:32:28 Rep. Stewart Peregoy left the meeting.
16:32:32 Rep. B. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

16:33:56 Rep. B. Brown

HEARING ON HB 552

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:34:59 Rep. Bob Brown (R), HD 13, opened the hearing on HB 552, Revise laws related to trapping setbacks.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:39:45 Garrett Bacon, Self

16:40:30 Scott Blackman, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:41:10 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

16:42:52 KC York, Trap Free Montana

16:46:50 Mark Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

16:48:13 Art Compton, Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club

16:50:19 Sam Milodragovich, Self

16:52:17 Zach Ostrovsky, Self

Informational Testimony:

16:53:56 Quentin Kujala, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:54:19 Rep. Loge

16:54:56 Sam Milodragovich, Self

16:55:49 Rep. Loge

16:56:05 Sam Milodragovich, Self

16:56:12 Rep. White

16:56:37 Quentin Kujala, FWP

16:57:10 Rep. White

16:57:25 Quentin Kujala, FWP

16:57:35 Rep. Duram

16:58:08 Quentin Kujala, FWP

16:59:49 Rep. Duram

17:00:01 Quentin Kujala, FWP

17:00:23 Rep. B. Smith

17:00:41 Quentin Kujala, FWP

Closing by Sponsor:

17:01:56 Rep. B. Brown

17:05:37 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

17:06:08 Rep. B. Brown resumed the Chair.

17:06:52 Chair Brown

17:07:44 Rep. Z. Brown

17:07:55 Chair Brown

17:08:06 Recessed
17:23:30 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 497

17:24:16 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzgerald moved that **HB 497 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:24:41 Rep. Runningwolf
17:27:31 Rep. Sweeney
17:27:53 Rep. Z. Brown
17:31:25 Chair Brown
17:31:34 Rep. White
17:33:35 Rep. Loge
17:34:25 Rep. Z. Brown

17:36:24 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Farris-Olsen, Rep. Perry, Rep. Runningwolf, Rep. B. Smith, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, Rep. Sweeney and Rep. Weatherwax voting no. Rep. Stewart Peregoy voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 18

17:37:45 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzgerald moved that **HJ 18 DO PASS.**

17:38:48 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzgerald moved that **HJ 18 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(fih37a02\)](#)

Discussion:

17:39:00 Rep. B. Brown

17:39:38 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. B. Brown made a substitute motion that **AMENDMENT HJ001801.AHS BE CONCEPTUALLY AMENDED TO INSERT "ADJACENT TO PRIVATE LANDS ENROLLED IN A" TO READ "TO INCLUDE PUBLIC LANDS ADJACENT TO PRIVATE LANDS ENROLLED IN A SHOULDER SEASON".**

Discussion:

17:40:37 Rep. White
17:40:50 Chair Brown

17:41:15 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Farris-Olsen, Rep. Perry, Rep. Runningwolf, Rep. B. Smith, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, Rep. Sweeney and Rep. Weatherwax voting no. Rep. Stewart Peregoy voted by proxy.

17:42:20 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzgerald moved that **HJ 18 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:42:34 Rep. Z. Brown
17:43:14 Chair Brown
17:44:06 Rep. Loge

17:44:19 Rep. Berglee
17:45:20 Rep. White
17:45:58 Rep. Sweeney

17:46:16 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Z. Brown, Rep. Farris-Olsen, Rep. Perry, Rep. Runningwolf, Rep. B. Smith, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, Rep. Sweeney and Rep. Weatherwax voting no. Rep. Stewart Peregoy voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:47:48

Hannah Winn, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fih37aad.pdf](#))