

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Daniel Zolnikov, on March 20, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Daniel Zolnikov, Chair (R)
Rep. Christopher Pope, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Derek Skees, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman (D)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Alan Doane (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Abigail Konen, Committee Clerk
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: HJ 16, 3/4/2019; SB 244, 3/4/2019
Executive Action: LC 3299

14:49:17 Chair Zolnikov
14:50:02 Recessed
14:58:42 Reconvened
14:58:42 Rep. Galt left the meeting.
14:58:42 Rep. Doane entered the meeting.
14:58:51 Chair Zolnikov

HEARING ON HJ 16

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:59:13 Rep. Christopher Pope (D), HD 65, opened the hearing on HJ16, Interim study of electric transportation.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:01:12 Rep. Stewart Peregoy entered the meeting.
15:02:08 Brian Fadie, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
15:03:24 Laura Rennick, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
15:04:46 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
15:06:07 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:06:57 Rep. Olsen
15:07:37 Rep. Pope
15:08:13 Chair Zolnikov
15:08:28 Rep. Pope

Closing by Sponsor:

15:09:08 Rep. Pope

HEARING ON SB 244

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:10:40 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB244, Revise utility cost recovery.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:12:06 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

[EXHIBIT\(feh57a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:17:51 Robin Arnold, Montana Public Service Commission (PSC)
15:22:52 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC)

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:29:08 Chair Zolnikov
15:29:40 Sen. Blasdel
15:29:48 David Hoffman, NWE
15:30:07 Chair Zolnikov
15:31:45 David Hoffman, NWE
15:32:06 Vice Chair Pope
15:33:38 Jason Brown, MCC
15:34:42 Vice Chair Pope
15:35:37 David Hoffman, NWE
15:35:43 Vice Chair Pope
15:36:40 David Hoffman, NWE
15:37:01 Vice Chair Pope
15:38:14 Robin Arnold, PSC
15:38:45 Rep. Olsen
15:39:29 Robin Arnold, PSC
15:40:19 Vice Chair Pope
15:41:38 David Hoffman, NWE
15:41:44 Vice Chair Pope
15:42:04 David Hoffman, NWE
15:43:13 Chair Zolnikov

Closing by Sponsor:

15:43:37 Sen. Blasdel

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON LC 3299

15:44:11 Chair Zolnikov

[EXHIBIT\(feh57a02\)](#)

15:44:57 Vice Chair Pope

15:45:22 Recessed

15:45:48 Reconvened

15:45:52 **Motion:** Vice Chair Pope moved that **LC 3299 BE INTRODUCED.**

Discussion:

15:46:17 Chair Zolnikov
15:47:18 Vice Chair Pope
15:47:28 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
15:47:55 Vice Chair Pope
15:48:14 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD

15:48:25 Vice Chair Doane
15:48:32 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD
15:48:37 Vice Chair Doane
15:48:42 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD
15:49:02 Rep. Doane

15:49:16 Without objection, Vice Chair Pope withdrew the BE INTRODUCED motion.

15:49:20 **Motion:** Vice Chair Pope moved that **LC 3299 BE INTRODUCED.**

Discussion:

15:49:28 Chair Zolnikov
15:49:33 Rep. Olsen
15:50:07 Chair Zolnikov

15:50:28 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Doane and Rep. Redfield voting no. Rep. Hayman voted by proxy. Rep. Duram, Rep. Galt and Vice Chair Skees were excused.

15:51:33 Chair Zolnikov

15:51:49 Recessed
15:53:00 Reconvened

15:53:12 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Doane moved to **RECONSIDER ACTION ON LC 3299.** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Rep. Hayman voted by proxy. Rep. Duram, Rep. Galt and Vice Chair Skees were excused.

15:53:52 **Motion/Vote:** Vice Chair Pope moved that **LC 3299 BE INTRODUCED.** Motion carried 11-1 by voice vote with Rep. Redfield voting no. Rep. Duram, Rep. Galt, Rep. Hayman and Vice Chair Skees voted by proxy.

15:54:43 Rep. Doane
15:54:51 Chair Zolnikov
15:55:19 Rep. Redfield
15:55:30 Chair Zolnikov

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:55:40

Abigail Konen, Clerk

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh57aad.pdf](#))