

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chair Ray L. Shaw, on March 21, 2019 at 3:00 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. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (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 607, 03/21/2019; SB 176, 03/21/2019; SB 177, 03/21/2019; HB 528, 03/21/2019; HB 478, 03/21/2019

15:00:38 Chair Shaw

HEARING ON HB 607

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:01:19 Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D), HD 28, opened the hearing on HB 607, Allow for the manufacture and sale of pet treats.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:09:03 Keeley Wilson, Ladybug Bites, LLC

EXHIBIT(agh58a01)

15:15:04 Stewart Wilson, Ladybug Bites, LLC

EXHIBIT(agh58a02)

15:21:41 Dawn Hagedorn, Self

15:22:46 Ben Thomas, Director, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)

15:27:04 Paul Tuss, Bear Paw Development Corporation

15:28:59 Celina Cline, Montana Association for Rehabilitation (MAR)

EXHIBIT(agh58a03)

15:29:54 Joe LaPlante, Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:30:27 Rep. Redfield

15:30:42 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:31:16 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen

15:31:29 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:32:01 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen

15:32:34 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:33:25 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen

15:33:41 Bob Church, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)

15:33:52 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen

15:34:21 Mr. Church, MDA

15:35:07 Rep. McKamey

15:35:41 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:36:07 Chair Shaw

15:36:50 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:37:27 Rep. Curdy

15:38:16 Mr. Thomas, MDA

Closing by Sponsor:

15:38:45 Rep. Bachmeier

HEARING ON SB 176**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:41:03 Sen. Tom Jacobson (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 176, Allow for establishment of certified hemp plan and program.

[EXHIBIT\(agh58a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh58a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh58a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh58a07\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:44:54 Zach Coccoli, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)

15:46:10 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

15:46:35 Colby Johnson, Self

15:47:20 Sam Belanger, Self

15:47:50 Kim Phillips, Plan-It Hemp

15:48:36 Ron Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

15:49:42 Rep. Beard entered the meeting.

15:49:59 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:50:43 Rep. Funk

15:51:09 Mr. Coccoli, MDA

15:52:21 Rep. Funk

15:52:40 Mr. Coccoli, MDA

15:53:53 Rep. Dooling

15:54:23 Mr. Coccoli, MDA

15:54:45 Rep. Dooling

15:54:50 Mr. Coccoli, MDA

15:55:10 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:55:51 Rep. Dooling

15:56:00 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:56:17 Rep. McKamey

15:56:37 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:57:40 Rep. McKamey

15:58:01 Mr. Thomas, MDA

15:59:05 Vice Chair Knudsen

15:59:23 Mr. Thomas, MDA

16:00:09 Chair Shaw

16:00:33 Mr. Belanger, Self

16:00:39 Chair Shaw

16:00:42 Mr. Belanger, Self

Closing by Sponsor:

16:02:21 Sen. Jacobson

HEARING ON SB 177**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:03:58 Sen. Tom Jacobson (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 177, Revise Montana hemp laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:05:35 Ron Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
16:06:08 Zack Coccoli, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)
16:07:10 Kim Phillips, Self
16:07:37 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
16:07:50 Colby Johnson, Self
16:08:03 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council

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

16:08:33 Rep. Beard
16:09:25 Sen. Jacobson
16:09:47 Mr. Johnson

Closing by Sponsor:

16:10:31 Sen. Jacobson

HEARING ON HB 528**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:11:24 Rep. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 528, Create veterinary retail facility permits.

Proponents' Testimony: None.**Opponents' Testimony:**

16:15:48 Charlotte Lauerman, Montana Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)
16:17:15 Chelsey Petz, Chuteside Veterinary Service
16:18:59 Mark Albrecht, Gallatin Veterinary Hospital

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

16:21:18 Rep. McKamey
16:21:37 Rep. Moore
16:22:43 Rep. McKamey
16:22:55 Rep. Moore
16:23:18 Rep. Redfield

16:23:32 Rep. Moore
16:24:13 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen
16:24:37 Rep. Moore
16:24:56 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen
16:25:05 Rep. Moore

Closing by Sponsor:

16:25:15 Rep. Moore

16:25:49 Recessed.
16:38:37 Reconvened.

HEARING ON HB 478

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:38:54 Rep. Tyson Runningwolf (D), HD 16, opened the hearing on HB 478, Revise bison transfer laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:49:42 Magel Russell, Intertribal Buffalo Counsel (ITBC), Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes (Fort Peck Tribes), Blackfeet Nation
17:00:48 Rep. Weatherwax
17:03:00 Rep. Bridget Smith
17:04:13 Ray Yazzie, Blackfeet Tribe
17:06:52 Russ Talmo, Defenders of Wildlife

EXHIBIT(agh58a08)

17:08:29 Dave Dittloff, National Wildlife Federation (NWF)
17:09:28 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation (CSK Tribes)

Opponents' Testimony:

17:10:02 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)

EXHIBIT(agh58a09)

17:17:57 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF), Montana Livestock Auction Markets
17:23:20 Shelby DeMars, United Property Owners of Montana (UPOM)
17:25:33 Chris Killorn, Self
17:26:46 Laurence Grosfield, Self
17:30:16 Ron Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:30:54 Rep. Redfield
17:31:17 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:32:07 Rep. Redfield
17:32:14 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:32:37 Rep. Redfield

17:32:39 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:32:50 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen
17:33:22 Mr. Bodner, MSGA
17:34:27 Rep. Runningwolf

EXHIBIT(agh58a10)

17:34:39 Vice Chair Olsen
17:35:17 Rep. Bridget Smith
17:36:45 Vice Chair Olsen
17:37:48 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:40:22 Vice Chair Olsen
17:40:48 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:41:09 Vice Chair Olsen
17:41:50 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:43:23 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen
17:44:36 Rep. Runningwolf
17:44:44 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen
17:45:03 Rep. Runningwolf
17:45:24 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:45:51 Vice Chair Casey Knudsen
17:46:22 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:47:01 Rep. Bishop
17:48:42 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:49:48 Rep. Bishop
17:50:03 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:50:32 Rep. Curdy
17:51:14 Mr. Bodner, MSGA
17:51:48 Rep. Curdy
17:52:03 Mr. Bodner, MSGA
17:52:35 Rep. Curdy
17:53:36 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:53:50 Rep. Curdy
17:54:03 Rep. McKamey
17:54:34 Mr. Bodner, MSGA
17:55:04 Rep. McKamey
17:55:34 Rep. Runningwolf
17:55:43 Rep. McKamey
17:55:50 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
17:56:48 Chair Shaw
17:57:27 Mr. Bodner, MSGA
17:57:59 Chair Shaw
17:58:15 Mr. Bodner, MSGA
17:59:10 Vice Chair Olsen
18:00:03 Ms. Russell, ITBC, Fort Peck Tribes, Blackfeet Nation
18:01:33 Chair Shaw

Closing by Sponsor:

18:01:46 Rep. Runningwolf

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:06:24

Molly Murray, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([agh58aad.pdf](#))