

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: Chair Geraldine Custer, on March 21, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Geraldine Custer, Chair (R)
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Steve Gunderson, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Greg DeVries (R)
Rep. Frank Garner (R)
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Jasmine Krotkov (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Christopher Pope (D)
Rep. Derek Skees (R)
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Frank Fleming (R)
Rep. Rodney Garcia (R)
Rep. Derek J. Harvey (D)
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Branch
Chris Bushnell, 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: SB 315, 3/13/2019; SB 276, 3/13/2019; SJ 3, 3/13/2019
Executive Action: SB 163; SB 243

14:36:37 Chair Custer
14:37:34 Recessed
15:04:26 Reconvened with Rep. Fleming, Rep. Harvey, and Rep. Garcia present, and with Rep. Zolnikov excused.

HEARING ON SB 315

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:05:00 Sen. Scott Sales (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on SB 315, Revise laws on public defender assignments related to local ordinances.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:07:36 Sen. Osmundson, SD15
15:09:31 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

[EXHIBIT\(loh58a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(loh58a02\)](#)

15:18:32 Jackie Jones, Montana County Attorneys Association

Opponents' Testimony:

15:19:32 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
15:24:57 Bill Cole, Mayor of Billings

Informational Testimony:

15:27:19 Peter Ohman, Office of the State Public Defender (SPD)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:27:36 Vice Chair Fern
15:28:10 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:30:37 Rep. Garner
15:30:58 Sen. Sales
15:31:14 Rep. Garner
15:31:22 Sen. Sales
15:31:46 Rep. Garner
15:32:09 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:33:03 Rep. Garner
15:33:26 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:33:46 Rep. Garner
15:34:06 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:35:03 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:35:59 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
15:36:48 Mayor Cole, City of Billings
15:37:36 Chris Kukulski, City of Billings
15:38:21 Rep. Garner
15:39:23 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:40:40 Rep. Garner
15:41:15 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:42:03 Rep. Garner

15:42:59 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:44:08 Rep. Garner
15:45:09 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:46:02 Vice Chair Gunderson
15:46:23 Tim Burton, MLCT
15:48:13 Vice Chair Gunderson
15:48:31 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:49:46 Vice Chair Gunderson
15:50:04 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:51:11 Chair Custer
15:51:41 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:52:59 Chair Custer
15:53:09 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:53:47 Rep. Pope
15:54:25 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:54:41 Rep. Pope
15:55:23 Peter Ohman, OPD
15:56:40 Chair Custer
15:56:59 Sen. Sales

Closing by Sponsor:

15:57:10 Sen. Sales

HEARING ON SJ 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:00:31 Sen. Fred Thomas (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on S J3, Interim study on optional septic drain fields.

EXHIBIT(loh58a03)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:03:08 Sen. Bob Keenan, SD 5
16:04:20 Brian Thompson, Presby Environmental
16:05:32 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

EXHIBIT(loh58a04)

16:06:26 Justin Buchanan, E-On Northwest
16:08:31 Amanda Knuteson, Eliminite, Inc.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:10:27 Kevin Smith, Montana Department of Environmental Equality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:10:58 Rep. Skees
16:12:08 Sen. Thomas
16:14:35 Rep. Skees
16:15:24 Sen. Thomas

16:15:46 Vice Chair Fern
16:16:36 Rep. Marler
16:17:04 Sen. Thomas
16:18:17 Vice Chair Gunderson
16:18:44 Kevin Smith, DEQ

Closing by Sponsor:

16:19:01 Sen. Thomas

HEARING ON SB 276

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:19:49 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 276, Revise laws related to condos and townhouses.

EXHIBIT(loh58a05)

16:22:34 Rep. Manzella left the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:25:02 William Gowen, Montana Land Title Association (MLTA)
16:29:38 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors
16:30:52 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)
16:31:51 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:32:44 Vice Chair Fern
16:33:21 Sen. Webb
16:33:33 Vice Chair Fern
16:33:56 Sen. Webb
16:34:27 Rep. Skees
16:35:09 William Gowan, MLTA
16:36:14 Rep. Skees
16:36:44 Rep. Manzella entered the meeting.
16:36:53 William Gowan, MLTA
16:37:46 Rep. Skees
16:38:40 William Gowan, MLTA
16:39:30 Rep. Skees
16:39:48 William Gowan, MLTA
16:40:46 Rep. Skees
16:41:40 Steve Turkiewicz, MBA
16:42:07 Kelly Lynch, MLCT
16:43:33 Rep. Skees
16:44:09 Kelly Lynch, MLCT
16:44:38 Chair Custer
16:45:14 William Gowan, MLTA

16:45:52 Chair Custer
16:46:20 William Gowan, MLTA
16:47:01 Rep. Garner
16:47:23 Rep. Garcia
16:47:36 Sen. Webb

Closing by Sponsor:

16:47:51 Sen. Webb

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 163

16:50:28 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **SB 163 BE CONCURRED IN.**
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Schreiner and Rep. Zolnikov
voted by proxy. Rep. Zolnikov will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 243

16:52:26 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **SB 243 BE CONCURRED IN.**
Motion carried 14-3 by voice vote with Rep. Manzella, Rep. Skees and Rep.
Zolnikov voting no. Rep. Schreiner and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy. Rep.
Grubbs will carry the bill.

16:53:32 Chair Custer
16:53:50 Rep. Fern

EXHIBIT(loh58a06)

16:54:10 Chair Custer
16:55:23 Rep. Fern

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:57:32

Chris Bushnell, Secretary

cb

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([loh58aad.pdf](#))