

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Bob Brown, on March 26, 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. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)
Rep. John Fuller (R)
Rep. Joel G. Krautter (R)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Runningwolf (D)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Mark Sweeney (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)
Rep. Kerry White (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Hope Stockwell, 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: SB 79, 3/15/2019; SJ 6, 3/15/2019; HB 674, 3/20/2019

Executive Action: HB 311, HB 355, HB 517, HB 674

15:04:11 Rep. B. Smith and Rep. Weatherwax joined the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 79

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:05:30 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB 79, Clarification on squaring bonus points for hunting party applicants.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:06:46 Emily Cooper, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

15:08:06 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:09:12 Sen. Hinebauch

HEARING ON HB 674

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:10:42 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 674, Increase state gas tax distribution to recreation-related programs.

EXHIBIT(fih62a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:18:22 Roger Hagan, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association (MTVRA)

15:22:41 Russ Ehnes, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association (MTVRA)

15:24:16 Jody Loomis, Self

15:28:22 Cliff Walter, Self

15:31:16 Austin James, Citizens for Balanced Use (CBU)

15:31:48 Rep. R. Knudsen joined the meeting.

15:33:34 Connie Walter, Montana Snowmobile Association (MSA)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:36:53 Kent Barnes, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

EXHIBIT(fih62a02)

15:40:30 Larry Flynn, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

EXHIBIT(fih62a03)

15:46:29 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)

EXHIBIT(fih62a04)

EXHIBIT(fih62a05)

15:50:19 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

15:53:03 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

15:54:56 David Smith, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)
 15:55:56 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
 15:56:41 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
 15:57:29 Spook Stang, Motor Carriers of Montana (MCA)
 15:59:08 Brad Longcake, Montana Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store
 Association (MPMCSA)

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

16:00:10 Rep. Duram
 16:00:35 Roger Hagan, MTVRA
 16:01:09 Rep. Loge
 16:01:47 Russ Ehnes, MTVRA
 16:01:56 Rep. Krautter
 16:02:36 Rep. White
 16:05:54 Rep. B. Smith
 16:06:14 Darryl James, MIC

Closing by Sponsor:

16:07:42 Rep. White

HEARING ON SJ 6**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:12:05 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SJ 6, Resolution supporting delisting grizzly bears from Endangered Species Act.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:18:40 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
 16:20:14 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association (MLA)
 16:22:09 Ross Morgan, Rocky Mountain Sotckgrowers Association (RMSGGA)
 16:22:59 Sam Milodregovich, Skyline Sportsmen Association (SSA)
 16:24:03 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association (MWPA)
 16:25:09 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
 16:26:01 Austin James, Citizens for Balanced Use (CBU), Montana Wool Growers
 Association (MWGA)
 16:27:31 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGGA)
 16:29:00 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon
 16:32:54 Rep. Z. Brown joined the meeting.

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

16:33:30 Ken McDonald, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:33:48 Rep. Fuller
 16:34:13 Ken McDonald, FWP
 16:36:08 Rep. White

16:37:03 Ken McDonald, FWP
16:39:48 Rep. White
16:41:07 Ken McDonald, FWP
16:42:48 Rep. Duram
16:43:13 Ken McDonald, FWP
16:45:29 Rep. Duram
16:45:44 Ken McDonald, FWP

Closing by Sponsor:

16:46:41 Sen. Cuffe

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 355

17:10:34 **Motion:** Rep. White moved that **HB 355 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:11:16 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

17:11:37 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. White moved that **HB 355 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(fih62a06)

17:12:13 **Motion:** Rep. White moved that **HB 355 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:12:24 Rep. White

17:13:05 Hope Stockwell, LSD

17:13:51 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. White moved that **HB 355 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(fih62a07)

17:14:41 **Motion:** Rep. White moved that **HB 355 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:14:55 Rep. Loge

17:15:14 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 674

17:15:55 **Motion:** Rep. White moved that **HB 674 DO PASS.**

17:16:08 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. B. Smith made a substitute motion that **HB 674 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried 14-4 by roll call vote with Rep. Berglee, Rep. Duram, Rep. R. Knudsen and Rep. White voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 517

17:17:44 **Motion:** Rep. B. Smith moved that **HB 517 DO PASS.**

17:18:09 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. White made a substitute motion that **HB 517 BE TABLED.** Substitute 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.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 311

17:19:30 **Motion:** Rep. White moved that **HB 311 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:19:44 Hope Stockwell, LSD

17:20:18 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzgerald moved that **HB 311 BE AMENDED.**

[EXHIBIT\(fih62a08\)](#)

Discussion:

17:20:37 Rep. White

17:20:40 Rep. B. Smith left the meeting.

17:21:00 **Vote:** Motion carried 17-1 by voice vote with Rep. B. Smith voting no. Rep. B. Smith voted by proxy.

17:21:26 **Motion:** Rep. White moved that **HB 311 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:21:36 Rep. Stewart Peregoy

17:22:10 Rep. Loge

17:22:30 Rep. Duram

17:23:04 **Vote:** Motion carried 16-2 by roll call vote with Rep. B. Smith and Rep. Stewart Peregoy voting no. Rep. B. Smith voted by proxy.

17:24:10 Chair Brown

17:24:56 Rep. White

17:26:04 Rep. Farris-Olsen

17:26:15 Chair Brown

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:26:48

Hannah Winn, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fih62aad.pdf](#))