

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on January 18, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Chair (R)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Tom Richmond, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Scott Sales (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch
Mary Vandenbosch, 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 81, 1/15/2019

Executive Action: SB 41 - Do Pass
SB 47 - Do Pass

HEARING ON SB 81

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:01:23 Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 81, Extend deadline to correct an application for water right permit or change.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:03:09 Holly Franz, NorthWestern Energy (NWE); Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC); Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)
 15:04:23 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Building Industry Association
 15:04:54 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau
 15:05:16 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
 15:05:48 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrowers Association
 15:06:10 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:06:39 Jan Langel, administrator, Water Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:06:58 Sen. Barrett
 15:08:07 Sen. Cohenour
 15:08:27 Ms. Franz, NWE; SrWRC; AGAI
 15:09:26 Sen. Pomnichowski
 15:10:10 Mr. Langel, DNRC

Closing by Sponsor:

15:10:46 Sen. Cohenour

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 41

15:12:02 **Motion:** Sen. Richmond moved that **SB 41 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:12:21 Sen. Barrett
 15:13:41 Sen. Richmond
 15:14:46 Sen. Barrett
 15:15:25 Chairman Welborn
 15:15:41 Shawn Thomas, division administrator, Trust Lands Management Division, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
 15:17:36 Sen. Barrett
 15:17:54 Mr. Thomas, DNRC
 15:18:00 Chairman Welborn
 15:18:53 Mr. Thomas
 15:19:30 Sen. Gillespie
 15:20:16 Mr. Thomas

15:21:11 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 47

15:21:35 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Richmond moved that **SB 47 DO PASS**. Motion carried 11-1 by voice vote with Sen. Esp voting no. Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

15:22:35 Chairman Welborn

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:23 PM

Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas10aad.pdf](#))