

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on January 28, 2019 at 2:46 PM, in Room 422 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 151, 1/24/2019; SJ 4, 1/24/2019; SJ 5, 1/24/2019

Executive Action: SJ 3 - Do Pass

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 3

14:47:54 **Motion:** Sen. Richmond moved that **SJ 3 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

14:48:27 Sen. Cohenour
 14:48:51 Chairman Welborn
 14:49:08 Sen. Esp

14:49:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

DISCUSSION ON SB 47

14:50:06 Chairman Welborn
 14:50:33 Sen. Cohenour
 14:53:08 Sen. Barrett
 14:53:37 Sen. Cohenour
 14:54:00 Sen. Barrett
 14:54:51 Sen. Hoven
 14:55:54 Sen. Cohenour
 14:57:47 Sen. Gillespie
 14:59:18 Chairman Welborn
 15:00:03 Sen. Cohenour
 15:00:39 Sen. Barrett
 15:01:15 Sen. Hoven
 15:01:30 Sen. Barrett

HEARING ON SJ 4

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:04 Sen. Jon Sesso (D), SD 37, opened the hearing on SJ 4, Resolution to reauthorize of surface mining control and reclamation act.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:04:02 Bill Snoddy, project officer, Abandoned Mine Lands Program, Department of Environmental Quality

EXHIBIT(nas16a01)

15:10:50 Bud Clinch, executive director, Montana Coal Council
 15:14:04 Peter Lucon
 15:17:23 Casey Hackathorn, Trout Unlimited
 15:20:35 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited
 15:21:10 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center
 15:21:50 Jim Larson, Cascade County commissioner
 15:24:09 Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource Council

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:25:07 Sen. Sesso

HEARING ON SJ 5

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:25:58 Sen. Sue Malek (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SJ 5, Resolution regarding the 2017 Montana fires.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:30:56 John Tubbs, director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:32:32 Sen. Malek

15:33:26 Sen. Barrett

HEARING ON SB 151

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:33:49 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 151, Clarify notice procedures for exempt right claims.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:37:02 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SrWRC); Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:38:14 Abigail St. Lawrence, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers (RMSG)

Informational Testimony:

15:39:55 John Peterson, Adjudication Bureau chief, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:40:18 Sen. Cohenour

15:40:46 Mr. Peterson, DNRC

15:41:21 Sen. Cohenour

15:41:30 Mr. Peterson

15:41:52 Sen. Esp

15:42:12 Ms. Evans, SrWRC; AGAI

15:42:54 Sen. Flowers

15:43:21 Sen. Fitzpatrick

15:44:33 Sen. Flowers
15:45:03 Ms. St. Lawrence, RMSG
15:46:44 Sen. Barrett
15:47:16 Ms. St. Lawrence
15:48:20 Sen. Barrett
15:48:50 Sen. Fitzpatrick
15:49:50 Sen. Esp
15:50:26 Sen. Fitzpatrick

Closing by Sponsor:

15:50:54 Sen. Fitzpatrick

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:52 PM

Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas16aad.pdf](#))