

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Brian Hoven, on February 7, 2019 at 3:02 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

##### **Members Present:**

Sen. Brian Hoven, Chair (R)  
Sen. Mike Lang, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Frank Smith, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)  
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)  
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)  
Sen. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D)  
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)  
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)  
Sen. Susan Webber (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch  
Jack Racicot, 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 176, 1/28/2019; SB 177, 1/30/2019; HB 50, 2/4/2019; SR 22, 2/5/2019; SR 21, 2/5/2019

Executive Action: SR 21  
SR 22

**HEARING ON SB 176**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:55 Sen. Tom Jacobson (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 176, Allow for establishment of certified hemp plan and program.

**EXHIBIT(ags25a01)**

15:05:27 Sen. MacDonald entered the room.

15:06:20 Sen. Smith entered the room.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:06:40 Cort Jensen, Department of Agriculture (AGR)

15:09:37 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union

15:10:36 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau

15:11:06 MaKenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council

15:12:08 Sam Bellanger, self

15:15:04 Krista Lee Evans, Montana Agriculture Business Association

15:15:33 Chelsie Kennedy, Plan - it Hemp

15:16:06 Andre Umansky, Fidelity Diagnostics (FD)

15:18:08 Kim Phillips, Plan - it Hemp

15:19:32 John Porterfield, Hemp Holding Company (HHC)

15:21:05 Kirby Hancock, self

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:22:11 Sen. Smith

15:22:23 Mr. Jensen, AGR

15:23:38 Sen. MacDonald

15:24:04 Mr. Umansky, FD

15:24:18 Sen. MacDonald

15:24:22 Mr. Umansky

15:24:32 Sen. Webber

15:24:55 Mr. Jensen

15:25:51 Sen. MacDonald

15:26:17 Mr. Bellanger, self

15:27:17 Chair Hoven

15:27:49 Mr. Jensen

15:28:22 Chair Hoven

15:28:29 Mr. Jensen

15:29:16 Chair Hoven

15:29:34 Mr. Poterfield, HHC

15:30:38 Sen. Gillespie

15:31:11 Mr. Jensen

15:33:19 Sen. Gillespie

15:33:50 Mr. Jensen

15:35:18 Sen. Webber

15:35:33 Mr. Jensen  
15:36:40 Sen. Webber  
15:37:04 Mr. Jensen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:39:19 Sen. Jacobson

**HEARING ON SB 177**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:39:50 Sen. Tom Jacobson (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 177, Revise Montana hemp laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:41:56 Cort Jensen, Department of Agriculture  
15:44:10 John Porterfield, Hemp Holding Company (HHC)  
15:44:44 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau  
15:45:09 Kirby Hancock, self  
15:45:25 Sam Bellanger, self

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:46:12 Sen. Jacobson

**HEARING ON HB 50**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:46:45 Rep. Joel Krautter (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 50, Provide civil penalty for violations of agricultural commodity laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:48:23 Cort Jensen, Department of Agriculture (AGR)

**EXHIBIT(ags25a02)**

15:50:44 Sen. Olszewski entered the room.  
15:56:44 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau  
15:57:29 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:58:06 Krista Lee Evans, Montana Grain Elevator Association

**EXHIBIT(ags25a03)**

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:59:55 Sen. Ellis  
16:00:12 Mr. Jensen, AGR

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:00:49 Rep. Krautter  
  
16:00:52 Sen. Webber left the room.  
16:02:29 Sen. Hoven turned the duties of the chair to Sen. Lang.

**HEARING ON SR 21**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:02:36 Sen. Brian Hoven (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SR 21, Confirm Governor's appointees to board of hail insurance.

[EXHIBIT\(ags25a04\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

16:03:37 Cort Jensen, Department of Agriculture  
16:03:57 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

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

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:04:24 Sen. Hoven

**HEARING ON SR 22**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:04:42 Sen. Brian Hoven (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SR 22, Confirm Governor's appointees to board of veterinary medicine.

[EXHIBIT\(ags25a05\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

16:05:32 Dr. Tia Nelson, Valley Veterinary Hospital (VVH)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:06:10 Sen. MacDonald  
16:07:58 Ms. Nelson, VVH  
16:08:59 Sen. Olszewski  
16:09:30 Ms. Nelson  
16:13:14 Sen. Olszewski

16:13:28 Sen. Gillespie

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:13:43 Sen. Hoven

16:14:11 Sen. Hoven resumed the duties of the chair.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 21**

16:14:23 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Lang moved that **SR 21 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson and Sen. Webber were excused.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 22**

16:14:55 **Motion:** Sen. Lang moved that **SR 22 BE ADOPTED**.

**Discussion:**

16:15:01 Sen. Olszewski

16:15:26 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson and Sen. Webber were excused.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:16

---

Jack Racicot, Secretary

jr

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([ags25aad.pdf](#))