

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chair Dee Brown, on February 25, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Dee Brown, Chair (R)
Sen. Bryce Bennett, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Branch
Jacelyn Stewart, 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 284, 2/22/2019; SB 285, 2/22/2019; SB 291, 2/22/2019; SB 295, 2/22/2019; SB 309, 2/22/2019; SB 310, 2/22/2019; SJ 13, 2/22/2019; SJ 14, 2/22/2019

15:01:54 Chair Brown turned the position and duties of the chair over to Vice Chair Bennett.

HEARING ON SB 285

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:20 Sen. Dee Brown (R), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB 285, Revise audit terms for Montana Medical Legal Panel.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:03:54 Tara Preston, deputy CEO, Montana Medical Association

15:04:21 Angus Maciver, legislative auditor, Legislative Audit Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:04:54 Sen. Brown

HEARING ON SB 284

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:05:40 Sen. Jen Gross (D), SD 25, opened the hearing on SB 284, Revise required disclosures on election material about candidate's voting record.

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:15:41 Michael Toppen, Montana Public Interest Research Group

15:16:31 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association

Opponents' Testimony:

15:18:36 Jaime MacNaughton, chief legal counsel, Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:20:33 Sen. Brown

15:21:01 Ms. MacNaughton, COPP

Closing by Sponsor:

15:21:34 Sen. Gross

HEARING ON SB 291**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:23:48 Sen. Fred Thomas (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SB 291, Revise laws on voting systems and ballot form.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:26:28 Corey Stapleton, Secretary of State (SOS)

EXHIBIT(sts40a05)

15:32:22 Geneva Zoltek, Associated Students of Montana State University

15:33:09 Regina Plettenberg, Ravalli County elections administrator; Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders (MACR)

15:36:15 Stephanie Verhasselt, Richland County clerk and recorder

15:37:15 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties (MACo), Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders (MACR)

15:38:16 Joel Peden, Montana Center for Independent Living (MTCIL)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:44:43 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

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

15:49:41 Sen. Brown

15:52:48 Mr. Stapleton, SOS

15:53:27 Sen. Brown

15:54:01 Sen. Kary

15:54:46 Ms. Plettenberg, MACR

15:55:22 Sen. Kary

15:58:05 Mr. Peden, MTCIL

15:59:37 Sen. Kary

16:00:11 Mr. Stapleton

16:01:18 Sen. Kary

16:01:57 Dana Corson, director of elections, SOS

16:03:59 Sen. Ellis

16:07:59 Mr. Peden

16:08:57 Sen. Ellis

16:10:24 Mr. Stapleton

EXHIBIT(sts40a06)

16:11:05 Sen. Ellis

16:11:55 Mr. Stapleton

16:13:52 Sen. Brown

16:14:04 Ms. Plettenberg

16:16:17 Sen. Brown

16:16:24 Chair Bennett

16:22:21 Ms. Plettenberg

16:23:06 Chair Bennett

16:23:35 Mr. Stapleton

16:23:38 Sen. Brown
16:24:01 Mr. Stapleton
16:25:37 Chair Bennett
16:26:05 Ms. Brenneman, DRM

Closing by Sponsor:

16:26:42 Sen. Thomas

HEARING ON SB 295

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:30:01 Sen. Tom Richmond (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 295, Generally revise public employee death benefits.

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a07\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:33:44 Gretchen Rooney, self
16:35:23 Eric Feaver, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
16:36:01 Mike Tooley, director, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:39:58 Sen. Brown
16:40:20 Mr. Tooley, MDT
16:41:01 Sen. Kary
16:41:46 Sen. Richmond
16:42:28 Sen. Cuffe
16:43:13 Mr. Tooley
16:43:51 Sen. Ellis
16:46:00 Mr. Tooley
16:46:43 Sen. Ellis
16:47:12 Sen. Richmond
16:47:28 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division

Closing by Sponsor:

16:47:46 Sen. Richmond

HEARING ON SB 309

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:49:15 Sen. Sue Malek (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SB 309, Revise the establishment of PSC districts.

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a08\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

16:55:41 Tony O'Donnell, Public Service Commission

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:02:18 Sen. Brown
17:02:37 Sen. Malek
17:02:50 Sen. Cuffe
17:04:16 Sen. Malek
17:05:23 Sen. Cuffe
17:05:48 Sen. Ellis
17:06:39 Sen. Malek
17:07:01 Chair Bennett
17:07:10 Sen. Ellis
17:07:38 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division

Closing by Sponsor:

17:08:10 Sen. Malek

HEARING ON SB 310

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:10:40 Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 310, Revise laws related to legislature and budgeting.

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a09\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a10\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sts40a11\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

17:16:36 Susan Fox, executive director, Legislative Services Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:16:55 Sen. Brown
17:17:13 Sen. Osmundson
17:18:23 Sen. Ellis
17:25:28 Sen. Osmundson
17:27:22 Chair Bennett
17:28:59 Sen. Osmundson

Closing by Sponsor:

17:30:40 Sen. Osmundson

HEARING ON SJ 13

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:30:59 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SJ 13, A resolution regarding international trade with Canada, Mexico.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:40:51 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

17:42:30 Sen. Cuffe

HEARING ON SJ 14

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

17:42:53 Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D), SD 33, opened the hearing on SJ 14, Joint resolution regarding Cuba.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:46:37 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union

17:47:13 Jorge Quintana, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:53:43 Sen. Brown

17:55:10 Sen. Pomnichowski

Closing by Sponsor:

17:57:09 Sen. Pomnichowski

Committee Business:

17:58:11 Chair Brown resumed the duties and position of the chair.

17:58:25 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division

17:59:12 Chair Brown

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:00 PM

Jacelyn Stewart, Secretary

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Additional Document

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([sts40aad.pdf](#))