

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Duane Ankney, on March 19, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)
Sen. Mary McNally, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Keith Regier (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Trevor Graff, 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: HB 22, 3/14/2019; HB 150, 3/14/2019; SB 331, 3/14/2019

HEARING ON HB 150**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:20 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 150, Generally revise 9-1-1 laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:05:13 Quinn Ness, bureau chief, Communications Bureau, Department of Administration
 15:06:00 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties
 15:07:05 Tim Burton, executive director, Montana League of Cities and Towns
 15:07:29 Geoff Feiss, general manager, Montana Telecommunications Association, Montana Economic Developers Association
 15:07:49 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:09:44 Rep. Garner

HEARING ON SB 331**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:10:42 Sen. Tom Richmond (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 331, Establish the Montana energy security act.

EXHIBIT(ens56a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:15:59 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)
EXHIBIT(ens56a02)
EXHIBIT(ens56a03)

15:22:12 Bob Lake, vice chair, Public Service Commission (PSC)
 15:24:52 Bill Ryan, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #44
 15:26:40 Stacey Yates, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
 15:27:16 Adam Haight, Montana American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations
 15:27:43 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce
 15:28:15 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip
 15:30:44 Tim Burton, executive director, Montana League of Cities and Towns
 15:31:36 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties
 15:31:54 David Saulsbury, Colstrip United
 15:32:42 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association
 15:33:27 Shelby DeMars, Montana Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties
 15:34:40 John Forkan, Montana State Association of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters

Opponents' Testimony:

15:36:14 Jason Brown, Montana Consumer Counsel

15:44:50 Roger Koopman, commissioner, Public Service Commission (PSC)

EXHIBIT(ens56a04)

15:52:22 Zachary Rogala, Darby

15:53:44 Dave Lewis, former senator, self

15:54:47 Gary Buchanan, self

EXHIBIT(ens56a05)

15:56:34 Jan Hoem, self

EXHIBIT(ens56a06)

15:56:52 Harold Hoem, self

EXHIBIT(ens56a07)

15:57:31 Tom Schneider, self

15:58:10 Adrienne Cotton, AARP Montana

15:58:23 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest

15:58:39 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center

15:59:01 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

15:59:18 Julian Adler, Montana Public Interest Research Group, Students of Montana University

15:59:53 Jake Brown, Montana Conservation Voters

16:00:05 Diego Rivas, senior policy associate, NW Energy Coalition

Informational Testimony:

16:00:27 Aimee Reynolds, Department of Environmental Quality

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:00:41 Sen. Phillips

16:00:58 Mr. Koopman, PSC

16:01:32 Sen. Phillips

16:02:04 Mr. Lake, PSC

16:04:16 Sen. Phillips

16:04:54 Mr. Hoffman, NWE

16:05:57 Sen. Phillips

16:06:33 Mr. Lewis, self

16:07:57 Sen. Barrett

16:14:02 Sen. Richmond

16:14:53 Sen. McNally

16:16:19 Sen. Richmond

16:16:47 Sen. McNally

16:17:14 Mr. Buchanan, self

16:18:24 Sen. McNally

16:19:51 Mr. Lake

16:21:07 Sen. McNally

16:21:21 Sen. Malek

16:27:49 Mr. Hoffman

16:28:00 Sen. Temple

16:28:24 Mr. Koopman
 16:30:00 Chair Ankney
 16:31:02 Mr. Hoffman
 16:31:20 Chair Ankney
 16:32:48 Mr. Koopman

Closing by Sponsor:

16:33:09 Sen. Richmond

 16:35:23 Recess
 16:44:57 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 22

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:45:23 Rep. Laurie Bishop (D), HD 60, opened the hearing on HB 22, Revise electricity supply resource contract length.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:49:11 Melissa Shannon, VK Clean Energy Partners
 16:51:28 Jeff Fox, policy manager, Renewable Northwest

Opponents' Testimony:

16:53:06 Roger Koopman, commissioner, Public Service Commission (PSC)
[EXHIBIT\(ens56a08\)](#)

17:06:46 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:09:57 Sen. Malek
 17:10:45 Mr. Koopman, PSC
 17:10:51 Sen. Malek
 17:11:33 Ms. Shannon, VK
 17:11:49 Sen. Malek
 17:13:19 Mr. Fox, Renewable NW
 17:14:31 Sen. Phillips
 17:15:12 Mr. Fox
 17:16:09 Sen. Phillips
 17:16:25 Sen. Richmond
 17:16:50 Mr. Koopman
 17:18:05 Robin Arnold, Public Service Commission (PSC)
 17:18:31 Sen Richmond
 17:18:49 Ms. Arnold, PSC
 17:18:59 Sen. McNally
 17:19:46 Rep. Bishop
 17:20:58 Sen. McNally
 17:21:54 Rep. Bishop

Closing by Sponsor:

17:23:33 Rep. Bishop

Committee Business:

17:25:42 Chair Ankney

17:26:31 Sen. Phillips

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:26 PM

Jacelyn Stewart, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens56aad.pdf](#))