

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on March 25, 2019 at 2:33 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 341, 3/21/2019; SJ 20, 3/21/2019

Executive Action: SB 341 - Do Pass as Amended

14:34:12 Sen. Esp and Sen. Ankney entered the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 341

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:35:05 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB 341, Establish public access land act.

Proponents' Testimony:

14:38:13 Mark Lambrecht, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)

EXHIBIT(nas61a01)

14:40:52 Glenn Marx, Montana Association of Land Trusts
 14:42:12 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
 14:44:29 Thomas Baumeister, Montana Chapter, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
 14:46:44 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrowers Association
 14:47:57 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited
 14:48:53 Dave Chadwick, Montana Wildlife Federation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

14:50:38 Martha Williams, director, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:51:16 Sen. Pomnichowski
 14:52:23 Sen. Blasdel
 14:53:27 Sen. Pomnichowski
 14:53:59 Ms. Williams, FWP
 14:59:26 Sen. Esp
 14:59:51 Sen. Fred Thomas, SD 44 (designated as proponent by Chairman Welborn)
 15:01:43 Sen. Esp
 15:03:06 Sen. Blasdel
 15:04:20 Sen. Pomnichowski
 15:04:56 Ms. Williams
 15:07:18 Sen. Cohenour
 15:08:12 Sen. Blasdel
 15:08:51 Chairman Welborn
 15:08:55 Sen. Hoven
 15:09:24 Sen. Blasdel
 15:11:42 Sen. Flowers
 15:13:15 Ms. Williams
 15:13:56 Sen. Gillespie
 15:14:53 Mr. Lambrecht, RMEF
 15:15:27 Sen. Gillespie
 15:16:20 Ms. Williams
 15:18:44 Sen. Gillespie
 15:19:09 Sen. Hoven
 15:19:45 Sen. Blasdel
 15:20:12 Chairman Welborn

15:21:12 Sen. Blasdel

Closing by Sponsor:

15:21:46 Sen. Blasdel

15:22:53 Chairman Welborn

15:23:44 Recess

15:33:16 Reconvene

Sen. Pomnichowski assumed the responsibilities of the Chair.

HEARING ON SJ 20

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:32:39 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SJ 20, Interim study of wilderness study areas.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:33:58 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

15:36:07 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrowers Association; Public Lands Council

Opponents' Testimony:

15:37:32 Tracy Stone-Manning, associate vice president for public lands, National Wildlife Federation (NWF)

15:42:26 Ben Gabriel, executive director, Montana Wilderness Association

15:45:49 Dave Chadwick, Montana Wildlife Federation; Montana Audubon

15:49:05 Katharina Miller, ambassador, Winter Wildlands Alliance

15:51:40 Ben Horan, executive director, MTB Missoula

15:53:55 Scott Brennan, Montana state director, The Wilderness Society

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:58:14 Sen. Barrett

15:59:37 Sen. Welborn

16:02:09 Sen. Barrett

16:02:24 Sen. Flowers

16:03:42 Sen. Welborn

16:06:04 Sen. Jacobson

16:06:45 Mr. Brennan, Wilderness Society

16:06:51 Sen. Jacobson

16:07:19 Ms. Stone-Manning, NWF

16:07:26 Sen. Cohenour

16:08:12 Ms. Cargill, MFBF

16:09:04 Sen. Cohenour

16:09:29 Sen. Welborn

16:10:42 Sen. Cohenour

16:11:32 Sen. Welborn

16:11:48 Sen. Ankney

16:12:09 Chair Pomnichowski
 16:12:19 Sen. Ankney
 16:12:20 Chair Pomnichowski
 16:12:35 Sen. Ankney
 16:12:55 Sen. Welborn
 16:13:50 Sen. Hoven
 16:15:39 Sen. Welborn

Closing by Sponsor:

16:16:39 Sen. Welborn

 16:18:21 Sen. Welborn resumed the responsibilities of the chair.

 16:18:28 Sen. Cohenour
 16:18:38 Jason Mohr, Legislative Services Division

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 341

16:19:42 Chairman Welborn
 16:20:28 Sen. Esp

 16:20:55 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 341 DO PASS.**

 16:21:16 **Motion:** Sen. Jacobson moved that **SB 341 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(nas61a02)

Discussion:

16:23:21 Chairman Welborn
 16:23:37 Sen. Jacobson

 16:23:49 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

 16:24:15 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 341 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:25 PM

Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas61aad.pdf](#))