

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Ryan Osmundson, on March 26, 2019 at 8:01 A.M., in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Ryan Osmundson, Chair (R)
Sen. Jon C. Sesso, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Cary Smith, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Nate McConnell (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Susan Webber (D)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Quinn Holzer, Legislative Branch
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

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 2, 3/22/2019

HEARING ON HB 2**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:03:13 Rep. Nancy Ballance (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 2, General Appropriations Act.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:09:22 Amy Carlson, legislative fiscal analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a01\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a02\)](#)

08:18:40 Tom Livers, director, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:28:55 Sen. Keenan

08:29:42 Ms. Carlson, LFD

08:30:40 Sen. Keenan

08:31:03 Ms. Carlson

08:32:44 Chair Osmundson

08:33:07 Sen. Ellis

HB 2 Section A - General Government**Legislative Branch**

08:34:19 Rep. Dan Bartel, HD 29

08:38:10 Susan Byorth Fox, director, Legislative Services Division

08:41:32 Angus Maciver, legislative auditor, Legislative Audit Division

Montana Consumer Counsel

08:43:14 Rep. Bartel

08:44:29 Bob Nelson, Montana Consumer Counsel

Governors Office

08:45:54 Rep. Bartel

08:47:21 Errolyn Lentz, Governor's Office

Commissioner of Political Practices

08:48:29 Rep. Bartel

08:49:58 Jeff Mangan, Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:55:30 Sen. Kary

08:55:44 Mr. Mangan, COPP

08:56:02 Sen. Kary

08:56:10 Mr. Mangan

08:57:26 Sen. Ellis

08:58:25 Mr. Mangan

State Auditors Office

09:00:54 Rep. Bartel
09:02:32 Kris Hansen, deputy state auditor, Office of the Montana State Auditor,
Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

Department of Revenue

09:04:28 Rep. Bartel
09:06:19 Gene Walborn, director, Department of Revenue (DOR)
[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a03\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:16:31 Sen. Flowers
09:17:10 Mr. Walborn, DOR
09:20:55 Sen. Ellis
09:21:50 Mr. Walborn
09:23:44 Sen. Sesso
09:24:19 Rep. Bartel
09:25:34 Sen. Sesso
09:26:39 Mr. Walborn
09:29:42 Sen. Sesso
09:30:26 Mr. Walborn
09:30:39 Sen. Keenan
09:31:21 Mr. Walborn
09:32:08 Sen. Keenan
09:32:15 Mr. Walborn
09:32:33 Chair Osmundson
09:32:39 Sen. Ellis
09:33:31 Mr. Walborn
09:35:11 Chair Osmundson
09:35:22 Rep. Bartel
09:36:51 Sen. Ellis
09:37:20 Rep. Bartel

Department of Administration

09:37:44 Rep. Bartel
09:39:46 John Lewis, director, Department of Administration

Public Comment:

09:44:03 Morgan Smith, Montana Federation of Public Employees

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:44:45 Sen. Keenan
09:45:54 Rep. Bartel

Department of Commerce

09:47:24 Rep. Bartel
09:49:26 Tara Rice, director, Department of Commerce (DOC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:51:12 Sen. Keenan

09:51:37 Mr. Rice, DOC
 09:51:59 Marty Tuttle, deputy director, DOC
 09:52:21 Sen. Keenan
 09:52:48 Mr. Tuttle, DOC
 09:54:42 Sen. Salomon
 09:55:17 Kate Guenther, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
 09:56:07 Sen. Salomon
 09:56:11 Ms. Guenther, LFD

Department of Labor and Industry

09:56:54 Rep. Bartel
 09:59:50 Galen Hollenbaugh, commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry

Department of Military Affairs

10:00:48 Rep. Bartel
 10:03:16 Sundi West, director, Department of Military Affairs

 10:04:24 Rep. Bartel closed on Section A.

 10:04:56 Recess
 10:15:15 Reconvene

Section B - Department of Public Health and Human Services:

10:15:28 Rep. Eric Moore, HD 37
[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a04\)](#)

 10:24:14 Sheila Hogan, director, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Public Comment:

10:28:31 June Hermanson, Montana Association for Rehabilitation
[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a05\)](#)

 10:35:58 Joel Peden, Montana Centers for Independent Living
 10:41:27 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights Montana
 10:45:52 Shyla Patera, North Central Independent Living Services
[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a06\)](#)

 10:51:00 Mark Sanders, representing himself
 10:52:54 Sheila Leland, representing herself
 10:56:13 Michael Coe, representing himself
 10:59:10 Jackie Jones, Montana Association of Community Disability Services; Montana Area Agencies on Aging Association
 11:05:19 Chris Jensen Kukowski, assisted living provider and administrator, Miles City
 11:13:50 Hazel Noonan, Sunhaven Assisted Living
 11:18:31 Mark McDonald, New Horizon Assisted Living, Anaconda
 11:22:06 Diana Helgeson, administrator, Churchill Assisted Living and Retirement Home
 11:26:24 Joy Breslauer, National Federation of the Blind of Montana

11:28:35 Tom Osborn, executive director, North Central Independent Living Services, Inc.
[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a07\)](#)

11:31:41 Shana Klinge, Edgewood Memory Care
 11:33:17 Michael White, Castle Living Centers
 11:39:01 Morgan Smith, Montana Federation of Public Employees
 11:39:45 Delta Boland, Whitehall
 11:40:59 Dorian Hunter, assisted living owner
 11:42:39 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association
 11:47:01 Brian Coplin, representing himself
 11:50:30 Rose Hughes, executive director, Montana Health Care Association

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a08\)](#)

11:56:04 Jennifer Hensley, PacificSource Health Plans

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:57:38 Sen. Keenan
 11:57:57 Ms. Hogan, DPHHS
 11:58:20 Alyssa Johnson, DPHHS
 11:58:49 Sen. Keenan
 11:58:56 Ms. Johnson
 11:59:27 Sen. Keenan
 11:59:55 Ms. Johnson
 12:00:51 Sen. Keenan
 12:03:03 Rep. Moore
 12:03:50 Sen. Keenan
 12:05:11 Rep. Moore
 12:06:11 Sen. Ankney
 12:06:30 Rep. Moore
 12:06:56 Sen. Ellis
 12:07:39 Rep. Moore
 12:08:38 Sen. Ellis
 12:08:49 Rep. Moore
 12:09:06 Sen. McNally
 12:09:25 Rep. Moore
 12:10:33 Sen. Lang
 12:11:10 Rep. Moore
 12:11:49 Sen. Lang
 12:12:06 Rep. Moore
 12:12:32 Sen. Jacobson
 12:12:54 Rep. Moore

 12:14:01 Rep. Moore closed on Section B.

 12:14:25 Recess
 12:51:33 Reconvene

Section C - Natural Resources and Transportation

12:51:46 Rep. Holmlund, HD 38

Fish, Wildlife and Parks

12:54:21 Rep. Holmlund

12:57:20 Martha Williams, director, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

12:58:08 Sen. Keenan

Department of Environmental Quality

12:59:01 Rep. Holmlund

13:01:41 Shawn McGrath, director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

13:02:30 Rep. Holmlund

13:02:45 Sen. Keenan

13:02:59 Mr. McGrath, DEQ

13:03:38 Sen. Keenan

13:03:57 Mr. McGrath

Department of Transportation

13:04:20 Rep. Holmlund

13:07:05 Mike Tooley, director, Department of Transportation (MDT)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

13:10:30 Sen. Flowers

13:10:51 Mr. Tooley, MDT

Department of Livestock

13:11:17 Rep. Holmlund

13:14:49 Mike Honeycutt, director, Department of Livestock (DOL)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

13:15:40 Sen. Salomon

13:15:53 Mr. Honeycutt, DOL

13:18:06 Rep. Holmlund

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

13:18:16 Rep. Holmlund

13:23:44 John Tubbs, director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Public Comment:

13:25:38 Greg Mohr, Dry Red Water Authority

13:27:25 Jane Holzer, Montana Salinity Control

13:28:03 Dan McGowan, executive director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts

EXHIBIT(fcs62a09)

13:30:23 Krista Lee Evans, Dry Prairie Rural Water Authority

13:32:01 Jeff Ryan, Lewis and Clark Conservation District, Missouri River Conservation Council

13:33:26 Dan Rostad, Yellowstone River Conservation Districts
 13:34:43 Jeff Widholm, Montana Association of Conservation Districts
 13:35:32 Kelley Huemoeller, Central Montana Regional Water Authority

EXHIBIT(fcs62a10)

13:36:18 Mark Suta, Montana Association of Conservation Districts
 13:37:16 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Product Association
 13:38:06 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association
 13:39:47 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

13:40:33 Sen. Keenan
 13:40:48 Mr. Tubbs, DNRC
 13:40:57 Sen. Keenan
 13:41:10 Rep. Holmlund

Department of Livestock

13:41:19 Rep. Holmlund
 13:43:15 Cindy Trimp, administrator, Department of Agriculture

13:44:06 Rep. Holmlund closed on Section C.

13:44:51 Recess
 13:57:36 Reconvene

Section D - Judicial Branch, Law Enforcement and Justice

13:57:43 Rep. Matt Regier, HD 4

Judicial Branch

13:58:39 Rep. Regier
 14:01:14 Beth McLaughlin, court administrator, Montana Supreme Court

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:01:45 Sen. Keenan
 14:02:08 Rep. Regier

Department of Justice

14:02:48 Rep. Regier

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:07:19 Sen. Keenan
 14:07:41 Rep. Regier
 14:08:04 Sen. Ankney

Public Service Commission

14:08:52 Rep. Regier
 14:10:41 Brad Johnson, chair, Public Service Commission

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:13:21 Sen. Salomon
14:13:34 Rep. Regier
14:13:59 Sen. Keenan

Office of Public Defender

14:14:55 Rep. Regier
14:16:26 Rhonda Schaffer, director, Office of Public Defender

Public Comment:

14:19:06 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
14:25:20 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:28:52 Sen. Sesso
14:29:52 Mr. Bryson, MACo
14:33:03 Sen. Sesso
14:34:22 Mr. Bryson

Department of Corrections

14:34:38 Rep. Regier
14:37:28 Cynthia Wolken, deputy director, Department of Corrections

Public Comment:

14:38:24 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:40:30 Sen. Keenan
14:41:17 Rep. Regier
14:41:48 Sen. Keenan

14:42:21 Rep. Regier closed on Section D.

Section E - Education

14:50:18 Rep. Llew Jones, HD 18

Office of Public Instruction

14:53:37 Rep. Jones
14:56:38 Elsie Arntzen, superintendent, Office of Public Instruction

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a11\)](#)**Board of Public Education**

14:59:06 Rep. Jones
15:00:16 Peter Donovan, Board of Public Education

Commissioner of Higher Education

15:01:19 Rep. Jones
15:08:07 Clayton Christian, commissioner, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

15:10:59 Jane Karas, president, Flathead Community College; Miles Community College;
Dawson Community College

15:11:57 Sam Forstag, Montana Associated Students

15:13:16 Brenna Love, Associated Students of the University of Montana

EXHIBIT(fcs62a12)

15:14:44 Geneva Zoltek, Montana State University

Questions from the Committee:

15:15:25 Sen. Sesso

15:15:57 Mr. Christian

15:17:40 Sen. Sesso

15:18:12 Rep. Jones

15:20:29 Sen. Sesso

15:20:57 Rep. Jones

School for the Deaf and Blind

15:22:25 Rep. Jones

15:24:31 Donna Sorensen, superintendent, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind
(MSDB)

Questions from the Committee:

15:28:32 Sen. Jacobson

15:28:36 Rep. Jones

15:30:11 Sen. Jacobson

15:30:27 Ms. Sorensen, MSDB

15:30:52 Rep. Jones

Montana Arts Council

15:32:10 Rep. Jones

15:33:36 Tatiana Gant, director, Montana Arts Council

Montana State Library

15:35:13 Rep. Jones

15:38:15 Jennie Stapp, state librarian, Montana State Library

Public Comment:

15:40:54 John Finn, director, Lewis and Clark Library; Montana Library Association

15:43:37 Dave Hagen, representing John Beaver, Westech Environmental Services

15:45:45 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association

EXHIBIT(fcs62a13)

Questions from the Committee:

15:47:09 Sen. Ellis

15:47:34 Rep. Jones

Montana Historical Society

15:48:19 Rep. Jones

15:50:20 Bruce Whittenberg, director, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

Public Comment:

15:54:39 Marco Ferro, Montana Federation of Public Employees

Questions from the Committee:

15:55:47 Sen. Sesso

15:56:47 Denise King, MHS

15:57:11 Sen. Sesso

15:57:43 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

15:58:08 Sen. Sesso

15:58:21 Rep. Jones

16:01:11 Rep. Jones closed on Section E.

16:02:15 Ms. Wilkinson, LFD

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a14\)](#)

16:02:49 Sen. Ellis

Closing by Sponsor:

16:03:13 Rep. Ballance

16:04:53 Chair Osmundson

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:05 P.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Document

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs62aad.pdf](#))