

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on March 27, 2019 at 4:08 P.M., 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. 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. Duane Ankney (R)
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 343, 3/21/2019

Executive Action: SB 343 - Do Pass

HEARING ON SB 343**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:09:19 Sen. Tom Richmond (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 343, Revise open cut laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:10:28 David Smith, executive director, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)
16:13:18 George Mathieus, deputy director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
16:16:23 Mike Newton, operations manager, Fisher Sand and Gravel Company
16:20:17 Gary Forrester, Knife River Corporation
16:21:45 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association
16:22:41 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited
16:23:24 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council
16:23:58 Steve Wade, MCA

Opponents' Testimony:

16:28:25 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

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

16:31:04 Sen. Cohenour
16:31:38 Mr. Mathieus, DEQ
16:32:19 Ed Coleman, Coal and Opencut Mining Bureau chief, DEQ
16:33:39 Sen. Hoven
16:34:33 Mr. Mathieus
16:36:08 Sen. Hoven
16:36:46 Mr. Mathieus
16:37:44 Sen. Hoven
16:38:30 Mr. Mathieus
16:39:11 Sen. Flowers
16:39:41 Mr. Bryson, MACo
16:40:18 Sen. Flowers
16:40:51 Mr. Bryson
16:41:53 Mr. Coleman, DEQ
16:43:36 Sen. Gillespie
16:44:53 Mr. Mathieus
16:47:10 Chairman Welborn

16:47:45 Sen. Esp entered the meeting. Sen. Pomnichowski was present.

16:49:09 Sen. Richmond
16:50:27 Mr. Smith, MCA
16:51:24 Chairman Welborn
16:52:04 Mr. Mathieus
16:51:37 Sen. Hoven
16:52:14 Mr. Coleman

Closing by Sponsor:

16:53:35 Sen. Richmond

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 343

16:54:26 Chairman Welborn

16:54:56 **Motion:** Sen. Richmond moved that **SB 343 DO PASS.**

16:55:06 **Motion:** Sen. Hoven moved that **SB 343 BE CONCEPTUALLY AMENDED** to reduce the per permit fee from \$150 to \$50.

Discussion:

16:56:23 Chairman Welborn

16:56:41 Sen. Hoven

16:56:49 Sen. Flowers

16:57:52 Sen. Richmond

16:58:58 Sen. Cohenour

16:59:36 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-8 by roll call vote with Sen. Esp, Sen. Gillespie, Sen. Hoven and Sen. S. Sales voting aye. Sen. Ankney and Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

17:00:43 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-3 by roll call vote with Sen. Esp, Sen. Gillespie and Sen. S. Sales voting no. Sen. Ankney and Sen. S. Sales voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:02 PM

Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

mv

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas63aad.pdf](#))