

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Duane Ankney, on March 28, 2019 at 3:11 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. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Terry Gauthier (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: SB 355, 3/25/2019; HB 467, 3/25/2019

Executive Action: SB 355 - Be Tabled

HEARING ON SB 355**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:11:02 Sen. Bryce Bennett (D), SD 50, opened the hearing on SB 355, Require net neutrality.

EXHIBIT(ens64a01)

15:13:57 Sen. Malek and Sen. McNally entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:15:41 Raph Graybill, chief legal counsel, Governor's Office (GOV)

15:21:04 Matt Beckstrom, Lewis and Clark Library, Montana Library Association

15:22:35 Jennie Stapp, state librarian

15:24:32 Kirk Miller, executive director, School Administrators of Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

15:26:57 Geoff Feiss, general manager, Montana Telecommunications Association

15:28:34 Mark Baker, Charter Communications

15:31:47 Aimee Grmoljez, Verizon Wireless

EXHIBIT(ens64a02)

15:35:35 Margaret Morgan, T-Mobile

Informational Testimony:

15:37:59 Matt Van Syckle, Department of Administration (DOA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:38:36 Sen. Malek

15:39:57 Mr. Graybill, GOV

15:41:16 Sen. Malek

15:41:38 Mr. Baker, Charter

15:43:11 Sen. Malek

15:43:49 Mr. Baker

15:44:34 Sen. Malek

15:44:46 Mr. Baker

15:45:16 Sen. McNally

15:47:08 Sen. Bennett

15:47:58 Sen. Kary

15:48:21 Mr. Graybill

15:48:52 Sen. Kary

15:49:10 Mr. Graybill

15:49:29 Sen. Kary

15:49:51 Mr. Van Syckle, DOA

15:50:27 Sen. Small

15:51:50 Mr. Van Syckle

15:51:56 Sen. Cuffe

15:54:13 Mr. Graybill

15:55:14 Sen. Barrett

15:56:44 Mr. Van Syckle

15:57:33 Sen. Barrett

15:58:14 Mr. Graybill
 15:59:07 Sen. Barrett
 15:59:43 Mr. Graybill
 16:00:41 Sen. Kary
 16:03:30 Ms. Grmoljez, Verizon
 16:05:26 Sen. Richmond
 16:06:54 Mr. Van Syckle
 16:07:40 Sen. Richmond
 16:07:54 Sen. Bennett
 16:08:30 Sen. Barrett

Closing by Sponsor:

16:08:55 Sen. Bennett

HEARING ON HB 467

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:13:33 Rep. Denise Hayman (D), HD 66, opened the hearing on HB 467, Authorize securitization for energy infrastructure.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:19:28 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
 16:26:52 Aimee Grmoljez Montana Dakota Utility Resources (MDUR)
 16:28:38 Robin Arnold, Public Service Commission
 16:29:38 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Council
 16:31:18 Jeff Fox, policy manger, Renewable Northwest
 16:34:07 Julian Adler, Montana Public Interest Research Group

Opponents' Testimony:

16:35:37 Adrienne Cotton, AARP Montana

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:38:47 Sen. McNally
 16:39:28 Ms. Hedges, MEIC
 16:40:16 Sen. McNally
 16:40:57 Rep. Hayman
 16:44:30 Sen. Richmond
 16:47:49 Rep. Hayman
 16:48:10 Sen. Barrett
 16:48:27 Rep. Hayman
 16:48:42 Ms. Hedges
 16:49:23 Sen. Barrett
 16:49:50 Ms. Grmoljez, MDUR
 16:50:18 Chair Ankney
 16:52:13 Rep. Hayman

Closing by Sponsor:

16:53:16 Rep. Hayman

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 355

16:55:35 **Motion:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 355 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:55:50 Sen. Cuffe
16:56:36 Sen. Kary
16:57:09 Sen. Malek
16:58:16 Sen. Regier
16:58:35 Sen. Malek
17:00:01 Sen. Kary
17:00:29 Sen. Phillips
17:01:12 Sen. Regier
17:01:29 Sen. Phillips
17:01:46 Sen. McNally

17:03:41 **Vote:** Motion failed 6-7 by roll call vote with Sen. Barrett, Sen. Gauthier, Sen. Malek, Sen. McNally, Sen. Phillips and Sen. Vuckovich voting aye. Sen. Gauthier voted by proxy.

17:04:44 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 355 BE TABLED.** Motion carried 11-2 by roll call vote with Sen. Barrett and Sen. Malek voting no. Sen. Gauthier voted by proxy.

Committee Business:

17:06:13 Chair Ankney
17:07:07 Sen. Phillips
17:07:19 Sen. Ankney
17:07:35 Sen. Kary
17:08:06 Sen. Cuffe

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:08 PM

Jacelyn Stewart, Secretary

js

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens64aad.pdf](#))