

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: Vice Chair Steve Hinebauch, on April 2, 2019 at 3:02 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Jennifer Fielder, Chair (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Mary Vandebosch, 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 224, 3/20/2019; HB 397, 3/20/2019; HB 585, 3/28/2019; HJ 17, 3/28/2019

Executive Action HB 224 - Be Concurred In
HB 397 - Be Concurred In
HB 585 - Be Concurred In
HJ 17 - Be Concurred In
SB 287 - Be Tabled

Sen. Cohenour left the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 224

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:04:04 Rep. Ray Shaw (R), HD 71, opened the hearing on HB 224, Revise reporting requirements for certain fish pond licensees.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:05:33 Eileen Ryce, Fisheries Division administrator, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT(fis68a01)

15:08:34 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited

15:09:28 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:10:48 Sen. McClafferty

15:11:06 Ms. Ryce, FWP

15:12:44 Sen. Ellsworth

15:13:00 Ms. Ryce

Closing by Sponsor:

15:13:52 Rep. Shaw

HEARING ON HB 397

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:15:05 Rep. Matt Regier (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 397, Revise nonresident preference points laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:16:29 Rob Arnaud, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

EXHIBIT(fis68a02)

15:18:48 Scott Boulanger, MOGA

EXHIBIT(fis68a03)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:19:54 Hank Warsech, legislative liaison, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:20:12 Sen. Ellsworth

15:20:34 Mr. Warsech, FWP

Closing by Sponsor:

15:21:34 Rep. Regier

HEARING ON HB 585**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:21:59 Rep. Bradley Hamlett (D), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 585, Require legislative approval for divestiture of state park land.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:23:45 Julian Adler, Montana Public Interest Research Group

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

15:24:50 Tom Reilly, assistant administrator, Montana State Parks, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:25:09 Sen. Ellsworth
15:25:39 Mr. Reilly, FWP
15:26:00 Sen. Ellsworth
15:26:23 Rep. Hamlett
15:27:41 Sen. Ellsworth
15:28:02 Rep. Hamlett
15:28:46 John Tubbs, director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
15:29:48 Sen. Flowers
15:30:25 Mr. Reilly
15:31:28 Sen. McClafferty
15:31:57 Mr. Tubbs, DNRC
15:32:50 Sen. McClafferty
15:32:56 Mr. Tubbs

Closing by Sponsor:

15:33:28 Rep. Hamlett

HEARING ON HJ 17**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:34:36 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HJ 17, Joint resolution to congress asking to fund aquatic invasive species programs.

15:36:01 Sen. Jacobson entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:37:49 John Tubbs, director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
15:40:11 Nick Gevock, conservation director, Montana Wildlife Federation

15:40:56 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited
 15:41:23 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon
 15:42:38 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union
 15:43:23 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
 15:43:48 Dan McGowan, executive director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts
 15:44:52 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association
 15:45:13 Shane Scanlon, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
 15:45:43 Joel Weltzien, Montana Chapter, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
 15:46:19 Dan Rostad, Yellowstone River Conservation Districts Council
 15:47:48 Julian Adler, Montana Public Interest Research Group

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:49:05 Sen. Ellsworth
 15:49:58 Rep. Curdy
 15:51:32 Sen. Ellsworth
 15:51:49 Rep. Curdy
 15:52:25 Sen. Flowers
 15:53:06 Mr. Tubbs, DNRC
 15:53:25 Sen. McClafferty
 15:53:45 Mr. Tubbs

Closing by Sponsor:

15:55:02 Rep. Curdy

Committee Discussion:

15:58:24 Chair Hinebauch
 15:58:46 Sen. Ellsworth

 15:59:04 Recess
 16:06:02 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 224

16:06:07 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Ellsworth moved that **HB 224 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour, Sen. Fielder, Sen. Howard and Sen. Lang voted by proxy. Sen. McClafferty will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 397

16:07:20 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Ellsworth moved that **HB 397 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour, Sen. Fielder, Sen. Howard and Sen. Lang voted by proxy. Sen. Ellsworth will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 585

16:08:06 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Ellsworth moved that **HB 585 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour, Sen. Fielder, Sen. Howard and Sen. Lang voted by proxy. Sen. Jacobson will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 17

16:08:41 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Ellsworth moved that **HJ 17 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour, Sen. Fielder, Sen. Howard and Sen. Lang voted by proxy. Sen. Flowers will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 287

16:09:23 **Motion:** Sen. Ellsworth moved that **SB 287 BE TABLED**.

16:10:09 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division

16:10:31 Sen. Jacobson

16:10:33 Sen. Ellsworth

[EXHIBIT\(fis68a04\)](#)

16:10:42 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Fielder, Sen. Howard and Sen. Lang voted by proxy. Sen. Cohenour was excused.

Committee Discussion:

16:10:53 Sen. Jacobson

16:10:56 Chair Hinebauch

16:11:01 Sen. Ellsworth

16:11:20 Chair Hinebauch

16:11:24 Sen. McClafferty

16:11:33 Chair Hinebauch

16:11:45 Sen. Jacobson

16:11:54 Chair Hinebauch

16:12:01 Sen. Flowers

16:12:04 Chair Hinebauch

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:12 PM

Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fis68aad.pdf](#))