

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chair Gordon Vance, on April 9, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Gordon Vance, Chair (R)
Sen. Carlie Boland, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bryce Bennett (D)
Sen. Dee Brown (R)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)
Sen. Roger Webb (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Jen Gross (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Noah Horan, Committee Secretary
Laura Sankey Keip, 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 661, 4/5/2019; HB 717, 4/5/2019; HB 719, 4/5/2019; HB 748, 4/5/2019; HB 756, 4/5/2019

Executive Action: HB 719 BE CONCURRED IN; HB 756 BE CONCURRED IN; HB 717 BE CONCURRED IN; HB 748 BE CONCURRED IN

HEARING ON HB 719

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:13:19 Rep. Kimberly Dudik (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HB 719, Establish the Jeannette Rankin memorial highway.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:15:17 Pat Wise, Montana Department of Transportation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:16:05 Rep. Dudik

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 719

15:16:33 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Boland moved that **HB 719 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Bennett, Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Gross and Sen. Welborn voted by proxy. Sen. Sands will carry the bill.

15:17:04 Sen. Welborn entered the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 756

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:17:25 Rep. Bridget Smith (D), HD 31, opened the hearing on HB 756, Establish the Dolly Smith Akers memorial highway.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:19:49 Sen. Brown

15:20:35 Rep. Smith

15:20:41 Sen. Sands

15:21:17 Rep. Smith

Closing by Sponsor:

15:21:26 Rep. Smith

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 756

15:21:51 **Motion:** Sen. Boland moved that **HB 756 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

15:22:00 Sen. Sands

15:22:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Bennett, Sen. Fitzpatrick and Sen. Gross voted by proxy. Sen. Sands will carry the bill.

HEARING ON HB 717

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:22:42 Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D), HD 15, opened the hearing on HB 717, Establish the Louis Charles Charlo memorial highway.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:27:02 Gary White, American Legion of Montana

15:27:41 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations

15:28:23 Ray Read, American Legion of Montana

15:29:05 Jason Smith, Governor's Office

15:29:38 Sen. Brown left the hearing.

15:30:10 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

15:31:18 Cinda Burd, Montana Native Vote

[EXHIBIT\(his74a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:33:09 Sen. Sands

15:33:20 Rep. Weatherwax

Closing by Sponsor:

15:33:38 Rep. Weatherwax

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 717

15:34:24 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Boland moved that **HB 717 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Bennett, Sen. D. Brown, Sen. Fitzpatrick and Sen. Gross voted by proxy. Sen. Ankney will carry the bill.

HEARING ON HB 748

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:35:13 Rep. Jade Bahr (D), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 748, Establish the Minnie Spotted-Wolf memorial highway.

EXHIBIT(his74a02)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:37:58 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations

15:38:42 Gary White, American Legion of Montana

15:39:05 Jason Smith, Governor's Office

15:39:40 Rep. Marvin Weatherwax, HD 15

15:40:29 Cinda Burd, Montana Native Vote

EXHIBIT(his74a03)

15:41:10 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

15:41:20 Sen. Esp left the hearing.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:41:52 Sen. Sands

15:42:01 Rep. Bahr

Closing by Sponsor:

15:42:16 Rep. Bahr

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 748

15:42:30 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Boland moved that **HB 748 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Bennett, Sen. D. Brown, Sen. Esp, Sen. Fitzpatrick and Sen. Gross voted by proxy. Sen. Webber will carry the bill.

15:45:07 Sen. Brown returned to the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 661

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:46:03 Rep. Geraldine Custer (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 661, Revise aviation fuel taxation.

EXHIBIT(his74a04)

EXHIBIT(his74a05)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:50:17 Sen. Duane Ankney, SD 20

15:53:06 Doug Phair, self

15:57:45 Tricia McKenna, Montana Aeronautics Board
 15:58:19 Rep. Willis Curdy, HD 98
 16:01:18 Ron Hooper, Neptune Aviation

16:01:50 Sen. Bennett entered the hearing.

16:03:21 Todd Devlin, county commissioner, Prairie County
[EXHIBIT\(his74a06\)](#)

16:04:35 Shane Gorder, county commissioner, Richland County
 16:06:18 Katie Pribyl, self
 16:07:06 Roger Lincoln, self
 16:08:28 Walt McNutt, self
 16:11:18 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties
 16:11:35 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns
 16:11:59 Peter Smith, self
 16:12:20 Bob Hollister, self

[EXHIBIT\(his74a07\)](#)

16:12:42 Robert Buckles, self
 16:13:19 Kevin Myhre, self

[EXHIBIT\(his74a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his74a09\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(his74a10\)](#)

16:14:11 Sen. Fitzpatrick entered the hearing.

16:14:14 Greg Smith, president, Association for Montana Aerial Applicators
 16:14:50 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association
 16:15:15 Jon Hudson, self

Opponents' Testimony:

16:16:05 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association
 16:22:41 Bob Gilbert, Montana Aviation Trades Association
 16:28:39 Spook Stang, Motor Carriers of Montana

[EXHIBIT\(his74a11\)](#)

16:29:11 Brian Sprenger, Bozeman Airport
 16:31:38 Jeff Wadekamper, Helena Regional Airport
 16:33:32 Dana Debel, Delta Airlines
 16:36:07 Brian Ellestad, Missoula Airport
 16:36:23 Lara Tait, Great Falls International Airport
 16:36:32 Joe Hughes, American Airlines
 16:36:45 Jonathan Jackson, Allegiant Air
 16:36:53 Darrin Hall, United Airlines
 16:37:04 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association
 16:37:15 Ed Bartlett, Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce
 16:37:32 Shane Scanlon, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
 16:37:43 Aidan Myhre, American Airlines for America

Informational Testimony:

16:38:34 Larry Flynn, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

16:39:15 Tim Conway, MDT

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:39:35 Sen. Brown

16:40:23 Mr. Conway, MDT

16:40:47 Sen. Brown

16:41:32 John McKenna

16:42:00 Sen. Brown

16:42:18 Mr. McKenna

16:43:02 Sen. Webb

16:43:16 Mr. Conway

16:43:29 Sen. Webb

16:43:39 Mr. Conway

Closing by Sponsor:

16:43:47 Rep. Custer

16:47:50 Chair Vance

16:48:32 Sen. Webb

16:49:11 Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

16:50:12 Sen. Sands

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:51 PM

Noah Horan, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([his74aad.pdf](#))