

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: Chair Jennifer Fielder, on April 11, 2019 at 4:10 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jennifer Fielder, Chair (R)
Sen. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)

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: SR 28, 3/22/2019; SR 48, 3/28/2019; SJ 7, 3/22/2019; HB 280, 4/1/2019; HB 407, 4/1/2019

Executive Action HB 407 - Be Concurred In
HB 280 - Be Concurred In
HB 355 - Be Concurred In as Amended
HB 301 - Be Tabled

16:11:33 Sen. Howard entered the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 407

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:12:26 Rep. Bob Brown (R), HD 13, opened the hearing on HB 407, Decrease fee for resident wolf license.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:13:13 Nick Gevock, conservation director, Montana Wildlife Federation
16:14:15 Ross Morgan, board member, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association
16:15:08 Paul Rossignol, Montana Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife
16:15:28 Scott Boulanger, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association
16:15:45 Wyatt Smith, Montana Audubon
16:16:03 JR Strand, president, Montana Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife
16:16:19 Kris Killorn, Southwest Montana Chapter Safari Club International
16:16:42 Tim McKenrick, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)
16:16:53 Michael McKenrick, MTA

Opponents' Testimony:

16:17:14 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

Informational Testimony:

16:18:13 Emily Cooper, Licensing Bureau chief, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

16:18:37 Rep. Brown

HEARING ON HB 280

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:19:08 Rep. Bob Brown (R), HD 13, opened the hearing on HB 280, Revise how wolf licenses issued to resident hunters.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:19:41 Nick Gevock, conservation director, Montana Wildlife Federation
16:19:54 Ross Morgan, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association
16:20:13 Paul Rossignol, Montana Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife
16:20:25 Kris Killorn, Southwest Montana Chapter Safari Club International
16:20:45 JR Strand, president, Montana Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife
16:21:05 Scott Boulanger, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association
16:21:16 Tim McKenrick, Montana Trappers Association
16:21:29 Michael McKenrick, Montana Trappers Association
16:21:39 Jeremy Maus, Outdoor Heritage Coalition

Opponents' Testimony:

16:21:56 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

Informational Testimony:

16:22:43 Emily Cooper, Licensing Bureau chief, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:23:06 Rep. Brown

Sen. Lang and Sen. McClafferty were present.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 407

16:24:36 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 407 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 8-2 by voice vote with Sen. Flowers and Sen. McClafferty voting no. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy. Sen. Jacobson will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 280

16:24:45 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 280 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 8-2 by voice vote with Sen. Flowers and Sen. McClafferty voting no. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy. Sen. Jacobson will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 301

16:26:36 **Motion:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 301 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

16:26:39 Chair Fielder

16:27:39 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

16:28:07 **Motion:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **HB 301 BE AMENDED**.

[EXHIBIT\(fis76a01\)](#)

Discussion:

16:28:20 Mr. Kolman, LSD

16:29:27 Sen. Cohenour

16:29:50 Sen. Ellsworth

16:30:13 Mr. Kolman

16:30:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-3 by voice vote with Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Howard and Sen. Lang voting no. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy.

16:30:51 **Motion:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 301 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**.

16:31:05 **Motion:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 301 BE AMENDED**.

[EXHIBIT\(fis76a02\)](#)

Discussion:

- 16:31:13 Mr. Kolman
 16:32:05 Chair Fielder
- 16:32:49 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-1 by voice vote with Sen. McClafferty voting no. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy.
- 16:33:11 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 301 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion failed 5-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Cohenour, Sen. Fielder, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Jacobson and Sen. C. Smith voting aye. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy.
- 16:34:19 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Lang moved that **HB 301 BE TABLED**. Motion carried 8-2 by voice vote with Sen. Cohenour and Sen. Jacobson voting no. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 355

- 16:34:45 **Motion:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 355 BE CONCURRED IN**.
- 16:35:25 **Motion:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **HB 355 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(fis76a03\)](#)

Discussion:

- 16:35:30 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division
 16:36:28 Sen. Cohenour
- 16:36:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy.
- 16:36:55 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinebauch moved that **HB 355 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion carried 9-1 by voice vote with Sen. Ellsworth voting no. Sen. Jacobson voted by proxy. Sen. Cohenour will carry the bill.

HEARING ON SJ 7

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

- 16:38:03 Sen. Mike Phillips (D), SD 31, opened the hearing on SJ 7, Study resolution on value and costs of wolves and grizzlies.

Proponents' Testimony:

- 16:39:47 Nick Gevock, conservation director, Montana Wildlife Federation
 16:40:56 Quentin Kujala, Wildlife Bureau coordinator, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

[EXHIBIT\(fis76a04\)](#)

- 16:41:46 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies
 16:42:29 Andrea Creel, Montana Grizzly Project

[EXHIBIT\(fis76a05\)](#)

16:49:13 Ben Lamb, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, National Wildlife Federation, National
Parks Conservation Association
16:50:41 Wyatt Smith, Montana Audubon

Opponents' Testimony:

16:51:24 Kim Skinner, director, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association

EXHIBIT(fis76a06)

16:52:58 Kris Killorn, Outdoor Heritage Coalition
16:53:56 Paul Rossignol, Montana Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife
16:54:41 Brian Ohs, Montana Stockgrowers Association
16:54:57 Matt Lumley
16:55:40 JR Strand, president, Montana Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife
16:57:10 Jeremy Maus, Southwest Montana Chapter, Safari Club International
16:57:25 Tim McKenrick, Montana Trappers Association

EXHIBIT(fis76a07)

16:59:27 Michael McKenrick, Montana Trappers Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:59:57 Sen. Flowers
17:00:22 Sen. Phillips
17:00:42 Sen. Cohenour
17:01:52 Sen. Phillips
17:03:03 Sen. Cohenour
17:03:15 Sen. Phillips
17:04:27 Sen. Lang
17:04:44 Sen. Phillips
17:05:21 Sen. Lang
17:05:34 Sen. Phillips
17:06:04 Sen. Lang
17:06:39 Sen. Phillips
17:07:09 Sen. Lang
17:07:37 Sen. Ellsworth
17:08:28 Sen. Phillips
17:08:59 Sen. Ellsworth
17:09:32 Sen. Phillips
17:10:07 Sen. Flowers
17:11:16 Sen. Phillips

Closing by Sponsor:

17:12:35 Sen. Phillips.

17:13:58 Vice Chair Hinebauch assumed the duties of the Chair.

HEARING ON SR 28 and SR 48**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

17:14:16 Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R), SD 7, opened the hearing on SR 28 and SR 48, Confirm Governor's appointees to fish and wildlife commission.

Proponents' Testimony:

17:15:07 Shane Colton, Governor's appointee, Fish and Wildlife Commission
17:15:45 Tim Aldrich, Governor's appointee, Fish and Wildlife Commission
17:17:20 Logan Brower, Governor's appointee, Fish and Wildlife Commission
17:18:11 Pat Byorth, Governor's appointee, Fish and Wildlife Commission

EXHIBIT(fis76a08)

17:22:30 Mike Bias, executive director, Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana
17:23:49 Abigail St. Lawrence (proponent for SR 48)

Opponents' Testimony:

17:25:25 Brian McCullough (opponent for SR 28)

EXHIBIT(fis76a09)

17:27:44 Sen. Douglas Kary, SD 22 (opponent for SR 28)
17:31:22 Dale Gilbert (opponent for SR 48)

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

17:34:12 Sen. Cohenour
17:34:55 Mr. Colton, appointee
17:39:07 Sen. Flowers
17:39:53 Mr. Colton
17:42:16 Sen. Lang
17:42:29 Mr. Colton
17:43:30 Sen. McClafferty
17:43:49 Mr. Colton
17:44:25 Sen. McClafferty
17:44:42 Mr. Colton
17:46:17 Sen. McClafferty
17:46:25 Mr. Colton
17:47:57 Chair Hinebauch
17:48:59 Mr. Colton
17:49:21 Mr. Brower, appointee
17:50:04 Sen. Lang
17:50:48 Mr. Brower
17:50:59 Mr. Aldrich, appointee
17:54:03 Sen. Lang
17:54:22 Mr. Aldrich
17:58:03 Mr. Byorth, appointee
17:58:45 Sen. Cohenour
17:58:58 Mr. Byorth
18:00:14 Sen. Ellsworth

18:00:58 Mr. Byorth
18:01:13 Sen. Ellsworth
18:01:26 Mr. Byorth
18:02:08 Sen. Ellsworth
18:02:21 Mr. Byorth
18:02:49 Sen. Flowers
18:04:00 Mr. Byorth
18:05:09 Sen. Lang
18:05:46 Mr. Byorth
18:06:27 Sen. Lang
18:06:41 Mr. Byorth
18:06:55 Chair Hinebauch

Closing by Sponsor:

18:07:03 Sen. Fielder

18:10:42 Sen. Fielder resumed the duties of the Chair.

18:10:42 Chair Fielder

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:11 PM

Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fis76aad.pdf](#))