

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Derek Skees, on January 27, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Derek Skees, Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Brittany Bury, Committee Secretary
Trevor Graff, Legislative Branch
Taylor Eggebrecht, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 182, 1/23/2021; HJ 3, 1/23/2021; SB 14, 1/23/2021

15:00:24 Chair Skees
15:01:50 Vice Chair Hayman
15:02:04 Brittany Bury, Committee Clerk
15:02:34 Chair Skees
15:02:15 Vice Chair Hayman
15:03:01 Chair Skees

HEARING ON HB 182

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:04:39 Rep. Laurie Bishop (D), HD 60, opened the hearing on HB 182, Revising laws related to utility deadband mechanisms.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:12:46 Ruben Castren, Montana Public Interest Research Group (Mont PIRG)
15:14:19 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Informational Center (MEIC)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:19:12 David Hoffman, Northwestern Energy
15:26:07 Robin Arnold, Montana Public Service Commission (MPSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:28:49 Vice Chair Hayman
15:29:26 Rep. Bishop
15:30:21 Chair Skees
15:31:52 Rep. Bishop
15:32:09 Chair Skees
15:33:17 Robin Arnold, MPSC

Closing by Sponsor:

15:33:49 Rep. Bishop

15:34:28 Chair Skees

HEARING ON HJ 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:35:11 Rep. Tom France (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HJ3, Joint resolution regarding Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:42:06 Rep. Malone
15:44:33 Rep. Weatherwax
15:47:12 Jeff Reed, Emigrant, MT

[EXHIBIT\(feh18a01\)](#)

15:50:35 Zach Bodhane, Western Landowners Alliance (WLA)
15:52:59 Chris Colligan, Greater Yellowstone Coalition
16:03:27 Arthur Middleton, University of California

[EXHIBIT\(feh18a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh18a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:55:46 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA)
15:57:02 Ron Devlin, Montana Wool Growers Association (MWGA)
16:00:36 Dave McEwen, Montana Wool Growers Association (MWGA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:06:28 Rep. Brewster
16:10:56 Rep. France
16:11:10 Vice Chair Zolnikov, Rep. Duram joined the meeting
16:12:10 Rep. Custer
16:14:18 Rep. France
16:15:57 Vice Chair Hayman
16:17:10 Arthur Middleton, University of California
16:20:13 Chair Skees
16:20:34 Rep. Phalen
16:23:16 Rep. Malone
16:24:30 Chair Skees
16:24:48 Rep. Phalen
16:25:01 Chair Skees
16:26:05 Rep. Malone
16:26:38 Rep. France
16:28:00 Chair Skees
16:28:46 Raylee Honeycutt, MSGA
16:29:08 Rep. Olsen
16:30:38 Rep. France
16:32:14 Chair Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

16:32:28 Rep. France

16:33:06 Chair Skees
16:33:18 Rep. France
16:33:27 Chair Skees

HEARING ON SB 14**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:34:32 Sen. Janet Ellis (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 14, Provide for tribal participation in 9-1-1 grant program.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:38:43 Charlotte Lowerman, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)
[EXHIBIT\(feh18a04\)](#)

16:39:30 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribe (CSKT)
16:41:59 Daniel Zolnikov, Billings

Informational Testimony:

16:43:39 April Grady, State IT Services Division (SITSD)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:44:24 Rep. Olsen
16:45:13 Daniel Zolnikov, Billings
16:45:43 Vice Chair Hayman
16:46:18 April Grady, SITSD
16:47:14 Rep. Custer
16:47:53 Jarrod Thompson
16:48:12 Rep. Custer
16:48:42 April Grady, SITSD

Closing by Sponsor:

16:49:03 Sen. Ellis

16:49:40 Chair Skees

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 14

16:50:37 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **SB 14 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Skees will carry the bill.

16:51:17 Chair Skees
16:51:56 Sen. Ellis
16:52:13 Rep. Olsen
16:52:38 Chair Skees
16:53:06 Vice Chair Hayman
16:53:55 Chair Skees

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:54:42

Brittany Bury, Secretary

bb

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:

Brittany Bury, Secretary

bb

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh18aad.pdf](#))