

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Neil Duram, on February 9, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald, Chair (R)
Rep. Neil Duram, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Seth Berglee (R)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Sara Novak (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Brian Putnam (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Joanne Kauzlarich, Committee Secretary
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Branch
Jesse Tack, 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 241, 2/5/2021; HB 305, 2/5/2021; SB 38, 2/5/2021; SB 115, 2/5/2021; SB 116, 2/5/2021

15:01:30 Rep. Phalen and Rep. Fielder left the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 116

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:15 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 116, Revising antlerless elk tag license laws.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:05:07 Emily Cooper, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:05:40 Sen. Ankney

15:06:26 Rep. Loge

HEARING ON SB 38

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:07:00 Sen. Terry Gauthier (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 38, Revised motorized trail program laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:10:56 Margaret Morgan, Montana Snowmobile Association

15:14:37 Roger Hagan, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association (MTVRA)

15:15:37 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

15:16:54 Kerry White, self

15:21:31 Ron Jendro, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:23:44 Chair Duram

15:23:50 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

Closing by Sponsor:

15:24:14 Sen. Gauthier

15:24:40 Chair Duram

15:24:45 Rep. Loge

HEARING ON SB 115**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:25:15 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 115, Establish acquisitions requiring land board consideration.

15:28:47 Chair Duram

15:28:56 Sen. Regier

15:29:04 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:29:20 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited (TU)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:30:47 Robert Sanders, Ducks Unlimited (DU)

15:34:11 Darryl James, Trust for Public Lands (TPL)

15:38:41 Frank Szollosi, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

15:39:56 John Rumney, self

15:42:06 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

15:45:05 Matt Leow, Montana Chapter Backcounty Hunters and Anglers (MTBHA)

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

15:47:31 Rep. Berglee

15:47:55 Darryl James, TPL

15:48:26 Rep. France

15:48:57 Sen. Regier

15:49:01 Rep. France

15:49:51 Sen. Regier

15:50:27 Rep. France

15:50:43 Sen. Regier

15:51:13 Rep. R. Knudsen

15:51:48 Sen. Regier

15:52:13 Rep. R. Knudsen

15:52:21 Sen. Regier

15:52:37 Chair Duram

15:52:55 Sen. Regier

15:53:05 Chair Duram

15:53:19 Sen. Regier

Closing by Sponsor:

15:53:45 Sen. Regier

15:55:15 Chair Duram

15:55:18 Sen. Regier

15:55:26 Chair Duram

HEARING ON HB 305

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:56:15 Rep. Seth Berglee (R), HD 58, opened the hearing on HB 305, Generally revise laws related to roadside menageries, wildlife sanctuaries, zoos.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:58:00 Gary Robson, Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary

[EXHIBIT\(fih27a01\)](#)

15:58:32 Rep. Phalen joined the meeting.

16:01:38 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:03:46 Aimee Hawkaluk, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:04:37 Rep. Loge

16:05:00 Rep. Berglee

16:05:09 Rep. Loge

16:05:20 Rep. Berglee

Closing by Sponsor:

16:06:09 Rep. Berglee

16:06:24 Recessed

16:13:04 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 241

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:13:55 Rep. Joe Read (R), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 241, Revise hunting laws related to tribal boundaries.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:16:28 Rick Schoening, self

[EXHIBIT\(fih27a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fih27a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fih27a04\)](#)

16:20:16 Brendeon Schoening, self

16:23:23 Shane Shima, self

16:26:47 Tammy McAllister, WT Cattle Company

16:30:09 David Passieri, United Property Owners of Montana (UPOM)

[EXHIBIT\(fih27a05\)](#)

16:33:07 Rep. Berglee

16:33:17 Chair Duram
 16:33:50 Hunter Shima, self
 16:36:46 Andrew Learn, self
 16:38:40 Keith Kubista, self
 16:41:33 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
 16:41:43 Dave Duford, self

Opponents' Testimony:

16:43:19 Jestin Dupree, Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes
 16:46:05 Charles Headdress, Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes
 16:50:00 Frank Whiteclay, Crow Nation of Montana
 16:53:22 Loren Monroe Jr. Blackfeet Tribal Business Council (BTBC); Blackfeet Nation
 16:56:47 Marzha Fritzler, Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes; Crow Nation of Montana
 16:59:08 William Walks Along, Northern Cheyenne Tribe
 17:02:11 Evan Thompson, Blackfeet Nation
 17:05:21 Majel Russell, Crow Nation; Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes
 17:08:10 Rep. Fielder joined the meeting.
 17:09:39 Gerald Cobell, Blackfeet Nation
 17:13:23 Chair Duram
 17:13:27 Rep. Windy Boy

EXHIBIT(fih27a06)

17:15:49 Chair Duram
 17:16:01 Sean Fritzler, self
 17:19:59 Darrin Old Coyote, self
 17:22:06 Rep. Rynalea Whiteman Pena, self
 17:24:47 Dustin Temple, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)
 17:26:29 Rep. Jason Small,
 17:28:36 Celina Gray, self
 17:30:35 Rep. Donovan Hawk, self
 17:31:33 Colleen Campbell, self
 17:32:08 Keaton Sunchild, Western Native Voice
 17:33:57 Kelli Twoteeth, Montana Native Vote (MNV)
 17:36:23 Sam Forstag, American Civil Liberty Union (ACLU)

EXHIBIT(fih27a07)

17:37:53 Dalayah Killsback ,Western Native Voice
 17:38:49 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited (TU)
 17:39:23 Rebecca Skeldon, self
 17:41:05 Chair Duram
 17:41:14 Jesse Tack, Remote Meeting Coordinator (RMC)
 17:41:20 Chair Duram
 17:41:50 Keegan Shea, self
 17:42:20 Jesse Tack, RMC
 17:42:40 Chairwoman Shelly Fyant, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
 17:44:15 President Floyd Azure, Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes
 17:45:21 President Andy Werk Jr., Fort Belknap Indian Community
 17:47:52 Councilwoman Ellie Bundy, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
 17:48:41 Sen. Mike Fox, self

17:49:30 Tom McDonald, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
 17:50:26 Patrick Yawoki, self

EXHIBIT(fih27a08)

17:51:19 Walker Conyngham, Hellgate Hunters and Anglers
 17:51:49 Iko Beck, Indigenous Organizers Collective
 17:52:46 Jim Kennedy, Fort Belknap Indian Community
 17:54:48 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
 17:55:33 Danielle Vazquez, self
 17:56:05 George Heavy Runner, self
 17:56:36 Souta Calling Last, self
 17:57:55 Christopher Morigeau, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
 17:58:33 Jock Conyngham, self
 17:59:19 Graham Coppes, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
 (MTBHA)
 18:00:22 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon
 18:00:50 Donald Wetzell Jr., self
 18:01:54 Ryan Busse, self
 18:02:20 Hope Stockwell, LSD
 18:02:44 John B.Carter, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

18:04:39 Rep. Running Wolf
 18:05:35 Rep. Read
 18:05:47 Rep. Running Wolf
 18:06:45 Rep. Windy Boy
 18:08:51 Rep. Running Wolf
 18:10:04 Evan Thompson, Blackfeet Nation
 18:10:41 Rep. J. Hinkle
 18:11:58 Dustin Temple, FWP
 18:12:15 Rep. J. Hinkle
 18:13:36 Rep. Read
 18:14:35 Rep. J. Hinkle
 18:14:53 Rep. Read
 18:15:07 Chair Duram
 18:15:37 Rep. Loge
 18:16:18 Gerald Cobbell, Blackfeet Nation
 18:17:50 Rep. Loge
 18:18:02 Gerald Cobbell, Blackfeet Nation
 18:18:38 Rep. Putnam
 18:19:07 John B.Carter, CSKT
 18:19:53 Rep. Marler
 18:20:14 John Carter, CSKT
 18:20:56 Rep. Weatherwax
 18:21:43 John Carter, CSKT
 18:22:48 Rep. Weatherwax
 18:23:36 Tom McDonald, CSKT

18:25:32 Rep. Reksten
18:26:15 John B.Carter, CSKT
18:27:44 Rep. France
18:28:09 Chair Duram
18:28:15 Hope Stockwell, LSD

Closing by Sponsor:

18:28:54 Rep. Read

Committee Business:

18:30:57 Chair Duram

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:31:31

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

jk

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fih27aad.pdf](#))