

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chair Joshua Kassmier, on February 18, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Joshua Kassmier, Chair (R)
Rep. Julie Dooling, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Marty Malone (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)
Rep. Rynalea Whiteman Pena (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Ron Marshall (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Jacquelynn Bomgardner, Committee Secretary
Corina Hach, Legislative Branch
Hallie Swain, 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: SB 106, 2/15/2021; HB 361, 2/15/2021; HJ 7, 2/16/2021
Executive Action on: HB 318; HB 324; HJ 7

15:05:52 Rep. Funk
15:06:07 Chair Kassmier
15:06:22 Vice Chair Olsen
15:06:45 Chair Kassmier

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 318

15:07:13 **Motion:** Rep. Dooling moved that **HB 318 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:07:23 Rep. Sullivan
15:08:01 Rep. F. Smith
15:08:25 Rep. Whiteman Pena
15:08:41 Vice Chair Olsen
15:09:12 Rep. Malone

15:09:45 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Funk, Rep. Olsen, Rep. F. Smith, Rep. Sullivan and Rep. Whiteman Pena voting no. Rep. C. Knudsen and Rep. Marshall voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 324

15:11:25 **Motion:** Rep. F. Smith moved that **HB 324 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:11:51 Rep. Curdy
15:13:30 Rep. F. Smith
15:14:19 Rep. Malone
15:15:57 Rep. Marshall joined the meeting.
15:16:28 Rep. Walsh
15:18:07 Rep. F. Smith
15:18:51 Rep. Funk
15:20:44 Rep. F. Smith

15:21:27 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. McKamey made a substitute motion that **HB 324 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried 11-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Funk, Rep. Olsen, Rep. F. Smith, Rep. Sullivan and Rep. Whiteman Pena voting no. Rep. C. Knudsen voted by proxy.

15:24:25 Corina Hach, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

HEARING ON SB 106

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:25:25 Sen. Walt Sales (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on SB 106, Establish license and qualifications for veterinary technicians.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:27:47 Marcia Cantrell, Big Sky Veterinary Technician Association (BSVTA)

EXHIBIT(agh34a01)

15:30:17 Eli Olind, Big Sky Veterinary Technician Association (BSVTA)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a02\)](#)

15:32:22 Isaac Rost, self

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a03\)](#)

15:33:56 Alex Johnson, Pima Medical Institute (PMI)

15:35:33 Tiarah Losee, Pima Medical Institute (PMI)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a04\)](#)

15:37:59 Rep. McKamey left the meeting.

15:38:59 Dr. Jeanne Rankin, self

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a06\)](#)

15:45:14 Dr. Tia Nelson, Department of Labor and Industry, Board of Veterinary Medicine (DLI)

15:46:14 Rep. Whiteman Pena left the meeting.

15:46:46 Stewart Doggett, Montana Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a07\)](#)

15:48:38 Dr. Tierney Olsen, self

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a08\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:51:10 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity Montana (AFP)

Informational Testimony:

15:54:21 Jennifer Stallkamp, Department of Labor Industry, Board of Veterinary Medicine (DLI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:54:50 Rep. Malone
15:55:47 Alex Johnson, PMI
15:56:20 Dr. Nelson, DLI
15:56:45 Rep. Marshall
15:57:18 Sen. Sales
15:57:57 Rep. Marshall
15:58:17 Rep. Walsh
15:59:00 Dr. Rankin, self
16:00:58 Rep. Malone
16:01:29 Sen. Sales
16:01:58 Vice Chair Olsen
16:02:38 Sen. Sales

Closing by Sponsor:

16:04:43 Sen. Sales

16:06:16 Brief Recess

16:09:32 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 361**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:09:41 Rep. Matt Regier (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 361, Revise agriculture license requirement laws.

Proponents' Testimony: None**Opponents' Testimony:**

16:12:04 Steve Lehenbauer, River Ridge Landscape Company; Montana Nursery & Landscape Association (MNLA)

EXHIBIT(agh34a09)

16:16:58 Cooper Elwood, Mountain Tree Company; Association of Montana Turf & Ornamental Pest Profession (AMTOPP)

EXHIBIT(agh34a10)**Informational Testimony:**

16:20:06 Ian Foley, Montana Department of Agriculture (AGR)

16:21:48 Cindy Trimp, Montana Department of Agriculture (AGR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:22:19 Rep. Malone

16:24:44 Ian Foley, AGR

16:25:09 Rep. Marshall

16:26:31 Rep. M. Regier

16:27:09 Vice Chair Dooling

16:27:57 Ian Foley, AGR

Closing by Sponsor:

16:28:33 Rep. M. Regier

16:30:00 Rep. C. Knudsen joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HJ 7**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:30:03 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, opened the hearing on HJ 7, Joint resolution regarding the St. Mary and Milk River project.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:31:36 Jennifer Patrick, Milk River Joint Board of Control (MRJBOC)

16:33:42 Rep. McKamey rejoined the meeting.

16:45:50 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)

16:49:04 Clayton Elliott, Trout Unlimited (TU)

16:51:09 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

16:52:33 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers Association (MGGA)

16:53:35 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

16:55:21 Jeff Pattison, Valley County Conservation Districts (VCCD); Milk River Watershed Alliance (MRWA)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a11\)](#)

17:04:05 Kim Mangold, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a12\)](#)

17:05:20 Marko Manoukian, St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group (SMRWG)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a13\)](#)

17:07:39 Greg Jergeson, Blaine County Conservation Districts (BCCD)

17:10:44 Zach Coccoli, Montana Department of Agriculture (AGR)

17:13:22 Autumn Coleman, Department of Natural Resources (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a14\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a15\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a16\)](#)

17:18:22 Andy Werk Jr, Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a17\)](#)

17:23:32 Chisholm Christensen, self

17:25:57 Jeff Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation District (MACD)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a18\)](#)

17:26:50 Liv Holt, Missouri River Conservation District Council (MRCDC)

[EXHIBIT\(agh34a19\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:29:41 Rep. Beard

17:30:24 Autumn Coleman, DNRC

17:30:48 Jennifer Patrick MRJBOC

17:31:06 Rep. Beard

17:31:30 Jennifer Patrick, MRJBOC

17:32:13 Rep. Beard

17:32:45 Rep. Malone

17:33:09 Marko Manoukian, St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group (SMRWG)

17:33:47 Vice Chair Olsen

17:34:45 Rep. McKamey

Closing by Sponsor:

17:35:04 Rep. C. Knudsen

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 7

17:36:47 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Dooling moved that **HJ 7 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Whiteman Pena voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:38:15

Jacquelynn Bomgardner, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([agh34aad.pdf](#))