

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Call to Order:** Chair Geraldine Custer, on February 18, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Geraldine Custer, Chair (R)  
Rep. Larry Brewster, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)  
Rep. Dave Fern (D)  
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)  
Rep. Steve Gist (R)  
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)  
Rep. Derek J. Harvey (D)  
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)  
Rep. Mark Thane (D)  
Rep. Jeremy Trebas (R)  
Rep. Kathy Whitman (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Frank Fleming (R)  
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Cristen Friede, Committee Secretary  
Toni Henneman, Legislative Branch  
Leigha Bradford, 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 125, 2/2/2021; SB 123, 2/2/2021; SB 80, 2/2/2021

**HEARING ON SB 125**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:19 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 125, Revise certain junk disposal laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:06:01 Bob Gilbrt, Montana Tow Truck Association (MTTA)  
15:08:14 Jim Dusenberry, Montana Tow Truck Association (MTTA)  
15:10:24 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)  
15:14:13 Shannon Therriault, Montana Environment Health Association (MEHA); Missoula County Junk Vehicle Program  
15:15:58 Rep. Harvey left the meeting  
15:16:54 Commissioner Dan Ellison, Jefferson County Commission

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

15:18:43 Brady Christensen, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:19:16 Rep. Fern  
15:20:09 Eric Bryson, MACo

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:20:45 Sen. Cuffe

**HEARING ON SB 123**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:22:18 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 123, Allow a county to locate a county office outside of a county seat.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:23:45 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)  
15:25:27 Commissioner Pamela Holmquist, Flathead County

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:26:52 Rep. Galloway  
15:27:36 Sen. Regier

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:27:45 Sen. Regier

**HEARING ON SB 80****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:28:20 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 80, Limit the duration of interlocal agreements.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:30:39 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:31:09 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Relators (MAR)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:32:14 Rep. Gist

15:32:56 Sen. Regier

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:33:33 Sen. Regier

15:34:05 Rep. Fern

15:34:34 Rep. Galloway

15:34:52 Rep. Kortum

15:35:11 Rep. Galloway

15:35:44 Vice Chair Brewster

15:36:34 Toni Henneman, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

15:37:06 Rep. Galloway

15:37:20 Chair Custer

15:38:05 Rep. Fern

15:38:15 Chair Custer

15:38:19 Rep. Gunderson

15:38:38 Chair Custer

15:38:46 Toni Henneman, LSD

15:43:45 Rep. Fern

15:43:55 Vice Chair Brewster

15:45:55 Chair Custer

15:46:09 Vice Chair Brewster

15:46:29 Chair Custer

15:48:16 Rep. Fern

15:48:54 Vice Chair Brewster

15:51:13 Rep. Fern

15:51:35 Toni Henneman

15:53:25 Vice Chair Brewster

15:53:45 Rep. Gunderson

15:55:12 Rep. Fern

15:56:48 Rep. Galloway

15:57:24 Rep. Zolnikov joined the meeting

15:57:56 Eric Bryson, MACo

15:59:22 Rep. Gunderson  
16:00:11 Rep. Fern  
16:00:50 Toni Henneman, LSD  
16:02:14 Rep. Gunderson  
16:03:13 Toni Henneman, LSD  
16:04:18 Rep. Fern

16:04:48 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Gunderson moved that **THE COMMITTEE REQUEST A STUDY BILL TO EXAMINE THE GOVERNANCE OF COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICTS**. Motion carried 13-1 by voice vote with Rep. Trebas voting no.

16:05:55 Rep. Fern  
16:06:23 Vice Chair Brewster  
16:07:18 Rep. Zolnikov  
16:07:49 Chair Custer

#### **EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 255**

16:09:01 **Motion:** Rep. Brewster moved that **HB 255 DO PASS**.

16:09:10 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Brewster moved that **HB 255 BE AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fleming and Rep. Harvey voted by proxy.

#### **EXHIBIT(loh34a01)**

16:10:41 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Brewster moved that **HB 255 BE AMENDED**. Motion carried 16-1 by voice vote with Rep. Trebas voting no. Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fleming and Rep. Harvey voted by proxy.

#### **EXHIBIT(loh34a02)**

16:12:23 **Motion:** Rep. Brewster moved that **HB 255 BE AMENDED**.

#### **EXHIBIT(loh34a03)**

#### **Discussion:**

16:12:54 Rep. Galloway  
16:13:53 Chair Custer

16:15:09 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fleming and Rep. Harvey voted by proxy.

16:15:47 **Motion:** Rep. Brewster moved that **HB 255 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.

#### **Discussion:**

16:16:01 Rep. Fern  
16:16:26 Vice Chair Brewster  
16:16:49 Toni Henneman, LSD

16:17:14 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Brewster moved that **HB 255 BE AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fleming and Rep. Harvey voted by proxy.

16:18:16        **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fleming and Rep. Harvey voted by proxy.

16:19:07        Vice Chair Brewster  
16:19:26        Rep. Gunderson  
16:20:03        Rep. Galloway  
16:20:32        Toni Henneman, LSD  
16:21:09        Chair Custer

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:22:23

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Cristen Friede, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([loh34aad.pdf](#))