

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on February 26, 2021 at 10:00 A.M., in Room 102
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Rep. Kenneth L. Holmlund, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Matt Regier, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Brad Tschida, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Dan Bartel (R)
Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. John Fuller (R)
Rep. Frank Garner (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Jimmy Patelis (R)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Vince Ricci (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Mary Caferro, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Staff Present:

Joe Triem, Legislative Fiscal Division
Julie Johnson, Legislative Fiscal Division
Jamie Bonilla, Committee Secretary
Anthony Nuno, 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 5, 2/22/2021; HB 6, 2/22/2021; HB 7, 2/22/2021;
HB 8, 2/22/2021; HB 9, 2/22/2021; HB 11, 2/22/2021;
HB 12, 2/22/2021; HB 14, 2/22/2021; HB 233, 2/25/2021

Executive Action: HB 233

HEARING ON HB 233**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:09:23 Rep. Fred Anderson (R), HD 20, opened the hearing on HB 233, Revise funding for students with disabilities.

Proponents:

09:12:16 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)
09:12:42 Rep. Caferro joined the meeting.

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony:

09:14:10 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:14:35 Rep. Windy Boy
09:16:19 Paul Taylor, OPI
09:16:40 Rep. Tschida
09:17:54 Rep. Hopkins joined the meeting.
09:18:08 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana
09:18:58 Rep. Tschida
09:19:40 Rep. Anderson
09:20:49 Chair Jones
09:20:51 Rep. Hamilton
09:21:29 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana
09:22:37 Chair Jones
09:22:41 Rep. Windy Boy
09:23:24 Paul Taylor, OPI
09:24:18 Rep. Windy Boy
09:24:50 Rep. Schillinger
09:25:15 Rep. Anderson
09:26:05 Rep Fuller
09:27:01 Rep. Anderson
09:27:13 Chair Jones
09:27:49 Paul Taylor, OPI
09:29:56 Chair Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

09:30:08 Rep. Anderson

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 233

09:31:57 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Holmlund moved that **HB 233 DO PASS**. Motion carried 22-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Bartel and Rep. M. Regier voting no. Rep. Mercer, Rep. M. Regier, Rep. Stewart Peregoy and Rep. Vinton voted by proxy.

HEARING ON HB 5**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:34:45 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92 opened the hearing on HB 5, Long-Range Building Appropriations.

Informational Testimony:

09:36:55 Catherine Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
EXHIBIT(aph41a01)

09:46:10 Chair Jones
09:46:33 Rep. Hopkins
09:48:17 Chair Jones
09:48:59 Russ Katherman, Department of Administration (DOA)

Proponents:

09:50:05 Noah Marion, Montana Wilderness Association (MWA)
EXHIBIT(aph41a02)

09:51:32 Clayton Elliot, Montana Trout Unlimited (TU)
09:54:13 Brian Thompson, Montana Contractor's Association (MCA)
09:54:33 Chair Jones

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony

09:55:13 Jason Harlow, Office of Budget Program and Planning (OBPP)
09:55:25 Justin Temple, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
09:55:39 Commissioner Clayton Christian, Office of the Commissioner Higher Education (OCHE)
09:55:53 Zoe Barnard, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
09:56:12 Cynthia Wolken, Department of Corrections (DOC)
09:56:33 Ken Bailey, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
09:56:48 Donna Schmidt, Montana School for Deaf and Blind (MSDB)
09:57:09 Tim Conway, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)
09:57:20 Molly Krukenberg, Montana Historical Society (MHS)
09:57:36 Bonnie Rouse, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
09:57:58 Sue Clark, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
09:58:17 Jon Swartz, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)
09:58:53 Glen Stinar, Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA)
09:59:40 Leslie White, Montana Department of Military Affairs (DMA)
10:00:03 Jim Murphy, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
10:00:23 Gene Hermanson, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
10:01:02 Becky Schlauch, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:01:25 Rep. Tschida
10:02:29 Justin Temple, FWP
10:02:35 Rep. Tschida
10:03:07 Chair Jones

10:04:02 Rep. Hopkins
10:04:44 Russ Katherman, DOA
10:06:22 Rep. Tschida
10:06:29 Rep. Mercer joined the meeting.
10:08:01 Rep. Hamilton
10:09:19 Rep. Hopkins
10:11:26 Chair Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

10:11:40 Rep. Hopkins

HEARING ON HB 14

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:12:39 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 14, Long-Range Building Bonding Program.

Informational Testimony:

10:14:35 Catherine Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

EXHIBIT(aph41a03)

10:19:27 Chair Jones
10:20:17 Russ Katherman, Department of Administration (DOA)
10:20:44 Chair Jones
10:20:54 Director Kurt Alme, Office of Budget Program and Planning (OBPP)

Proponents:

10:24:12 Dave McEwen, Montana Wool Growers Association (MWGA)
10:26:04 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA); Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
10:28:00 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
10:29:24 Krista Lee Evans, Montana Agricultural Business Association (MABA); Montana Milk Producers Association (MMPA)
10:29:58 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
10:30:35 Jessie Luther, Idaho Forest Group (IDFG)
10:31:23 Clayton Elliot, Montana Trout Unlimited (TU)
10:32:14 Director Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
10:33:21 Casey Malmquist, SmartLan North America
10:34:50 Paul Mackenzie, F.H. Stoltz Land and Lumber
10:36:46 Craig Rawlings, Forest Business Network
10:38:53 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association
10:39:58 David Williamson, Southwest Veteran's Home Association (SWVHA)

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony:

10:44:05 Commissioner Clayton Christians, OCHE
10:44:21 Lindsay Volpe, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
10:45:22 Cindy Tripp, Department of Agriculture (MDA)
10:45:45 Becky Schlauch, DOR

10:46:07 Ryan Evans, Office of Budget Program and Planning (OBPP)
10:46:39 Brian Simonson, Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL)
10:47:00 Heidi Anderson Folnagy, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
(DNRC)
10:47:25 Rachel Clark, Department of Commerce (COM)
10:47:52 Jason Harlow, OBPP
10:47:59 Sue Clark, DNRC
10:48:30 Barb Smith, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:49:19 Rep. Bedey
10:50:15 Chair Jones
10:50:30 Catherine Duncan, LFD
10:51:41 Rep. Patelis
10:52:43 Barb Smith, DPHHS
10:53:52 Russ Katherman, DOA
10:54:52 Rep. Patelis
10:55:12 Russ Katherman, DOA
10:56:34 Barb Smith, DPHHS
10:57:00 Rep. Patelis
10:57:15 Barb Smith, DPHHS
10:57:24 Rep. Patelis
10:58:08 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter
10:58:38 Rep. Hopkins
11:00:07 Rep. Keane
11:02:07 Ryan Evans, OBPP
11:02:15 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy joined the meeting.
11:03:28 Rep. Moore
11:04:02 Ryan Evans, OBPP
11:06:13 Chair Jones
11:06:47 Rep. Hamilton
11:07:44 Rep. Hopkins
11:08:29 Rep. Caferro left the meeting.
11:08:43 Rep. Hamilton
11:08:59 Rep. Hopkins
11:10:05 Rep. Hamilton
11:10:11 Rep. Hopkins
11:11:41 Rep. Hamilton
11:11:56 Chair Jones
11:13:04 Rep. Keane
11:13:34 Chair Jones
11:13:57 Rep. Tschida
11:14:23 Rep. Hopkins
11:14:54 Rep. Tschida
11:15:26 Chair Jones
11:16:03 Rep. Hopkins
11:17:11 Rep. Keane left the meeting.

Closing by Sponsor:

11:17:39 Rep. Hopkins

11:18:45 Recess
16:00:00 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 8

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:07:46 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 8, Renewable Resources Bonds and Loans.

Informational Testimony

16:09:21 Catherine Duncan

EXHIBIT(aph41a04)

16:13:01 Chair Jones
16:13:13 Anna Miller, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
16:15:15 Chair Jones

Proponents:

16:15:34 Rob Cook, Dry-Red Water Regional Water Authority
16:15:57 Krista Lee Evans, Montana Agricultural Business Association (MABA)
16:16:16 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association
16:16:43 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony:

16:18:00 Jason Harlow, Office of Budget Program and Planning (OBPP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:18:13 Rep. Bartel
16:18:34 Anna Miller, DNRC
16:19:12 Rep. Regier
16:19:36 Anna Miller, DNRC
16:20:01 Rep. Keane
16:20:31 Chair Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

16:20:50 Rep. Hopkins

HEARING ON HB 6

Opening Statement by Sponsor

16:21:12 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 6, Renewable Resource Grants.

Informational Witnesses

16:22:14 Catherine Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
16:26:07 Lindsay Volpe, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Proponents:

16:27:19 Clayton Elliot, Montana Trout Unlimited (TU)
16:29:02 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
16:29:54 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony

16:31:28 Ross Wagner, Montana Correctional Enterprises (MCE)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:32:00 Rep. Bartel
16:32:22 Catherine Duncan, LFD
16:33:38 Chair Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

16:33:56 Rep. Hopkins

HEARING ON HB 11**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:34:57 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 11, Treasure State Endowment Program.

Informational Testimony

16:36:28 Catherine Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

EXHIBIT(aph41a05)

16:38:39 Chair Jones
16:38:53 Richard Knatterud, Department of Commerce (COM)

Proponents:

16:39:40 Rob Cook, Dry-Red Water Regional Water Authority
16:39:59 Krista Lee Evans, Dry Prairie Water
16:40:18 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
16:40:59 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive
16:41:35 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT) and Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony:

16:42:57 Anna Miller, Department of Natural Resources (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:43:33 Rep. Bartel
16:44:25 Richard Knatterud, Department of Commerce (COM)
16:45:00 Rep. Bartel
16:45:15 Richard Knatterud, COM
16:45:30 Rep. Windy Boy

16:46:21 Anna Miller, DNRC
16:47:02 Rep. Moore
16:47:54 Rep. Hopkins
16:48:58 Chair Jones
16:49:08 Catherine Duncan, LFD
16:49:57 Rep. Mercer
16:50:41 Rep. Hopkins
16:51:12 Richard Knatterud, COM

Closing by Sponsor:

16:51:33 Rep. Hopkins

HEARING ON HB 7

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:52:10 Rep. Mike Hopkins (R), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 7, Reclamation and Development Grants.

Informational Testimony

16:53:12 Catherine Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

EXHIBIT(aph41a06)

16:55:08 Heidi Anderson Folnagy, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Proponents:

16:56:04 Clayton Elliot, Montana Trout Unlimited (TU)

16:57:16 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

Opponents: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:58:02 Rep. Mercer
17:00:27 Heidi Anderson Folnagy, DNRC
17:00:58 Rep. Mercer
17:01:32 Chair Jones
17:01:56 Rep. Keane
17:03:19 Heidi Anderson Folnagy, DNRC
17:03:56 Rep. Keane

Closing by Sponsor:

17:04:33 Rep. Hopkins

Committee Business

17:05:29 Chair Jones

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:06:47

Jamie Bonilla, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([aph41aad.pdf](#))