

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Derek Skees, on March 12, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Derek Skees, Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster (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:

Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)

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: SB 81, 3/9/2021; SB 134, 3/9/2021; SB 147, 3/9/2021

15:01:05 Chair Skees
 15:02:14 Rep. Kassmier left the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 147

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:49 Sen. Mary McNally (D), SD 24, opened the hearing on SB 147, Establish commercial property assessed capital enhancements program.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:08:53 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmers Union
 15:09:48 Dale Sexton, Dean Bailey's
 15:11:08 Ed Gulick, High Plains Architects

EXHIBIT(feh50a01)

15:12:44 Rep. Custer and Vice Chair Hayman joined the meeting.
 15:15:44 Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA)
 15:18:14 John Michael Mohar, self
 15:20:43 Rep. Olsen

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:21:57 Adam Gill, Montana Facility Finance Authority (MFFA)
EXHIBIT(feh50a02)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:29:06 Chair Skees
 15:30:00 Sen. McNally
 15:30:33 Rep. Olsen
 15:31:05 Chair Skees
 15:31:28 Rep. Olsen
 15:32:22 Joe Willauer, Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)
 15:34:37 Rep. Duram
 15:37:36 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:37:47 Vice Chair Hayman
 15:38:28 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:38:44 Rep. Phalen
 15:38:59 Chair Skees
 15:39:04 Rep. Binkley
 15:42:23 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:42:31 Rep. Duram
 15:44:43 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:44:50 Rep. Custer
 15:46:51 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:47:26 Rep. Phalen
 15:48:48 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:49:05 Rep. Duram
 15:49:49 Chair Skees
 15:49:59 Adam Gill, MFFA

15:50:20 Rep. Duram
 15:50:29 Chair Skees
 15:50:50 Rep. Duram
 15:51:01 Rep. Brewster
 15:51:20 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:51:44 Chair Skees
 15:51:47 Rep. Phalen
 15:52:12 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:52:24 Chair Skees
 15:53:58 Adam Gill, MFFA
 15:54:23 Chair Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

15:54:36 Sen. McNally
 15:57:41 Chair Skees

HEARING ON SB 134**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:58:48 Sen. Jason Small (R), SD 21, opened the hearing on SB 134, Revise board of investment loans for coal-fired generation remediation.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:00:13 Jessie Luther, Talen Montana
 16:02:20 Adam Haight, American Federation of Labor, Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
 16:02:51 Molly Schwend, Montana Coal Council (MCC)
 16:03:53 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 44 (IBEW44)
 16:04:35 Shelby DeMars, Montana Gas and Coal Counties (MGCC)
 16:04:58 Makenna Sellers, Northern Plains Resource Counsel (NPRC)
 16:05:26 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip
 16:06:03 Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development (SMD)
 16:06:54 Mayor John Williams, Colstrip

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:**

16:08:54 Dan Villa, Montana Board of Investments (MBI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:09:24 Rep. Duram
 16:10:08 Jessie Luther, Talen Montana
 16:11:02 Rep. Duram
 16:11:12 Adam Haight, AFL-CIO
 16:11:35 Chair Skees
 16:12:22 Dan Villa, MBI
 16:12:37 Rep. Phalen
 16:13:04 Jessie Luther, Talen Montana
 16:13:48 Rep. Duram
 16:14:26 Dan Villa, MBI

16:15:04 Vice Chair Hayman
16:15:48 Dan Villa, MBI
16:16:51 Chair Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

16:17:01 Sen. Small

16:17:42 Chair Skees
16:17:49 Sen. Small
16:18:19 Chair Skees
16:18:26 Vice Chair Hayman

HEARING ON SB 81

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:18:53 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB81, Include prepaid wireless in 9-1-1 tax.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:23:33 Jeff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)
16:25:08 Brian Thompson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:26:00 April Grady, State Information Technology Services Division (SITSD)
16:26:36 Lee Baerlocher, Montana Department of Revenue (MDR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:27:01 Rep. Olsen
16:28:40 Jeff Feiss, MTA
16:29:26 Rep. Olsen
16:29:42 Rep. Sullivan
16:30:09 Jeff Feiss, MTA
16:31:10 Rep. Duram
16:33:42 Jeff Feiss, MTA
16:34:08 Chair Skees
16:34:12 Rep. Custer
16:35:06 Jeff Feiss, MTA
16:35:43 Lee Baerlocher, MDR
16:36:35 Rep. Olsen
16:38:08 Chair Skees
16:38:44 Jeff Feiss, MTA
16:40:12 Rep. Olsen
16:40:27 Rep. Duram
16:40:48 April Grady, SITSD
16:41:06 Chair Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

16:41:31 Sen. K. Regier

16:42:54 Chair Skees
16:45:16 Vice Chair Hayman
16:45:29 Chair Skees

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:46:34

Brittany Bury, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh50aad.pdf](#))