

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Ross H. Fitzgerald, on March 16, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald, Chair (R)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
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)

Members Excused:

Rep. Neil Duram, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Seth Berglee (R)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Joanne Kauzlarich, Committee Secretary
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Branch
Taylor Tyson, 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 267, 3/12/2021; SB 314, 3/12/2021
Executive Action: SB 60; SB 105; SB 327; SB 337; SJ 18

HEARING ON SB 267**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:20:41 Sen. Bob Brown (R), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 267, Authorize reimbursement for wolf trapping and hunting.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:22:53 Tim McKenrick, self
15:23:40 Rep. Seekins-Crowe joined the meeting.
15:24:34 Rep. Marler joined the meeting.
15:25:03 Michael McKenrick, self
15:25:45 Brian McCullough, self
15:27:05 Rep. Berglee joined the meeting.
15:28:30 Mac Minard, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)
15:31:25 David McEwen, Montana Woolgrowers Association (MWA)
15:32:44 Jim Buell, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:34:14 Derek Goldman, Endangered Species Coalition (ESC)

[EXHIBIT\(fih52a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fih52a02\)](#)

15:37:58 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

[EXHIBIT\(fih52a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fih52a04\)](#)

15:39:04 Rep. Fielder
15:39:14 Mac Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies
15:40:05 Stephan Capra, Footloose Montana
15:42:52 Stan Frasier, self
15:44:14 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
15:46:02 Margareta Marro, self
15:48:32 Chair Fitzgerald
15:49:09 Shelly Coldiron, self
15:50:40 Rep. Phalen
15:50:54 Chair Fitzgerald
15:51:24 David Todd, self
15:52:28 Carmen Borchelt, Montana Audubon
15:54:29 Jennifer Sherry, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
15:55:57 Erin Edge, Defenders of Wildlife
15:56:43 KC York, Trap Free Montana (TFM)

Informational Testimony:

15:58:48 Quentin Kujula, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:59:21 Rep. Running Wolf
15:59:50 Quentin Kujula, FWP
16:00:14 Rep. Fielder

16:00:48 Quentin Kujula, FWP
16:01:05 Rep. Fielder
16:01:21 Quentin Kujula, FWP
16:02:24 Rep. Fielder
16:03:00 Quentin Kujula, FWP
16:03:21 Rep. Phalen
16:03:54 Brian McCullough, self
16:04:21 Rep. Phalen
16:04:27 Michael McKenrick, self
16:04:59 Rep. France
16:05:37 Sen. Brown
16:06:24 Chair Fitzgerald
16:06:44 David McEwen, MWA

Closing by Sponsor:

16:07:38 Sen. Brown

HEARING ON SB 314**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:12:27 Sen. Bob Brown (R), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 314, Revise laws related to wolf harvest.

16:18:27 Rep. Running Wolf left the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:18:56 Brian McCullough, self
16:20:28 Rep. Putnam left the meeting.
16:20:55 Tim McKenrick, self
16:22:57 Michael McKenrick, self
16:23:34 David McEwen, Montana Woolgrowers Association (MWA)
16:24:19 Jim Buell, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:25:49 Stephan Capra, Footloose Montana
16:27:50 Rep. Reksten
16:28:24 Derek Goldman, Endangered Species Coalition (ESC)

EXHIBIT(fih52a05)

16:29:08 Rep. Loge and Rep. Putnam joined the meeting.
16:30:34 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

EXHIBIT(fih52a06)

16:33:17 Stan Frasier, self
16:34:24 Vice Chair Duram joined the meeting.
16:36:13 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
16:37:51 Jennifer Sherry, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
16:39:47 Shelly Coldiron, self

16:41:12 Rep. Phalen
16:41:18 Shelly Coldiron, self
16:41:50 David Todd, self
16:43:21 Carmen Borchelt, Montana Audubon
16:44:46 Erin Edge, Defenders of Wildlife
16:45:39 Clinton Nagel, Gallatin Wildlife Association (GWA)
16:47:17 Mica Costerousse, self
16:48:37 KC York, Trap Free Montana (TFM)
16:50:34 Carol Bordin, self
16:51:45 Rep. France
16:52:07 Chair Berglee
16:52:12 Rep. France
16:52:36 Rep. Berglee
16:53:04 Chair Fitzgerald
16:53:14 Carol Bordin, self
16:54:00 Margareta Marro, self

Informational Testimony:

16:55:32 Quentin Kujula, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:55:51 Rep. Loge
16:56:24 Sen. Brown
16:57:00 Quentin Kujula, FWP
16:57:24 Rep. Running Wolf joined the meeting.
16:57:49 Rep. Loge
16:58:02 Quentin Kujula, FWP
16:58:16 Rep. Marler
16:59:02 Sen. Brown
17:00:37 Rep. Fielder
17:01:27 Quentin Kujula, FWP
17:01:58 Rep. Berglee
17:02:23 Derek Goldman, ESC
17:02:36 Rep. France
17:03:26 Sen. Brown
17:04:57 Rep. France
17:05:38 Sen. Brown
17:07:09 Vice Chair Duram
17:07:34 Quentin Kujula, FWP
17:08:30 Vice Chair Duram
17:08:41 Quentin Kujula, FWP

Closing by Sponsor:

17:09:20 Sen. Brown

17:14:30 Chair Fitzgerald

17:15:14 Recessed
17:37:28 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 60

17:37:55 **Motion:** Rep. Duram moved that **SB 60 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:38:22 Vice Chair Duram

17:38:42 Rep. Fielder

17:39:20 Rep. R. Knudsen

17:39:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy. Rep. Fielder will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 105

17:40:28 **Motion:** Rep. Duram moved that **SB 105 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:40:47 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. J. Hinkle moved that **SB 105 BE TABLED.** Motion carried 12-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Farris-Olsen, Rep. France, Rep. Marler, Rep. Novak, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Weatherwax voting no. Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 327

17:42:36 **Motion:** Rep. Duram moved that **SB 327 BE CONCURRED IN.**

17:42:45 **Motion:** Rep. Duram moved that **SB 327 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(fih52a07\)](#)

Discussion:

17:43:12 Vice Chair Duram

17:43:38 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy.

17:44:12 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Duram moved that **SB 327 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy. Rep. Mitchell will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 337

17:45:07 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Duram moved that **SB 337 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried 12-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Farris-Olsen, Rep. France, Rep. Marler, Rep. Novak, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Weatherwax voting no. Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy. Rep. Loge will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 360

17:47:27 Without objection Vice Chair Duram moved that action **BE POSTPONED ON SB 360 PENDING AMENDMENTS.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 18

17:47:45 **Motion:** Rep. Duram moved that **SJ 18 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

17:48:14 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

17:48:36 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-5 by roll call vote with Rep. Farris-Olsen, Rep. France, Rep. Marler, Rep. Running Wolf and Rep. Weatherwax voting no. Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy. Rep. Fielder will carry the bill.

Committee Business:

17:50:29 Hope Stockwell, LSD

17:50:31 Chair Fitzgerald

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:51:27

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fih52aad.pdf](#))