

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: Chair Geraldine Custer, on March 16, 2021 at 3:15 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Geraldine Custer, Chair (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Rep. Dave Fern (D)
Rep. Frank Fleming (R)
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)
Rep. Jeremy Trebas (R)
Rep. Kathy Whitman (R)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Derek J. Harvey (D)
Rep. Donavon Hawk (D)
Rep. Scot Kerns (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 44, 3/11/2021; SB 294, 3/11/2021; SB 171, 3/11/2021

HEARING ON SB 171

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:17:13 Sen. Chris Friedel (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 171, Increasing county procurement options with cooperative purchasing agreements.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:19:17 Eric Bryson; Montana Association of Counties (MACo), Yellowstone County
15:20:23 Rep. Hawk joined the meeting
15:20:31 Rep. Gunderson left the meeting
15:20:58 Bill Otte, Source Well

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:22:25 Rep. Fern
15:22:31 Rep. Harvey joined the meeting
15:22:57 Eric Bryson, MACo, Yellowstone County
15:24:11 Rep. Galloway
15:24:34 Eric Bryson, MACo, Yellowstone County

Closing by Sponsor:

15:25:25 Sen. Friedel

HEARING ON SB 44

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:27:02 Sen. John Esp (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SB 44, Revise subdivision laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:34:51 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Relators (MAR)
15:36:14 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)
15:37:00 Tara DePuy, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:37:52 Shannon Therriault, Montana Environmental Health Association (MEHA)
15:41:41 Kevin Smith, Department of Environment Quality (DEQ)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:46:53 Rep. Galloway
15:47:28 Kevin Smith, DEQ
15:47:38 Vice Chair Brewster
15:48:03 Kevin Smith, DEQ

Closing by Sponsor:

15:48:31 Sen. Esp

HEARING ON SB 294**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:49:13 Sen. John Esp (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SB 294, Allow for a referendum to terminate a county zoning district.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:52:09 Anne Hallowell, self

15:54:26 Ronalee Johnson, self

15:56:36 Edwin Johnson, self

15:59:52 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity

16:01:44 Tara DePuy, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

16:03:20 Andrew Hagemeyer, Montana Association of Planners (MAP)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:05:33 Mayre Flowers, Montana Smart Growth Coalition (MSGC)

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:08:40 Rep. Fern

16:09:12 Tara DePuy, MACo

16:11:29 Rep. Fern

16:11:58 Sen. Esp

16:12:15 Rep. Galloway

16:13:17 Sen. Esp

16:14:15 Vice Chair Dunwell

16:14:47 Tara DePuy, MACo

16:17:21 Rep. Fern

16:17:53 Tara DePuy, MACo

Closing by Sponsor:

16:19:06 Sen. Esp

16:21:08 Recess

16:32:50 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 16116:33:01 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Brewster moved that **SB 161 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Gunderson and Rep. Kerns voted by proxy. Rep. Bertoglio will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 221

16:34:36 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Brewster moved that **SB 221 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Gunderson and Rep. Kerns voted by proxy. Rep. Custer will carry the bill

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 211

16:36:03 **Motion:** Rep. Brewster moved that **SB 211 BE CONCURRED IN**.

16:36:10 **Motion:** Rep. Brewster moved that **SB 211 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(loh52a01\)](#)

Discussion:

16:36:38 Toni Henneman, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

16:39:16 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Brewster, Rep. Fern, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Thane and Rep. Zolnikov voting no. Rep. Gunderson and Rep. Kerns voted by proxy.

16:39:22 **Motion:** Rep. Brewster moved that **SB 211 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**.

Discussion:

16:39:48 Rep. Fern

16:41:06 Rep. Kortum

16:43:06 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fern, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Hawk, Rep. Kortum and Rep. Thane voting no. Rep. Gunderson and Rep. Kerns voted by proxy. Rep. Custer will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 135

16:43:23 **Motion:** Rep. Brewster moved that **SB 135 BE CONCURRED IN**.

16:43:38 **Motion:** Rep. Dunwell moved that **SB 135 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(loh52a02\)](#)

Discussion:

16:44:02 Toni Henneman, LSD

16:44:38 Vice Chair Dunwell

16:45:58 Rep. Galloway

16:46:53 Toni Henneman, LSD

16:47:25 Vice Chair Dunwell

16:49:34 Recess

16:51:12 Reconvene

16:51:44 Chair Custer

16:52:27 Vice Chair Dunwell

16:53:13 Tara DePuy, MACo

16:54:58 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Rep. Gunderson and Rep. Kerns voted by proxy.

16:55:16 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Dunwell and Rep. Kortum voting no. Rep. Brewster will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 145

16:56:29 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Brewster moved that **SB 145 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Gunderson and Rep. Kerns voted by proxy. Rep. Fern will carry the bill.

16:58:01 Toni Henneman, LSD

16:59:20 Chair Custer

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:59:50

Cristen Friede, Secretary

cf

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([loh52aad.pdf](#))