

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Derek Skees, on March 19, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Derek Skees, Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Joshua Kassmier (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 254, 3/15/2021; SB 334, 3/15/2021; SJ 10, 3/15/2021; SJ 17, 3/15/2021

15:01:30 Chair Skees

HEARING ON SB 254

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:02:47 Sen. Mary McNally (D), SD 24, opened the hearing on SB 254, Revising daylight savings time.

[EXHIBIT\(feh55a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:09:25 Sen. Esp

15:11:15 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

15:11:48 George Moncure, self

15:13:59 Scott Yates, self

Opponents' Testimony:

15:17:03 Ross Morgan, self

[EXHIBIT\(feh55a02\)](#)

15:22:20 Margaret Morgan, Montana Independent Electrical Contractors (MIEC)

15:25:23 Adam Clinch, self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:30:09 Vice Chair Hayman

15:30:54 Scott Yates, self

15:34:28 Chair Skees

15:34:57 Rep. Duram

15:37:42 Ross Morgan, self

15:39:18 Vice Chair Zolnikov

15:40:04 Scott Yates, self

15:43:32 Chair Skees

Closing by Sponsor:

15:44:01 Sen. McNally

15:48:57 Chair Skees

15:49:13 Vice Chair Zolnikov assumed the Chair.

HEARING ON SJ 10

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:49:26 Sen. Jason Small (R), SD 21, opened the hearing on SJ 10, Joint resolution urging congress to appropriate funding for carbon capture.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:50:55 Molly Schwend, Montana Coal Counsel (MCC)

[EXHIBIT\(feh55a03\)](#)

15:53:18 Jessie Luther, Talen Montana
15:54:18 Adam Haight, American Federation of Labor and Chief of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
15:54:41 John Metropulous, West Mooreland Mining
15:58:24 Rep. Phalen
15:58:46 John Metropulous, West Mooreland Mining
15:59:07 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip
16:01:17 Shelby DeMars, Montana Association of Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties (MAOGCC)
16:02:32 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 44 (IBEW44)
16:03:22 Dave Englund, Boiler Makers Local
16:04:13 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)
16:05:05 Luke Hoffer, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 233 (IBEW233)
16:05:34 Whitner Chase, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)
16:05:57 Darryl James, West Mooreland Mining
16:08:36 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (MSRA)
16:09:43 Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development (SMD)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:11:45 Vice Chair Hayman
16:13:28 David Hoffman, NWE
16:13:52 Rep. Phalen
16:14:12 Chair Skees
16:15:28 Whitner Chase, MCV
16:15:38 Rep. Phalen
16:16:16 David Hoffman, NWE
16:17:10 Vice Chair Zolnikov

Closing by Sponsor:

16:17:34 Sen. Small, Chair Skees

16:18:23 Vice Chair Zolnikov
16:18:30 Chair Skees assumed the chair.

HEARING ON SB 334

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:19:32 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), , opened the hearing on SB 334, Establishing cost calculations for transmission systems.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

16:29:14 Nathan Bilyew, Nature Enter USA
16:32:51 Bruce Spencer, Montana Business Energy Alliance (MBEA)
16:35:00 David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

16:36:39 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU)
16:40:39 Chris Puyear, Broadreach Power
16:42:57 Michael Goggin, American Clean Energy Association (ACEA)
16:46:10 Vice Chair Zolnikov assumed the chair.
16:46:22 Nicole Hughes, Renewable Northwest
16:46:56 Chair Skees assumed the chair.
16:50:00 Colson Williams, self
16:50:44 Diego Rivas, Northwest Energy Coalition (NWECC)
16:53:54 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Testimony:

16:55:21 Robin Arnold, Montana Public Service Commission (PSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:55:44 Rep. Brewster
16:56:14 Sen. Molnar
17:02:26 Rep. Duram
17:03:26 Sen. Molnar
17:05:30 Vice Chair Zolnikov
17:05:53 David Hoffman, NWE
17:06:16 Chair Skees
17:12:06 Nicole Hughes, Renewable Northwest
17:12:33 Chair Skees
17:12:59 Michael Goggin, ACEA
17:13:42 Vice Chair Zolnikov
17:14:52 Robin Arnold, PSC
17:15:25 Vice Chair Zolnikov
17:17:02 David Hoffman, NWE
17:17:23 Chair Skees
17:18:08 Nicole Hughes, Renewable Northwest
17:19:10 Chair Skees
17:26:14 Sen. Molnar
17:26:53 Vice Chair Zolnikov
17:28:06 Sen. Molnar

Closing by Sponsor:

17:29:16 Sen. Molnar
17:33:56 Chair Skees
17:34:50 Sen. Molnar

17:38:50 Chair Skees

HEARING ON SJ 17**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

17:39:22 Sen. Bryce Bennett (D), SD 50, opened the hearing on SJ 17, Resolution on daylight savings time.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

17:40:58 Ross Morgan, self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:44:28 Rep. Phalen
17:45:09 Ross Morgan, self
17:45:50 Rep. Duram
17:46:22 Ross Morgan, self
17:47:05 Rep. Sullivan
17:47:23 Sen. Bennett
17:48:12 Chair Skees
17:49:10 Sen. Bennett
17:49:58 Rep. Duram
17:50:26 Sen. Bennett
17:51:19 Rep. Phalen
17:51:24 Sen. Bennett

Closing by Sponsor:

17:52:27 Sen. Bennett

17:52:59 Chair Skees
17:54:31 Rep. Phalen
17:54:40 Chair Skees
17:54:49 Rep. Custer
17:54:51 Vice Chair Zolnikov
17:55:01 Chair Skees
17:55:32 Vice Chair Zolnikov
17:56:15 Rep. Custer
17:56:40 Chair Skees

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:57:32

Brittany Bury, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh55aad.pdf](#))