

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on January 13, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Bob Brown (R)  
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)  
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)  
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Pat Flowers, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Lauren de Paepe, Committee Secretary  
Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch  
Jacquie Simmons, 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 40, 1/7/2021; SB 63, 1/7/2021

Executive Action: SB 13 - Do Pass  
SB 20 - Do Pass  
SB 53 - Do Pass  
SB 40 - Do Pass

**HEARING ON SB 63**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:31 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB63, Establish wind and solar development ground lease for state trust lands.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:10:42 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association  
15:12:40 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation  
15:14:32 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited  
15:15:22 John Forkan, Montana State Building and Construction Trades Council  
15:16:48 Jessica Hoag, Trust Land Management Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**EXHIBIT(nas08a01)**

Sen. Cohenour entered the meeting.

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Additional testimony received:**

**EXHIBIT(nas08a02)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:22:44 Sen. Gillespie  
15:24:37 Ms. Hoag, DNRC  
15:24:55 Sen. Gillespie  
  
15:25:09 Sen. Lynch entered the meeting.  
  
15:26:07 Sen. Hoven  
15:27:00 Sen. Ankney  
15:27:20 Ms. Hoag  
15:27:51 Sen. Pomnichowski  
15:28:07 Ms. Hoag  
15:29:07 Sen. Flowers  
15:30:34 Ms. Hoag  
15:31:08 Sen. Flowers  
15:31:51 Sen. Ankney  
15:32:13 Sen. Brown  
15:33:01 Sen. Ankney  
15:33:48 Sen. Brown  
15:34:06 Ms. Hoag  
15:34:37 Sen. Cohenour  
15:35:17 Ms. Hoag  
15:35:45 Sen. Cohenour  
15:35:59 Shawn Thomas, DNRC  
15:37:58 Sen. Lang  
15:39:30 Mr. Thomas

15:41:30 Sen. Lang  
15:41:39 Mr. Thomas  
15:42:30 Sen. Gillespie  
15:44:23 Sen. Ankney

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:45:07 Sen. Ankney

**HEARING ON SB 40**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:47:34 Sen. Janet Ellis (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB40, Revise membership of the Montana Invasive Species Council.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:52:34 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association  
15:53:34 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited  
15:54:21 Stephanie Criswell, Montana Invasive Species Council coordinator

**EXHIBIT(nas08a03)**

15:58:18 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation

**EXHIBIT(nas08a04)**

15:59:39 Rebecca Boslough, Montana Association of Conservation Districts

**EXHIBIT(nas08a05)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

16:02:03 Marty Zaluski, state veterinarian, Department of Livestock

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:02:36 Sen. Gillespie

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:03:50 Sen. Ellis

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 13**

16:05:43 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **SB 13 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 20**

16:06:35 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **SB 20 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 53**

16:07:08 **Motion:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 53 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

16:07:19 Sen. Cohenour  
16:07:46 Chair Welborn  
16:07:53 Jason Mohr, Legislative Services Division  
16:08:57 Sen. Hoven  
16:09:21 Sen. Cohenour  
16:10:20 Sen. Small  
16:10:29 Chair Welborn  
16:11:06 Sen. Cohenour

16:11:45 **Motion:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **SB 53 BE AMENDED CONCEPTUALLY.**

**Discussion:**

16:11:53 Chair Welborn  
16:12:11 Mr. Mohr  
16:12:20 Sen. Flowers  
16:12:48 Mr. Mohr  
16:13:55 Chair Welborn

16:14:30 **Vote:** Motion failed 5-7 by roll call vote with Sen. Cohenour, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Jacobson, Sen. Lynch and Sen. Pomnichowski voting aye.

**Discussion:**

16:15:27 Sen. Flowers  
16:16:58 Chair Welborn

16:17:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 40**

16:18:52 **Motion:** Sen. Jacobson moved that **SB 40 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

16:19:22 Sen. Hoven  
16:19:37 Sen. Cohenour  
16:20:53 Chair Welborn

16:21:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

SB 40 not reported out of committee until fiscal note arrives.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:22 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nas08aad.pdf](#))