

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: Chair Terry Gauthier, on January 20, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Terry Gauthier, Chair (R)
Sen. John Esp, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Carlie Boland (D)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Izmerai Alvarado, Committee Secretary
Toni Henneman, Legislative Branch
Monte Cole, 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 80, 1/14/2021; SB 44, 1/15/2021

HEARING ON SB 80

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:01:59 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB80, Limit the duration of interlocal agreements.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:04:41 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MLCT)
15:05:43 Rick Breckenridge, Proctor
15:09:22 Philip Mitchell, Flathead County
15:14:45 Richard Cowger, Montana Fire Alliance; fire chief, Columbus Rural Fire District #3

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(los13a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:15:57 Kelly Lynch, deputy director and general counsel, Montana League of Cities & Towns

[EXHIBIT\(los13a02\)](#)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(los13a03\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:18:03 Chairman Gauthier
15:18:10 Sen. Regier
15:19:34 Sen. Boldman
15:20:07 Mr. Bryson, MLCT
15:20:51 Sen. Boldman
15:21:05 Mr. Bryson
15:21:16 Chairman Gauthier
15:21:29 Sen. Pope
15:22:01 Chairman Gauthier
15:22:26 Toni Henneman, Legislative Services Division

Closing by Sponsor:

15:22:47 Sen. Keith Regier

HEARING ON SB 44

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:23:40 Sen. John Esp (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SB44, Revise subdivision laws.

[EXHIBIT\(los13a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:27:50 Rick Breckenridge Proctor

15:30:12 Tim Davis, Water Quality Division administrator, Department of Environmental
Quality (DEQ)_

EXHIBIT(los13a05)

15:34:44 Jeanna Miller, Montana Environmental Health Association

EXHIBIT(los13a06)

15:39:31 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities & Towns

EXHIBIT(los13a07)

15:42:30 Christine Hughes, Flathead City County Health Department

EXHIBIT(los13a08)

Additional Testimony Received:

EXHIBIT(los13a09)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:45:31 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center

Additional Testimony Received:

EXHIBIT(los13a10)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:46:44 Sen. Boldman

15:47:03 Sen. Esp

15:47:12 Sen. Boldman

15:47:21 Sen. Esp

15:47:34 Sen. Fitzpatrick

15:48:56 Mr. Davis, DEQ

Closing by Sponsor:

15:50:08 Sen. Esp

Committee Business:

15:51:16 Sen. Gauthier

15:51:52 Sen. Boldman

15:51:55 Sen. Gauthier

15:52:16 Sen. Boldman

15:52:31 Sen. Esp

15:52:45 Sen. Gauthier

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:52 PM

Izmerai Alvarado, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([los13aad.pdf](#))