

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on January 25, 2021 at 2:45 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. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Pat Flowers, Vice Chair (D)  
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: SR 4, 1/21/2021  
Executive Action: SB 63, SR 4

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 63**

14:48:24 **Motion:** Sen. Small moved that **SB 63 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

14:48:43 Sen. Lang

14:48:50 Chair Welborn

14:49:02 Sen. Ankney

14:49:29 Sen. Lang

14:49:51 Sen. Gillespie entered the meeting.

14:50:24 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-0 by voice vote. Sen. Pomnichowski voted by proxy. Sen. Hoven was excused.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 40**

14:51:21 The fiscal note for SB 40 was received, and the bill was reported out of committee without objection. Executive action was taken on January 13, 2021.

14:52:41 Recess

14:53:17 Sen. Pomnichowski entered the meeting.

14:58:07 Sen. Hoven entered the meeting.

15:00:04 Chair Welborn gave the duties of the chair to Vice Chair Small.

15:00:31 Reconvene

**HEARING ON SR 4**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:01:00 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SR4, Confirm Governor's appointee for Director, Department of Environmental Quality.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:02:06 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras

**EXHIBIT(nas16a01)**

15:05:12 Christopher Dorrington, Governor's appointee

**EXHIBIT(nas16a02)**

15:08:53 Sen. Gillespie left the meeting.

15:08:57 Alan Olson, executive director, Montana Petroleum Association

15:11:01 Tammy Johnson, executive director, Montana Mining Association

15:12:51 Larry Nielsen, Montana Federation of Public Employees

15:13:25 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited

15:14:06 Todd O'Hair, president and CEO, Montana Chamber of Commerce  
15:15:07 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited  
15:16:10 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association  
15:17:13 Mark Taylor, Taylor Luther Group  
15:18:42 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center  
15:19:50 Jerry Zieg, Tintina Montana Inc.

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:21:44 Sen. Brown  
15:22:54 Mr. Dorrington, appointee  
  
15:24:40 Sen. Gillespie entered the meeting.  
  
15:24:55 Sen. Jacobson  
15:29:17 Mr. Dorrington  
15:30:52 Sen. Ankney  
15:31:54 Mr. Dorrington  
15:33:39 Sen. Cohenour  
15:34:17 Mr. Dorrington  
15:35:29 Sen. Flowers  
15:36:30 Mr. Dorrington

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:38:48 Sen. Welborn  
  
15:42:05 Chair Welborn resumed the duties of the chair.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 4**

15:42:27 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **SR 4 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:43 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nas16aad.pdf](#))