

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chair Gordon Vance, on February 4, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee :

Sen. Gordon Vance, Chair (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bryce Bennett (D)
Sen. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

Members Present via Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Carlie Boland, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Karli Kusler, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Branch
Gwyn Schooler, Committee Secretary

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: HB 55, 2/1/2021; HB 56, 2/1/2021; HB 77, 2/1/2021

15:00:54 Sen. Glimm entered the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 55

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:05:49 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB55, Revise light requirements for snow removal equipment.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:07:27 Jon Swartz, maintenance administrator, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

EXHIBIT(his24a01)

15:11:59 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association

15:13:09 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association

15:14:48 Duane Williams, CEO, Motor Carriers of Montana

15:15:43 Brian Thompson, Montana Sheriffs and Police Officers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:17:14 Sen. Gross

15:17:46 Mr. Swartz, MDT

15:18:19 Sen. Gross

15:18:31 Sen. Vance

15:18:36 Sen. Gross

15:18:42 Mr. Swartz

15:18:51 Sen. Welborn

15:19:29 Mr. Swartz

15:19:45 Sen. Welborn

15:19:52 Sen. Sands

15:20:46 Mr. Swartz

15:21:14 Sen. Sands

15:21:39 Sen. Bennett

15:22:00 Rep. Loge

15:22:51 Sen. Bennett

15:23:32 Rep. Loge

15:24:27 Sen. Friedel

15:24:51 Rep. Loge

15:25:26 Sen. Friedel

15:25:37 Rep. Loge

Closing by Sponsor:

15:26:00 Rep. Loge

HEARING ON HB 77

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:27:57 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB77, Revise motor carrier laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:31:49 Brad Marten, Motor Carrier Services Division administrator, Department of Transportation (MDT)

EXHIBIT(his24a02)

15:41:59 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association, Montana Wood Products Association

15:46:12 Duane Williams, CEO, Motor Carriers of Montana

15:46:38 Brian Thompson, Montana Contractors Association

15:47:13 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Building Industry Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:48:44 Sen. Gross

15:49:27 Mr. Marten, MDT

15:49:39 Sen. Gross

15:50:25 Mr. Marten

15:51:01 Sen. Vance

15:51:15 Sen. Glimm

15:51:32 Mr. Marten

15:51:56 Sen. Glimm

15:52:08 Mr. Marten

15:52:28 Sen. Glimm

15:52:46 Mr. Marten

15:53:08 Sen. Glimm

15:53:37 Mr. Marten

15:54:00 Sen. Bennett

15:54:43 Mr. Marten

Closing by Sponsor:

15:56:27 Rep. Fitzgerald

15:56:42 Sen. Vance

15:56:54 Rep. Fitzgerald

HEARING ON HB 56

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:57:31 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB56, Revise tire chain laws to provide for enforcement.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:02:48 Brad Marten, Motor Carrier Services Division administrator, Department of Transportation (MDT)

[EXHIBIT\(his24a03\)](#)

16:07:02 Duane Williams, Motor Carriers of Montana

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(his24a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:08:58 Sen. Gross
16:09:45 Rep. Loge
16:10:03 Sen. Glimm
16:10:45 Rep. Loge
16:11:06 Sen. Glimm
16:11:33 Rep. Loge
16:12:15 Sen. Glimm
16:12:46 Rep. Loge
16:13:40 Sen. Gross

Closing by Sponsor:

16:13:49 Rep. Loge

16:15:42 Chair Vance

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:16 PM

Gwyn Schooler, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([his24aad.pdf](#))