

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: Chair Steve Hinebauch, on February 9, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Izmerai Alvarado, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Alex Colafrancesco, 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 59, 2/4/2021; HR 138, 2/3/2021

Executive Action: SR 59 - Be Adopted

Chair Hinebauch gave the duties of the chair to Vice Chair Brown.

HEARING ON SR 59

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:01:26 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SR59, Confirm Governor's appointee for Director of Dept. of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

[**EXHIBIT\(fis27a01\)**](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:02:09 Hank Warsech, Governor's appointee
15:14:44 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras,
15:16:45 Jessica Williams
15:20:06 Mac Minard, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association
15:24:18 Ed Beall, Helena
15:30:00 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited; also speaking for Bob Gilbert, Walleyes Unlimited
15:34:02 Noah Marion, Montana Wildness Association
15:35:44 Matt Leow, Montana Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
15:37:14 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association
15:40:07 Rebecca Boslough, executive director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts
15:41:36 Paul Ellis, Bozeman

15:42:23 Dale Tribby, Montana Sportsmen Alliance

[**EXHIBIT\(fis27a02\)**](#)

15:44:11 Rob Arnaud, Gallatin Gateway

[**EXHIBIT\(fis27a03\)**](#)

15:45:24 John Way, Ennis

Opponents' Testimony:

15:47:01 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:48:26 Sen. Cohenour
15:49:12 Mr. Warsech, appointee
15:50:31 Sen. Cohenour
15:51:10 Mr. Warsech
15:51:43 Sen. Flowers
15:53:24 Mr. Warsech
15:55:57 Sen. Flowers
15:57:03 Mr. Warsech
15:59:02 Sen. Flowers
15:59:14 Sen. Jacobson
15:59:47 Mr. Warsech
16:01:55 Sen. Jacobson

16:02:05 Mr. Warsech
16:04:06 Sen. Jacobson
16:04:44 Mr. Warsech
16:06:09 Sen. Hertz
16:06:57 Mr. Warsech
16:08:47 Sen. Brown
16:09:32 Mr. Warsech

Closing by Sponsor:

16:10:24 Sen. Hinebauch

Sen. Hinebauch resumed the duties of the chair,

HEARING ON HB 138

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:12:50 Rep. Paul Fielder (R), opened the hearing on HB138, Revising trap and snare tagging requirement laws.

[EXHIBIT\(fis27a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:18:15 Jim Buell, Montana Trappers Association

[EXHIBIT\(fis27a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

16:20:01 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana

16:24:17 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

16:25:21 Chester Watson, Missoula

16:29:23 Shelley Coldiron, Whitefish

16:31:53 John Stephenson-Love, Great Falls

[EXHIBIT\(fis27a06\)](#)

16:36:05 Clinton Nagel, Gallatin Wildlife Association

[EXHIBIT\(fis27a07\)](#)

16:38:39 KC York, Trap Free Montana Public Lands

[EXHIBIT\(fis27a08\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

16:42:04 Ron Howell, assistant chief, Law Enforcement, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:42:31 Sen. Brown
16:43:04 Rep. Fielder
16:43:11 Sen. Brown
16:43:30 Rep. Fielder
16:44:48 Sen. Brown
16:45:25 Rep. Fielder
16:46:18 Sen. Jacobson

16:46:32 Rep. Fielder
16:48:00 Sen. Jacobson
16:48:33 Mr. Howell, FWP
16:48:41 Sen. Cohenour
16:49:40 Rep. Fielder
16:50:59 Sen. Cohenour
16:51:21 Rep. Fielder
16:51:38 Sen. Cohenour
16:52:19 Rep. Fielder
16:52:50 Sen. Flowers
16:53:40 Rep. Fielder
16:53:57 Sen. Flowers
16:54:45 Rep. Fielder
16:55:13 Sen. Flowers
16:55:36 Rep. Fielder
16:55:59 Sen. Flowers

16:56:12 Sen. Hertz left the meeting.

16:56:20 Mr. Howell
16:56:47 Sen. Flowers
16:57:34 Chair Hinebauch
16:57:47 Sen. McClafferty
16:58:28 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
16:58:52 Sen. McClafferty
16:59:15 Mr. Kolman, LSD
16:59:35 Sen. McClafferty
17:00:22 Rep. Fielder
17:01:10 Sen. McClafferty
17:01:30 Rep. Fielder
17:01:53 Sen. Jacobson
17:03:16 Mr. Kolman
17:03:24 Sen. Jacobson
17:03:47 Mr. Kolman

Closing by Sponsor:

17:04:05 Rep. Fielder

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 59

17:06:10 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Brown moved that **SR 59 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried 6-0 by voice vote. Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Hertz, Sen. Howard and Sen. Keenan were excused.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:07 PM

Izmerai Alvarado, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fis27aad.pdf](#))