

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Ryan Osmundson, on February 11, 2021 at 1:59 P.M., in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Ryan Osmundson, Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch
Katherine Anderson, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

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 191, 2/7/2021; SB 51, 2/7/2021; SB 52, 2/7/2021

Executive Action: HB 15 Be Concurred In; SB 81 Do Pass

13:59:15 Chair Osmundson

14:00:32 Sen. Glimm, Sen. McNally and Sen. Howard joined the meeting. Sen. Cuffe assumed the duties of the chair.

HEARING ON SB 191

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:00:59 Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB191, Generally revise state finance laws.

14:01:46 Amy Carlson, legislative analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

14:04:00 Sen. Osmundson

HEARING ON SB 51

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:05:08 Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB51, Exempting certain fiber optic, coaxial cable from property taxation.

Proponents' Testimony:

14:08:16 Geoff Feiss, general manager, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

14:10:08 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a02\)](#)

14:12:38 Kevin Hamm, acting CEO, Treasure State Internet and Telegraph

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a03\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

14:15:20 Doug Roehm, unit manager, Centrally Assessed and Industrial Unit, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:15:44 Sen. Lang
14:16:00 Mr. Roehm, DOR
14:16:20 Sen. Lang
14:16:26 Mr. Roehm
14:17:17 Sen. Lynch
14:17:45 Sen. Ellsworth
14:22:25 Sen. Lynch
14:23:00 Sen. Ellsworth
14:23:36 Sen. Ellis
14:24:44 Sen. Ellsworth
14:25:15 Sen. Ellis
14:25:25 Mr. Roehm
14:26:01 Sen. Ellis
14:26:18 Sen. Ellsworth
14:27:27 Sen. Ellis
14:27:34 Sen. Jacobson
14:28:10 Sen. Ellsworth
14:30:25 Sen. Jacobson
14:30:39 Sen. Ellsworth
14:31:24 Chair Osmundon
14:31:40 Mr. Feiss, MTA

Closing by Sponsor:

14:32:21 Sen. Ellsworth

HEARING ON SB 52

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:34:58 Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB52, Revise lodging facility use tax and sales tax on lodging and rental cars.

Proponents' Testimony:

14:37:04 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association
14:37:56 Steve Wahrlich, Best Western Plus Clock Tower Inn

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a04\)](#)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

14:38:54 Lee Baerlocher, Department of Revenue
14:39:26 John Harrington, Legislative Audit Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

14:39:58 Sen. McNally
14:40:58 Sen. Ellsworth

Closing by Sponsor:

14:42:07 Sen. Ellsworth

Sen. Osmundson assumed the role of the chair.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 15

14:43:21 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Cuffe moved that **HB 15 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 18-1 by roll call vote with Sen. Howard voting no. Sen. Salomon will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 81

14:45:17 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Cuffe moved that **SB 81 DO PASS**. Motion carried 15-4 by voice vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers and Sen. Morigeau voting no.

14:46:57 Chair Osmundson

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 2:47 P.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs29aad.pdf](#))