

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: Chair Terry Gauthier, on February 19, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Terry Gauthier, Chair (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. John Esp, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

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

Members Excused:

Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (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 238, 2/17/2021

Executive Action: SB 174, SB 211, SB 231, SB 238

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 174

15:01:11 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 174 DO PASS.**

15:01:22 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 174 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy. Sen. Morigeau was excused.

EXHIBIT(los35a01)

15:02:27 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 174 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau and Sen. Pope voting no. Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Morigeau voted by proxy.

Sen. Fitzpatrick left the meeting.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 211

15:04:14 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 211 DO PASS.**

15:04:31 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 211 BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT(los35a02)**Discussion:**

15:05:05 Toni Henneman, Legislative Services Division

15:05:22 Sen. Esp

15:05:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Fitzpatrick and Sen. Morigeau voted by proxy.

15:06:12 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 211 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:06:25 Sen. Pope

15:07:15 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau and Sen. Pope voting no. Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Ellsworth, Sen. Fitzpatrick and Sen. Morigeau voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 231

15:08:18 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 231 DO PASS.**

15:08:27 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 231 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Ellsworth, and Sen. Fitzpatrick voted by proxy. Sen. Morigeau was excused.

EXHIBIT(los35a03)

15:09:26 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 231 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:09:52 Sen. Boldman

15:10:50 Sen. Esp

15:10:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-2 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland and Sen. Pope voting no. Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Fitzpatrick voted by proxy. Sen. Morigeau was excused.

Vice Chair Esp assumed the role as the chair.

HEARING ON SB 238**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:12:51 Sen. Terry Gauthier (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB238, Revise compensation for sheriffs, undersheriffs, and deputy sheriffs.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:15:16 Brian Thompson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

15:15:37 Sen. Morigeau entered the meeting.

15:17:13 Jessie Slaughter, MSPOA

15:19:16 Bradley Bragg, MSPOA

15:20:59 Allen Fulton, sheriff, Rosebud County

15:23:25 Eric Anderson, Teamster Local 190

15:24:01 John Nolan, MSPOA

15:26:13 Leo Dotton, MSPOA

15:26:56 Ryan Dunster, MSPOA

15:27:23 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers

15:29:35 John Forken, International Brotherhood Teamsters Local 2

15:30:13 Joshua Jones, Rosebud County

15:30:51 Trenton Harbaugh, MSPOA

15:32:38 Mike Linder, Yellowstone County

15:33:24 Joseph Dompier, Montana Federation of Public Employees

[EXHIBIT\(los35a04\)](#)

15:34:05 James Stone, Teamsters Local #2

[EXHIBIT\(los35a05\)](#)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(los35a06\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:35:08 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:41:33 Sen. Friedel
 15:41:52 Sen. Gauthier
 15:42:19 Mr. Thompson, MSPOA
 15:42:34 Sen. Friedel
 15:42:48 Mr. Thompson
 15:43:04 Sen. Friedel
 15:43:10 Mr. Thompson
 15:43:40 Sen. Friedel
 15:44:26 Mr. Thompson
 15:45:47 Sen. Esp
 15:47:26 Mr. Thompson
 15:47:49 Sen. Esp
 15:47:58 Mr. Thompson

Closing by Sponsor:

15:48:10 Sen. Gauthier

Sen. Gauthier assumed the role as the chair.

Committee Discussion:

15:49:56 Chair Gauthier
 15:50:09 Sen. Boldman
 15:50:32 Sen. Esp
 15:51:29 Sen. Friedel
 15:52:41 Chair Gauthier
 15:52:56 Sen. Friedel
 15:53:05 Chair Gauthier
 15:53:17 Sen. Esp
 15:53:20 Sen. Boldman
 15:54:03 Chair Gauthier
 15:54:35 Sen. Morigeau
 15:55:01 Sen. Boldman
 15:55:13 Sen. Morigeau
 15:55:33 Toni Henneman, Legislative Services Division
 15:55:47 Sen. Morigeau
 15:56:09 Sen. Esp
 15:57:06 Chair Gauthier
 15:57:18 Sen. Boldman
 15:57:42 Sen. Esp

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 238

15:57:45 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 238 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:58:09 Sen. Boldman
 15:58:53 Recess

16:02:02 Reconvene

16:02:06 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-1 by voice vote with Sen. Esp voting no. Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Ellsworth and Sen. Fitzpatrick were excused.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:04 PM

Izmerai Alvarado, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([los35aad.pdf](#))