

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on February 19, 2021 at 2:45 P.M., 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)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Pat Flowers, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

**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: SB 153, 2/17/2021; SB 258, 2/17/2021

**HEARING ON SB 258**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

14:48:20 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB258, Renaming the Treasure State Endowment program.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

14:52:54 Shelby DeMars, Montana Association of Oil, Gas, & Coal Counties

**EXHIBIT(nas35a01)**

14:55:44 Sen. Small entered the meeting.

14:56:07 Molly Schwend, Montana Coal Council

14:57:27 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip

14:58:08 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:00:27 Sen. Ankney

15:01:26 Sen. Hoven entered the meeting.

15:01:47 Chair Welborn gave the duties of the chair to Vice Chair Small.

**HEARING ON SB 153**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:21 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB153, Generally revising laws re: administration of FWP lands/waters.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:12:32 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited

15:18:32 Bob Gilbert, executive director, Walleyes Unlimited Montana

15:21:14 Mike Bias, executive director, Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana (FOAM)

15:23:07 Eric Melson, Montana Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

15:24:02 Troy Warburton, citizen; president, Walleyes Unlimited Helena Chapter

**EXHIBIT(nas35a02)**

15:25:09 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

**EXHIBIT(nas35a03)**

15:31:40 Nick Gevock, conservation director, Montana Wildlife Federation  
[EXHIBIT\(nas35a04\)](#)

15:33:41 Steve Luebeck, Trout Unlimited George Grant chapter, Butte

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(nas35a05\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:**

15:38:43 Ron Jendro, legislative liaison, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:39:19 Sen. Brown  
15:39:56 Mr. Jendro, FWP  
15:40:24 Sen. Hoven  
15:42:10 Sen. Welborn  
15:43:03 Sen. Lang  
15:44:06 Sen. Welborn  
15:44:25 Sen. Brown  
15:46:10 Sen. Welborn  
15:47:58 Sen. Lang  
15:51:09 Mr. Bias, FOAM  
15:51:37 Sen. Pomnichowski  
15:56:08 Sen. Welborn  
15:56:20 Sen. Ankney  
15:57:02 Sen. Welborn  
15:57:38 Sen. Ankney  
15:58:26 Mr. Jendro  
15:58:35 Sen. Hoven  
15:59:29 Mr. Jendro  
16:00:22 Sen. Flowers  
16:01:17 Mr. Jendro  
16:01:44 Sen. Flowers  
16:05:27 Sen. Welborn  
16:06:00 Sen. Brown  
16:06:28 Sen. Welborn  
16:06:43 Sen. Lang  
16:07:45 Mr. Jendro

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:08:27 Sen. Welborn

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:10 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nas35aad.pdf](#))