

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chair Gordon Vance, on February 23, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Gordon Vance, Chair (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bryce Bennett (D)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
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 by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Carlie Boland, Vice Chair (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Diane Sands (D)

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: SB 274, 2/19/2021; SB 285, 2/19/2021; SB 300, 2/19/2021; SJ 12, 2/19/2021

HEARING ON SJ 12

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:00:34 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 31, opened the hearing on SJ12, Interim study of electric transportation in Montana.

15:01:43 Sen. Gross entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:05:02 Brian Thompson, Montana Contractors Association

15:06:14 Andrew Valainis, Montana Renewable Energy Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:07:39 Sen. McGillvray

15:08:18 Sen. Pope

Closing by Sponsor:

15:09:14 Sen. Pope

HEARING ON SB 274

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:10:21 Sen. Chris Friedel (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB274, Establish Judge Pedro R. Hernandez memorial highway.

EXHIBIT(his38a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

15:14:47 Rich Friedel, citizen

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

15:18:07 Sen. Friedel

HEARING ON SB 300

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:18:57 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 2, opened the hearing on SB300, Generally revise laws related to driver education.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

15:21:24 Amanda Curtis, elected president, Montana Federation of Public Employees,
Montana Rural Education Association, Montana Quality Education Coalition

Informational Testimony:

15:23:58 Kenneth Bailey, CFO, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:24:26 Sen. Gross

15:24:39 Mr. Bailey, OPI

Closing by Sponsor:

15:25:17 Sen. Glimm

HEARING ON SB 285

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:26:26 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB285, Provide gas
and fuel tax refund for agriculture.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:32:06 Tracy Halubka, supervisor, Department of Transportation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:33:03 Sen. McGillvray

15:33:15 Sen. Hinebauch

15:33:53 Sen. McGillvray

15:34:15 Sen. Hinebauch

15:34:32 Sen. Vance

15:34:39 Sen. Gross

15:35:08 Sen. Hinebauch

15:35:27 Sen. Gross

15:35:37 Sen. Hinebauch

15:35:52 Sen. Gross

15:36:08 Sen. Hinebauch

15:36:57 Sen. Gross

15:37:39 Sen. Friedel

15:38:00 Sen. Hinebauch

15:38:06 Sen. Glimm

15:38:48 Sen. Hinebauch

Closing by Sponsor:

15:39:14 Sen. Hinebauch

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:41 PM

Gwyn Schooler, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([his38aad.pdf](#))