

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Call to Order:** Chair Terry Gauthier, on February 26, 2021 at 3:16 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

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

**Members Present Over Zoom Video Call:**

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

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Izmerai Alvarado, Committee Secretary  
Toni Henneman, Legislative Branch  
Leigha Bradford, 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 349, 2/24/2021; SB 346, 2/24/2021

Executive Action: SB 257, SB 346, SB 349

**HEARING ON SB 346****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

- 15:17:52 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SB346, Inflationary adjustments for prevailing wages.
- 15:18:39 President Blasdel left the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

- 15:20:10 Brain Thompson, Montana Contractors' Association (MCA)
- 15:21:21 Sen. Fitzpatrick and Sen. Morigeau entered the meeting.

**Opponents' Testimony:**

- 15:22:02 Adam Haight, Montana AFL-CIO
- 15:25:30 John Forkan, Montana State Building and Construction Trade Council
- 15:28:07 James Holbrook, Montana State Conference of Electrical Workers
- 15:29:56 Derek Hitt, United Brotherhood of Carpenters
- 15:31:13 Jessica Wicks, Teamsters Local 2
- 15:31:40 Aaron Ralph, Teamsters Local 2
- 15:32:24 Kim Rickard-Smeltzer, Laborers #1686
- 15:34:22 Dwight Rose, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 44
- 15:35:21 John Johnson, Operating Engineers
- 15:36:17 Jack McBroom, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 233
- 15:37:04 Clint Penny, Boilermakers Local 11
- 15:37:25 Dave England, Boilermakers Local 11
- 15:37:55 Mike Strutzel, Boilermakers Local 11
- 15:38:14 Eric Anderson, Teamsters Local 190
- 15:39:16 James Stone, Teamsters Local 2

**EXHIBIT(los41a01)**

- 15:40:03 Josh Cox, Smart Local 103
- 15:40:40 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees

**Additional Testimony Received:****EXHIBIT(los41a02)****Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

- 15:41:13 Sen. Boland
- 15:45:00 Sen. Manzella
- 15:45:59 Sen. Esp
- 15:47:19 Sen. Manzella
- 15:48:47 Sen. Friedel
- 15:51:55 Mr. Thompson, MCA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

- 15:52:37 Sen. Manzella

**HEARING ON SB 349**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:53:58 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB349, Revise zoning laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:57:44 Andrew Thomas, Helena  
[EXHIBIT\(los41a03\)](#)

16:04:08 John Baucus, Helena

16:13:59 John Herrin, Helena

[EXHIBIT\(los41a04\)](#)

**Additional Testimony Received:**

[EXHIBIT\(los41a05\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

16:23:21 Sean O'Callaghan, Montana Association of Planners

16:27:42 Tara DePuy, Montana Association of Counties

[EXHIBIT\(los41a06\)](#)

16:33:03 Robert Horne, Whitefish

[EXHIBIT\(los41a07\)](#)

16:37:18 Bonnie Buckingham, Missoula

[EXHIBIT\(los41a08\)](#)

16:39:28 Mayre Flowers, Montana Smart Growth Coalition

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:42:38 Sen. Esp

16:45:11 Sen. Fitzpatrick

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:45:34 Sen. Fitzpatrick

16:46:05 Brief Recess

16:50:02 Reconvene

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 257**

16:50:05 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 257 DO PASS.**

16:50:16 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 257 BE AMENDED.**

[EXHIBIT\(los41a09\)](#)

**Discussion:**

16:50:45 Toni Henneman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
16:50:53 Sen. Esp  
16:50:59 Ms. Henneman, LSD  
16:51:08 Sen. Pope  
16:51:22 Ms. Henneman  
16:52:32 Sen. Pope  
16:52:39 Sen. Esp  
16:52:53 Sen. Pope  
16:54:08 Sen. Fitzpatrick  
16:54:36 Sen. Pope

16:55:54 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau and Sen. Pope voting aye. Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

16:56:45 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **SB 257 BE AMENDED**. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote. Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Ellsworth were excused.

**EXHIBIT(los41a10)**

16:57:22 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 257 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.

**Discussion:**

16:57:52 Ms. Henneman  
16:58:55 Sen. Pope

17:00:26 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau and Sen. Pope voting no. Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 346**

17:01:16 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 346 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

17:02:00 Chair Gauthier  
17:02:23 Sen. Boldman  
17:02:42 Sen. Morigeau  
17:03:57 Sen. Boland  
17:05:18 Sen. Friedel

17:06:00 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau and Sen. Pope voting no. Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 349**

17:06:42 **Motion:** Sen. Esp moved that **SB 349 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

17:07:06 Sen. Boldman

17:07:26 Sen. Morigeau

17:07:42 **Vote:** Motion failed 2-8 by roll call vote with Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Fitzpatrick voting aye. Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

17:08:40 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Morigeau moved that **SB 349 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Blasdel and Sen. Ellsworth voted by proxy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:09 pm

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Izmerai Alvarado, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([los41aad.pdf](#))**