

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on March 10, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Bob Brown (R)  
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. Jason D. Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)  
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: HB 152, 3/1/2021; HB 40, 3/1/2021  
Executive Action: HB 40 - Be Concurred in

**HEARING ON HB 40**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:01:56 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB40, Revising laws on mandatory decontamination of vessels with ballast and bladders.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:04:38 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited

15:05:20 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

**[EXHIBIT\(nas48a01\)](#)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

15:06:11 Tom Woolf, Aquatic Invasive Species Bureau chief, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:06:34 Sen. Brown

15:07:15 Sen. Gillespie entered the meeting.

15:07:27 Mr. Woolf, FWP

15:07:57 Sen. Hoven

15:08:21 Mr. Woolf

15:08:58 Sen. Brown

15:09:48 Mr. Woolf

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:10:57 Rep. Curdy

**HEARING ON HB 152**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:12:54 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB152, Requiring drain plugs to be disengaged to prevent aquatic invasive species.

**[EXHIBIT\(nas48a02\)](#)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:15:39 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited

15:16:51 Phil Matson, research coordinator, Aquatic Invasive Species Program, Flathead Lake Biological Station, University of Montana

**[EXHIBIT\(nas48a03\)](#)**

15:22:49 Andrew Gorder, legal director, Clark Fork Coalition

15:23:46 Sen. Gillespie left the meeting.

15:24:58 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

[EXHIBIT\(nas48a04\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

15:26:49 Kate Wilson, Upper Columbia Conservation Commission (UC3), Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

[EXHIBIT\(nas48a05\)](#)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:27:13 Sen. Hoven

15:29:10 Rep. Duram

15:29:53 Sen. Jacobson

15:32:07 Rep. Duram

15:32:26 Sen. Lang entered the meeting.

15:32:52 Sen. Flowers

15:35:11 Rep. Duram

15:36:13 Sen. Brown

15:37:06 Rep. Duram

15:37:43 Sen. Jacobson

15:39:49 Rep. Duram

15:40:15 Ms. Wilson, UC3

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:40:40 Rep. Duram

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:41:34 Sen. Hoven

15:42:08 Rep. Duram

15:42:38 Chair Welborn

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:42:48 Rep. Duram

### **EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 40**

15:45:11 **Motion:** Sen. Jacobson moved that **HB 40 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

15:45:29 Sen. Lang

15:45:38 Chair Welborn

15:46:08 Sen. Lang

15:46:44 Sen. Flowers

15:47:37 Sen. Hoven

15:47:55 Sen. Flowers

15:48:44 Sen. Lang

15:48:56 Chair Welborn

15:49:04 Sen. Brown

15:49:39 Sen. Lang

15:49:42 Sen. Brown

15:49:52 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote. Sen. Cohenour, Sen. Gillespie, Sen. Lynch and Sen. Small were excused. Sen. Flowers will carry the bill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:50 PM

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Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nas48aad.pdf](#))