

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Mike Lang, on March 11, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Mike Lang, Chair (R)  
Sen. Kenneth Bogner, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)  
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)  
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)  
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)  
Sen. Walt Sales (R)  
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)

**Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:**

Sen. Susan Webber, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary  
Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch  
Cole Monte, 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 396, 3/9/2021; HJ 17, 3/9/2021

Executive Action: HJ 7, HB 294

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 7**

14:48:48 **Motion:** Sen. Bogner moved that **HJ 7 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

14:49:13 Chair Lang

14:49:16 Sen. O'Brien entered the meeting.

14:49:19 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Gillespie voted by proxy. Sen. Boldman and Sen. Ellis were excused. Sen. Lang will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 294**

14:49:37 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Bogner moved that **HB 294 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Boldman and Sen. Ellis were excused. Sen. Gillespie voted by proxy. Sen. Lang will carry the bill.

14:50:37 Chair Lang

14:50:53 Recess

15:34:39 Reconvene

15:34:42 Sen. Lang left the meeting and Sen. Bogner assumed the duties of the chair.

15:34:45 Sen. Boldman and Sen. Ellis entered the meeting.

15:34:47 Chair Bogner

**HEARING ON HJ 17**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:35:15 Rep. Marilyn Marler (D), HD 90, opened the hearing on HJ 17, Declare noxious weed awareness week.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:37:40 Dave Burch, Montana Weed Control Association (MWCA)

**EXHIBIT(ags49a01)**

15:39:38 Jessica Bushnell, Broadwater County Weed and Mosquito coordinator

15:40:25 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

15:41:02 Ian Foley, Department of Agriculture

15:42:01 Jill Allen, Jefferson County Weed District

**EXHIBIT(ags49a02)**

15:43:16 Pam Converse, Pondera County Weed District

**Additional Testimony Received:**

**EXHIBIT(ags49a03)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:45:13 Sen. Sales  
15:45:41 Mr. Burch, MWCA  
15:46:26 Sen. Sales  
15:46:41 Mr. Burch

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:47:04 Rep. Marler  
  
15:49:28 Recess  
15:53:05 Reconvene

**HEARING ON HB 396**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:53:15 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 396, Clarify hemp seed as commercial feed.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:53:47 Morgan Elliott, IND Hemp  
15:57:45 Ken Elliott, IND Hemp  
15:59:16 Jacynta Bomgardner, citizen  
16:00:05 Brentlee Bomgardner, citizen  
16:00:28 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation  
16:01:38 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers Association  
16:02:09 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association  
16:03:07 Courtney Moran, IND Hemp  
16:05:08 Kim Mangold, Montana Farmers Union

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

16:06:43 Ian Foley, Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
16:07:14 Cort Jensen, MDA

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:07:33 Sen. Hoven  
16:08:18 Mr. Elliott, IND Hemp  
16:10:06 Sen. Hoven  
16:10:26 Mr. Elliott  
16:12:10 Sen. Ellis  
16:12:52 Rep. Kassmier  
16:13:41 Mr. Jensen, MDA  
16:14:30 Sen. Ellis  
16:14:40 Sen. O'Brien  
16:14:58 Ms. Bomgardner, citizen

16:15:37 Sen. Hoven  
16:16:24 Rep. Kassmier  
16:16:41 Sen. Sales  
16:17:07 Rep. Kassmier

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:17:38 Rep. Kassmier  
  
16:18:14 Chair Bogner

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:18 P.M.

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Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([ags49aad.pdf](#))**