

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chair Gordon Vance, on March 16, 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) (joined by Zoom Video Conference later)
Sen. Chris Friedel (R)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Carlie Boland, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:

Karli Kulser, 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: HB 267, 3/10/2021; HB 188, 3/10/2021; HB 306, 3/10/2021; SB
336, 3/10/2021
Executive Action: SB 285; HB 184; HB 207; HB 383

HEARING ON HB 267

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:01:32 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB267, Improve school bus safety laws.

EXHIBIT(his52a01)

15:07:04 Sen. Smith entered the meeting.

15:07:31 Sen. Glimm entered the meeting.

15:09:23 Sen. Welborn entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:17:38 Ole Hedstrom, Montana State Council of Professional Firefighters

15:18:30 Dennis Parman, executive director, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

15:21:48 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers

Additional Testimony Received:

EXHIBIT(his52a02)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:22:16 Mike Krout, Majestic Bus Service Inc.

15:26:35 Patricia Matthew, Matthew Transportation, Big Sandy

15:28:07 Sen. Friedel entered the meeting.

15:28:22 Tracie Hoffman, Beach Transportation

15:29:24 Sen. Smith left the meeting.

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:30:39 Sen. Glimm

15:31:15 Rep. Duram

15:31:31 Sen. Glimm

15:31:45 Rep. Duram

15:32:43 Sen. Sands

15:33:32 Mr. Parman, MREA

Closing by Sponsor:

15:35:01 Rep. Duram

15:39:34 Chair Vance

15:39:49 Rep. Duram

15:40:06 Chair Vance

HEARING ON SB 336

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:40:29 Sen. Chris Friedel (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB336, Generally revise driver license laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:41:52 Laurie Bakri, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)
15:44:17 Joel Peden, Montana Association of Centers for Independent Living

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:45:18 Sen. Manzella
15:45:55 Ms. Bakri, DOJ
15:46:13 Sen. Glimm
15:46:39 Ms. Bakri

Closing by Sponsor:

15:47:13 Sen. Friedel

HEARING ON HB 188

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:48:25 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB188, Generally revise electric vehicle laws and fees.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:51:58 David Smith, executive director, Montana Contractors' Association
15:52:42 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce
15:53:10 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition
15:55:11 Brad Marten, Montana Department of Transportation
15:55:44 Duane Williams, Motor Carriers of Montana
15:57:10 Brad Longcake, Montana Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association
15:57:59 Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

EXHIBIT(his52a03)

Opponents' Testimony:

15:58:57 Alicia Cox, executive director, Yellowstone-Teton Clean Cities

15:59:52 Sen. Gross left the meeting.

16:01:49 Conor Ploeger, Montana Environmental Information Center

Informational Testimony:

16:04:03 Laurie Bakri, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice
16:04:26 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:05:01 Sen. Glimm
16:05:58 Rep. Loge
16:06:41 Sen. Glimm
16:07:21 Rep. Loge
16:08:51 Sen. Welborn
16:09:27 Rep. Loge
16:10:09 Sen. Welborn
16:10:28 Rep. Loge
16:11:15 Sen. Friedel
16:12:07 Rep. Loge
16:13:01 Sen. Boland
16:13:40 Rep. Loge

Closing by Sponsor:

16:14:24 Rep. Loge
16:15:30 Chair Vance

HEARING ON HB 306**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:15:54 Rep. Moffie Funk (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB306, Revise transportation laws relating to tourism.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:17:16 Kurt Valiton, citizen
16:25:55 Doug Habermann, Bike Walk Montana
[EXHIBIT\(his52a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

16:27:20 Rep. Funk

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 285

16:30:16 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Welborn moved that **SB 285 DO PASS**. Motion carried 11-0 by voice vote. Sen. Gross voted by proxy. Sen. McGillvray and Sen. Smith were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 184

16:31:19 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Welborn moved that **HB 184 BE TABLED**. Motion carried 8-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Boland, Sen. Fox, Sen. Gross and Sen. Sands voting no. Sen. Gross, Sen. McGillvray and Sen. C. Smith voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 207

16:32:52 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Welborn moved that **HB 207 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 10-1 by voice vote with Sen. Welborn voting no. Sen. Gross voted by proxy. Sen. McGillvray and Sen. Smith were excused. Sen. Friedel will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 383

16:34:19 **Motion:** Sen. Welborn moved that **HB 383 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

16:34:25 Chair Vance

16:35:28 Sen. Glimm

16:35:41 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-0 by voice vote. Sen. Gross voted by proxy. Sen. McGillvray and Sen. Smith were excused. Sen. Vance will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:

Gwyn Schooler, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([his52aad.pdf](#))