

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Ryan Osmundson, on March 18, 2021 at 2:58 P.M., in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present in the Committee Room:

Sen. Ryan Osmundson, Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Alex Colafrancesco, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

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 73, 3/11/2021; SB 176, 3/11/2021; SB 263, 3/11/2021

14:58:1 Chair Osmundson

HEARING ON HB 73

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

14:59:44 Rep. Barry Usher (R), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB73, Generally revise laws related to the criminal justice oversight council.

Proponents' Testimony:

[EXHIBIT\(fcs54a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:02:21 Sen. Cuffe

15:02:54 Rep. Usher

Closing by Sponsor:

15:03:53 Rep. Usher

HEARING ON SB 176

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:05:28 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), opened the hearing on SB176, Generally revise laws related to coal, coal tax, and coal-fired unit remediation.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

15:07:30 Mark Baker, Puget Sound Energy

15:08:20 Tom Ebzery, Portland General Electric; Avista Corporation

15:09:50 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association

Informational Testimony:

15:11:05 Jenny Chambers, Department of Environmental Quality

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:11:29 Sen. Ellis

15:12:35 Rep. Molnar

15:13:28 Sen. Ellis

15:14:39 Rep. Molnar

Closing by Sponsor:

15:16:06 Rep. Molnar

HEARING ON SB 263

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:20:54 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB263, Revise forest lands property taxes and rates.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:22:06 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

15:23:19 Mark Baker, Weyerhaeuser Company

15:23:55 Paul McKenzie, general manager, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co.; member, Forest Land Taxation Advisory Committee

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(fcs54a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:25:44 Kory Hofland, administrator, Property Assessment Division, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:26:34 Sen. Ellis

15:27:12 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

15:27:51 Sen. Ellis

15:28:07 Ms. Wilkinson, LFD

15:28:22 Chair Osmundson

Closing by Sponsor:

15:28:34 Sen. Cuffe

15:28:59 Chair Osmundson

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:29 P.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

pg

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs54aad.pdf](#))