

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Ryan Osmundson, on March 23, 2021 at 9:00 A.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. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

Members Present by Zoom Video Conference:

Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Shane A. Morigeau (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Heather Vande-Sandt, 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 129, 3/15/2021; HB 55, 3/15/2021; HB 66, 3/15/2021

Executive Action: SB 176 Do Pass; SB 263 Do Pass

09:00:28 Chair Osmundson

HEARING ON HB 129

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:01:34 Rep. David Bedey (R), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB129, Revise the Family Education Savings Act.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:05:00 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity Montana

09:05:25 Ron Muffick, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education/MUS

[EXHIBIT\(fcs57a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

09:07:05 Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

Additional Testimony Provided;

[EXHIBIT\(fcs57a02\)](#)

Informational Testimony:

09:08:41 David Merrien, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:09:10 Sen. Glimm

09:09:25 Ms. Curtis, MFPE

09:10:49 Sen. Glimm

09:11:08 Ms. Curtis

Closing by Sponsor:

09:11:36 Rep. Bedey

HEARING ON HB 55

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:12:12 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB55, Revise light requirements for snow removal equipment.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:15:17 Jon Swartz, Department of Transportation (MDT)

09:16:28 Nnette Gilbertson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association

09:17:24 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:18:05 Sen. Salomon

09:18:23 Rep. Loge

09:18:30 Sen. Keenan
09:19:22 Mr. Swartz, MDT
09:19:55 Sen. Keenan
09:20:03 Mr. Swartz

Closing by Sponsor:

09:20:39 Rep. Loge

HEARING ON HB 66

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

09:21:30 Rep. Terry Moore (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB66, Reauthorize securities restitution fund.

Proponents' Testimony:

09:22:53 Lynne Egan, deputy securities commissioner, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

09:25:27 Rep. Moore

09:26:16 Chair Osmundson

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 176

09:28:07 **Motion:** Sen. Cuffe moved that **SB 176 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

09:28:40 Sen. Ellis

09:29:54 **Vote:** Motion carried 14-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. McNally and Sen. Morigeau voting no. Sen. Lang and Sen. Welborn voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 263

09:31:22 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Cuffe moved that **SB 263 DO PASS.** Motion carried 17-0 by voice vote. Sen. Lang and Sen. Welborn were excused.

09:31:56 Chair Osmundson

09:32:35 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:33 A.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs57aad.pdf](#))