

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Reconvene: Chair Ryan Osmundson, on March 30, 2021 at 8:00 AM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

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

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Heather Vande Sandt
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 2, 3/23/2021

08:06:37 Chair Osmundson

HEARING ON HB 2 continued

HB2, General Appropriations Act.

Section C - Natural Resources and Transportation

08:07:53 Rep. Holmlund, (R) HD 38, opened on Section C.

Department of Fish, Wildlife, & Parks

08:10:23 Rep. Holmlund

08:13:15 Dustin Temple, deputy director, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:14:15 Sen. Kary

08:14:41 Mr. Temple, FWP

08:15:13 Sen. Lang

08:15:31 Sen. Cuffe

08:16:02 Mr. Temple

08:16:35 Sen. Cuffe

08:16:41 Mr. Temple

Department of Environmental Quality

08:16:58 Rep. Holmlund

08:18:10 Chris Dorrington, director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Public Comment:

08:18:57 Terry Wadsworth, executive director, Montana Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board

08:19:26 Brad Longcake, executive director, Montana Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association (MPMCSA)

EXHIBIT(fcs62a01)

08:22:49 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)

EXHIBIT(fcs62a02)

Additional Testimony Received:

EXHIBIT(fcs62a03)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:27:13 Sen. Ellis

08:27:56 Jenny Chambers, DEQ

08:30:07 Sen. Ankney

08:30:38 Ms. Chambers

08:32:18 Sen. Ankney

08:32:36 Ms. Chambers

08:33:06 Sen. Lang

08:33:24 Mr. Longcake, MPMCSA

08:33:49 Sen. Lang
08:34:12 Mr. Longcake
08:34:25 Sen. Lynch
08:35:32 Mr. Elliott, MTU
08:37:35 Sen. Glimm
08:37:49 Sen. Longcake
08:40:55 Rep. Holmlund

Department of Transportation

08:41:38 Rep. Holmlund
08:44:10 Malcolm Long, Department of Transportation (MDT)

Public Comment:

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a04\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:46:09 Sen. Glimm
08:47:20 Mr. Long, MDT

Department of Livestock

08:47:36 Rep. Holmlund
08:50:05 Mike Honeycutt, executive officer, Montana Board of Livestock (MBOL);
Department of Livestock (MDOL)

Public Comment:: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:51:00 Sen. Flowers
08:51:19 Mr. Honeycutt, MBOL, MDOL
08:52:44 Sen. Ankney
08:53:14 Chair Osmundson
08:53:24 Mr. Honeycutt
08:59:07 Sen. Lang
08:59:32 Mr. Honeycutt
09:00:31 Sen. Lang
09:00:40 Mr. Honeycutt

Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

09:01:26 Rep. Holmlund
09:04:33 Amanda Kaster, director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
(DNRC)

Public Comment:

09:06:32 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:07:40 Sen. Flowers
09:08:28 Ms. Kaster, DNRC
09:08:45 Kreh Germaine, chief information officer, DNRC
09:10:58 Sen. Flowers

09:11:51 Mr. Germaine
09:14:22 Sen. Flowers
09:14:36 Ms. Kaster
09:14:55 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

09:15:58 Sen. Flowers
09:16:04 Mr. Thomas

Department of Agriculture

09:16:25 Rep. Holmlund
09:18:55 Mike Foster, director, Department of Agriculture (MDA)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:21:15 Sen. Ellis
09:21:51 Mr. Foster, MDA
09:24:10 Sen. Morigeau
09:25:34 Mr. Foster
09:26:49 Sen. Morigeau
09:26:56 Christy Clark, MDA
09:28:30 Sen. Morigeau
09:29:09 Sen. Jacobson
09:29:34 Ms. Clark
09:31:12 Sen. Jacobson
09:31:17 Ms. Clark
09:31:21 Sen. Jacobson
09:31:33 Ms. Clark
09:32:56 Sen. McNally joined the meeting room.
09:33:35 Sen. Jacobson
09:33:47 Cindy Trimp, MDA
09:34:24 Sen. Jacobson
09:34:36 Sen. Boldman
09:35:28 Ms. Clark
09:37:22 Sen. Boldman
09:37:28 Ms. Clark
09:38:07 Sen. Lang
09:38:52 Ms. Clark
09:39:59 Sen. Lang
09:40:12 Ms. Clark
09:40:35 Rep. Holmlund closed on Section C.

09:41:29 Chair Osmundson

09:41:55 Recess
10:09:47 Reconvene

Section D - Judicial Branch, Law Enforcement and Justice

10:10:17 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46 opened on Section D.

Judicial Branch

10:11:49 Rep. Mercer

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a05\)](#)

10:23:46 Beth McLaughlin, administrator, Montana Supreme Court

Public Comment: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:30:23 Sen. Jacobson

10:30:58 Rep. Mercer

10:31:26 Ms. McLaughlin, Supreme Court

10:33:01 Sen. Jacobson

10:33:41 Ms. McLaughlin

10:34:58 Sen. Jacobson

10:35:12 Sen. McLaughlin

10:35:22 Rep. Mercer

10:36:12 Sen. Ankney

10:36:37 Rep. Mercer

10:38:50 Sen. Ankney

10:39:01 Rep. Mercer

10:39:46 Sen. Cuffe

10:40:50 Ms. McLaughlin

10:42:11 Sen. Cuffe

10:42:32 Ms. McLaughlin

10:43:47 Sen. Boldman joined the meeting room.

10:44:10 Sen. Cuffe

10:46:03 Rep. Mercer

10:46:27 Sen. Boldman

10:46:56 Rep. Mercer

10:47:51 Sen. Boldman

10:48:00 Rep. Mercer

10:48:36 Sen. Ellis

10:49:04 Ms. McLaughlin

10:50:02 Sen. Ellis

10:50:35 Ms. McLaughlin

10:51:30 Sen. Ellis

10:52:19 Rep. Mercer

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a06\)](#)Department of Justice

10:56:47 Rep. Mercer

10:59:20 Kris Hansen, deputy attorney general, Department of Justice (DOJ)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs62a07\)](#)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:04:11 Sen. Cuffe
11:05:27 Ms. Hansen, DOJ
11:08:02 Sen. Cuffe
11:09:03 Ms. Hansen
11:09:18 Sen. Jacobson
11:09:34 Ms. Hansen
11:09:46 Sen. Jacobson
11:09:59 Ms. Hansen
11:10:40 Sen. Jacobson
11:10:59 Chair Osmundson
11:11:09 Ms. Hansen
11:15:36 Sen. Ellis
11:16:12 Ms. Hansen
11:18:34 Sen. Ellis
11:18:47 Ms. Hansen
11:19:07 Sen. Cuffe
11:20:04 Sen. Keenan
11:21:19 Ms. Hansen

Public Service Commission

11:23:46 Rep. Mercer
11:27:55 James Brown, chairman, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Office of Public Defender

11:29:18 Rep. Mercer
11:34:57 Rhonda Lindquist, director, Office of Public Defender (OPD)

Public Comment: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:40:32 Sen. Ellis
11:41:11 Ms. Lindquist, OPD
11:43:09 Sen. Ellis
11:43:32 Ms. Lindquist
11:44:12 Sen. Boland
11:44:26 Ms. Lindquist
11:44:34 Sen. Boland
11:44:43 Ms. Lindquist
11:45:16 Sen. Boland
11:45:30 Ms. Lindquist
11:45:45 Sen. McNally
11:46:57 Ms. Lindquist
11:47:32 Sen. McNally

11:48:01 Rep. Mercer
11:50:30 Sen. McNally
11:50:34 Rep. Mercer
11:51:35 Sen. Boldman
11:52:26 Rep. Mercer
11:53:11 Sen. Keenan
11:54:00 Rep. Mercer

Department of Corrections

11:55:18 Rep. Mercer
12:02:27 Brian Gootkin, director, Department of Corrections (DOC)

Public Comment:

12:05:43 Larry Nielsen, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

12:07:29 Sen. Boldman
12:07:47 Mr. Gootkin, DOC
12:07:55 Sen. Boldman
12:08:04 Rep. Mercer
12:08:28 Sen. Boldman
12:08:47 Rep. Mercer
12:09:15 Sen. Lynch

12:10:14 Rep. Mercer closed on Section D.

12:10:41 Chair Osmundson
12:11:07 Sen. Lang

RECESS

Recess:: 12:11 P.M.

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs62aad.pdf](#))