

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chair Douglas (Doug) Kary, on March 31, 2021 at 2:30 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary, Chair (R)
Sen. Bryce Bennett, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Gordon Vance, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Sen. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)
Sen. Walt Sales (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Branch
Alex Colafrancesco, Remote Meeting Coordinator
Jacelyn Sterling, 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 72, 3/26/2021; HB 491, 3/26/2021; HB 530, 3/26/2021; HB 580, 3/26/2021; HB 429, 3/26/2021

Executive Action: HJ 8 Be Concurred In; HJ 9 Be Concurred In; SB 387 Be Tabled; SB 389 Be Tabled

14:33:19 Chair Kary

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 387

14:34:09 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 387 DO PASS.**

14:34:32 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 387 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(sts63a01)

Discussion:

14:34:49 Sen. Bennett

14:35:34 Sen. Sales

14:35:51 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

14:37:54 Chair Kary

14:38:09 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Osmundson, Sen. Sales and Sen. Vance voting aye. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

14:38:38 Chair Kary

14:38:47 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 387 DO PASS.** Motion failed 3-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Osmundson and Sen. Vance voting aye. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

14:39:36 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 387 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 389

14:40:05 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 389 DO PASS.**

14:40:10 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 389 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(sts63a02)

Discussion:

14:40:21 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division

14:41:03 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Sen. Bennett made a substitute motion that **SB 389 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion failed 4-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Fox and Sen. Kary voting aye. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

14:41:58 Chair Kary

14:42:23 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Osmundson, Sen. Sales and Sen. Vance voting aye. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

14:43:00 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 389 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

14:43:14 Sen. Sales

14:44:13 **Vote:** Motion failed 3-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Osmundson and Sen. Vance voting aye. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

14:44:45 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 389 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 8

14:45:36 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HJ 8 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

14:46:12 Sen. Bennett

14:47:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Fitzpatrick will carry the bill.

14:47:45 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 9

14:48:36 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HJ 9 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

14:48:56 Sen. Bennett

14:50:17 Chair Kary

14:50:50 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Sen. Cuffe and Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Kary will carry the bill.

14:52:08 Chair Kary

14:52:16 Recess

15:21:25 Reconvened

Vice Chair Vance took over the duties of the chair.

HEARING ON HB 429

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:21:37 Rep. Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB429, Revise governor's power to suspend election laws during emergency.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:24:22 Sen. Sales
15:24:42 Rep. Jones

Closing by Sponsor:

15:25:26 Rep. Jones

HEARING ON HB 491

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:25:59 Rep. Moffie Funk (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB491, Revise access to military discharge records.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:28:33 Roger Hagan, American Legion, Montana National Guard Officer and Enlisted Association

15:29:33 Alex Colafrancesco, remote meeting coordinator
15:29:51 Rep. Funk

15:30:15 Kelly Ackerman, administrator, Montana Veterans Affairs (VA)

Additional Testimony Received:

[EXHIBIT\(sts63a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:30:53 Sen. Bennett
15:31:18 Ms. Ackerman, VA
15:32:24 Sen. Bennett
15:32:36 Ms. Ackerman

Closing by Sponsor:

15:34:08 Rep. Funk

HEARING ON HB 530

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:35:13 Rep. Wendy McKamey (R), HD 19, opened the hearing on HB530, Require secretary of state to adopt rules governing election security.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:37:45 Dana Corson, Secretary of State (SOS)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:40:07 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders
15:40:24 Amanda Sayler, Legislative Audit Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:40:43 Sen. Bennett
15:41:12 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
15:41:17 Sen. Bennett
15:45:52 Rep. McKamey
15:46:17 Sen. Bennett
15:46:26 Sen. Sales
15:47:23 Mr. Corson, SOS
15:49:19 Chair Vance
15:49:36 Ms. Aldrich, LSD
15:51:06 Sen. Bennett
15:51:41 Ms. Aldrich

Closing by Sponsor:

15:52:24 Rep. McKamey

HEARING ON HB 72**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:56:07 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB72, Revise funding for highway patrol retirement system HPORS.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:57:11 Dore Schwinden, Montana Public Employees Retirement Association
15:57:41 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers
16:01:00 Brian Thompson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association
16:01:26 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association
16:01:54 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees

[EXHIBIT\(sts63a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

16:03:10 Rep. Garner

HEARING ON HB 580**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:04:46 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D), HD 16, opened the hearing on HB580, Revising laws related to political committees.

16:05:15 Sen. Sales left the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:09:18 Rep. Wendy McKamey, HD 19; chair, House State Administration committee

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:10:09 Jeff Mangan, Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:10:29 Sen. Vance
16:10:55 Sen. Bennett
16:11:14 Rep. Running Wolf
16:12:01 Sen. Bennett
16:12:30 Mr. Mangan, COPP
16:13:11 Sen. Bennett
16:13:30 Chair Vance

Closing by Sponsor:

16:13:49 Rep. Running Wolf

Committee Business:

16:14:42 Chair Vance
16:15:00 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division
16:15:47 Sen. Bennett
16:15:53 Chair Vance

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:16 PM

Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([sts63aad.pdf](#))