

MINUTES

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

Call to Order: Chair Douglas (Doug) Kary, on April 7, 2021 at 3:37 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
Lauren de Paepe, 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: HJ 21, 3/25/2021; SR 76, 3/25/2021; SR 86, 3/25/2021; HB 590, 3/25/2021
Executive Action: HJ 21 - Be Concurred in; HB 590 - Be Concurred in; HB 72 - Be Concurred in; HB 322 - Be Tabled; HB 362 - Be Concurred in; HB 483 - Be Concurred in as Amended; HB 491 - Be Concurred in; HB 580 - Be Tabled

15:37:49 Chair Kary gave the duties of the chair to Vice Chair Vance.

HEARING ON SR 76

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:38:26 Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R), SD 22, opened the hearing on SR76, Confirm Governor's appointee for Director of the Department of Administration.

EXHIBIT(sts66a01)

15:38:35 Sen. Ellis entered the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:39:53 Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras

15:40:58 Sen. Fox entered the meeting.

15:42:05 Sonny Perdue, Bonaire, GA

15:42:38 Misty Ann Giles, Governor's appointee

15:44:43 Chris Heggem, chief of staff, Governor's Office

15:49:44 Charles Robison, citizen

15:51:34 Mark Taylor, citizen

15:52:34 Mr. Perdue, citizen

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:54:11 Sen. Bennett

15:57:12 Ms. Giles, appointee

15:57:33 Sen. Ellis

16:00:37 Ms. Giles

16:01:07 Sen. Sales

16:01:30 Ms. Giles

16:02:31 Sen. Fox

16:02:53 Ms. Giles

16:03:18 Sen. Osmundson

16:03:36 Chair Vance

16:03:50 Sen. Cuffe

16:05:14 Ms. Giles

16:05:20 Sen. Cuffe

Closing by Sponsor:

16:06:04 Sen. Kary

HEARING ON SR 86**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:07:25 Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R), SD 22, opened the hearing on SR86, Confirm Governor's appointees to Public Employee Retirement System Board.

[EXHIBIT\(sts66a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:08:14 Liane Taylor, board and appointments advisor, Governor's office

16:09:27 Jason Strouf, Governor's appointee; commissioner, Custer County; first vice president, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

16:10:08 Jason Rittal, deputy director, MACo

16:11:41 Terry Halpin, Governor's appointee; clerk of district court, Yellowstone County

[EXHIBIT\(sts66a03\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:12:42 Sen. Bennett

16:13:00 Mr. Strouf, appointee

16:13:21 Sen. Ellis

16:14:12 Mr. Strouf

Closing by Sponsor:

16:14:44 Sen. Kary

Committee Business:

16:15:06 Sen. Bennett

16:15:31 Sen. Kary

16:15:39 Sen. Bennett

16:15:46 Sen. Osmundson left the meeting.

16:15:59 Sen. Kary resumed the duties of the chair.

HEARING ON HB 590**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:16:20 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB590, Clarify military access to federal leave of absence.

Proponents' Testimony:

16:18:28 Roger Hagan, Montana Air and Army National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations

16:20:13 Gary White, American Legion Montana

16:20:47 Raymond Read, retired member, Montana National Guard (MTNG); American Legion

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

16:22:00 Major Mike Talia, on behalf of Major General Hronek; legal advisor, MTNG

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:22:44 Sen. Bennett
16:23:02 Mr. Talia, MTNG
16:23:19 Sen. Fox
16:27:15 Mr. Talia
16:28:08 Chair Kary
16:30:00 Mr. Talia

Closing by Sponsor:

16:30:30 Rep. Kerns

HEARING ON HJ 21

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

16:31:45 Rep. Laurie Bishop (D), HD 60, opened the hearing on HJ21, Urge designation of state funeral for last WWII medal of honor recipient.

[EXHIBIT\(sts66a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:34:07 Raymond Read, retired member, Montana National Guard; department historian, American Legion
16:35:59 Gary White, American Legion Montana
16:36:39 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations
16:38:26 Carol Glenn Lalani, Bozeman

[EXHIBIT\(sts66a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

16:43:06 Sen. Cuffe
16:44:14 Mr. Read, American Legion
16:45:04 Chair Kary
16:45:38 Mr. Read
16:46:24 Chair Kary
16:46:54 Rep. Bishop

Closing by Sponsor:

16:47:16 Rep. Bishop

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 21

16:51:09 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HJ 21 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Fox will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 590

16:51:46 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 590 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Fox will carry the bill.

16:52:41 Rep. Bishop

Committee Business:

16:53:03 Chair Kary
16:53:23 Sen. Vance
16:53:25 Chair Kary
16:55:12 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
16:55:21 Chair Kary
16:57:24 Ms. Aldrich, LSD
16:59:21 Chair Kary
17:01:10 Sen. Bennett
17:01:15 Chair Kary

17:01:18 Recess
17:06:43 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 72

17:06:51 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 72 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Sales will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 322

17:08:11 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 322 BE CONCURRED IN**.

Discussion:

17:08:17 Chair Kary
17:08:50 Sen. Vance
17:08:56 Chair Kary
17:08:59 Sen. Cuffe

17:09:19 **Motion:** Sen. Bennett moved that **HB 322 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(sts66a06\)](#)

Discussion:

17:10:02 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
17:11:28 Sen. Bennett

17:11:42 Chair Kary
 17:13:11 Ms. Aldrich, LSD
 17:13:25 Sen. Cuffe
 17:13:33 Chair Kary
 17:13:39 Ms. Aldrich
 17:14:23 Sen. Cuffe
 17:14:28 Sen. Bennett

17:15:07 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance made a substitute motion that **HB 322 BE TABLED**. Substitute motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 362

17:15:33 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 362 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Bogner will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 483

17:16:21 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 483 BE CONCURRED IN**.

17:16:30 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 483 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(sts66a07\)](#)

Discussion:

17:16:38 Ginger Aldrich, Legislative Services Division

17:17:09 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.

17:17:27 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 483 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Kary will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 491

17:18:12 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 491 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy. Sen. Cuffe will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 580

17:19:14 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 580 BE CONCURRED IN**.

17:19:37 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 580 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(sts66a08\)](#)

Discussion:

- 17:19:46 Sen. Bennett
- 17:20:38 Without objection, Sen. Vance withdrew the BE AMENDED motion.
- 17:20:51 Chair Kary
- 17:21:00 Sen. Cuffe
- 17:21:21 **Vote:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 580 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion failed 3-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Ellis and Sen. Fox voting aye. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.
- 17:22:09 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **HB 580 BE TABLED**.

Discussion:

- 17:22:19 Sen. Cuffe
- 17:22:31 Sen. Vance
- 17:22:37 Chair Kary
- 17:22:39 Sen. Vance
- 17:22:38 **Vote:** Motion carried 5-3 by roll call vote with Sen. Bennett, Sen. Ellis and Sen. Fox voting no. Sen. Osmundson voted by proxy.
- 17:23:07 Chair Kary
- 17:23:15 Sen. Cuffe
- 17:23:20 Chair Kary

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:24 PM

Lauren de Paepe, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([sts66aad.pdf](#))