

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chair Joshua Kassmier-R, on January 03, 2023 at 3:02 PM, in 137

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Joshua Kassmier, Chair (R)
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Marty Malone, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Brad Barker (R)
Rep. James Bergstrom (R)
Rep. Tony Brockman (R)
Rep. Bob Carter (D)
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)
Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Greg Kmetz (R)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

Staff Present: Andria Hardin, Research Analyst
Rose Harmon, Secretary
Loran Nelson, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 44 12/30/2022
HB 153 12/30/2022

Executive Action:

HB 44 DO PASS
HB 153 DO PASS

15:04:31 **Committee Discussion:** Committee member introductions and discussion
of Rules of Procedures.

15:05:07 Vice Chair Marty Malone

15:05:48 Rep. Marvin Weatherwax

15:06:45 Rep. Bob Carter

15:07:30 Rep. Frank Smith

15:09:05 Rep. Paul Green

15:09:40 Rep. James Bergstrom

15:10:47 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

15:11:20 Rep. Julie Dooling

15:11:55 Rep. Tony Brockman

15:12:18 Rep. Melissa Romano

15:12:41 Rep. Brad Barker

15:13:19 Rep. Braxton Mitchell

15:13:46 Rep. Casey Knudsen

15:14:15 Rep. Fred Anderson

15:14:59 Rep. Katie Sullivan

15:15:30 Vice Chair Dave Fern

15:16:49 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:17:25 Rose Harmon

15:17:43 Andria Hardin

15:18:18 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:18:58 Rep. Casey Knudsen

15:19:26 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:20:29 Rep. Katie Sullivan

15:20:43 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:21:03 Rep. Julie Dooling

15:21:24 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:22:16 Rep. Bob Carter

15:22:40 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:23:06 Vice Chair Dave Fern

15:23:54 Vice Chair Marty Malone

15:24:11 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:24:27 Vice Chair Dave Fern

15:24:32 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:25:44 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

15:25:54 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:25:57 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

15:26:00 Chair Joshua Kassmier

15:26:22 **Motion:** Vice Chair Malone made Motion to Adopt Rules of Procedures as Amended. Rep. Walsh seconded the motion.

15:26:22 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:26:30 **Committee Discussion:** Visitor introductions.

15:27:11 Mike Honeycutt, Executive Officer, Board of Livestock, Montana Department of Livestock (DOL)

15:27:13 [EXHIBIT\(230103AGHa1\)](#)

15:28:49 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

15:29:52 Raylee Honeycutt, Executive Vice President, Montana Stockgrower's Association (MSGA)

15:30:35 Crystal Lee Evans, Executive Director, Montana Agricultural Business Association

15:31:31 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

15:32:25 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

15:33:39 Andria Hardin

15:35:36 Heather Vande Sandt, Remote Meeting Coordinator, Montana Legislative Services

15:35:58 Chair Joshua Kassmier

HEARING ON HB 44 - Revise document requirements for state stock inspectors

Opening Statement:

15:36:18 Rep. Julie Dooling (R), HD 70, opened the hearing on HB 44, Revise document requirements for state stock inspectors.

Proponent Testimony:

15:39:07 Mike Honeycutt, Executive Officer, Board of Livestock, Montana Department of Livestock (DOL)

15:39:48 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

15:40:08 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stockgrower's Association (MSGA)

15:41:05 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

15:41:51 Erik Somerfeld, Self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:43:11 Rep. Bob Carter

15:43:44 Rep. Julie Dooling
15:44:01 Mike Honeycutt, DOL
15:45:35 Rep. Bob Carter
15:45:50 Mike Honeycutt, DOL
15:46:40 Rep. Bob Carter
15:46:53 Mike Honeycutt, DOL

Closing Statement:

15:48:08 Rep. Julie Dooling (R), HD 70, closed the hearing on HB 44.

HEARING ON HB 153 - Generally revise laws related to livestock markets

Opening Statement:

15:49:21 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 153, Generally revise laws related to livestock markets.

Proponent Testimony:

08:50:40 Mike Honeycutt, Executive Officer, Board of Livestock, Montana Department of Livestock (DOL)
08:54:03 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stockgrower's Association (MSGA)
08:54:32 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
08:54:54 Les Graham, Livestock Marketing Association
08:55:11 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:55:55 Rep. Casey Knudsen

15:56:49 Mike Honeycutt, DOL
15:57:41 Rep. Bob Carter
15:58:01 Mike Honeycutt, DOL
15:58:40 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
15:59:00 Mike Honeycutt, DOL
15:59:40 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
15:59:48 Mike Honeycutt, DOL

Closing Statement:

16:00:29 Rep. Brandon Ler (R), HD 35, closed the hearing on HB 153.

16:01:23 **Recessed**

16:15:50 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 44 - Revise document requirements for state stock inspectors

16:15:54 **Motion:** Rep. Julie Dooling moved that **HB 44 DO PASS.**
16:15:54 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 153 - Generally revise laws related to livestock markets

16:17:20 **Motion:** Rep. Fred Anderson moved that **HB 153 DO PASS.**
16:17:20 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:19:35

Rose Harmon, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230103AGHaad\)](#)