

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Rep. Denley Loge-R, on January 06, 2023 at 3:02 PM, in 455

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Denley Loge, Chair (R)  
Rep. Neil Duram, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Brad Barker (R)  
Rep. Denise Baum (D)  
Rep. Tony Brockman (R)  
Rep. Edward Butcher (R)  
Rep. Bob Carter (D)  
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)  
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)  
Rep. Frank Smith (D)  
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)  
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

**Staff Present:** Sara Hess, Research Analyst  
Macy McCauley, 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 26 12/20/2022  
HB 27 12/27/2022  
HB 76 12/20/2022  
HB 60 12/28/2022

Executive Action:

**Committee Discussion:**

15:04:22 Sara Hess  
15:04:27 Rep. Denley Loge  
15:05:08 Bob Tipton, Sergeant at Arms  
15:07:30 Donald Chriske, Sergeant at Arms  
15:08:50 Rep. Neil Duram

**HEARING ON HB 26 - Generally revise highway use laws**

**Opening Statement:**

15:09:29 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 26, Generally revise highway use laws.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:12:29 Brad Marten, Motor Carrier Services Division (MDT)  
15:17:41 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association  
15:19:31 Duane Williams, Montana Trucking Association  
15:20:10 Nathan Keane, Montana Grain Growers Association  
15:21:08 Richard Liebert, Self

**Opponent Testimony:**

15:22:24 Benjamin Martin, Self

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:26:11 Rep. Scot Kerns  
15:26:34 Rep. George Nikolakakos-R  
15:27:23 Malcom Long, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

15:28:01 Brad Marten, MDT  
15:29:13 Rep. Bob Carter  
15:30:55 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
15:32:44 Rep. Tanner Smith  
15:33:38 Rep. Denise Baum  
15:34:46 Benjamin Martin, Self

**Closing Statement:**

15:36:48 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, closed the hearing on HB 26.

**HEARING ON HB 76 - Generally revise transportation laws**

**Opening Statement:**

15:37:53 Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 76,  
Generally revise transportation laws.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:40:33 Larry Flynn, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)  
[EXHIBIT\(230106TRHa1\)](#)  
15:53:19 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)  
15:55:15 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)  
15:56:12 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)  
15:57:25 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition  
15:58:29 Sam Forstag, Cities of Missoula and Bozeman

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:59:20 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

15:59:21 Larry Flynn, MDT

**Closing Statement:**

16:02:12 Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R), HD 37, closed the hearing on HB 76.

**HEARING ON HB 27 - Providing notice of nonstandard penalties for certain traffic violations**

**Opening Statement:**

16:03:39 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB 27, Providing notice of nonstandard penalties for certain traffic violations.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:05:19 Benjamin Martin, Self

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

None

**Closing Statement:**

16:07:08 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, closed the hearing on HB 27.

**HEARING ON HB 60 - An act providing for an annual fee on electric vehicles registered in the state**

**Opening Statement:**

16:08:44 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 60, An act providing for an annual fee on electric vehicles registered in the state.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:14:23 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)  
16:15:50 Jason Rittal, Montana Association Of Counties (MACo)  
16:16:28 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)  
16:16:56 Duane Williams, Montana Truckers Association (MTA)  
[EXHIBIT\(230106TRHa2\)](#)  
16:18:51 Benjamin Martin, Citizen  
16:19:20 Adam Haight, Montana Laborers Association  
16:19:36 Chris Puyear, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)  
16:20:38 Rebecca Meyers, Billings Chamber of Commerce  
16:20:55 Al Ekblad, Operators 400  
16:21:13 John Forkan, International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local #2  
16:21:41 Brad Longcake, Montana Petroleum Marketers  
16:22:14 Joel Worth, Montana Carpenters Union  
16:22:29 Bruce Knudsen, Montana Auto Dealers Association  
16:22:56 Aimee Grmoljez, Helena Sand and Gravel

**Opponent Testimony:**

16:25:05 Ian Lund, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

16:29:03 Dan Lloyd, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
16:29:28 Larry Flynn, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)  
16:29:48 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation

**Questions from Committee:**

16:32:01 Rep. Tanner Smith  
16:32:03 Rep. Denley Loge-R

16:32:05 Rep. Brad Barker  
16:32:10 Larry Flynn, MDT  
16:37:18 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
16:38:30 Malcom Long, MDT  
16:39:31 Rep. Tony Brockman  
16:39:53 Thad Kurowski, Tesla  
16:45:22 Rep. Bob Carter

**Closing Statement:**

16:48:22 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 60.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:51:56

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Macy McCauley, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230106TRHaad\)](#)