

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

Call to Order: Chair Marty Malone-R, on January 10, 2023 at 3:00 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. Greg Kmetz (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

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 66 01/05/2023
HB 84 01/05/2023
HB 93 01/05/2023
HB 94 01/05/2023

Executive Action:

15:00:33 Chair Kassmier turned the gavel over to Vice Chair Malone and left the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 94 - Repeal Montana huckleberry products law

Opening Statement:

15:03:00 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 94, Repeal Montana huckleberry products law.

Proponent Testimony:

15:04:19 Cort Jensen, Chief Attorney, Director's Office, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)

15:06:19 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor, Montana Governor's Office (Gov)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

15:08:02 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, closed the hearing on HB 94.

HEARING ON HB 93 - Eliminate noxious weed seed free forage advisory council

Opening Statement:

15:08:40 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 93, Eliminate noxious weed seed free forage advisory council.

Proponent Testimony:

- 15:10:07 Cort Jensen, Chief Attorney, Director's Office, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)
- 15:10:51 Rep. Fred Anderson left the meeting.
- 15:12:10 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor, Montana Governor's Office (GOV)
- 15:13:34 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

- 15:14:47 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, closed the hearing on HB 93.
- 15:17:23 Rep. Anderson has arrived

HEARING ON HB 84 - Revise laws related to treatment of garbage fed to swine

Opening Statement:

- 15:16:45 Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R), HD 71, opened the hearing on HB 84, Revise laws related to treatment of garbage fed to swine.

Proponent Testimony:

- 15:18:42 Tahnee Szymanski, Assistant State Veterinarian, Animal Health and Food Safety Division, Montana Department of Livestock (DOL)
- 15:20:07 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor, Montana Governor's Office (GOV)
- 15:20:53 Stuart Doggett, Montana Veterinarian Medical Association (MVMA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

15:22:02 Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R), HD 71, closed the hearing on HB 84.

HEARING ON HB 66 - Revise penalties and interest for livestock per capita fee

Opening Statement:

15:22:38 Rep. Greg Kmetz (R), HD 38, opened the hearing on HB 66, Revise penalties and interest for livestock per capita fee.

Proponent Testimony:

15:23:42 Jill Hamilton, Division Administrator, Information Management and Collections Division, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

15:27:06 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor, Montana Governor's Office (GOV)

15:27:43 Brian Simonson, Deputy Executive Officer, Centralized Services Division, Montana Department of Livestock (DOL)

15:28:33 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:19:00 Chair Kassmier joined the meeting but left gavel with Vice Chair Malone.

15:29:25 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

15:30:07 Jill Hamilton, DOR

15:30:37 Rep. Julie Dooling

15:31:35 Jill Hamilton, DOR

15:32:10 Rep. Julie Dooling
15:32:28 Jill Hamilton, DOR
15:32:33 Rep. Bob Carter
15:33:02 Jill Hamilton, DOR
15:33:16 Rep. Bob Carter
15:33:38 Jill Hamilton, DOR

Closing Statement:

15:33:58 Rep. Greg Kmetz (R), HD 38, closed the hearing on HB 66.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:34:27

Rose Harmon, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230110AGHaad\)](#)