

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Rep. Paul Fielder-R, on January 11, 2023 at 9:00 AM, in Rm. 152

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Paul Fielder, Chair (R)  
Rep. Tom Welch, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Mark Thane, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Brad Barker (R)  
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)  
Rep. Alice Buckley (D)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)  
Rep. Dave Fern (D)  
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Marty Malone (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Russel Miner (R)  
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)  
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)  
Rep. George Nikolakakos (R)  
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

**Staff Present:** Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary  
Megan Moore, Research Analyst

**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 188 01/09/2023

Executive Action:

09:02:28 Chair Fielder

**HEARING ON HB 188 - Extend funding to Coal Board**

**Opening Statement:**

09:02:57 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 188, Extend funding to Coal Board.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:08:30 Senator Usher SD #20

09:11:53 Jim Atchison, Executive Director, Southeastern Montana Development

09:14:50 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip, Rosebud, Musselshell, and Phillips Counties

09:16:32 Kelly Lynch, Executive Director, Montana League of Cities and Towns

09:17:23 Renee Lemon, Division Administrator, MT Department of Commerce

09:18:40 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center, (MEIC)

09:21:03 George Harris, Executive Director, Montana Coal Council

09:22:13 Amy Barnes, Attorney, Montana Department of Commerce

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:23:02 Jarod Isom, Economist, Department of Revenue, (DOR)

**Questions from Committee:**

09:23:58 Rep. Buckley

09:24:15 Rep. Kerns

09:24:22 Rep. Vinton

09:25:03 Kelly Lynch, MLCT

09:26:34 Rep. Fern

09:27:26 Kelly Lynch, MLCT

09:27:36 Megan Moore, Legal Services Division, (LSD)

09:28:20 Rep. Fern

09:28:45 Renee Lemon, COM

09:29:08 Kelly Lynch, MLCT

09:29:45 Rep. Cohenour

09:30:09 Rep. Parry

09:30:35 Rep. Marler

09:31:03 Renee Lemon, COM

09:31:29 Vice Chair Thane

09:31:45 Jarod Isom, DOR

**Closing Statement:**

09:32:40 Rep. Parry

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 09:34:11

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Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230111TAHaad\)](#)