

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Llew Jones-R, on January 16, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 102

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Rep. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Terry Falk (R)
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Matt Regier (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)

Staff Present: Quinn Holzer, Fiscal Analyst
Julie Johnson, Research Analyst
Kathlyn Walker, 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 185 01/11/2023

Executive Action:

15:00:49 Rep. Bedey has left

15:02:06

Committee Discussion:

15:02:03 Rep. Llew Jones

15:03:13 Rep. Bill Mercer

15:03:19 Rep. Llew Jones

15:27:24

Committee Discussion:

15:27:25 Rep. Llew Jones

HEARING ON HB 185 - Increase appropriation to MSU Fire Service Training School

Opening Statement:

15:03:58 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 185, Increase appropriation to MSU Fire Service Training School.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230116APHa1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230116APHa2\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

15:09:49 Rich Cowger, Montana Fire Alliance + ?

15:11:42 Seth Barker, Deputy Chief of Operations, Big Sky, Montana

15:15:47 Chris Hindoien, Vice Chair Fire Services Training School, Insurance Agent, Mayor Choteau, MT

15:17:19 Ole Hedstrom, Montana State Firemen's Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:18:23 John Culbertson, Director, Fire Services Training School

Questions from Committee:

15:06:57 Rep. Caferro has arrived
15:18:28 Rep. Gillette has arrived
15:18:50 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:18:55 John Culbertson, FSTS
15:20:12 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:20:23 John Culbertson, FSTS
15:21:48 Rep. Jim Hamilton
15:22:10 John Culbertson
15:23:03 Rep. Jim Hamilton
15:23:22 John Culbertson
15:24:02 Rep. Jim Hamilton
15:24:32 John Culbertson
15:25:00 Rep. Llew Jones

Closing Statement:

15:25:13 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, closed the hearing on HB 185.

Discussion:

15:00:49 Rep. Bedey has left
15:02:06
15:27:24

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:28:36

Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230116APHaad\)](#)