

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Ross Fitzgerald-R, on January 17, 2023 at 3:03 PM, in 172

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Ross Fitzgerald, Chair (R)
Rep. Tom France, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Denise Baum (D)
Rep. Edward Butcher (R)
Rep. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Jonathan Karlen (D)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Eric Matthews (D)
Rep. Russel Miner (R)
Rep. Gary Parry (R)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Denley Loge (R)

Staff Present: Toni Henneman, Research Analyst
LJ Jennings, Secretary
Rolf Johnson, Attorney

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 217 01/13/2023

Executive Action:

HB 74 DO PASS

HB 131 DO PASS
HB 146 DO PASS

15:29:56 Rep. Loge has arrived

15:31:06

Committee Discussion:

15:31:34 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:31:35 Rep. Marilyn Marler

15:31:51 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:32:10 Rep. Bob Phalen

15:32:16 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:32:22 Toni Henneman

15:32:37 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:32:44 Rep. Bob Phalen

15:33:24 Rep. Sue Vinton

HEARING ON HB 217 - Increase fees for migratory bird licenses

Opening Statement:

15:05:17 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 217, Increase fees for migratory bird licenses.

Discussion:

15:05:26 Rep. Gary Parry-R

Proponent Testimony:

15:07:31 Peter Dudley, Montana Audabon

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:09:01 Hank Worsech, Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

15:13:37 Dustin Temple, Deputy Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

Questions from Committee:

15:09:15 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:09:19 Rep. Russel Miner

15:09:27 Hank Worsech, FWP

15:09:30 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:09:31 Rep. Russel Miner

15:10:00 Hank Worsech, FWP

15:10:19 Rep. Russel Miner

15:10:20 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:10:22 Rep. Russel Miner

15:10:39 Hank Worsech, FWP

15:10:58 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:11:08 Rep. Marilyn Marler

15:11:32 Hank Worsech, FWP

15:11:42 Rep. Marilyn Marler

15:11:48 Hank Worsech, FWP

15:11:52 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:11:56 Rep. Bob Phalen

15:12:09 Hank Worsech, FWP

15:12:13 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:12:21 Dustin Temple, FWP

15:13:18 Rep. Tom France

15:13:20 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

Closing Statement:

15:14:02 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, closed the hearing on HB 217.

Discussion:

15:14:06 Rep. Gary Parry-R

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 74 - Eliminate requirement to release pheasants from Upland Game Bird Program

15:15:46 **Motion:** Rep. Tom France moved that **HB 74 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:14:43 Rep. Duram has arrived

15:15:55 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:15:55 Rep. Paul Fielder

15:18:40 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:18:41 Rep. Marilyn Marler

15:20:11 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:20:13 Rep. Tom France

15:21:33 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:15:46 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Duram, Rep. Fielder, Rep. Phalen, Rep. Smith, Rep. Vinton, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 131 - Remove 24 hour wait requirement for wolf license

15:26:07 **Motion:** Rep. Tom France moved that **HB 131 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:24:01 Rep. Fielder has left

15:26:41 Rep. Paul Fielder left the meeting.

[EXHIBIT\(230117FIHa1\)](#)

15:26:07 **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Marler, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 146 - Create landowner preference to hunt deer and antelope

15:27:57 **Motion:** Rep. Tom France moved that **HB 146 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:28:24 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

15:28:26 Rep. Marilyn Marler

15:29:56 Rep. Loge has arrived

15:31:06

15:27:57 **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Duram, Rep. Fielder, voting no.
Rep. Fielder, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:33:58

LJ Jennings, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230117FIHaad\)](#)