

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Larry Brewster-R, on January 24, 2023 at 3:18 PM, in 472

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Larry Brewster, Chair (R)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

Staff Present: LuCinda Blair, Secretary
Laura Sankey Keip, 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 241 01/19/2023

Executive Action:

HB 211 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 215 DO PASS

HEARING ON HB 241 - Prohibit government from requiring buildings be constructed with solar panels

Opening Statement:

15:21:29 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 241, Prohibit government from requiring buildings be constructed with solar panels.

Proponent Testimony:

15:22:52 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

Opponent Testimony:

15:24:08 Kelly Lynch, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:25:15 Andrew Valainis, Missoula County Climate Action Program (CAP)

15:28:13 Ian Lund, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

15:31:23 Makenna Sellers, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)

15:34:35 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation

15:36:16 Charles Denowh, Tesla

15:38:01 David Hemion, Creation Advocacy Network

15:38:59 Jesse Therien, Self

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:42:27 Eric Copeland, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Questions from Committee:

15:43:17 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe

15:43:19 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R

15:44:22 Rep. Laurie Bishop

15:44:27 Andrew Valainis, CAP

15:47:00 Rep. Steve Gist

15:47:04 Eric Copeland, DLI

15:50:31 Rep. Jill Cohenour
15:50:37 Kelly Lynch, MACo
15:51:58 Rep. Sherry Essmann
16:02:47 Rep. Kelly Kortum
16:02:57 Makenna Sellers, MREA

Closing Statement:

16:05:47 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 241.

16:06:00 **Recessed**

16:17:00 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 211 - Revise the local subdivision review process

16:17:38 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **HB 211 DO PASS.**
16:17:54 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **HB 211 BE AMENDED.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
16:30:39 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **HB 211 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
Vote: Motion carried 12 - 4 by voice vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Cohenour, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Lynch, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 215 - Revise the definition of the governing body of a local health board

16:27:50 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **HB 215 DO PASS.**
16:27:50 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:34:14

LuCinda Blair, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230124LOHaad\)](#)