

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

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones-R, on January 30, 2023 at 3:01 PM, in 102

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Rep. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Terry Falk (R)
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Naarah Hastings (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)

Members Excused: Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Matt Regier (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

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 16 01/27/2023

HB 37 01/26/2023

HB 174 01/27/2023

HB 189 01/27/2023

HB 223 01/27/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 189 - Revise property tax assistance program

Opening Statement:

15:03:42 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 189, Revise property tax assistance program.

Discussion:

15:03:43 Rep. Windy Boy joined the meeting.

15:04:15 Rep Hamilton and Vice Chair Caferro joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:05:24 Glenn Oppel, Policy Director, Governor's Office

[EXHIBIT\(230130APHa1\)](#)

15:05:49 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy joined the meeting.

15:07:00 Scott Reichner, AARP

15:07:35 Kory Hofland, Administrator, Property Assessment Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)

15:08:53 Melissa Shannon, Montana Housing Coalition (MHC)

15:09:23 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

15:10:04 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:10:40 Darryl James, Executive Director, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)

15:12:20 Brian Thompson, Montana Chamber of Commerce

15:12:46 Rebecca Meyers, Montana Area Agencies on Aging Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:13:30 Dylan Cole, Department of Revenue (DOR)

15:13:52 Bryce Kaatz, Bureau Chief, Property Assessment Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

15:14:24	Rep. Jane Gillette
15:14:30	Bryce Kaatz, DOR
15:14:50	Rep. Jane Gillette
15:15:16	Rep. George Nikolakakos-R
15:16:36	Rep. Jane Gillette
15:16:45	Dylan Cole, DOR
15:17:07	Rep. Hellegaard joined the meeting.
15:17:18	Rep. Jane Gillette
15:17:30	Rep. Hopkins joined the meeting.
15:18:05	Darryl James, MIC
15:19:02	Chair Llew Jones
15:19:50	Dylan Cole, DOR
15:20:35	Rep. Jim Hamilton
15:21:42	Dylan Cole, DOR
15:23:10	Rep. Jim Hamilton
15:23:49	Darryl James, MIC
15:25:22	Rep. Mercer joined the meeting.
15:26:13	Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy
15:27:00	Bryce Kaatz, DOR
15:28:50	Dylan Cole, DOR
15:29:56	Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy
15:30:30	Dylan Cole, DOR
15:31:55	Rep. Terry Falk

15:32:45 Dylan Cole, DOR

15:33:49 Chair Llew Jones

Closing Statement:

15:35:54 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, closed the hearing on HB 189.

HEARING ON HB 223 - Expanding the disabled veteran property tax assistance program

Opening Statement:

15:38:04 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 223, Expanding the disabled veteran property tax assistance program.

Discussion:

15:39:30 Rep. Fitzpatrick joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:41:23 Roger Hagan, Montana Department of the American Legion, Montana Officers Enlisted Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:42:45 Bryce Kaatz, Bureau Chief, Property Assessment Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)

15:43:02 Brittany Mari, Tax Policy and Research Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

13:52:30 Roger Hagan, MDAL

15:43:32 Rep. Jim Hamilton

15:44:00 Rep. Scot Kerns-R

15:44:55 Rep. Jim Hamilton

15:45:40 Brittany Mari, DOR

15:47:37 Vice Chair Mary Caferro
15:48:23 Rep. Scot Kerns-R
15:49:39 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:50:10 Roger Hagan, American Legion
15:52:45 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:53:29 Bryce Kaatz, DOR
15:55:35 Rep. Jane Gillette
15:55:50 Rep. Bill Mercer

Closing Statement:

15:56:17 Rep. Scot Kerns (R), HD 23, closed the hearing on HB 223.

HEARING ON HB 174 - Requiring certain costs paid to detention centers to be based on actual costs

Opening Statement:

15:57:42 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R), HD 43, opened the hearing on HB 174, Requiring certain costs paid to detention centers to be based on actual costs.

Discussion:

15:58:23 Rep. Windy Boy left the meeting.
15:58:55 Rep. Hopkins left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

16:01:50 Mike Linder, Sheriff, Yellowstone County
16:03:27 Brian Thompson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)
16:04:16 Rep. Bedey joined the meeting.
16:04:46 Jason Rittal, Deputy Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
16:05:59 Rebecca Meyers, Billings Chamber of Commerce

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:06:51 Natalie Smitham, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Corrections
(DOC)

Questions from Committee:

16:07:16 Rep. Terry Moore
16:08:06 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe-R
16:09:32 Rep. Terry Moore
16:10:14 Mike Linder, Yellowstone County
16:11:05 Vice Chair Bob Keenan
16:12:04 Natalie Smitham, DOC
16:12:32 Brian Thompson, MSPOA
16:13:00 Rep. Bill Mercer
16:15:42 Natalie Smitham, DOC
16:16:24 Brian Thompson, MSPOA
16:16:40 Rep. Bill Mercer
16:19:39 Mike Linder, Yellowstone County
16:21:54 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
16:22:19 Rep. Bedey left the meeting.
16:23:04 Mike Linder, Yellowstone County
16:23:39 Rep. Terry Falk
16:23:49 Rep. Gillette left the meeting.
16:24:00 Mike Linder, Yellowstone County
16:25:15 Vice Chair Caferro left the meeting.

Closing Statement:

16:28:00 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R), HD 43, closed the hearing on HB 174.

HEARING ON HB 16 - Revise laws relating to child abuse and neglect proceedings

Opening Statement:

16:31:02 Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on HB 16, Revise laws relating to child abuse and neglect proceedings.

Discussion:

16:30:34 Vice Chair Keenan assumed the gavel.

16:31:20 Chair Jones, Rep Mercer, Rep. Gillette, and Rep. Fitzpatrick left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

16:33:38 Maggie Bornstein, ACLU Montana

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:34:46 Erica Johnston, Director, Human Services, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Closing Statement:

16:35:55 Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, closed the hearing on HB 16.

HEARING ON HB 37 - Generally revise child abuse and neglect laws

Opening Statement:

16:37:30 Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, opened the hearing on HB 37, Generally revise child abuse and neglect laws.

Proponent Testimony:

16:44:42 Maggie Bornstein, ACLU Montana

Opponent Testimony:

16:47:18 Erica Johnston, Director, Human Services, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

16:49:35 Brian Thompson, Montana County Attorneys Association

16:51:32 Beth Brenneman, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

16:52:24 Rep. Fitzpatrick joined the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:54:30 Rep. Hamilton

16:54:39 Rep. Gillette joined the meeting.

16:55:19 Rep. Jennifer Carlson-R

17:00:30 Rep. Jones joined the meeting.

Closing Statement:

17:01:02 Rep. Jennifer Carlson (R), HD 69, closed the hearing on HB 37.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:06:53

Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230130APHaad\)](#)