

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Denley Loge-R, on January 30, 2023 at 2:58 PM, in 455

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Denley Loge, Chair (R)
Rep. Neil Duram, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Brad Barker (R)
Rep. Denise Baum (D)
Rep. Tony Brockman (R)
Rep. Edward Butcher (R)
Rep. Bob Carter (D)
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Frank Smith (D)

Staff Present: Sara Hess, Research Analyst
Macy McCauley, 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 55 01/23/2023
HB 320 01/25/2023
HB 327 01/26/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 327 - Revise allowed uses of transportation services account

Opening Statement:

15:00:51 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R), HD 97, opened the hearing on HB 327, Revise allowed uses of transportation services account.

Proponent Testimony:

15:03:30 Rob Stapley, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:04:48 Rep. Dave Fern

15:05:35 Rob Stapley, MDT

15:06:07 Rep. Edward Butcher

15:08:20 Rep. Zack Wirth

15:10:17 Rep. Julie Dooling

15:12:17 Rep. Neil Duram

15:12:43 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard-R

[EXHIBIT\(230130TRHa1\)](#)

Closing Statement:

15:13:00 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R), HD 97, closed the hearing on HB 327.

15:14:53 Vice Chair Fern assumes the chair.

HEARING ON HB 320 - Generally revise motor vehicle laws

Opening Statement:

15:14:47 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB 320, Generally revise motor vehicle laws.

Proponent Testimony:

15:18:49 Ryan Hall, Montana Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)

15:21:41 Nathan Vannoy, Line Worker

15:23:10 Dave Galt, Montana Chamber of Commerce

15:23:32 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association

15:24:03 Charlotte Hilton, Broadband Montana

15:24:40 Dwight Rose, IVW Local 44

[EXHIBIT\(230130TRHa2\)](#)

15:26:07 Chris Puyear, Northwestern Energy (NWE)

15:26:58 Daustin Hall, Self

15:27:44 Aimee Grmoljez, MDU Resources

Opponent Testimony:

15:28:57 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers (AMT)

[EXHIBIT\(230130TRHa3\)](#)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:33:54 Rep. Tanner Smith

15:34:29 Rep. Neil Duram-R

15:34:57 Rep. Denley Loge

15:35:36 Jessie Luther, AMT

15:37:19 Rep. Bob Carter
15:40:30 Rep. Edward Butcher
15:44:34 Rep. Dave Fern
15:46:19 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

Closing Statement:

15:52:46 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, closed the hearing on HB 320.

HEARING ON HB 55 - An act establishing a tax on electric vehicle charging stations

Opening Statement:

15:55:55 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 55, An act establishing a tax on electric vehicle charging stations.

Proponent Testimony:

16:01:38 Chris Puyear, Northwestern Energy (NWE)
16:06:18 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)
16:07:19 Duane Williams, Montana Truckers Association (MTA)
16:08:08 Aimee Grmoljez, MDU Resources
16:11:07 Dwight Rose, IVW Local 44
16:12:01 Al Ekblad, Operating Engineers Local 400
16:13:39 Brad Longcake, Montana Petroleum Marketers

Opponent Testimony:

16:15:50 Ian Lund, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
16:18:24 Diego Rivas, Northwest Energy Coalition
16:23:12 Thad Kurowski, Tesla
16:29:52 Jesse Therien, Self
16:36:36 Justin Ackley, ChargePoint

16:41:30 Nick Shrauger, Self

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:47:28 Larry Flynn, Montana Department of Revenue (MDT)

16:47:58 Eric Strauss, Montana Department of Labor (DLI)

16:48:31 Dan Lloyd, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee:

16:49:32 Rep. Tanner Smith

16:50:13 Rep. Denley Loge-R

16:51:07 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

16:52:33 Rep. Bob Carter

16:54:38 Chris Puyear, NWE

16:55:44 Ian Lund, MEIC

16:56:21 Rep. Frank Smith

16:56:56 Rep. Dave Fern

16:57:29 Larry Flynn, MDT

16:59:50 Thad Kurowski, Tesla

Closing Statement:

17:05:30 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 55.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:08:35

Macy McCauley, Secretary

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