

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Julie Dooling-R, on February 01, 2023 at 9:01 AM, in 455

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Julie Dooling, Chair (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Baum (D)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Rep. Tony Brockman (R)
Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)
Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Gary Parry (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Staff Present: Heather Kellum, Secretary
Rebecca Power, 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 298 01/27/2023

HB 329 01/27/2023

Executive Action:

HB 196 DO PASS

HB 275 DO PASS

HB 226 DO PASS

09:02:11

Committee Discussion:

09:02:17 Rep. Julie Dooling

HEARING ON HB 298 - Revise board of veterans affairs laws

Opening Statement:

09:02:33 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 298, Revise board of veterans affairs laws.

Discussion:

09:02:44 Rep. Marta Bertoglio-R

Proponent Testimony:

09:03:53 Major General J.P. Hronek, Director, Department of Military Affairs, DMA

09:05:47 Kelly Ackerman, Veteran's Affairs Division, Department of Military Affairs, DMA

[EXHIBIT\(230201STHa1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230201STHa2\)](#)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:03:05 Rep. Sprunger has arrived

09:11:52 Rep. Gregory Frazer

09:12:29 Kelly Ackerman, DMA

09:14:52 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

09:15:27 Kelly Ackerman, DMA

09:15:47 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

09:16:07 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:16:35 Rep. Gary Parry
09:16:53 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:19:53 Rep. Gary Parry
09:20:11 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:21:07 Rep. Gary Parry
09:21:13 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:22:29 Rep. Gary Parry
09:22:40 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf
09:23:04 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:24:17 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf
09:25:10 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:27:06 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf
09:28:03 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:28:19 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf
09:28:46 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:28:55 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf
09:29:41 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:29:48 Rep. Julie Dooling
09:30:10 Kelly Ackerman, DMA
09:30:28 Rep. Julie Dooling
09:30:41 Kelly Ackerman, DMA

Closing Statement:

09:30:56 Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R), HD 75, closed the hearing on HB 298.

Discussion:

09:30:59 Rep. Marta Bertoglio-R

HEARING ON HB 329 - Allow state employees to use paid sick leave for child related events

Opening Statement:

09:31:37 Rep. Laura Smith (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on HB 329, Allow state employees to use paid sick leave for child related events.

Discussion:

09:31:51 Rep. Laura Smith-D

Proponent Testimony:

09:36:33 Amanda Curtis, Elected President, Montana Federation of Public Employees, MFPE

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:37:16 Anjenette Schafer, Administrator of State Human Resources Division, Department of Administration, DOA

Questions from Committee:

09:38:03 Rep. Paul Green

09:38:31 Anjenette Schafer, DOA

09:38:55 Rep. Michael Yakawich

09:39:37 Anjenette Schafer, DOA

09:41:38 Rep. Michael Yakawich

09:42:11 Anjenette Schafer, DOA

09:43:07 Rep. Gary Parry

09:43:25 Anjenette Schafer, DOA

09:43:48 Rep. Denise Baum

09:44:41 Anjenette Schafer, DOA
09:45:54 Rep. Gary Parry
09:46:08 Anjenette Schafer, DOA
09:46:20 Rep. Gary Parry
09:46:26 Anjenette Schafer, DOA
09:47:00 Rep. Bob Phalen
09:47:20 Anjenette Schafer, DOA
09:48:08 Rep. Gregory Frazer
09:48:33 Anjenette Schafer, DOA
09:50:09 Rep. Sprunger
09:50:24 Anjenette Schafer, DOA
09:50:53 Rep. Sprunger

Closing Statement:

09:51:08 Rep. Laura Smith (D), HD 79, closed the hearing on HB 329.

Discussion:

09:51:11 Rep. Laura Smith-D

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 196 - Revise election laws related to the counting of votes

10:41:49 **Motion:** Rep. Kenneth Walsh moved that **HB 196 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

09:52:31 Recessed
10:41:06 Reconvened
10:42:18 Rep. Ed Stafman
10:44:33 Rep. Julie Dooling
10:44:34 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

- 10:45:24 Rep. Julie Dooling
- 10:45:45 Rep. Ed Stafman
- 10:46:10 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
- 10:41:49 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 6 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no.
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy
- 10:48:31 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Ed Stafman moved that **HB 196 TO TABLE.**
- 10:48:31 **Vote:** Substitute Motion failed 12 - 6 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, voting yes.
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy
- 10:51:34 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 196 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- Discussion:**
- 10:51:46 Rep. Kelly Kortum
- 10:52:16 Rep. Reksten has left
- 10:52:29 Rep. Frank Smith
- 10:52:51 Rep. Julie Dooling
- 10:51:34 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 6 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no.
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy
- 10:41:20 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 196 DO PASS.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 275 - Provide for board of veteran affairs townhall meetings

- 10:55:34 **Motion:** Rep. Gary Parry moved that **HB 275 TO TABLE.**
- 10:55:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 10:55:02 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 275 DO PASS.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 226 - Generally revise pension laws

- 10:58:28 **Motion:** Rep. Kenneth Walsh moved that **HB 226 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 10:59:29 Rebecca Power

[EXHIBIT\(230201STHa3\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230201STHa4\)](#)

- 11:02:27 Rep. Julie Dooling
- 11:02:37 Rep. Ed Stafman
- 11:03:21 Rep. Kelly Kortum
- 11:04:59 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
- 11:10:11
- 11:06:37 Rep. Marta Bertoglio
- 10:58:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 7 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, Rep. Yakawich, voting no.
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy
- 11:05:07 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Kelly Kortum moved that **HB 226 TO TABLE.**
- 11:05:07 **Vote:** Substitute Motion failed 12 - 6 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, voting yes.
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy
- 11:08:41 **Motion:** Rep. Denise Baum moved that **HB 226 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 11:08:41 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 7 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, Rep. Yakawich, voting no.
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy
- 10:58:26 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 226 DO PASS.**
- Discussion:**
- 10:57:01 Rep. Gregory Frazer
- 10:57:37 Rep. Sprunger
- 10:58:26 Rep. Kenneth Walsh
- 09:02:11

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:11:10

Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230201STHaad\)EXHIBIT\(230201STHaad\)](#)