

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Paul Fielder-R, on February 07, 2023 at 9:01 AM, in 152

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Paul Fielder, Chair (R)
Rep. Tom Welch, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Mark Thane, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Brad Barker (R)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Alice Buckley (D)
Rep. Edward Butcher (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)
Rep. Dave Fern (D)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Marty Malone (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Russel Miner (R)
Rep. George Nikolakakos (R)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Scot Kerns (R)

Staff Present: Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary
Megan Moore, 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 368 02/03/2023
HB 370 02/03/2023

Executive Action:

HB 268 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 280 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 285 TO TABLE

HEARING ON HB 368 - Revise shared use path funding

Opening Statement:

09:04:27 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 368, Revise shared use path funding.

Proponent Testimony:

09:11:20 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition, (MIC)

09:12:37 Rebecca Meyers, Billings Chamber of Commerce

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:13:24 Malcom Long, Director, Montana Department of Transportation, (MDT)

Questions from Committee:

09:14:32 Rep. Butcher

09:15:03 Rep. Fern

09:18:12 Rep. Cohenour

09:18:18 Chair Fielder

09:18:34 Rep. Fern

09:20:37 Chair Fielder

09:20:58 Rep. Fern

09:22:00 Rep. Cohenour

09:22:34 Rep. Fern

09:22:57 Jon Swartz, Administrator, Maintenance Division, Montana Department of Transportation, (MDT)

09:23:16 Rep. Cohenour

09:23:42 Jon Swartz, MDT

09:25:12 Rep. Marler

09:26:25 Rep. Fern

09:28:01 Malcolm long, MDT

09:29:03 Rep. T. Smith

09:29:54 Jon Swartz, MDT

09:30:48 Rep. R. Knudsen

09:31:44 Rep. Fern

09:32:50 Vice Chair Thane

09:33:59 Rep. Fern

09:35:24 Jon Swartz, MDT

09:36:10 Rep. Vinton

09:36:47 Malcolm Long, MDT

09:38:45 Rep. Malone

09:39:15 Malcolm Long, MDT

09:40:24 Rep. Essmann

09:41:08 Rep. Fern

09:42:28 Malcolm Long, MDT

09:44:12 Rep. Butcher

09:44:35 Malcolm Long, MDT

Closing Statement:

09:48:10 Rep. Fern (D), HD 5, closed the hearing on HB 368.

HEARING ON HB 370 - Revise resort tax eligibility and allow use for workforce housing

Opening Statement:

09:51:38 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 370, Revise resort tax eligibility and allow use for workforce housing.

Proponent Testimony:

09:57:35 Darryl James, Executive Director, Montana Infrastructure Coalition, (MIC)

09:59:41 Ann Schwend, Sustainable Communities Program, Montana Environmental Information Center, (MEIC)

10:01:20 Rebecca Meyers, Montana Economic Developers Association, (MEDA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:02:40 Mary Craigle, Bureau Chief, Research and Information Services, Department of Commerce, (COM)

10:04:00 Mandy Rambo, Acting Deputy Director, Department of Commerce, (COM)

Questions from Committee:

10:05:52 Rep. Butcher

10:06:44 Ann Schwend, MEIC

10:08:10 Rep. Malone

10:08:40 Rep. Fern

10:10:20 Rep. Kerns

10:10:47 Rep. Fern

10:17:42 Chair Fielder

10:18:09 Rep. Fern

10:18:58 Rep. Essmann
10:19:21 Rep. Fern
10:21:19 Rep. T. Smith
10:22:00 Rep. Fern
10:23:45 Rep. Butcher
10:24:52 Rep. Fern

Closing Statement:

10:27:47 Rep. Fern (D), HD 5, closed the hearing on HB 370.
10:28:26 **Recessed**
10:52:30 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 268 - Establish a child tax credit through the individual income tax

10:53:09 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 268 DO PASS.**
10:53:41 **Motion:** Rep. Kassmier moved that **HB 268 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:54:03 Rep. Alice Buckley
Vote: Motion carried 14 - 7 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Cohenour, Rep. Fern, Rep. Marler, Rep. Romano, Rep. Thane, voting no.
Rep. Abbott, By Proxy

10:57:16 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 268 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:58:11 Rep. Buckley
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
10:59:11 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 268 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
Vote: Motion carried 20 - 1 by roll call vote with Rep. Knudsen, voting no.
Rep. Knudsen, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 280 - Providing for circuit breaker income tax credit for property taxes paid

- 11:01:39 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 280 DO PASS.**
- 11:01:46 **Motion:** Rep. Thane moved that **HB 280 BE AMENDED.**
- Vote:** Motion carried 20 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Knudsen, voting no.
Rep. Knudsen, By Proxy
- 11:03:54 **Motion:** Rep. Thane moved that **HB 280 BE AMENDED.**
- Vote:** Motion carried 20 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Knudsen, voting no.
Rep. Knudsen, By Proxy
- 11:05:05 **Motion:** Rep. Thane moved that **HB 280 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 11:05:26 Rep. Nikolakakos
- 11:06:08 Rep. Kerns
- 11:07:02 Rep. Cohenour
- 11:08:16 Rep. Miner
- 11:08:41 Rep. Fern
- Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 10 by voice vote with Rep. Barker, Rep.
Brewster, Rep. Butcher, Rep. Essmann, Rep. Fielder, Rep. Kassmier,
Rep. Kerns, Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Malone, Rep. Vinton, voting no.
Rep. Knudsen, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 285 - Increase earned income tax credit and link to inflation

- 11:12:06 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 285 DO PASS.**
- Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 11:12:17 **Motion:** Rep. Thane moved that **HB 285 BE TABLED.**
- Vote:** Motion carried 20 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Buckley, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:14:14

Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230207TAHaad\)](#)