

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Llew Jones-R, on February 14, 2023 at 3:05 PM, in 102

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. Terry Falk (R)
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Naarah Hastings (R)
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (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. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Matt Regier (R)

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 297 02/10/2023

HB 321 02/13/2023

HB 362 02/10/2023

HB 377 02/10/2023

Executive Action:

HB 243 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HB 355 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HB 180 TO TABLE

HB 257 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HB 367 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HB 377 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HEARING ON HB 297 - Revise video gambling machine taxes to allow a deduction for negative income

Opening Statement:

15:07:02 Rep. Tom Welch (R), HD 72, opened the hearing on HB 297, Revise video gambling machine taxes to allow a deduction for negative income.

Proponent Testimony:

15:08:51 Rhonda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators Association (MCMOA)

15:10:31 Shauna Helferd, Gaming Industry Association (GIA)

15:12:50 John Iverson, Montana Tavern Association (MTA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:08:30 Rep. Mercer has arrived

15:12:13 Rep. Caferro has arrived

15:13:44 Rep. David Bedey

15:14:40 Rep. Tom Welch-R

15:15:18 Rep. Bill Mercer

15:16:38 Rep. Tom Welch-R

15:16:49 Rhonda Wiggers, MCMOA

15:19:18 Rep. Bill Mercer

15:19:56 Rhonda Wiggers, MCMOA

15:20:06 Rep. Mike Hopkins left the meeting.

15:20:54 Shauna Helferd, GIA

15:21:33 Rep. Jim Hamilton

15:23:53 Shauna Helferd, GIA
15:24:18 Rep. Gillette has left
15:25:15 Rep. David Bedey
15:27:06 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:27:25 Rep. David Bedey
15:28:43 Rep. John Fitzpatrick
15:29:31 Rep. David Bedey
15:30:13 Rep. Jim Hamilton

Closing Statement:

15:30:35 Rep. Tom Welch (R), HD 72, closed the hearing on HB 297.

HEARING ON HB 321 - Generally revise laws related to the coal trust

Opening Statement:

15:31:00 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 321, Generally revise laws related to the coal trust.

Proponent Testimony:

15:34:07 Mark Bostrom, Administrator, Conservation Resource Development, Department of Natural Resources and Transportation (DNRC)
15:35:29 Emily Dean, Director of Advocacy, Montana School Boards Association, Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools
15:36:27 Rebecca Boslough-King, Executive Director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
[EXHIBIT\(230214APHa1\)](#)
15:39:23 Ray Beck, Yellowstone and Cascade Conservation Districts
15:39:50 Clayton Elliot, Montana Trout Unlimited

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:41:19 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:42:00 Rep. Linda Reksten-R
15:42:38 Quinn Holzer
15:43:42 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:43:43 Quinn Holzer
15:44:28 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
15:45:05 Rep. Linda Reksten-R
15:45:43 Rep. Jerry Schillinger
15:46:42 Rep. Linda Reksten-R

Closing Statement:

15:49:50 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, closed the hearing on HB 321.

HEARING ON HB 362 - Revise laws related to the crisis intervention team training program

Opening Statement:

15:52:00 Rep. Denise Baum (D), HD 47, opened the hearing on HB 362, Revise laws related to the crisis intervention team training program.

Proponent Testimony:

15:55:30 Sen. Barry Usher, HD 20
15:58:05 Greg Holmlund, Board Member, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Montana, Lead Coordinator, Lewis and Clark County
16:03:22 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)
16:06:46 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA)

16:07:28 Kasey Hugs, self
16:09:28 Benjamin A. Lacayo, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:12:02 Isaac Coy, Chief, Treatment Bureau, Behavioral Health and
Developmental Disabilities Division, Department of Health and Human
Services (DPHHS)
16:12:49 Natalia Bowser, Director, Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC)

Questions from Committee:

15:48:29 Rep. Jones has arrived
15:51:26 Rep. Mercer
15:53:22 Rep. Gillette joined the meeting.
15:54:47 Rep. Moore has left
16:07:40 Rep. Moore joined the meeting.
16:13:10 Rep. Jim Hamilton
16:13:45 Greg Holmlund, CIT Montana
16:14:10 Rep. Bedey left the meeting.
16:15:13 Rep. Jim Hamilton
16:17:37 Vice Chair Caferro left the meeting.
16:17:45 Rep. Denise Baum-D
16:17:51 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
16:18:33 Natalia Bowser, MBCC
16:20:15 Rep. Bedey joined the meeting.
16:20:37 Rep. Mercer
16:22:06 Isaac Coy, DPHHS

16:25:06 Rep. Mercer
16:27:36 Isaac Coy, DPHHS
16:28:48 Rep. Jane Gillette
16:29:03 Natalia Bowser, MBCC
16:31:16 Rep. Hopkins joined the meeting.
16:33:00 Rep. Mercer
16:33:20 Natalia Bowser, MBCC
16:33:45 Rep. Paul Tuss
16:34:25 Isaac Coy, DPHHS
16:35:43 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
16:36:18 Isaac Coy, DPHHS
16:36:45 Rep Falk left the meeting.
16:36:56 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
16:37:08 Natalia Bowser, MBCC
16:38:24 Rep. Denise Baum-D
16:39:08 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
16:39:20 Rep. Jim Hamilton
16:39:40 Nanette Gilbertson, MSPOA
16:39:45 Rep. Fitzpatrick left the meeting.
16:40:38 Rep. Fiona Nave
16:41:30 Rep. Denise Baum-D
16:42:17 Greg Holmlund, CIT Montana

Closing Statement:

16:44:29 Rep. Denise Baum (D), HD 47, closed the hearing on HB 362.

HEARING ON HB 377 - Create a 250th commission for Montana

Opening Statement:

16:46:24 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 377, Create a 250th commission for Montana.

Proponent Testimony:

16:49:39 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Education Advisor

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:50:39 Molly Kruckenburg, Director, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

16:51:14 Rep. Linda Reksten (R), HD 12, closed the hearing on HB 377.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 243 - Revise hunter education laws

17:17:17 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 243 DO PASS.**

17:17:22 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 243 BE AMENDED.**

17:17:22 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:17:28 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 243 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

17:17:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 355 - Appropriate funds for local government infrastructure projects

17:17:52 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 355 DO PASS.**

17:18:00 **Motion:** Rep. John Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 355 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:46:00 Rep. Hopkins left the meeting.

16:46:06 Chair Jones assumed the gavel.

16:47:20 Rep. Fitzpatrick joined the meeting.

16:54:52 Rep. Caferro has arrived

17:14:15 Rep. Falk joined the meeting.

17:20:04 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:22:32 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy

17:22:55 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:23:16 Rep. Mercer

17:23:33 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:18:00 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:24:32 **Motion:** Rep. John Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 355 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:24:44 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:31:09 Rep. Paul Tuss

17:31:39 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:24:32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:32:45 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 355 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:32:58 Rep. Terry Falk

17:34:50 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:36:58 Rep. Mercer

17:38:00 Rep. Jane Gillette

17:39:10 Rep. Paul Tuss

17:40:16 Vice Chair Caferro

17:40:33 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:42:31 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy

17:42:44 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

17:32:45 **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Falk, Rep. Gillette, Rep. Mercer, Rep. Nave, Rep. Schillinger, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 180 - Revise municipal police officers retirement laws

- 17:31:00 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 180 TO TABLE.**
- 17:31:00 **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 7 by voice vote with Rep. Caferro, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Read, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, Rep. Tuss, Rep. Windy Boy, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 257 - Revise education laws related to advanced opportunities program

- 17:33:27 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 257 DO PASS.**
- 17:33:36 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 257 BE AMENDED.**
- 17:33:36 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 17:34:10 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 257 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 17:34:10 **Vote:** Motion carried 20 - 3 by voice vote with Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Moore, Rep. Regier, voting no.
Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Regier, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 367 - Providing clarification for use of federal funds for data modernization

- 17:44:51 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 367 DO PASS.**
- 17:44:56 **Motion:** Rep. Joe Read moved that **HB 367 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

- 17:45:19 Rep. Mercer
- 17:49:16 Rep. Fiona Nave
- 17:49:40 Rep. Bill Mercer
- 17:50:36 Rep. Moore left the meeting.
- 17:50:52 Rep. David Bedey
- 17:51:19 Rep. Bill Mercer
- 17:51:59 Rep. David Bedey
- 17:52:30 Rep. Fiona Nave
- 17:53:49 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard

17:54:31 Rep. Connie Keogh
17:54:55 Chair Jones
17:55:32 Rep. Naarah Hastings
17:55:44 Rep. Bill Mercer
17:44:56 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
17:57:00 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 367 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
Discussion:
17:57:11 Vice Chair Caferro
17:57:37 Rep. Bill Mercer
18:01:41 Rep. David Bedey
17:57:00 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 377 - Create a 250th commission for Montana

18:04:28 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 377 DO PASS.**
18:04:45 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 377 BE AMENDED.**
18:04:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
18:05:09 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 377 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
18:05:09 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:08:24

Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230214APHaad\)](#)