

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

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones-R, on February 15, 2023 at 3:38 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. John Fitzpatrick (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. Bill Mercer (R)
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)

Members Excused: Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Matt Regier (R)
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 276 02/14/2023
HB 314 02/14/2023
HB 325 02/14/2023
HB 345 02/14/2023

Executive Action:

HB 262 DO PASS
HB 345 DO PASS
HB 17 TO TABLE
HB 269 TO TABLE

HEARING ON HB 276 - Establish a farm to food bank grant program

Opening Statement:

15:40:25 Rep. Marty Malone (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 276, Establish a farm to food bank grant program.

Proponent Testimony:

15:41:38 Lorianne Burhop, Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN)

[EXHIBIT\(230215APHa1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230215APHa2\)](#)

15:44:51 Rachel Prevost, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

15:45:51 Eathan Hanley, Associated Students of the University Of Montana (ASUM)

15:46:37 Sophie Albert, Executive Director, North Valley Food Bank

15:48:55 John Wallace, National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)

15:50:44 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe, Peoples Food Sovereignty Program

15:52:15 Shauna Stephenson, Good Mama Farm

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:54:22 Cort Jensen, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)

Questions from Committee:

15:43:36 Rep. Hopkins left the meeting.

15:45:15 Rep. Mercer left the meeting.

15:47:58 Rep. Windy Boy joined the meeting.

15:54:44 Rep. Fiona Nave

15:55:40 Lorianne Burhop, MFBN
15:56:52 Rep. Bill Mercer
15:57:59 Cort Jensen, MDA
16:02:53 Rep. Paul Tuss
16:02:54 Lorianne Burhop, MFBN PREVIOUS OFF
16:03:59 Rep. Jerry Schillinger
16:05:00 Lorianne Burhop, MFBN
16:07:10 Rep. Jim Hamilton
16:09:38 Rep. Marty Malone-R

Closing Statement:

16:09:52 Rep. Marty Malone (R), HD 59, closed the hearing on HB 276.

HEARING ON HB 325 - Revise eligibility for disabled veteran property tax assistance program

Opening Statement:

16:11:21 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R), HD 97, opened the hearing on HB 325, Revise eligibility for disabled veteran property tax assistance program.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:14:34 Dylan Cole, Economist, Department of Revenue (DOR)
16:14:51 Brice Kaatz, Bureau Chief, Property Assessment Division, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

16:15:09 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:15:45 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard-R

Closing Statement:

16:19:08 Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R), HD 97, closed the hearing on HB 325.

HEARING ON HB 345 - Exclusion from federal taxable income for medical savings accounts

Opening Statement:

16:19:30 Rep. Jim Hamilton (D), HD 61, opened the hearing on HB 345, Exclusion from federal taxable income for medical savings accounts.

Proponent Testimony:

16:25:22 Karen Willett, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:27:25 Aaron McNay, Department of Revenue (DOR)

16:27:41 Derek Bell, Administrator, Business and Income Tax Division, Department Of Revenue (DOR)

16:28:00 Lee Humphrey, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones (PROPONENT)

Questions from Committee:

16:30:19 Rep. Jerry Schillinger

16:30:33 Rep. Jim Hamilton-D

16:31:58 Rep. Terry Moore

16:32:55 Rep. Jim Hamilton-D

Closing Statement:

16:33:06 Rep. Jim Hamilton (D), HD 61, closed the hearing on HB 345.

HEARING ON HB 314 - Revise compensation for members of boards, commissions, and councils

Opening Statement:

16:34:21 Rep. Tony Brockman (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 314, Revise compensation for members of boards, commissions, and councils.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:27:00 Rep. Falk left the meeting.

16:32:10 Vice Chair Keenan left the meeting.

16:36:31 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

16:36:34 Rep. Tony Brockman-R

Closing Statement:

16:38:43 Rep. Tony Brockman (R), HD 9, closed the hearing on HB 314.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 262 - Revise local government financial reporting and audit requirements

16:41:03 **Motion:** Rep. David Bedey moved that **HB 262 DO PASS.**

11:05:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 345 - Exclusion from federal taxable income for medical savings accounts

16:44:20 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 345 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:44:33 Rep. Terry Moore
16:45:02 Rep. Jim Hamilton
16:45:41 Rep. Bill Mercer
16:46:02 Rep. Jim Hamilton
16:47:03 Rep. Jerry Schillinger
16:47:25 Rep. Jim Hamilton
11:05:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 17 - Provide for implementation of certified community behavioral health clinic model

16:48:48 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 17 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:40:30 Rep. Falk joined the meeting.
16:41:15 Rep. Hopkins joined the meeting.
16:43:08 Rep. Mercer joined the meeting.
16:49:02 Rep. Fiona Nave
16:49:49 Vice Chair Bob Keenan
16:51:51 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
16:53:27 Rep. Bill Mercer
16:55:29 Rep. David Bedey
16:56:15 Vice Chair Bob Keenan
16:58:25 Rep. David Bedey
16:58:51 Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy
11:05:33 **Vote:** Motion failed unanimously by voice vote.
16:59:00 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy moved that **HB 17 TO TABLE.**
11:05:33 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 17 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Caferro, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Keogh, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Tuss, Rep. Windy Boy, voting no.
Rep. Caferro, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 269 - Establish a local disaster resiliency fund

17:00:15 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 269 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:00:05 Schillinger left the meeting.

17:00:42 Rep. Fiona Nave

17:00:56 Vice Chair Caferro joined the meeting.

17:01:23 Rep. Terry Falk

17:01:39 Rep. Terry Moore

17:02:17 Chair Llew Jones

17:03:47 Rep. Terry Moore

17:04:05 Rep. David Bedey

17:05:13 Chair Llew Jones

17:06:21 Rep. Jim Hamilton

17:06:55 Rep. David Bedey

11:05:33 **Vote:** Motion failed 16 - 7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bedey, Rep. Binkley, Rep. Caferro, Rep. Fitzpatrick, Rep. Hopkins, Rep. Jones, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, voting yes.

17:08:55 **Motion:** Chair Llew Jones moved that **HB 269 TO TABLE.**

11:05:33 **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bedey, Rep. Binkley, Rep. Caferro, Rep. Fitzpatrick, Rep. Hopkins, Rep. Jones, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, voting no.

17:09:55 Chair Jones

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:10:46

Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230215APHaad\)](#)