

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Denley Loge-R, on February 17, 2023 at 2:33 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. Tony Brockman (R)
Rep. Edward Butcher (R)
Rep. Bob Carter (D)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Denise Baum (D)
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)
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 486 02/14/2023

Executive Action:

HB 46 TO TABLE
HB 339 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 401 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 439 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 489 DO PASS

Committee Discussion:

14:35:15 Rep. Dave Fern
14:35:25 Rep. Denley Loge

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 46 - Revise point of fuel taxation first receivership laws

14:36:28 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 46 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

14:36:50 Rep. Neil Duram
14:38:00 Rep. Bob Carter
14:38:51 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Bob Carter moved that **HB 46 BE TABLED.**
Vote: Substitute Motion carried 14 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Barker, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 339 - Establish laws for autonomous vehicles

14:40:54 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 339 DO PASS.**
14:41:07 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 339 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

14:41:17 Rep. Denley Loge
14:41:40 Joe Carroll, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
14:44:19 Rep. Scot Kerns
14:47:32 Rep. Brad Barker
14:49:22 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation
14:51:31 Charles Denowh, Tesla
14:52:40 Rep. Neil Duram
14:55:51 Rep. Bob Carter
14:57:07 Rep. Dave Fern

Vote: Motion carried 14 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Duram, voting no.

14:59:14 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 339 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:01:00 Vice Chair Duram assumed the chair.

HEARING ON HB 486 - Generally revise county road access laws

Opening Statement:

15:01:17 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 486, Generally revise county road access laws.

Proponent Testimony:

15:03:49 Matt Leow, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

15:05:43 Ben Lamb, Montana Wildlife Federation

15:06:12 Alex Ames, Hellgate Hunters and Anglers

15:07:34 Drewry Hanes, Public Land and Water Access Association

15:11:16 Tom Healy, Self

15:12:29 Tait Sougstad, Self

Opponent Testimony:

15:16:22 Charles Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana (UPOM)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:23:59 Rep. Tanner Smith

15:24:43 Charles Denowh, UPOM

15:25:16 Rep. Bob Carter

15:26:20 Rep. Paul Green-R

15:29:14 Rep. Edward Butcher
15:32:18 Rep. Neil Duram
15:33:26 Rep. Dave Fern
15:35:08 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger
15:37:48 Rep. Denise Baum
15:39:56 Rep. Zack Wirth

Closing Statement:

15:42:30 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, closed the hearing on HB 486.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 401 - Revise trash tie down laws

15:44:50 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 401 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

15:45:04 Sara Hess

15:45:14 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 401 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:45:29 Rep. Dave Fern

15:50:08 Rep. Julie Dooling

15:51:45 Rep. Neil Duram

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:54:08 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 401 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:54:22 Rep. Denise Baum

15:54:22 Joe Carroll, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

15:54:59 Rep. Bob Carter

15:55:24 Rep. Dave Fern

15:56:23 Rep. Neil Duram

15:56:24 Sara Hess
16:00:23 Rep. Brad Barker
16:01:22 Rep. Tanner Smith

Vote: Motion carried 11 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Barker, Rep. Brockman, Rep. Dooling, Rep. Wirth, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 439 - Create a GVW fee for electric vehicles and hybrids being permanently registered

16:04:53 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 439 DO PASS.**

16:05:17 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 439 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:06:32 Rep. Neil Duram

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:07:38 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 439 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 489 - Update name of Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council in transportation law

16:08:51 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 489 DO PASS.**

16:08:51 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:09:55

Macy McCauley, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230217TRHaad\)](#)

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