

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Katie Zolnikov-R, on February 20, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 472

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Chair (R)
Rep. Steven Galloway, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Derek Harvey (D)
Rep Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Greg Kmetz (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)

Staff Present: Lucinda Blair, Secretary
Trevor Graff, 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 558 02/15/2023

HJ 6 2/15/2023

Executive Action:

HB 394 DO PASS

HB 395 TO TABLE

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 394 – Require examination of creation of state-tribal education accord schools

15:01:35 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 394 DO PASS.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 395 – Improve school district consultation with American Indian tribes

15:03:10 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 395 DO PASS.**

15:03:45 **Motion:** Vice Chair Katie Sullivan moved that **HB 395 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:03:58 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:05:20 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 395 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:05:33 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan

15:06:05 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Joshua Kassmier moved that **HB 395 BE TABLED.**

Vote: Motion carried 7 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Green, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

Rep. Green, Rep. Knudsen, By Proxy

15:08:00 Vice Chair Steven Galloway assumes the chair.

HEARING ON HJ 6 – Interim study of electric power reserves

Opening Statement:

15:09:00 Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HJ 6, Interim study on electric power reserves.

Proponent Testimony:

15:12:00 Mark Lambrecht, Montana Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)

15:20:08 Mark Hayden, Missoula Electric Cooperative (MEC)

15:22:30 Patrick Powers, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

15:26:25 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)

15:29:37 Robin Arnold, Renewable Northwest
15:31:30 Chris Puyear, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)
15:31:45 Aimee Grmoljez, MDU Resources

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:32:40 Rep. Greg Kmetz
15:33:00 Mark Lambrecht, MECA
15:33:25 Rep. Bob Phalen
15:34:25 Doug Hardy, MECA
15:35:32 Rep. Kelly Kortum
15:35:52 Patrick Powers, NWE
15:36:30 Vice Chair Steven Galloway

Closing Statement:

15:37:00 Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R), HD 45, closed the hearing on HJ 6.

15:40:00 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan assumes the chair.

HEARING ON HB 558 – Revising PSC deposition laws

Opening Statement:

15:40:30 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 558, Revising PSC deposition laws.

Proponent Testimony:

15:41:45 Chris Puyear, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

Opponent Testimony:

15:45:10 Ian Lund, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:47:15 Lucas Hamilton, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Questions from Committee:

15:47.45 Rep. Greg Kmetz

15:48:00 Lucas Hamilton, PSC

15:50:15 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan

Closing Statement:

15:55:20 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 558.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:57:24

Lucinda Blair, Secretary

Additional Documents: EXHIBIT(230220FEH)