

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Rep. Julie Dooling-R, on February 21, 2023 at 9:00 AM, in 455

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Julie Dooling, Chair (R)  
Rep. Kelly Kortum, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Bob Phalen, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Denise Baum (D)  
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)  
Rep. Gary Parry (R)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)  
Rep. Frank Smith (D)  
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)  
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)  
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)  
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Tony Brockman (R)  
Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)  
Rep. Paul Green (R)  
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**Staff Present:** Heather Kellum, Secretary  
Rebecca Power, 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:

SB 29 02/14/2023

SB 66 02/14/2023

SB 74 02/14/2023

Executive Action:

HB 493 DO PASS

HB 387 TO TABLE

HB 402 DO PASS  
HB 335 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 136 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 384 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 463 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 495 TO TABLE  
HB 427 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
HB 190 DO PASS AS AMENDED

**HEARING ON SB 66 - Generally revise laws related to Montana national guard benefits and rights**

**Opening Statement:**

09:01:57 Sen. Mike Fox (D), SD 16, opened the hearing on SB 66, Generally revise laws related to Montana national guard benefits and rights.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:04:23 Major General J.P. Hronek, Director, Department of Military Affairs, DMA

09:07:51 Roger Hagan, Officer and Enlisted Montana National Guard, MT American Legion

09:09:11 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:10:22 Major Todd Wayne, Attorney, MT National Guard

**Questions from Committee:**

09:11:00 Rep. Linda Reksten

09:13:10 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

**Closing Statement:**

09:13:56 Sen. Mike Fox (D), SD 16, closed the hearing on SB 66.

**HEARING ON SB 29 - Increase and Extend the PERS Supplemental Employer Contribution**

**Opening Statement:**

09:14:44 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 29, Increase and Extend the PERS Supplemental Employer Contribution.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:16:04 Dore Schwinden, Director, Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration, MPERA

09:17:32 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties, MACO

09:18:28 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees, MFPE

09:19:24 Thomas Jodoin, Montana League of Cities and Towns

09:20:14 Robin Turner, City of Whitefish

09:20:33 Mike McGiley, County Commissioner of Beaverhead County

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

09:17:25 Rep. Brockman has arrived

09:21:29 Rep. Denise Baum

09:23:21 Rep. Michael Yakawich

09:27:29 Rep. Linda Reksten

09:29:44 Rep. Denise Baum

09:34:25 Rep. Bob Phalen

09:36:18 Rep. Gary Parry

09:37:28 Rep. Kelly Kortum

10:02:14 Recessed

10:56:12 Reconvened

**Closing Statement:**

09:38:39 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 29.

**HEARING ON SB 74 - Revise administrative provisions of MPERA**

**Opening Statement:**

09:41:38 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 74, Revise administrative provisions of MPERA.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:43:35 William Holahan, Deputy Director, MPERA

09:52:35 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees, MFPE

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

09:53:59 Rep. Julie Dooling

**Closing Statement:**

09:59:40 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 74.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 493 - Generally revise constituent services account laws**

10:56:40 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 493 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

10:57:14 Rep. Kelly Kortum

10:56:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 387 - Generally revise constituent accounts**

10:58:15 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 387 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

10:58:37 Rep. Tyson Running Wolf  
10:59:07 Rep. Linda Reksten  
10:59:17 Rep. Julie Dooling  
10:59:36 Rep. Linda Reksten  
10:59:40 Rep. Julie Dooling  
10:58:15 **Vote:** Motion tied 9 - 9 by voice vote  
11:02:11 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 387 TO TABLE.**  
11:02:11 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 402 - Revise elector registration laws**

11:03:28 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 402 DO PASS.**  
**Discussion:**  
11:03:42 Rep. Ed Stafman  
11:07:04 Rep. Kenneth Walsh  
11:09:03 Rep. Bob Phalen  
11:09:33 Rep. Linda Reksten  
11:11:04 Rep. Denise Baum  
11:11:56 Rep. Gary Parry  
11:03:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 7 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Phalen, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no.  
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 335 - Generally revise election laws related to absentee ballot list procedures**

11:14:17 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 335 DO PASS.**  
**Discussion:**  
11:14:42 Rep. Kenneth Walsh  
11:15:17 **Motion:** Rep. Kenneth Walsh moved that **HB 335 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:15:42 Rebecca Power  
11:16:34 Rep. Kelly Kortum  
11:16:55 Rep. Julie Dooling  
11:17:07 Rep. Kelly Kortum  
11:17:38 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders, MACR  
11:19:18 Rep. Zack Wirth  
11:19:58 Rep. Ed Stafman  
11:15:17 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
11:21:29 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 335 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**  
11:21:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 136 - Adopt Montana Revised Unclaimed Property Act**

11:22:32 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **HB 136 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**  
11:22:32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 384 - Allow hard copy campaign finance reports in certain circumstances**

11:23:54 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 384 DO PASS.**  
11:24:26 **Motion:** Rep. Julie Dooling moved that **HB 384 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:24:41 Rep. Julie Dooling  
11:25:28 Rep. Denise Baum  
11:25:41 Rebecca Power  
11:26:15 Rep. Denise Baum  
11:26:28 Rebecca Power  
11:24:26 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
11:27:15 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 384 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

11:27:15 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 463 - Establish reporting requirement for food procurement**

11:28:27 **Motion:** Rep. Kelly Kortum moved that **HB 463 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

11:28:36 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:28:43 **Motion:** Rep. Kelly Kortum moved that **HB 463 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:28:54 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:29:43 Rep. Gary Parry

11:28:43 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:30:30 **Motion:** Rep. Kelly Kortum moved that **HB 463 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:30:40 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:30:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 495 - Generally revise laws related to precincts and precinct committees**

11:31:39 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 495 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

11:31:53 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:32:41 Rep. Linda Reksten

11:33:02 Rep. Bob Phalen

11:33:13 Rep. Julie Dooling

11:31:39 **Vote:** Motion failed unanimously by voice vote.

11:33:56 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 495 TO TABLE.**

11:33:56 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 427 - Revise military affairs laws regarding worker's compensation**

11:34:34 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 427 DO PASS.**

11:35:01 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 427 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:35:13 Rep. Julie Dooling

11:35:01 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:35:51 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 427 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

11:35:51 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 190 - Provide for a state government performance and results act**

11:36:42 **Motion:** Rep. Julie Dooling moved that **HB 190 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

11:36:42 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 5 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, voting no.

11:38:29 **Motion:** Rep. Gary Parry moved that **HB 190 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:39:02 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:39:02 Rebecca Power

11:40:30 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:40:42 Rebecca Power

11:40:52 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:41:04 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

11:43:11 Rep. Linda Reksten

11:45:44 Rep. Kelly Kortum

11:46:10 Rep. Gary Parry

11:38:29 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 6 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no. Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy

11:48:52 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **HB 190 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

11:48:52 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 8 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Frazer, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Walsh, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no.  
Rep. Frazer, Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:52:13

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Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230221STHaad\)](#)