

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 24, 2023 at 4:20 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. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Greg Kmetz (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 597 02/22/2023

HB 723 02/22/2023

HB 737 02/24/2023

HB 770 02/22/2023

HJ 5 02/22/2023

HJ 8 02/22/2023

HJ 10 02/22/2023

HJ 12 02/24/2023

Executive Action:

HB 492 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 524 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 477 DO PASS
HB 484 DO PASS
HB 597 DO PASS
HB 723 TO TABLE
HB 770 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HJ 8 TO TABLE
HJ 5 TO TABLE
HJ 10 DO PASS
HJ 12 DO PASS

HEARING ON HJ 10 – Resolution for reaffirming Montana’s commitment to its relationship with Taiwan

Opening Statement:

16:21:26 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, opened the hearing on HJ 10, Resolution for reaffirming Montana’s commitment to its relationship with Taiwan.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

16:22:07 Rep. Sue Vinton (R), HD 56, closed the hearing on HJ 10.

HEARING ON HJ 12 – Joint resolution to request a ban on pharmaceutical ads on public airwaves

Opening Statement:

16:22:45 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, opened the hearing on HJ 12, Joint resolution to request a ban on pharmaceutical ads on public airwaves.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

16:24:54 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, closed the hearing on HJ 12.

HEARING ON HJ 5 – Resolution for congressional term limits

Opening Statement:

16:26:20 Rep. Terry Moore (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HJ 5, Resolution for congressional term limits.

Proponent Testimony:

16:28:46 Senator Mark Noland, SD 5
16:29:12 Ed Walker, Self
16:33:45 Senator Tom McGillvray, SD 23
16:36:44 Terry Kramer, Self
16:37:40 Wendy Jorgenson, Self
16:39:16 Steve Allen, Self

16:40:59 Ron Hooper, U.S. Term Limits

16:42:30 Kenn Quinn, U.S. Term Limits

Opponent Testimony:

16:45:07 Ed Regan, Broadwater County Republican Central Committee

16:50:07 Daniel Keder, Self

16:53:09 Dan Skattum, Self

16:54:22 Kathy Love, Self

16:57:04 Leah Southwell, Self

16:58:33 Robyn Morrison, League of Women Voters of Montana

16:59:20 Shawn Meehan, Self

17:01:06 Glenda Edgeworth, Self

17:01:16 Terri Lackey, Self

17:01:26 Joanna Martin, Self

17:01:52 Alan Lackey, Self

17:02:08 Scott Dunphey, Self

17:02:22 Gina Barnes, Self

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:03:06 Rep. Paul Fielder

17:03:45 Senator Tom McGillvray

17:04:31 Vice Chair Steven Galloway

Closing Statement:

17:06:30 Rep. Terry Moore (R), HD 54, closed the hearing on HJ 5.

HEARING ON HJ 8 – Joint resolution regarding Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks

Opening Statement:

17:09:29 Rep. Tom France (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HJ 8, Joint resolution regarding Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks.

Proponent Testimony:

17:13:55 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stock Growers Association
17:14:56 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
(BHA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:17:00 Rep. Bob Phalen
17:17:25 Katiana Stutzer, BHA

Closing Statement:

17:17:50 Rep. Tom France (D), HD 94, closed the hearing on HJ 8.

HEARING ON HB 770 – Generally revise regulation of electronic and social media communications

Opening Statement:

17:20:01 Rep. Matt Regier (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 770, Generally revise regulation of electronic and social media communications.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:24:40 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
17:25:20 Rep. Matt Regier
17:26:00 Rep. Kelly Kortum
17:28:00 Rep. Derek Harvey

Closing Statement:

17:29:31 Rep. Matt Regier (R), HD 4, closed the hearing on HB 770.

HEARING ON HB 723 – Revising class D motor carrier regulation

Opening Statement:

17:31:20 Rep. Brad Barker (R), HD 58, opened the hearing on HB 723, Revising class D motor carrier regulation.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

17:36:00 EJ Redding, Montana Solid Waste Contractors Association (MSWCA)
17:38:43 Brandon Sandbak, MacKenzie Disposal
17:43:17 Billy Fisher, Grizzly Disposal
17:43:54 Lonnie Johnson, Plentywood Sanitation
17:44:39 Jennifer Bernosky, Bitterroot Disposal and Evergreen Disposal
17:46:38 Russell Giulio, Giulio Disposal
17:47:00 Jessica Murphy, Bitterroot Disposal and Victor Transfer Station
17:47:40 Chad Bauer, Republic Services
17:48:15 Tom McGree, McGree Trucking
17:49:03 Jacqueline Papez, Self
17:50:35 Lance Johnson, L&L Site Service and Grizzly Disposal
17:51:21 Chance Sparrow

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:52:10 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
17:52:44 Rep. Brad Barker
17:54:30 Chair Katie Zolnikov

Closing Statement:

17:56:57 Rep. Brad Barker (R), HD 58, closed the hearing on HB 723.

18:00:01 **Recessed**
18:06:04 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HB 597 – Generally revising laws related to reallocation of 911 fees

Opening Statement:

18:06:25 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB 597, Generally revising laws related to reallocation of 911 fees.

Proponent Testimony:

18:10:30 Laura Schultz, Department of Justice (DOJ)
18:13:03 Alan Doane, Department of Justice (DOJ)
18:14:25 Alex Sterhan, Department of Justice (DOJ)
18:15:18 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers (AMT)
18:16:05 Thomas Jodoin, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

Opponent Testimony:

18:16:58 Geoff Feiss, Broadband Montana
18:23:43 Zae Hudson, Ravalli County Sheriffs, Ravalli County 911 and Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)
18:26:10 Tim Martindale, Gallatin County 911 and Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO)

Informational Witness Testimony:

18:28:35 Will Selph, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Questions from Committee:

18:29:00 Rep. Casey Knudsen
18:29:20 Laura Schultz, DOJ
18:30:25 Will Selph, DOJ
18:31:55 Rep. Kelly Kortum
18:34:47 Rep. Derek Harvey
18:35:38 Tim Martindale, APCO
18:37:10 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
18:37:45 Geoff Feiss, Broadband MT
18:39:51 Alan Doane, DOJ
18:42:32 Vice Chair Steven Galloway
18:46:07 Rep. Neil Duram
18:49:57 Rep. Laurie Bishop
18:50:18 Trevor Graff
18:47:45 Rep. Bob Phalen

Closing Statement:

19:00:31 Rep. Neil Duram (R), HD 2, closed the hearing on HB 597.

HEARING ON HB 737 – Revise laws related to coal fired generating unit remediation

Opening Statement:

19:05:40 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 737, Revise laws related to coal fired generating unit remediation.

Proponent Testimony:

19:10:56 Bob Gilbert, on behalf of City of Colstrip
19:12:57 Thomas Jodoin, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

Opponent Testimony:

19:13:48 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
19:15:54 Jessie Luther, Talen Montana
19:18:00 Ryan McLane, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)
19:20:22 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition

19:22:35 Amy Steinmetz, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
19:24:19 George Harris, Montana Coal Council
19:26:36 Charles Robison, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

19:28:16 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
19:28:29 Rep. Gary Parry
19:28:37 Vice Chair Steven Galloway
19:31:59 Chair Katie Zolnikov
19:33:40 Jessie Luther, Talen MT
19:34:55 Ryan McLane, NWE

Closing Statement:

19:36:50 Rep. Gary Parry (R), HD 39, closed the hearing on HB 737.

19:38:30 **Recessed**
20:05:30 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 492 – Revise telecommunications regulation

20:06:02 **Motion:** Rep. Josh Kassmier moved that **HB 492 DO PASS**.
20:06:20 **Motion:** Rep. Josh Kassmier moved that **HB 492 BE AMENDED**.
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
20:07:45 **Motion:** Rep. Josh Kassmier moved that **HB 492 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.
Vote: Motion carried 11-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Kortum, Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 524 – Revise energy laws relating to solar panels

20:08:30 **Motion:** Rep. Josh Kassmier moved that **HB 524 DO PASS**.
20:08:55 **Motion:** Rep. Josh Kassmier moved that **HB 524 BE AMENDED**.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

20:10:40

Motion: Rep. Josh Kassmier moved that **HB 524 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Vote: Motion carried 7-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Brewster, Rep. Fielder, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Kmetz, Rep. Kortum, voting no.

Rep. Kmetz, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 477 – Generally revise corporation laws regarding tribal entities

20:11:50

Motion: Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 477 DO PASS.**

Vote: Motion carried 12-1 by roll call vote with Rep. Fielder, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 484 – Establish broadband advisory commission

20:15:10

Motion: Vice Chair Katie Sullivan moved that **HB 484 DO PASS.**

Vote: Motion carried 7-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Brewster, Rep. Fielder, Rep. Galloway, Rep. Kmetz, Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Phalen, voting no.

Rep. Kmetz, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 597 – Generally revising laws related to reallocation of 911 fees

20:17:25

Motion: Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 597 DO PASS.**

Vote: Motion carried 9 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Kassmier, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 723 – Revising class D motor carrier regulation

20:20:05

Motion: Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 723 DO PASS.**

Vote: Motion failed 9 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Green, Rep. Kassmier, Rep. Knudsen, Rep. Zolnikov, voting yes.

Rep. Green, By Proxy

20:24:30

Motion: Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 723 BE TABLED.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 770 – Generally revise regulation of electronic and social media communications

- 20:25:33 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 770 DO PASS.**
- 20:25:50 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 770 BE AMENDED.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 20:27:09 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HB 770 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
Vote: Motion carried 9 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Sullivan, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 8 – Joint resolution regarding Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks

- 20:29:25 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 8 DO PASS.**
Vote: Motion failed 9 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Harvey, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Sullivan, voting yes.
- 20:31:07 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 8 BE TABLED.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 5 – Resolution for congressional term limits

- 20:31:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 5 DO PASS.**
Vote: Motion failed 10 - 3 by roll call vote with Rep. Brewster, Rep. Kmetz, Rep. Zolnikov, voting yes.
Rep. Kmetz, By Proxy
- 20:33:10 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 5 BE TABLED.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 10 – Resolution for reaffirming Montana’s commitment to its relationship with Taiwan

- 20:33:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 10 DO PASS.**
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 12 – Joint resolution to request a ban on pharmaceutical ads
on public airwaves**

20:34:30

Motion: Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 12 DO PASS.**

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 20:37:08

Lucinda Blair, Secretary

Additional Documents: EXHIBIT(230224FEH)