

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

Call to Order: Chair Rep. Llew Jones-R, on February 27, 2023 at 3:26 PM, in Room 102

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Rep. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. David Bedey (R)
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Naarah Hastings (R)
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Terry Falk (R)
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Matt Regier (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
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 45 02/24/2023
HB 190 02/24/2023

Executive Action:

HB 45 DO PASS
HB 190 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 270 DO PASS AS AMENDED

16:37:59 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzpatrick moved to authorize the drafting of a bill by the committee based upon the bill draft handed out.

16:37:59 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:38:56

Committee Discussion:

16:39:04 Rep. Fiona Nave

16:39:28 Rep. Mike Hopkins

16:40:18 Rep. Paul Tuss

16:40:42 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

16:41:12 Rep. Bill Mercer

16:42:46 Vice Chair Caferro

16:43:03 Rep. Llew Jones

16:43:22 Julie Johnson

16:43:38 Vice Chair Caferro

16:44:14 Rep. Paul Tuss

16:46:12 [EXHIBIT\(230227APHb1\)](#)

16:40:51 Rep. Hastings joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 45 - Provide oversight and standard for community benefits/charity care

Opening Statement:

15:28:20 Rep. Bob Keenan (R), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 45, Provide oversight and standard for community benefits/charity care.

Proponent Testimony:

15:29:41 Kim Akin, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

15:31:11 Dwayne Preshinger, Montana Hospital Association

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:29:23 Rep. Gillette joined the meeting.

15:30:25 Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Stewart-Peregoy joined the meeting.

15:31:52 Rep. Jane Gillette

15:33:17 Rep. Bob Keenan-R

15:33:30 Rep. Schillinger, Rep. Windy Boy, and Rep. Hastings left the meeting.

15:34:01 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

15:34:38 Rep. Bill Mercer

15:35:11 Rep. Bob Keenan-R

15:37:22 Rep. Jim Hamilton

Closing Statement:

15:39:13 Rep. Bob Keenan (R), HD 5, closed the hearing on HB 45.

HEARING ON HB 190 - Provide for a state government performance and results act

Opening Statement:

15:39:46 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, opened the hearing on HB 190, Provide for a state government performance and results act.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

15:43:05 Chris Dorrington, Director, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:45:42 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
15:46:06 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
15:48:48 Rep. Fiona Nave
15:49:16 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
15:53:09 Chris Dorrington, DEQ
15:54:16 Rep. David Bedey
15:55:17 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
16:01:24 Rep. David Bedey
16:02:17 Chris Dorrington, DEQ
16:02:57 Rep. Jim Hamilton
16:05:53 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
16:08:57 Vice Chair Caferro joined the meeting.
16:09:16 Rep. Jane Gillette
16:10:06 Rep. Bill Mercer-R
16:12:22 Rep. Jane Gillette
16:12:56 Chris Dorrington, DEQ

Closing Statement:

16:16:12 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, closed the hearing on HB 190.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 45 - Provide oversight and standard for community benefits/charity care

16:20:25 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 45 DO PASS.**

16:20:25 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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

16:21:10 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 190 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:21:18 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

16:21:34 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

16:23:26 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:24:16 **Motion:** Rep. Jim Hamilton moved that **HB 190 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:24:43 Julie Johnson

16:24:47 previous off

16:24:54 Rep. Bill Mercer

16:25:54 Rep. David Bedey

16:27:56 Rep. Jim Hamilton

16:24:16 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:28:44 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 190 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

16:28:44 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 270 - Extend sunset on natural resource operation funding

16:29:33 **Motion:** Rep. Jerry Schillinger moved that **HB 270 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

16:29:33 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:30:05 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 270 DO PASS.**

16:30:26 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 270 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:30:43 Julie Johnson

16:31:01 Rep. Keogh joined the meeting.

16:31:51 Rep. Jerry Schillinger

16:30:26 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:32:28 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Keenan moved that **HB 270 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

16:40:51 Rep. Hastings joined the meeting.

16:37:59 Rep. Fitzpatrick moved to authorize the drafting of a bill by the committee based upon the bill draft handed out.

16:38:56

16:32:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:46:33

Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230227APHbad\)](#)