

MINUTES
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (H) FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Ross Fitzgerald-R, on March 14, 2023 at 3:01 PM, in 172

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Ross Fitzgerald, Chair (R)
Rep. Tom France, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Baum (D)
Rep. Lee Deming (R)
Rep. Neil Duram (R)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Brandon Ler (R)
Rep. Denley Loge (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Eric Matthews (D)
Rep. Russel Miner (R)
Rep. Gary Parry (R)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Edward Butcher (R)
Rep. Jonathan Karlen (D)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Staff Present: Toni Henneman, Research Analyst
LJ Jennings, Secretary
Rolf Johnson, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 58 03/10/2023

SB 76 03/10/2023

SB 88 03/10/2023

Executive Action:

15:02:30 Rep. Duram has left

HEARING ON SB 58 - Increase landowner payment cap for block management

Opening Statement:

15:02:41 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB 58, Increase landowner payment cap for block management.

Proponent Testimony:

15:04:58 Lt Governor Kristen Juras, Governor's Office

15:05:22 Rep. Edward Butcher joined the meeting.

15:05:39 Peggy Trenk, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, (RMEF)

15:06:21 Ed Beall, Private Land, Public Wildlife Council, (PLPW,

15:07:12 Rep. Jonathan Karlen joined the meeting.

15:08:15 Hope Stockwell, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

15:10:08 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation, (MFBF)

15:10:49 Charles Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana, (UPOM)

15:11:28 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stock Growers Association, (MSGA)

15:11:54 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation, (MWF)

15:12:32 Jeff Herbert, Montana Sportsmen Alliance, (MSA)

15:13:22 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

15:14:43 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

15:16:42 Dale Tribby, Montana Sportsmen Alliance, (MSA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:19:37	Rep. Bob Phalen
15:19:55	Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R
15:20:30	Rep. Bob Phalen
15:20:55	Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R
15:21:07	Vice Chair Tom France
15:21:46	Hope Stockwell, FWP
15:22:00	Vice Chair Tom France
15:22:15	Hope Stockwell, FWP
15:22:41	Vice Chair Tom France
15:23:03	Hope Stockwell, FWP
15:23:35	Vice Chair Tom France
15:23:50	Hope Stockwell, FWP
15:24:31	Rep. Denley Loge
15:24:57	Rep. Marilyn Marler
15:26:27	Hope Stockwell, FWP
15:26:41	Rep. Marilyn Marler
15:26:46	Hope Stockwell, FWP
15:27:50	Rep. Marilyn Marler
15:27:52	Rep. Gary Parry
15:27:54	Hope Stockwell, FWP
15:28:35	Rep. Bob Phalen
15:28:58	Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R

15:28:59 Rep. Bob Phalen

15:29:27 Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R

Closing Statement:

15:29:31 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, closed the hearing on SB 58.

HEARING ON SB 76 - Remove requirement to attach paper tags to a game animal carcass

Opening Statement:

15:31:36 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 76, Remove requirement to attach paper tags to a game animal carcass.

Proponent Testimony:

15:32:56 Lt Governor Kristen Juras, Governor's Office

15:33:41 Ron Howell, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

15:35:36 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation, (MWF)

15:36:29 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

15:37:18 Jeff Herbert, Montana Sportsmen Alliance, (MSA)

15:38:06 Dale Tribby, Montana Sportsmen Alliance, (MSA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:40:00 Rep. Gary Parry

15:40:42 Ron Howell, FWP

15:40:49 Rep. Gary Parry

15:41:03 Ron Howell, FWP

Closing Statement:

15:41:33 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, closed the hearing on SB 76.

Discussion:

15:41:40 Rep. Neil Duram joined the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 88 - Exempt lifetime fishing licenses for the blind from AIS pass

Opening Statement:

15:42:11 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 49, opened the hearing on SB 88, Exempt lifetime fishing licenses for the blind from AIS pass.

Proponent Testimony:

15:44:08 Lt. Governor Kristen Juras, Governors Office

15:44:47 Emily Cooper, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

15:45:43 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation, (MWF)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:46:43 Rep. Denley Loge

15:47:06 Emily Cooper, FWP Licensing Bureau Chief, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

15:47:20 Rep. Neil Duram

15:47:51 Emily Cooper, FWP Licensing Bureau Chief, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

15:48:10 Rep. Neil Duram

15:48:18 Emily Cooper, FWP Licensing Bureau Chief, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, (FWP)

Closing Statement:

15:48:39 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 49, closed the hearing on SB 88.

15:49:23 Vice Chair France has left

15:50:23 **Committee Discussion:** Amendments

15:50:37 Rep. Bob Phalen

15:50:38 Rep. Brandon Ler

15:50:41 Rep. Denley Loge

15:51:33 Rep. Gary Parry

15:51:47 Rep. Marilyn Marler

15:52:40 Rep. Russel Miner

15:52:57 Rep. Neil Duram

15:53:22 Chair Ross Fitzgerald

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:53:34

LJ Jennings, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230314FIHaad\)](#)