

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

Call to Order: Chair Bob Keenan-R, on March 20, 2023 at 8:34 AM, 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. Jane Gillette (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Naarah Hastings (R)
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)
Rep. Joe Read (R)
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Terry Falk (R)
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Matt Regier (R)
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 380 03/13/2023

HB 383 03/13/2023

HB 449 03/13/2023

HB 469 03/14/2023

HB 587 03/14/2023

HB 588 03/14/2023

Executive Action:

HB 588 DO PASS

HB 587 DO PASS

HB 469 DO PASS

HEARING ON HB 449 - Provide for certified pediatric complex care assistant services

Opening Statement:

08:36:07 Rep. Alice Buckley (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 449, Provide for certified pediatric complex care assistant services.

Proponent Testimony:

08:39:34 Jean Branscum, CEO, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

08:40:33 Erin Hoch, self

08:44:15 Melody Cunningham, Doctor, Montana Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

08:47:14 Patricia Notario, Montana Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

08:49:35 Tal Goldin, Disability Rights Montana

08:51:34 Jackie Mohlar, Executive Director, Family Outreach

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:52:41 Gene Hermanson, Chief Financial Officer, Medicaid, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

08:53:00 Quenlin O'Connor, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Questions from Committee:

08:53:21 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

08:54:04 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI

08:54:26 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS

08:56:22 Rep. Jane Gillette

08:56:58 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS
09:05:01 Rep. Jane Gillette
09:05:26 Quinlan O'Connor, DLI
09:06:41 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter
09:08:05 Rep. Alice Buckley-D
09:08:33 Vice Chair Mary Caferro
09:09:04 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS
09:11:07 Vice Chair Mary Caferro
09:11:50 Rep. Alice Buckley-D
09:14:58 Rep. Jane Gillette
09:15:43 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS
09:18:31 Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy
09:20:17 Rep. Alice Buckley-D
09:21:05 Rep. Jim Hamilton
09:21:52 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS
09:28:12 Rep. Bill Mercer
09:28:49 Rep. Alice Buckley-D
09:29:40 Chair Llew Jones
09:32:00 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS
09:33:43 Rep. Connie Keogh
09:35:13 Melody Cunningham, AAP
09:38:37 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy
09:39:18 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS

Closing Statement:

09:41:41 Rep. Alice Buckley (D), HD 63, closed the hearing on HB 449.

HEARING ON HB 383 - Establish the Montana hunters and anglers community fund

Opening Statement:

09:44:01 Rep. Tom France (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HB 383, Establish the Montana hunters and anglers community fund.

Proponent Testimony:

09:49:39 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

09:51:17 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF), Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA)

09:52:49 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

Opponent Testimony:

09:54:44 Bob Gilbert, Walleye's Unlimited Montana (WUM)

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:57:29 Lena Havron, Chief Financial Officer, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee:

09:57:53 Rep. John Fitzpatrick

09:58:56 Rep. Tom France-D

Closing Statement:

10:00:49 Rep. Tom France (D), HD 94, closed the hearing on HB 383.

HEARING ON HB 469 - Revise taxation of horizontally recompleted wells

Opening Statement:

10:04:10 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, opened the hearing on HB 469, Revise taxation of horizontally recompleted wells.

Proponent Testimony:

10:07:11 Alan Olson, Executive Director, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)

10:09:14 Shelby Demars, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties

10:11:12 Gordon Oelkers, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:13:17 Jared Isom, Economist, Department of Revenue (DOR)

10:13:33 Tyler Flaig, Manager, National Resources Tax Unit, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

10:14:07 Rep. Paul Tuss

10:14:43 Rep. Larry Brewster-R

10:15:47 Rep. Jim Hamilton

10:16:05 Tyler Flaig, DOR

10:16:30 Rep. Jim Hamilton

10:16:55 Jared Isom, DOR

10:17:18 Tyler Flaig, DOR

10:20:23 Rep. Terry Falk

10:21:04 Rep. Larry Brewster-R

10:21:21 Alan Olson, MPA

Closing Statement:

10:24:03 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, closed the hearing on HB 469.

HEARING ON HB 380 - Establish a grant funding program to support homelessness care providers

Opening Statement:

10:27:10 Rep. Gregory Frazer (R), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 380, Establish a grant funding program to support homelessness care providers.

Proponent Testimony:

10:28:06 Sam Forstag, Montana Coalition to Solve Homelessness

[EXHIBIT\(230320APHa1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230320APHa2\)](#)

10:32:32 Jill Bonny, Executive Director, Poverello Center Emergency Shelter, Missoula

10:34:42 Jenna Huey, Manager, Emergency Shelter Services, HRDC, Bozeman

10:37:54 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

10:39:20 Tal Goldin, Disability Rights Montana

10:41:14 Matt Kuntz, NAMI Montana

10:42:30 Jeff Buscher, United Way

10:44:42 Amanda Cahill, Montana Association of Community Disabilities Providers, Montana Areas on Aging

10:45:10 Erin McGowan, Human Resources Development Councils Association (HRDC)

10:46:52 Aimee Grmoljez, City of Billings, Billings Clinic

10:48:00 Tonya Horn, Executive Director, Flathead Warming Center

10:51:28 Christopher Krager, Samaritans House, Kalispell

10:53:28 Matt Lundgren, Executive Director, Montana Rescue Mission, Billings

10:56:27 Tirza Asbell, Advocacy Director, Montana Women Vote

Proponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:57:47 Jessie Counts, Administrator, Human and Community Services Division, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

10:58:02 Erica Johnston, Executive Director, Human Services, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

Questions from Committee:

08:36:35 Rep. Moore left the meeting.
08:36:46 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter and Rep. Hopkins joined the meeting.
08:39:19 Rep. Falk joined the meeting.
08:45:59 Rep. Bedey left the meeting.
08:58:26 Vice Chair Caferro joined the meeting.
09:01:11 Rep. Windy Boy joined the meeting.
09:45:00 Vice Chair Keenan assumed the gavel.
10:33:53 Rep. Moore joined the meeting.
10:53:30 Rep. Falk and Rep. Mercer left the meeting.
10:58:37 Rep. Jim Hamilton
10:59:01 Jenna Huey, Bozeman Shelter
10:59:31 Rep. Gillette and Rep. Hopkins left the meeting.
11:02:25 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy
11:03:19 Jessie Counts, DPHHS
11:05:57 Rep. Gregory Frazer-R

Closing Statement:

11:06:56 Rep. Gregory Frazer (R), HD 78, closed the hearing on HB 380.

HEARING ON HB 587 - Generally revise school finance laws related to property taxes

Opening Statement:

11:08:18 Chair Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 587, Generally revise school finance laws related to property taxes.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230320APHa3\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

- 11:13:12 Ryan Evans, Assistant Budget Director, Governor's Office of Budget Program and Planning (OBPP)
- 11:14:05 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association, Coalition of Advocates for Public Schools (CAMPS)
- 11:16:53 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponent Testimony:

- 11:18:12 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA_

[EXHIBIT\(230320APHa4\)](#)

Informational Witness Testimony:

- 11:25:12 Paul Taylor, Budget Analyst, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
- 11:25:26 Nancy Hall, Office of Budget Program and Planning (OBPP)

Questions from Committee:

- 11:24:28 Rep. Read left the meeting.
- 11:25:47 Rep. Jim Hamilton
- 11:27:05 Rep. Llew Jones-R

Closing Statement:

- 11:39:15 Chair Llew Jones (R), HD 18, closed the hearing on HB 587.

HEARING ON HB 588 - Revise TEACH Act incentives to increase starting teacher salary

Opening Statement:

- 11:40:16 Chair Llew Jones (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 588, Revise TEACH Act incentives to increase starting teacher salary.

Proponent Testimony:

- 11:43:22 Lance Melton, Coalition of Advocates for Montana's Public Schools (CAMPS)

11:45:43 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe

11:46:41 Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Education Advisor, Montana Governor's Office (GOV)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

11:47:59 Chair Llew Jones (R), HD 18, closed the hearing on HB 588.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 588 - Revise TEACH Act incentives to increase starting teacher salary

11:48:33 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 588 DO PASS.**

09:08:23 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 587 - Generally revise school finance laws related to property taxes

11:50:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 587 DO PASS.**

09:08:23 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 469 - Revise taxation of horizontally recompleted wells

11:51:04 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 469 DO PASS.**

09:08:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 6 by roll call vote with Rep. Caferro, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Keogh, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, Rep. Windy Boy, voting no.

11:51:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 469 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:48:30 Rep. Read joined the meeting.

11:49:42 Rep. Hopkins joined the meeting.

11:51:48 Rep. Tuss

11:52:56 Chair Llew Jones

09:08:23 **Vote:** Motion failed 13 - 10 by roll call vote with Rep. Bedey, Rep. Caferro, Rep. Fitzpatrick, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Keogh, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Moore, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, Rep. Tuss, Rep. Windy Boy, voting yes.

11:56:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **HB 469 DO PASS.**

09:08:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 6 by voice vote with Rep. Caferro, Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Keogh, Rep. Kerr-Carpenter, Rep. Stewart Peregoy, Rep. Windy Boy, voting no.

11:56:00 Rep. Windy Boy joined the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:58:40

Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230320APHaad\)](#)