

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

Call to Order: Chair Marta Bertoglio-R, on March 23, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 472

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Larry Brewster, Chair (R)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)
Rep. Steve Gist (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)

Staff Present: Heather Kellum, Secretary
Laura Sankey Keip, 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 131 03/15/2023
SB 152 03/15/2023
SB 199 03/15/2023
SB 245 03/15/2023
SB 382 03/16/2023

Executive Action:

15:01:55 Rep. Sprunger has arrived

HEARING ON SB 245 - Revise municipal zoning to allow multifamily and mixed use development

Opening Statement:

15:02:27 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 245, Revise municipal zoning to allow multifamily and mixed-use development.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230323LOHa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

15:19:47 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish

[EXHIBIT\(230323LOHa2\)](#)

15:24:10 Patrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Nation

15:24:57 Daniel Carlino, Missoula City Counsel

15:27:44 Kendall Cotton, Frontier Institute

15:28:49 Sen. Forrest Mandeville, HD 57

15:29:33 John Metropolis, Airbnb

[EXHIBIT\(230323LOHa3\)](#)

15:31:30 David Herbst, Americans for Prosperity

15:32:58 Ethan Hanley, Associated Students of University of Montana

15:33:54 Mike Magrans, Outlaw Real-estate Partners

15:36:01 Sandra Vasecka, Ward 6

15:36:50 Genia Waller, Private Citizen

15:37:42 Matt Schmechel, Windbag Saloon

15:38:40 Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

15:39:23 Hannah Kosel, North Missoula Community Development Corporation

Opponent Testimony:

15:40:28 Joe McKenney, Great Falls City Counsel

[EXHIBIT\(230323LOHa4\)](#)

15:44:41 Andrew Hagemeyer, Montana Association of Planners

15:48:01 S.K. Rossi, Cities of Bozeman and Missoula

15:51:55 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

15:54:13 Pam Purinton, Billings City Counsel

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:56:43 Monica Plecker, City of Billings, Planning Division

Questions from Committee:

15:57:14 Rep. Kelly Kortum

16:00:24 Rep. Linda Reksten

16:02:48 Vice Chair Marta Bertoglio

16:03:38 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

16:04:58 Rep. Steve Gist

16:08:07 Rep. Katie Zolnikov

16:09:31 Rep. Sherry Essmann

16:15:12 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

16:19:23 Rep. Steve Gist

16:20:17 Rep. Kelly Kortum

16:24:25 Rep. Steven Galloway

Closing Statement:

16:25:23 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, closed the hearing on SB 245.

HEARING ON SB 131 - Revise exempt subdivision review timelines

Opening Statement:

16:30:07 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, opened the hearing on SB 131, Revise exempt subdivision review timelines.

Proponent Testimony:

16:32:18 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

16:33:16 Andrew Hagemeyer, Montana Association of Planners

16:34:17 Glenn Oppel, Governor's Office

16:35:14 Tara DePuy, Montana Association of Counties

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

16:37:01 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, closed the hearing on SB 131.

HEARING ON SB 152 - Revise minor subdivision laws

Opening Statement:

16:37:25 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, opened the hearing on SB 152, Revise minor subdivision laws.

Proponent Testimony:

16:40:29 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

16:41:24 Andrew Hagemeyer, Montana Association of Planner

16:42:30 Tara DePuy, Montana Association of Counties

Opponent Testimony:

16:43:22 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Informational Center

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:46:25 Rep. Steve Gist

16:47:38 Rep. Steven Galloway

Closing Statement:

16:51:30 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, closed the hearing on SB 152.

HEARING ON SB 199 - Revise eligibility for resort communities and resort areas

Opening Statement:

16:52:00 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 199, Revise eligibility for resort communities and resort areas.

Proponent Testimony:

16:56:36 Darrell James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:57:54 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

16:59:26 Rep. Kelly Kortum

17:00:57 Vice Chair Jill Cohenour

17:03:22 Rep. Steve Gist

Closing Statement:

17:06:47 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 199.

HEARING ON SB 382 - Create the Montana Land Use Planning Act

Opening Statement:

17:07:14 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, opened the hearing on SB 382, Create the Montana Land Use Planning Act.

Proponent Testimony:

17:12:23 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns
[EXHIBIT\(230323LOHa5\)](#)

17:17:48 Andrew Hagemeyer, Montana Association of Planners

17:20:44 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

17:23:20 Kendall Cotton, Frontier Institute

17:24:10 Glenn Oppel, Governor's Office

17:25:15 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish

17:26:44 David Herbst, Americans for Prosperity

17:27:16 Brian Thompson, Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors

17:27:53 Sam Forstag, Cities of Missoula and Bozeman

17:28:12 Stewart Dogget, Montana Manufactured Housing RB Dealers Association

17:28:40 Jeff Essmann, Private Citizen

17:32:45 Margaret MacDonald, Big Sky 55+

17:33:37 Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

17:33:57 Ethan Hanley, Student Government of the University of Montana

Opponent Testimony:

17:34:30 Ann Hallowell, Private Citizen

[EXHIBIT\(230323LOHa6\)](#)

17:37:30 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center

17:40:15 Bob Horne, Private Citizen

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:43:06 Renee Lemon, Montana Department of Commerce

Questions from Committee:

17:43:43 Rep. Kelly Kortum

17:50:00 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

17:55:28 Vice Chair Marta Bertoglio

17:58:25 Rep. Sherry Essmann

Closing Statement:

18:00:12 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, closed the hearing on SB 382.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:07:07

Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents:[EXHIBIT\(230323LOHaad\)](#)