

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Bob Phalen-R, on March 23, 2023 at 9:01 AM, in 455

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Julie Dooling, Chair (R)  
Rep. Kelly Kortum, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Bob Phalen, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Denise Baum (D)  
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)  
Rep. Paul Green (R)  
Rep. Gary Parry (R)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)  
Rep. Frank Smith (D)  
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)  
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)  
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)  
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)  
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Tony Brockman (R)  
Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**Staff Present:** Heather Kellum, Secretary  
Rebecca Power, 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 432 03/16/2023

SB 481 03/16/2023

SB 482 03/16/2023

SB 483 03/16/2023

SB 498 03/16/2023

Executive Action:



09:04:30 Rep. Brockman has arrived

09:04:34 Rep. Frazer has arrived

**HEARING ON SB 481 - Require cast vote records**

**Opening Statement:**

09:03:16 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 481, Require cast vote records.

**Discussion:**

[EXHIBIT\(230323STHa1\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:05:19 Becky Stockton, Private Citizen

09:05:37 Gina Reilly, Private Citizen

09:07:08 Lisa Bennett, Private Citizen

**Opponent Testimony:**

09:10:14 Karen Alley, Montana Association of Counties

09:12:24 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:14:18 Dana Corson, Secretary of State's Office

**Questions from Committee:**

09:14:46 Rep. Ed Stafman

09:18:37 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

09:19:17 Rep. Denise Baum

09:22:07 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

09:23:38 Rep. Linda Reksten

09:25:06 Rep. Gary Parry  
09:28:20 Rep. Kenneth Walsh  
09:33:25 Rep. Ed Stafman  
09:34:46 Rep. Gary Parry  
09:35:35 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
09:38:24 Rep. Denise Baum  
09:40:17 Rep. Kenneth Walsh  
09:43:06 Chair Julie Dooling  
09:45:12 Rep. Paul Green

**Closing Statement:**

09:46:18 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 481.

**HEARING ON SB 432 - Require a report on the use of Help America Vote Act funds**

**Opening Statement:**

09:46:59 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, opened the hearing on SB 432,  
Require a report on the use of Help America Vote Act funds.

**Discussion:**

[EXHIBIT\(230323STHa2\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:52:44 Becky Stockton, Private Citizen  
09:55:01 Lisa Bennett, Private Citizen

**Opponent Testimony:**

09:53:20 Gina Reilly, Private Citizen

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:57:29 Dana Corson, Secretary of State's Office

**Questions from Committee:**

09:57:59 Rep. Gary Parry

10:00:11 Rep. Tony Brockman

**Closing Statement:**

10:02:03 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, closed the hearing on SB 432.

**HEARING ON SB 482 - Revise laws related to voting system testing and certification**

**Opening Statement:**

10:03:31 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 482, Revise laws related to voting system testing and certification.

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:05:57 Loy Chvilicek, Private Citizen

10:06:32 Lisa Bennett, Private Citizen

**Opponent Testimony:**

10:07:35 Karen Alley, Montana Association of Counties

10:08:51 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

10:11:44 Dana Corson, Secretary of State's Office

**Questions from Committee:**

10:12:06 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum

10:13:24 Rep. Tony Brockman

10:14:32 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

10:17:34 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

10:19:50 Rebecca Power

10:20:36 Rep. Tony Brockman

10:21:35 Vice Chair Bob Phalen

**Closing Statement:**

10:23:12 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 482.

**HEARING ON SB 498 - Revise laws related to absentee ballots**

**Opening Statement:**

10:23:47 Sen. Shane Morigeau (D), SD 95, opened the hearing on SB 498, Revise laws related to absentee ballots.

**Discussion:**

[EXHIBIT\(230323STHa3\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230323STHa4\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230323STHa5\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:28:14 Gina Reilly, Private Citizen

10:28:33 Lisa Bennett, Private Citizen

**Opponent Testimony:**

10:29:50 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

10:30:24 Dana Corson, Secretary of State's Office

**Questions from Committee:**

10:30:46 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:32:09 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

10:33:40 Rep. Linda Reksten

**Closing Statement:**

10:37:14 Sen. Shane Morigeau (D), SD 95, closed the hearing on SB 498.

**HEARING ON SB 483 - Generally revising alternative project delivery laws**

**Opening Statement:**

10:40:03 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 65, opened the hearing on SB 483,  
Generally revising alternative project delivery laws.

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:52:17 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

10:56:43 Russ Katherman, Department of Administration Architecture and  
Engineering Division

**Questions from Committee:**

10:57:23 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

11:02:14 Rep. Michael Yakawich

11:09:23 Rep. Frank Smith

11:12:49 Rep. Tony Brockman

11:17:55 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

11:20:30 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

11:21:28 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

11:26:35 Vice Chair Bob Phalen

11:28:18 Rep. Zack Wirth

11:29:43 Rep. Linda Reksten

11:32:22 Rep. Michael Yakawich

11:35:09 Chair Julie Dooling

11:36:15 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

**Closing Statement:**

11:38:04 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 65, closed the hearing on SB 483.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:46:01

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Heather Kellum, Secretary

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