

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

Call to Order: Chair Bob Phalen-R, on March 24, 2023 at 9:00 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. Tony Brockman (R)
Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)
Rep. Gary Parry (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (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 338 03/16/2023

SB 385 03/16/2023

SB 393 03/16/2023

SB 416 03/16/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON SB 338 - Revise election laws related to candidate filing fees

Opening Statement:

09:01:47 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 338, Revise election laws related to candidate filing fees.

Proponent Testimony:

09:06:43 Dana Corson, Secretary of State's Office

09:07:59 Sheridan Johnson, MT Chamber of Commerce

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:09:45 Rep. Gary Parry

09:10:43 Vice Chair Bob Phalen

09:11:37 Chair Julie Dooling

09:12:32 Rep. Michael Yakawich

09:13:23 Rep. Denise Baum

09:15:24 Rep. Frank Smith

Closing Statement:

09:16:22 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 338.

HEARING ON SB 416 - Revise timeline for changes to precinct boundaries after redistricting

Opening Statement:

09:19:42 Sen. Janet Ellis (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 416, Revise timeline for changes to precinct boundaries after redistricting.

Proponent Testimony:

09:22:24 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:24:24 Rep. Gary Parry

Closing Statement:

09:26:04 Sen. Janet Ellis (D), SD 41, closed the hearing on SB 416.

09:27:32 **Recessed**

10:13:59 **Reconvened**

10:28:27 Rep. Sprunger has arrived

HEARING ON SB 393 - Revise campaign finance laws

Opening Statement:

10:14:07 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 393, Revise campaign finance laws.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

10:20:51 Becky Piske, Private Citizen

10:23:56 Robyn Morrison, League of Women Voters

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:26:18 Kym Trujillo, Commissioner of Political Practices Offices

[EXHIBIT\(230324STHa1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230324STHa2\)](#)

Questions from Committee:

10:28:32 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

10:33:17 Rep. Linda Reksten

10:34:44 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum

10:38:50 Rep. Gary Parry

10:39:41 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:43:51 Rep. Linda Reksten

10:45:04 Rep. Denise Baum

10:47:20 Chair Julie Dooling

10:51:57 Rep. Denise Baum

Closing Statement:

10:55:40 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R), SD 10, closed the hearing on SB 393.

10:59:14 **Recessed**

11:11:45 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON SB 385 - Generally revise election laws

Opening Statement:

11:12:03 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 385,
Generally revise election laws.

Proponent Testimony:

11:20:11 Becky Stockton, Private Citizen

[EXHIBIT\(230324STHa3\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230324STHa4\)](#)

11:26:31 Ruth Rater, Private Citizen

[EXHIBIT\(230324STHa5\)](#)

11:29:40 Karen O'Donnell, Private Citizen

11:31:34 Darin Gaub, Lewis and Clark County Republican Central Committee

11:32:29 Loy Chvilicek, Private Citizen

11:32:55 Peggy Miller, Private Citizen

11:37:34 Lisa Bennett, Private Citizen

11:41:16 Kari BB, Private Citizen

Opponent Testimony:

11:43:45 Becky Piske, Private Citizen

11:44:36 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recordors

[EXHIBIT\(230324STHa6\)](#)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

11:49:24 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

11:49:50 Rep. Gary Parry

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:51:57

Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230324STHaad\)](#)