

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

Call to Order: Chair Marta Bertoglio-R, on March 25, 2023 at 9:04 AM, 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. Scot Kerns (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (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 170 03/23/2023
SB 195 03/23/2023
SB 391 03/23/2023
SB 406 03/23/2023
SB 407 03/23/2023
SB 500 03/23/2023

Executive Action:

SB 131

SB 152
SB 199
SB 143
SB 173
SB 158
SB 391

HEARING ON SB 170 - Allow for administrative minor subdivision process

Opening Statement:

09:06:27 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, opened the hearing on SB 170, Allow for administrative minor subdivision process.

Proponent Testimony:

09:10:45 Andrew Hagemeyer, Montana Association of Planners

09:13:20 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

09:14:34 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

09:15:01 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:15:47 Rep. Steven Galloway

Closing Statement:

09:16:18 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, closed the hearing on SB 170.

09:25:33 Rep. Gunderson has arrived

HEARING ON SB 407 - Revise municipal zoning laws

Opening Statement:

09:17:45 Sen. Shane Morigeau (D), SD 95, opened the hearing on SB 407, Revise municipal zoning laws.

Proponent Testimony:

09:20:10 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

Opponent Testimony:

09:20:56 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

09:22:47 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:23:40 Rep. Steve Gist

09:25:29 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

09:27:34 Vice Chair Jill Cohenour

09:30:29 Rep. Mark Thane

Closing Statement:

09:33:58 Sen. Shane Morigeau (D), SD 95, closed the hearing on SB 407.

HEARING ON SB 391 - Providing partial salary or light duty for injured county detention officers

Opening Statement:

09:34:43 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 391, Providing partial salary or light duty for injured county detention officers.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230325LOHa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

09:36:47 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officer's Association

09:38:35 Claire Swain, Lewis and Clark County's Sheriff's Office

09:42:38 Jennifer Root, Flathead County Sheriff's Office

09:44:29 Daniel Bruno, Lewis and Clark Sheriff's Office

09:45:37 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:47:08 Rep. Steve Gist

09:48:35 Rep. Scot Kerns

Closing Statement:

09:50:08 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, closed the hearing on SB 391.

HEARING ON SB 406 - Revise laws related to local building codes

Opening Statement:

09:51:46 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 406, Revise laws related to local building codes.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:55:03 Eric Copeland, Department of Labor and Industry

Questions from Committee:

09:55:46 Vice Chair Jill Cohenour

09:59:43 Rep. Steve Gist

10:00:33 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

10:01:41 Rep. Mark Thane

10:03:15 Rep. Steven Galloway

Closing Statement:

10:05:57 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 406.

10:20:37 Rep. Bishop has arrived

HEARING ON SB 195 - Exempt certain structures from building code fire sprinkler requirement

Opening Statement:

10:07:24 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 195, Exempt certain structures from building code fire sprinkler requirement.

Proponent Testimony:

10:10:38 Sam Forstag, Montana Coalition to Solve Homelessness

10:12:20 Felicia Burg, Private Citizen

10:14:07 Lisa Donnot, Family Promise

10:17:47 Stephanie Baucus, Private Citizen

10:21:26 Tim Tatarka, Family Promise

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:24:21 Eric Copeland, Department of Labor and Industry

Questions from Committee:

10:24:53 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:25:40 Rep. Scot Kerns

10:30:02 Rep. Steve Gist

10:30:57 Rep. Steven Galloway

10:33:46 Rep. Sherry Essmann

Closing Statement:

10:35:06 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 195.

HEARING ON SB 500 - Provide uniform duration limit for latecomer agreements

Opening Statement:

10:36:10 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 500, Provide uniform duration limit for latecomer agreements.

Proponent Testimony:

10:38:36 Sen. Ellie Boldman, SD 45

Opponent Testimony:

10:45:56 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns

10:48:15 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

10:50:12 Sam Forstag, Cities of Missoula and Bozeman

10:50:50 Amy Grmoljez, Montana Bankers Association

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:53:27 Vice Chair Jill Cohenour

10:54:21 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe

10:57:10 Rep. Scot Kerns

10:59:35 Rep. Laurie Bishop

11:01:29 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

Closing Statement:

11:03:41 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 500.

11:05:42 **Recessed**

11:29:24 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 131 - Revise exempt subdivision review timelines

11:29:37 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 131 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:29:37 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:29:37 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Scot Kerns

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 152 - Revise minor subdivision laws

11:30:54 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 152 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:31:14 Vice Chair Jill Cohenour

11:31:34 Laura Sankey Keip

11:31:40 **Motion:** Rep. Jill Cohenour moved that **SB 152 BE AMENDED.**

11:31:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:32:09 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 152 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

11:32:09 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:32:09 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Steven Galloway

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 199 - Revise eligibility for resort communities and resort areas

11:32:49 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 199 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:32:49 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 3 by voice vote with Rep. Kerns, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Lynch, voting no.

11:32:49 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Linda Reksten

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 143 - Allow for a referendum to terminate citizen initiated zoning district

11:34:40 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 143 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:35:01 Vice Chair Jill Cohenour

11:35:35 Rep. Scot Kerns

11:36:10 Vice Chair Jill Cohenour

11:36:39 **Motion:** Rep. Jill Cohenour moved that **SB 143 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:37:03 Rep. Steven Galloway

11:37:27 Rep. Scot Kerns

11:36:39 **Vote:** Motion failed 11 - 5 by voice vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Cohenour, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Thane, voting yes.

11:38:35 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 143 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:38:35 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 5 by voice vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Cohenour, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Thane, voting no.

11:38:35 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Katie Zolnikov

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 173 - Revise county road abandonment process laws

11:40:04 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 173 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:40:04 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:40:04 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Steve Gist

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 158 - Revise family transfer law

11:41:05 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 158 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:41:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 4 by voice vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Cohenour, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Thane, voting no.

11:41:05 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Larry Brewster

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 391 - Providing partial salary or light duty for injured county detention officers

11:44:07 **Motion:** Rep. Marta Bertoglio moved that **SB 391 BE CONCURRED IN.**

11:44:07 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:44:07 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Sherry Essmann

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:48:00

Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230325LOHaad\)](#)