

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Denley Loge-R, on March 27, 2023 at 2:48 PM, in 455

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Denley Loge, Chair (R)  
Rep. Neil Duram, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Brad Barker (R)  
Rep. Denise Baum (D)  
Rep. Tony Brockman (R)  
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)  
Rep. Tanner Smith (R)  
Rep. Frank Smith (D)  
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)  
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Edward Butcher (R)  
Rep. Bob Carter (D)

**Staff Present:** Sara Hess, Research Analyst  
Macy McCauley, 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 851 03/23/2023  
HB 853 03/23/2023

Executive Action:

HB 847 DO PASS  
SB 309  
SB 344  
SB 452

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 847 - Revise personalized vehicle license plates to display livestock brands**

14:51:22        **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 847 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

14:51:27        Vice Chair Neil Duram

14:51:28        Rep. Denise Baum

14:52:10        Vice Chair Dave Fern

14:53:25        Rep. Julie Dooling

14:55:05        Vice Chair Dave Fern

14:55:33        Rep. Tanner Smith

14:56:11        Rep. Frank Smith

14:56:29        Rep. Tony Brockman

14:51:22        **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Carter, Rep. Duram, Rep. Kerns, Rep. Smith, voting no.  
Rep. Kerns, By Proxy

**HEARING ON HB 851 - Establish a driving privilege card**

**Opening Statement:**

15:00:39        Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, opened the hearing on HB 851, Establish a driving privilege card.

**Discussion:**

14:59:20        Vice Chair Duram takes over as Chair.

15:00:41        Rep. Ed Stafman-D

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:08:25        Debra Hines

[EXHIBIT\(230327TRHa1\)](#)

15:12:03 Caroline Price  
15:14:11 Sarah Hullier  
15:17:58 Gloria Baldevia  
15:20:41 Robin Turner  
15:23:45 Sally Moyce  
15:26:02 Ita Killeen  
15:28:51 Marjorie Jackson  
15:31:58 Ellen Guettler  
15:35:06 Rebecca Miller  
15:36:50 Penelope Pierce

**Opponent Testimony:**

15:37:50 Rebecca Conners

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:39:58 Rep. Edward Butcher  
15:43:44 Vice Chair Dave Fern  
15:47:13 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
15:51:20 Rep. Edward Butcher  
15:52:51 Vice Chair Dave Fern  
15:57:06 Rep. Edward Butcher  
15:57:30 Rep. Bob Carter  
15:59:07 Rep. Edward Butcher  
15:59:48 Vice Chair Neil Duram  
16:02:58 Rep. Frank Smith

16:05:02 Vice Chair Neil Duram

16:06:22 Rep. Denise Baum

**Closing Statement:**

16:08:59 Rep. Ed Stafman (D), HD 62, closed the hearing on HB 851.

**Discussion:**

16:09:04 Rep. Ed Stafman-D

**HEARING ON HB 853 - Provide for sidewalks and shared-use paths that will improve school access**

**Opening Statement:**

16:15:05 Rep. Tony Brockman (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 853, Provide for sidewalks and shared-use paths that will improve school access.

**Discussion:**

16:15:07 Rep. Tony Brockman-R

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

16:17:44 Larry Flynn

**Questions from Committee:**

16:18:21 Vice Chair Dave Fern

16:20:24 Rep. Frank Smith

16:20:50 Rep. Tanner Smith

16:22:08 Vice Chair Dave Fern

16:23:17 Rep. Frank Smith

**Closing Statement:**

16:24:23 Rep. Tony Brockman (R), HD 9, closed the hearing on HB 853.

**Discussion:**

16:24:26 Rep. Tony Brockman-R

16:26:12 **Recessed**

16:43:00 **Reconvened**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 309 - Establish the Ensign James A Shelton Memorial Highway**

16:43:30 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **SB 309 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

16:45:45 Rep. Edward Butcher

16:45:47 Rep. Scot Kerns

16:43:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:43:30 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Edward Butcher

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 344 - Revise license plate laws**

16:50:34 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **SB 344 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:50:34 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:50:34 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Denley Loge

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 452 - Revise the transportation commission's authority to set speed limits**

16:52:35 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **SB 452 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

16:52:50 Rep. Edward Butcher

16:54:03 Vice Chair Neil Duram

16:52:35 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:52:35 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Bob Carter

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:56:10

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Macy McCauley, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230327TRHaad\)](#)