

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

Call to Order: Chair Denley Loge-R, on March 29, 2023 at 3:29 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. Edward Butcher (R)
Rep. Bob Carter (D)
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. Tony Brockman (R)

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 824 03/24/2023
HB 882 03/24/2023
HB 900 03/27/2023
HB 902 03/27/2023
HB 904 03/27/2023
HB 930 03/27/2023
HB 957 03/29/2023
SB 487 03/24/2023

Executive Action:

HB 824 TO TABLE
HB 851 TO TABLE
HB 853 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 882 TO TABLE
HB 900 TO TABLE
HB 902 DO PASS
HB 904 DO PASS
HB 930 TO TABLE
HB 957 DO PASS

HEARING ON HB 900 - Revise speed limits on certain secondary highways

Opening Statement:

15:31:57 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB 900, Revise speed limits on certain secondary highways.

Discussion:

15:31:58 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle-R

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:35:41 Vice Chair Dave Fern

15:39:37 Rep. Bob Carter

15:42:09 Vice Chair Neil Duram

15:43:02 Rep. Denise Baum

15:47:00 Vice Chair Dave Fern

Closing Statement:

15:49:27 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R), HD 67, closed the hearing on HB 900.

Discussion:

15:49:37 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle-R

HEARING ON SB 487 - Generally revise motor vehicle laws

Opening Statement:

15:52:54 Sen. Shelley Vance (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on SB 487, Generally revise motor vehicle laws.

Discussion:

15:52:57 Sen. Shelley Vance-R

Proponent Testimony:

15:54:45 Laurie Bakri

15:59:26 Rebecca Conners

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:00:21 Rep. Scot Kerns

16:02:16 Rep. Denise Baum

Closing Statement:

16:05:13 Sen. Shelley Vance (R), SD 34, closed the hearing on SB 487.

Discussion:

16:05:17 Sen. Shelley Vance-R

HEARING ON HB 882 - Exempt federally recognized tribal members from vehicle registration fees

Opening Statement:

16:06:25 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 882, Exempt federally recognized tribal members from vehicle registration fees.

Discussion:

16:06:28 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D

Proponent Testimony:

16:08:15 Patrick Yawaki

16:09:05 Keegan Medrano

16:13:52 Lance Forstar

[EXHIBIT\(230329TRHa1\)](#)

16:15:29 Ta'jin Perez

Questions from Committee:

16:12:54 Rep. Bob Carter

16:16:42 Rep. Bob Carter

16:17:01 Rep. Edward Butcher

16:18:22 Rep. Scot Kerns

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Closing Statement:

16:19:17 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D), HD 32, closed the hearing on HB 882.

Discussion:

16:19:22 Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy-D

HEARING ON HB 904 - Generally revise commercial driver's license laws

Opening Statement:

16:25:07 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 904,
Generally revise commercial driver's license laws.

Discussion:

16:25:09 Rep. Casey Knudsen-R

Proponent Testimony:

16:26:05 Brad Marten

[EXHIBIT\(230329TRHa2\)](#)

16:30:45 Jason Rittal

16:31:47 Duane Williams

16:35:23 Jim Dosenberry

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:38:34 Rep. Scot Kerns

16:38:35 Rep. Denise Baum

16:40:53 Rep. Frank Smith

Closing Statement:

16:41:47 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, closed the hearing on HB 904.

Discussion:

16:41:50 Rep. Casey Knudsen-R

HEARING ON HB 930 - Require only one license plate

Opening Statement:

16:43:44 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 930,
Require only one license plate.

Discussion:

16:43:46 Rep. Steven Galloway-R

EXHIBIT(230329TRHa3)

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

16:52:37 Brad Marten
16:54:29 Colonel Steve Lavin
16:56:05 Dan Smith
16:57:42 Lauri Bakri

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:59:34 Rep. Edward Butcher
17:00:41 Rep. Denise Baum
17:02:58 Rep. Frank Smith
17:03:40 Vice Chair Neil Duram
17:05:26 Rep. Bob Carter

Closing Statement:

17:06:37 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 930.

Discussion:

17:06:39 Rep. Steven Galloway-R

HEARING ON HB 902 - Generally revise driving laws

Opening Statement:

17:11:35 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 902,
Generally revise driving laws.

Discussion:

17:11:37 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald-R

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:15:29 Lauri Bakri

Questions from Committee:

17:15:12 Vice Chair Neil Duram

17:17:49 Rep. Scot Kerns

17:19:11 Vice Chair Dave Fern

17:23:25 Rep. Scot Kerns

17:26:15 Rep. Denise Baum

17:26:39 Rep. Tanner Smith

Closing Statement:

17:27:06 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, closed the hearing on HB 902.

Discussion:

17:27:09 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald-R

**HEARING ON HB 824 - Revise registration fee on certain high-value vehicles and
watercraft**

Opening Statement:

17:52:36 Rep. Brad Barker (R), HD 58, opened the hearing on HB 824, Revise registration fee on certain high-value vehicles and watercraft.

Discussion:

17:52:37 Rep. Brad Barker-R

[EXHIBIT\(230329TRHa4\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

17:59:08 Bob Carter

Opponent Testimony:

18:00:42 Thad Brinkman

[EXHIBIT\(230329TRHa5\)](#)

18:11:12 Scott Reichner

18:13:21 Scot Meredith

18:18:04 Stewart Doggete

18:19:34 Brandon Bretz

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

18:21:26 Rep. Denise Baum

18:23:23 Vice Chair Dave Fern

18:27:42 Rep. Julie Dooling

18:29:59 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

18:32:08 Vice Chair Dave Fern

18:34:59 Vice Chair Neil Duram

18:37:14 Rep. Tanner Smith

Closing Statement:

18:38:16 Rep. Brad Barker (R), HD 58, closed the hearing on HB 824.

Discussion:

18:38:19 Rep. Brad Barker-R

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 824 - Revise registration fee on certain high-value vehicles and watercraft

18:43:45 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 824 DO PASS.**

18:43:48 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 824 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

18:45:48 Rep. Brad Barker

18:45:49 Rep. Tanner Smith

18:46:22 Rep. Bob Carter

18:48:25 Rep. Tanner Smith

18:43:48 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

18:49:26 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 824 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

18:49:36 Vice Chair Dave Fern

18:50:52 Rep. Bob Carter

18:51:41 Vice Chair Neil Duram

18:52:29 Rep. Julie Dooling

18:55:26 Rep. Tanner Smith

18:55:33 Chair Denley Loge

18:57:53 Rep. Tony Brockman

18:49:26 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

18:57:56 **Motion:** Rep. Tony Brockman moved that **HB 824 TO TABLE.**

18:57:56 **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Smith, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 851 - Establish a driving privilege card

18:59:23 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 851 DO PASS.**

18:59:53 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 851 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

19:01:12 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

19:01:33 Vice Chair Neil Duram

19:01:51 Sara Hess

19:02:26 Rep. Denise Baum

18:59:53 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

19:03:46 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 851 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

19:03:55 Vice Chair Neil Duram

19:04:41 Vice Chair Dave Fern

19:06:39 Rep. Bob Carter

19:08:03 Chair Denley Loge

19:09:01 Rep. Tanner Smith

19:09:36 Rep. Frank Smith

19:10:22 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

19:03:46 **Vote:** Motion failed 8 - 7 by roll call vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Carter, Rep. Fern, Rep. Loge, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Smith, Rep. Sprunger, voting yes.

19:12:15 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 851 TO TABLE.**

19:12:15 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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

19:12:33 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 853 DO PASS.**

19:12:53 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 853 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

19:13:02 Sara Hess

19:12:53 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

19:16:33 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 853 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

19:16:46 Rep. Bob Carter

19:17:10 Vice Chair Neil Duram

19:17:39 Rep. Bob Carter

19:18:03 Rep. Tony Brockman

19:18:17 Chair Denley Loge

19:18:46 Rep. Tanner Smith
19:19:18 Vice Chair Dave Fern
19:19:32 Rep. Julie Dooling
19:20:19 Rep. Tony Brockman
19:21:11 Vice Chair Dave Fern
19:16:33 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 3 by voice vote with Rep. Carter, Rep. Kerns, Rep. Smith, voting no.
Rep. Kerns, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 882 - Exempt federally recognized tribal members from vehicle registration fees

19:23:32 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 882 DO PASS.**
19:23:32 **Vote:** Motion failed 10 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Carter, Rep. Fern, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Smith, voting yes.
19:24:56 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 882 TO TABLE.**
19:24:56 **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Smith, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 900 - Revise speed limits on certain secondary highways

19:25:42 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 900 DO PASS.**
Discussion:
19:26:01 Vice Chair Neil Duram
19:26:48 Rep. Bob Carter
19:26:56 Rep. Denise Baum
19:25:42 **Vote:** Motion failed 10 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Barker, Rep. Brockman, Rep. Kerns, Rep. Lynch, Rep. Smith, voting yes.
Rep. Kerns, By Proxy
19:28:16 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 900 TO TABLE.**
19:28:16 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 902 - Generally revise driving laws

19:28:59 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 902 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

19:29:16 Vice Chair Dave Fern
19:30:52 Rep. Denise Baum
19:32:04 Rep. Bob Carter
19:28:59 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 4 by roll call vote with Rep. Barker, Rep. Brockman, Rep. Carter, Rep. Dooling, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 904 - Generally revise commercial driver's license laws

19:34:47 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 904 DO PASS.**
19:34:47 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 930 - Require only one license plate

19:36:06 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 930 DO PASS.**
Discussion:
19:36:31 Vice Chair Dave Fern
19:36:37 **Motion:** Rep. Dave Fern moved that **HB 930 TO TABLE.**
19:36:37 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 3 by voice vote with Rep. Brockman, Rep. Carter, Rep. Smith, voting no.

HEARING ON HB 957 - Provide an appropriation for aerial enforcement of speeding laws on Highway 212

Opening Statement:

19:47:50 Rep. Duram opened the hearing on HB 957, Provide an appropriation for aerial enforcement of speeding laws on Highway 212.

Discussion:

19:48:10 Vice Chair Neil Duram

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

19:51:20 Vice Chair Dave Fern
19:52:14 Rep. Brad Barker
19:55:14 Rep. Tanner Smith
19:56:28 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger
19:58:28 Vice Chair Dave Fern
19:59:22 Rep. Denise Baum
20:00:02 Rep. Bob Carter
20:01:49 Rep. Julie Dooling
20:03:08 Rep. Frank Smith
20:03:31 Rep. Brad Barker

Closing Statement:

20:03:51 closed the hearing on HB 957.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 957 - Provide an appropriation for aerial enforcement of speeding laws on Highway 212

20:04:23 **Motion:** Rep. Neil Duram moved that **HB 957 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

20:04:29 Sara Hess
20:04:42 Chair Denley Loge
20:07:29 Rep. Julie Dooling
20:08:27 Rep. Tanner Smith
20:08:31 Rep. Bob Carter
20:10:06 Rep. Tony Brockman
20:10:52 Rep. Frank Smith

20:04:23

Vote: Motion carried 10 - 5 by roll call vote with Rep. Butcher, Rep. Carter, Rep. Kerns, Rep. Smith, Rep. Sprunger, voting no. Rep. Butcher, Rep. Kerns, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 20:12:47

Macy McCauley, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230329TRHaad\)](#)