

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

Call to Order: Chair Kelly Kortum-D, on March 30, 2023 at 8:04 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. Gregory Frazer (R)
Rep. Gary Parry (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Tony Brockman (R)
Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

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:

HB 933 03/28/2023

HB 941 03/28/2023

HB 947 03/28/2023

HB 953 03/28/2023

HR 5 03/27/2023

Executive Action:

HB 947 DO PASS
HR 5 DO PASS
HB 933 TO TABLE
HB 941 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HB 953 DO PASS AS AMENDED

08:08:45 Rep. Brockman has arrived

08:09:05 Rep. Stafman has arrived

HEARING ON HB 947 - Revise election laws

Opening Statement:

08:15:12 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 947, Revise election laws.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:17:53 Chris Gallus, Commissioner of Political Practices

08:20:10 Kym Trujillo, Office of the Commissioner of Political Practice

Questions from Committee:

08:18:18 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

08:21:59 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

08:24:02 Rep. Ed Stafman

08:24:46 Rep. Gary Parry

08:26:38 Rep. Denise Baum

Closing Statement:

08:28:53 Rep. George Nikolakakos (R), HD 26, closed the hearing on HB 947.

HEARING ON HR 5 - Resolution honoring Chuck Johnson

Opening Statement:

08:30:58 Rep. Melissa Romano (D), HD 81, opened the hearing on HR 5, Resolution honoring Chuck Johnson.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230330STHa1\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230330STHa2\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

08:33:16 Pat Hunt, Private Citizen

08:36:25 Molly Kruckenber, Montana Historical Society

08:37:23 Chris Gallus, Commissioner of Political Practice

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:38:44 Rep. Michael Yakawich

08:40:27 Rep. Tony Brockman

08:41:19 Chair Julie Dooling

Closing Statement:

08:41:39 Rep. Melissa Romano (D), HD 81, closed the hearing on HR 5.

09:03:31 Rep. Green has arrived

HEARING ON HB 933 - Adopt the original 13th amendment

Opening Statement:

08:42:47 Rep. Joe Read (R), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 933, Adopt the original 13th amendment.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230330STHa3\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230330STHa4\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230330STHa5\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230330STHa6\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

08:55:17 Bruce Spencer, State of Montana Bar

08:58:02 Shawn Slanger, Montana Defense Trial Association

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:59:20 Molly Kruckenberg, Montana Historical Society

Questions from Committee:

08:59:48 Rep. Gary Parry

09:02:21 Vice Chair Bob Phalen

09:04:01 Rep. Michael Yakawich

09:07:17 Vice Chair Bob Phalen

Closing Statement:

09:08:15 Rep. Joe Read (R), HD 93, closed the hearing on HB 933.

HEARING ON HB 941 - Establish a dog training and socialization program in the state prison

Opening Statement:

09:10:31 Rep. Gregory Frazer (R), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 941, Establish a dog training and socialization program in the state prison.

Proponent Testimony:

09:15:45 Maggie Bornstein, Montana American Civil Liberties Union
09:16:54 Scott Eychner, Montana Department of Corrections
09:18:16 Dr. Marie Suthers, Chair of Anthrozoology Department at Carroll College

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:27:20 Vice Chair Bob Phalen
09:30:34 Rep. Marta Bertoglio
09:34:40 Rep. Linda Reksten
09:36:47 Rep. Gary Parry
09:38:57 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger
09:42:50 Rep. Frank Smith
09:44:28 Rep. Gary Parry
09:46:48 Rep. Michael Yakawich
09:49:42 Rep. Gary Parry
09:50:50 Chair Julie Dooling

Closing Statement:

09:52:42 Rep. Gregory Frazer (R), HD 78, closed the hearing on HB 941.

09:55:35 **Recessed**

10:05:55 **Reconvened**

HEARING ON HB 953 - Create election security and integrity complaint and enforcement process

Opening Statement:

10:06:15 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 953, Create election security and integrity complaint and enforcement process.

Proponent Testimony:

10:15:09 Sen. Shane Morigeau, SD 48

10:21:03 Evan Barrett, Private Citizen

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:25:26 Chris Gallus, Commissioner of Political Practices

10:26:16 Dana Corson, Secretary of State's Office

10:26:35 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

Questions from Committee:

10:27:02 Rep. Paul Green

10:32:43 Rep. Gary Parry

10:35:36 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:36:51 Rep. Kenneth Walsh

10:42:11 Rep. Michael Yakawich

10:44:27 Vice Chair Bob Phalen

10:46:47 Chair Julie Dooling

Closing Statement:

10:55:08 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 953.

11:01:12 **Recessed**

11:30:38 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 947 - Revise election laws

11:30:52 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Phalen moved that **HB 947 DO PASS.**

09:27:45 **Vote:** Motion carried 14 - 4 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no.
Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HR 5 - Resolution honoring Chuck Johnson

11:32:46 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Phalen moved that **HR 5 DO PASS.**

09:27:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 933 - Adopt the original 13th amendment

11:33:38 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Phalen moved that **HB 933 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

11:34:02 Rep. Gary Parry

11:34:08 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Gary Parry moved that **HB 933 TO TABLE.**

09:27:45 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 17 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Phalen, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 941 - Establish a dog training and socialization program in the state prison

11:34:43 **Motion:** Rep. Gregory Frazer moved that **HB 941 DO PASS.**

11:35:18 **Motion:** Rep. Gregory Frazer moved that **HB 941 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:36:47 Vice Chair Bob Phalen

09:27:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:37:23 **Motion:** Rep. Gregory Frazer moved that **HB 941 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

09:27:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 953 - Create election security and integrity complaint and enforcement process

11:38:01 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Phalen moved that **HB 953 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

11:38:24 Rebecca Power

11:40:43 Rep. Ed Stafman

11:43:55 **Motion:** Rep. Ed Stafman moved that **HB 953 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:46:26 Rebecca Power

11:48:19 Rep. Linda Reksten

09:27:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:48:29 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Phalen moved that **HB 953 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:51:30 Rep. Ed Stafman

09:27:45 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

11:53:08 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Phalen moved that **HB 953 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

11:53:20 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum

09:27:45 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 5 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no.
Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:55:43

Heather Kellum, Secretary

