

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

Call to Order: Chair Joshua Kassmier-R, on April 04, 2023 at 4:13 PM, in 137

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Joshua Kassmier, Chair (R)
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Marty Malone, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Brad Barker (R)
Rep. James Bergstrom (R)
Rep. Tony Brockman (R)
Rep. Bob Carter (D)
Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Greg Kmetz (R)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Julie Dooling (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Katie Sullivan (D)
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Staff Present: Andria Hardin, Research Analyst
Rose Harmon, Secretary
Loran Nelson, Remote Meeting Coordinator

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 447 03/30/2023

SJ 9 03/30/2023

Executive Action:

16:14:39 Rep. Mitchell has left
16:14:41 Rep. Kmetz has left
16:15:36 Rep. Walsh has arrived
16:17:00 Rep. Smith has arrived

HEARING ON SB 447 - Provide for a recreation and tourism promotion act

Opening Statement:

16:14:36 Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 447, Provide for a recreation and tourism promotion act.

Proponent Testimony:

16:19:00 Amy Grmoljez, Montana Travel Association
16:20:15 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association
16:21:09 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:22:35 Vice Chair Dave Fern
16:23:07 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R
16:24:37 Rep. James Bergstrom
16:25:30 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R
16:26:56 Vice Chair Marty Malone
16:27:22 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R

16:28:48 Vice Chair Marty Malone
16:29:38 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R
16:30:40 Rep. Frank Smith
16:30:58 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R

Closing Statement:

16:33:08 Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R), SD 9, closed the hearing on SB 447.

HEARING ON SJ 9 - Joint resolution establishing soil health week and day

Opening Statement:

16:34:12 Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SJ 9, Joint resolution establishing soil health week and day.

Proponent Testimony:

16:37:40 Steve Charter, Rancher, Member of Northern Plains Resource Council
16:40:51 Partrick Yawakie, Blackfeet Tribe and People's Food Sovereignty Program
16:42:15 Ann Schwend, Sustainable Communities Policy Director, Montana Environmental Information Center
16:43:26 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)
16:45:07 Peter Dudley, Montana Audubon
16:45:52 Ian Foley, Administrator, Agriculture Sciences Division, Department of Agriculture
16:46:36 Peter Lannan, Rancher
16:48:26 Todd Barkley, Farmer
16:51:21 Linda Poole, Rancher, Agriculture Specialist National Center For Appropriate Technology
16:53:41 Tony Hartshorn, Self as a soil teacher, Member of Northern Plains Resource Council

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:58:15 Rep. Bob Carter
16:58:52 Tony Hartshorn, Soils Teacher
16:59:36 Vice Chair Marty Malone
17:01:29 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R
17:05:16 Rep. Melissa Romano
17:05:56 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R
17:06:38 Rep. Frank Smith-D
17:06:56 Sen. Bruce Gillespie-R

Closing Statement:

17:08:13 Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R), SD 9, closed the hearing on SJ 9.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:09:56

Rose Harmon, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230404AGHaad\)](#)