

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Julie Dooling-R, on April 05, 2023 at 9:01 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. Tony Brockman (R)  
Rep. Gary Parry (R)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Frank Smith (D)  
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)  
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)  
Rep. Kenneth Walsh (R)  
Rep. Zack Wirth (R)  
Rep. Michael Yakawich (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)  
Rep. Paul Green (R)  
Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (D)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**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:

Executive Action:

SB 93  
SB 322  
SB 393  
SB 498

09:02:49            **Committee Discussion:** Explanation of amendments  
09:02:57            Rebecca Power  
09:03:18            Rep. Green has arrived  
09:03:46            Rep. Running Wolf has arrived  
09:11:31            **Recessed**  
09:56:42            Rep. Frazer has arrived  
10:12:18            **Reconvened**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 93 - Generally revising ballot issues**

10:12:36            **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 93 BE CONCURRED IN.**  
10:12:52            **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 93 BE AMENDED.**  
**Discussion:**  
10:13:39            Rep. Frank Smith  
10:14:40            Chair Julie Dooling  
10:15:28            Rep. Frank Smith  
10:15:38            Chair Julie Dooling  
10:12:52            **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
10:16:54            **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 93 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**  
**Discussion:**  
10:17:13            Rep. Ed Stafman  
10:19:34            Vice Chair Kelly Kortum  
10:20:50            Rep. Denise Baum  
10:24:54            Rep. Linda Reksten  
10:26:55            Chair Julie Dooling

10:16:54 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 6 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Running Wolf, Rep. Smith, Rep. Stafman, Rep. Weatherwax, voting no. Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy

10:16:54 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Julie Dooling

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 322 - Generally revise election laws on organization/operation of committees**

10:28:36 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 322 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:28:59 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 322 BE AMENDED.**

10:28:59 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:29:37 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 322 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:29:50 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

10:29:37 **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Phalen, Rep. Wirth, voting no.

10:29:37 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Paul Green

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 393 - Revise campaign finance laws**

10:33:06 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 393 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:33:31 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 393 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:34:01 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger

10:34:27 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum

10:34:48 Rebecca Power

10:33:31 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:35:20 **Motion:** Rep. Ed Stafman moved that **SB 393 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:35:54 Rep. Ed Stafman

10:35:20 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:37:39 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 393 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

- 10:39:18 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
10:39:19 Rebecca Power  
10:40:28 Rep. Gary Parry  
10:40:51 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum  
10:37:39 **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, voting no.  
10:37:39 **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Michael Yakawich

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 498 - Revise laws related to absentee ballots**

10:41:54 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 498 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:42:20 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 498 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

- 10:42:45 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum  
10:42:47 Rebecca Power  
10:42:20 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
10:43:52 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 498 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

- 10:44:42 Vice Chair Kelly Kortum  
10:44:57 Rebecca Power  
10:45:41 Vice Chair Bob Phalen  
10:46:12 Rebecca Power  
10:43:52 **Vote:** Motion failed 17 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Phalen, voting yes.  
10:46:52 **Motion:** Rep. Bob Phalen moved that **SB 498 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

- 10:48:31 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
10:49:47 Chair Julie Dooling  
10:46:52 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 5 by voice vote with Rep. Baum, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Smith, Rep. Weatherwax, Rep. Wirth, voting no.  
Rep. Weatherwax, By Proxy

10:46:52      **Carrier Assigned:** Rep. Bob Phalen

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:52:11

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Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230405STHaad\)](#)