

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Larry Brewster-R, on April 13, 2023 at 4:14 PM, in 472

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Larry Brewster, Chair (R)  
Rep. Marta Bertoglio, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Sherry Essmann (R)  
Rep. Steven Galloway (R)  
Rep. Steve Gist (R)  
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)  
Rep. Jennifer Lynch (D)  
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)  
Rep. Courtenay Sprunger (R)  
Rep. Katie Zolnikov (R)

**Staff Present:** Heather Kellum, Secretary  
Laura Sankey Keip, 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:

SB 528 04/07/2023

SB 536 04/07/2023

Executive Action:

SB 379 TO TAKE FROM THE  
TABLE

16:16:37 Rep. Zolnikov has arrived  
16:22:23 Rep. Bishop has arrived  
16:42:33 Rep. Reksten has arrived

**HEARING ON SB 528 - Revise zoning laws related to ADUs**

**Opening Statement:**

16:15:17 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 528, Revise zoning laws related to ADUs.

**Discussion:**

[EXHIBIT\(230413LOHa1\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:21:27 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors  
16:25:47 Tanner Avery, Frontier Institute  
16:26:58 Henry Kriegel, American's for Prosperity  
16:28:17 Nathan Dugan, Shelter Whitefish

**Opponent Testimony:**

16:29:51 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns  
16:33:20 Sam Forstag, Cities and Missoula and Bozeman  
16:35:54 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings  
16:38:34 Ed Meece, City of Polson  
16:42:04 Rhonda Fitzgerald, Private Citizen  
16:44:11 John Muhlfeld, City of Whitefish  
16:46:29 Mayre Flowers, Citizens for Better Flathead

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

16:48:12 Rep. Steven Galloway  
16:50:10 Rep. Scot Kerns  
16:52:38 Rep. Steven Galloway  
16:55:27 Rep. Sherry Essmann  
16:58:50 Rep. Kelly Kortum

**Closing Statement:**

17:02:04 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 528.  
  
17:10:17 Rep. Sprunger has arrived  
17:10:28 Rep. Seekins-Crowe has arrived

**HEARING ON SB 536 - Provide funding for local government road maintenance**

**Opening Statement:**

17:11:05 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 536, Provide funding for local government road maintenance.

**Discussion:**

[EXHIBIT\(230413LOHa2\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

17:17:17 Jason Strouf, Custer County Commissioner  
17:18:20 Greg Chilcott, ?  
17:20:06 Shelby Demars, Montana Association of Coal and Gas Counties  
17:22:34 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cites and Towns  
17:23:00 Robin Turner, City of Whitefish  
17:23:16 Sam Sill, Montana Association of Realtors

17:23:59 Ed Meece, City of Polson

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

17:24:47 Rep. Jennifer Lynch  
17:26:21 Rep. Kelly Kortum  
17:28:40 Rep. Courtenay Sprunger  
17:30:48 Rep. Linda Reksten  
17:30:59 Rep. Steven Galloway

**Closing Statement:**

17:33:56 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 536.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 379 - Revise zoning laws**

17:49:11 **Motion:** Rep. Katie Zolnikov moved that **SB 379 TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE.**

**Discussion:**

17:34:50 Discuss Study Bills  
17:37:31 LC 1388 Study Bill be approved  
17:50:21 Laura Sankey Keip  
17:51:00 Rep. Katie Zolnikov  
17:51:35 Rep. Scot Kerns  
17:51:58 Rep. Katie Zolnikov  
17:52:08 Rep. Laurie Bishop  
17:49:11 **Vote:** Motion failed 11 - 5 by voice vote with Rep. Brewster, Rep. Kortum, Rep. Seekins-Crowe, Rep. Sprunger, Rep. Zolnikov, voting yes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:56:42

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Heather Kellum, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230413LOHaad\)](#)