

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Llew Jones-R, on April 19, 2023 at 3:22 PM, in Room 102

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Rep. Llew Jones, Chair (R)  
Rep. Bob Keenan, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. David Bedey (R)  
Rep. Michele Binkley (R)  
Rep. Terry Falk (R)  
Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R)  
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Naarah Hastings (R)  
Rep. Lyn Hellegaard (R)  
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)  
Rep. Terry Moore (R)  
Rep. Fiona Nave (R)  
Rep. Joe Read (R)  
Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R)  
Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy (D)  
Rep. Paul Tuss (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Mary Caferro (D)  
Rep. Jane Gillette (R)  
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)  
Rep. Matt Regier (R)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Staff Present:** Quinn Holzer, Fiscal Analyst  
Julie Johnson, Research Analyst  
Kathlyn Walker, 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:

SB 14 04/19/2023

SB 122 04/19/2023

SB 246 04/19/2023

SB 253 04/19/2023

SB 506 04/19/2023

SB 555 04/19/2023

Executive Action:

HJ 20 DO PASS

SB 95 BE CONCURRED IN

**HEARING ON SB 246 - Revise corporate income tax water's-edge election laws**

**Opening Statement:**

15:23:47 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 246, Revise corporate income tax water's-edge election laws.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:26:34 Sen. Greg Hertz, SD 6

15:27:12 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)

[EXHIBIT\(230419APHa1\)](#)

**Opponent Testimony:**

15:28:32 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:33:35 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

15:33:36 Rep. Gillette joined the meeting.

15:34:17 Heather O'Loughlin, MBPC

15:34:59 Rep. Jim Hamilton

15:35:51 Heather O'Loughlin, MBPC

15:37:41 Rep. David Bedey

15:38:14 Bob Story, MTA

**Closing Statement:**

15:39:54 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, closed the hearing on SB 246.

**HEARING ON SB 14 - Revise MEDIA Act film credit cap**

**Opening Statement:**

15:42:23 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 14, Revise MEDIA Act film credit cap.

**Discussion:**

15:42:33 Rep. Moore left the meeting.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:43:38 Adrienna Hines, Media Coalition of Montana (MCM)

15:45:02 Jessie Luther, Motion Picture Association, Enterprise Holdings Inc.

15:45:38 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana Travel Association

15:46:45 Mark Baker, Paramount

15:47:55 Lynn-Wood Fields, self

15:48:41 Allison Corbyn1, Big Sky Economic Development

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:50:04 Rep. Jim Hamilton

15:51:37 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

15:53:34 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

15:54:26 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

15:54:42 Rep. Bill Mercer

15:55:38 Chair Llew Jones

15:55:52 Adrienna Hines, MCM

15:56:07 Rep. Bill Mercer

15:57:03 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

**Closing Statement:**

15:57:34 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 14.

**HEARING ON SB 122 - Revise cigar tax based on a fixed amount per cigar**

**Opening Statement:**

15:58:30 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 122, Revise cigar tax based on a fixed amount per cigar.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:59:52 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter

16:00:12 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

16:00:17 Rep. Windy Boy joined the meeting.

16:01:03 Scott Boulanger, Montana Cigar Association

**Closing Statement:**

16:02:56 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 122.

**HEARING ON SB 253 - Revise contractor's gross receipts tax**

**Opening Statement:**

16:03:21 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 253, Revise contractor's gross receipts tax.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

None

**Closing Statement:**

16:04:32 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 253.

**HEARING ON SB 506 - Increase and repeal termination of Montana charitable endowment tax credit**

**Opening Statement:**

16:05:04 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 506, Increase and repeal termination of Montana charitable endowment tax credit.

**Proponent Testimony:**

16:06:38 Aiden Myhre, Montana Community Foundation

[EXHIBIT\(230419APHa2\)](#)

16:08:26 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana NonProfit Association

16:10:09 Jessie Luther, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association

16:11:06 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

16:11:56 Rep. Jane Gillette  
16:13:06 Rep. Bill Mercer  
16:16:16 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
16:17:56 Rep. Jim Hamilton  
16:18:39 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
16:20:07 Aiden Myhre, MCF  
16:22:14 Rep. Paul Tuss  
16:22:43 Aiden Myhre, MCF  
16:24:26 Chair Llew Jones  
16:25:14 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
16:26:01 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter  
16:26:16 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
16:27:08 Rep. Jim Hamilton  
16:27:50 Rep. Bill Mercer  
16:28:43 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

**Closing Statement:**

16:29:25 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 506.

**HEARING ON SB 555 - Provide for special spousal trusts with property treated as community property**

**Opening Statement:**

16:29:42 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 555, Provide for special spousal trusts with property treated as community property.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

16:32:02 Aaron McNay, Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee:**

16:32:23 Rep. Terry Falk

16:32:49 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

16:33:11 Rep. Bill Mercer

16:33:44 Aaron McNay, DOR

16:35:15 Rep. Jerry Schillinger

16:37:05 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

**Closing Statement:**

16:38:43 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 555.

16:40:11 **Recessed**

16:52:02 **Reconvened**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 20 - Request interim study of including regional cost adjustments to school funding**

16:52:22 **Motion:** Vice Chair Mary Caferro moved that **HJ 20 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

16:52:54 Rep. David Bedey

16:52:22 **Vote:** Motion carried 16 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Falk, Rep. Fitzpatrick, voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 95 - Generally revise theft laws**

16:55:34 **Motion:** Vice Chair Bob Keenan moved that **SB 95 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:02:37

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Kathlyn Walker, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230419APHaad\)](#)