

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON (H) ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Katie Zolnikov-R, on April 25, 2023 at 10:00 AM, in 472

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Chair (R)
Rep. Steven Galloway, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Katie Sullivan, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)
Rep. Paul Green (R)
Rep. Greg Kmetz (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Derek Harvey (D)
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)

Staff Present: Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary
Trevor Graff, 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:

HJ 19 04/24/2023
HJ 26 04/24/2023
HJ 36 04/24/2023
HJ 37 04/24/2023

Executive Action:

HJ 37 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HJ 26 DO PASS AS AMENDED
HJ 36 DO PASS
HJ 19 DO PASS

HEARING ON HJ 37 - Interim study for recognition of the Turtle Mountain Indians

Opening Statement:

10:01:17 Rep. Frank Smith (D), HD 16, opened the hearing on HJ 37, Interim study for recognition of the Turtle Mountain Indians.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230425FEHa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

10:02:16 Sue Cliff, Family/Tribe

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:06:39 Rep. Bob Phalen

10:06:43 Rep. Frank Smith-D

Closing Statement:

10:07:14 Rep. Frank Smith (D), HD 16, closed the hearing on HJ 37.

HEARING ON HJ 26 - Interim study of the regulation of social networking services

Opening Statement:

10:08:19 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, opened the hearing on HJ 26, Interim study of the regulation of social networking services.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:11:47 Rep. Laurie Bishop

10:12:16 Rep. Larry Brewster-R

Closing Statement:

10:13:25 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, closed the hearing on HJ 26.

HEARING ON HJ 36 - Interim study of energy sector regionalization

Opening Statement:

10:14:03 Vice Chair Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HJ 36, Interim study of energy sector regionalization.

Proponent Testimony:

10:15:51 Robin Arnold, Renewable North West

10:17:28 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:18:58 Rep. Greg Kmetz

10:18:59 Rep. Steven Galloway-R

10:20:12 Rep. Bob Phalen

10:20:18 Rep. Steven Galloway-R

Closing Statement:

10:21:06 Vice Chair Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HJ 36.

HEARING ON HJ 19 - Interim study of pumped hydropower generation

Opening Statement:

10:23:17 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan (D), HD 89, opened the hearing on HJ 19, Interim study of pumped hydropower generation.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:25:59 Rep. Bob Phalen

10:26:00 Rep. Katie Sullivan-D

10:26:19 Rep. Paul Fielder

10:26:49 Rep. Katie Sullivan-D

10:27:01 Rep. Paul Fielder

10:27:10 Rep. Katie Sullivan-D

10:27:36 Rep. Paul Fielder

10:28:16 Rep. Katie Sullivan-D

10:28:43 Rep. Paul Green

10:28:51 Rep. Katie Sullivan-D

10:29:24 Rep. Kelly Kortum
10:29:48 Rep. Katie Sullivan-D
10:30:30 Rep. Greg Kmetz
10:31:54 Rep. Katie Sullivan-D
10:55:24 Representative Galloway

Closing Statement:

10:32:21 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan (D), HD 89, closed the hearing on HJ 19.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 37 - Interim study for recognition of the Turtle Mountain Indians

10:32:58 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 37 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:33:20 Chair Katie Zolnikov

10:33:30 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 37 BE AMENDED.**

10:33:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:34:19 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 37 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:34:38 Rep. Paul Fielder

10:34:43 Chair Katie Zolnikov

10:34:49 Rep. Laurie Bishop

10:35:41 Rep. Larry Brewster

10:36:05 Rep. Paul Fielder

10:36:32 Chair Katie Zolnikov

10:34:19 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 1 by voice vote with Rep. Fielder, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 26 - Interim study of the regulation of social networking services

10:37:58 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 26 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:38:09 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
10:38:45 Rep. Kelly Kortum
10:40:07 Vice Chair Steven Galloway
10:40:21 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 26 BE AMENDED.**
10:40:21 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
10:40:48 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 26 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:41:05 Chair Katie Zolnikov
10:40:48 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 36 - Interim study of energy sector regionalization

10:41:53 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 36 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:42:13 Rep. Larry Brewster
10:42:29 Rep. Paul Fielder
10:43:01 Chair Katie Zolnikov
10:43:08 Vice Chair Steven Galloway
10:43:43 Chair Katie Zolnikov
10:41:53 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 19 - Interim study of pumped hydropower generation

10:44:46 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 19 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:44:58 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
10:45:32 **Motion:** Vice Chair Katie Sullivan moved that **HJ 19 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:46:23 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
10:46:24 Vice Chair Steven Galloway

10:46:26 Trevor Graff
10:46:58 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
10:47:10 Vice Chair Steven Galloway
10:47:36 Rep. Paul Fielder
10:47:57 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
10:48:02 Rep. Paul Green
10:48:17 Rep. Paul Fielder
10:48:35 Rep. Larry Brewster
10:49:22 Rep. Laurie Bishop left the meeting.
10:49:35 Rep. Larry Brewster
10:49:44 Vice Chair Katie Sullivan
10:50:18 Rep. Paul Fielder
10:52:01 Rep. Laurie Bishop
10:53:18 Chair Katie Zolnikov
10:54:14 **Motion:** Vice Chair Steven Galloway moved that **HJ 19 DO PASS.**
10:54:14 **Vote:** Motion carried 10 - 2 by voice vote with Rep. Fielder, Rep. Phalen,
voting no.
Rep. Phalen, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:56:49

Brigitte Bellefleur, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230425FEHaad\)](#)