

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Mike Cuffe-R, on January 09, 2023 at 3:02 PM, in 335

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Wendy McKamey, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Sen. Mike Fox (D)
Sen. Mark Noland (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Theresa Manzella (R)

Staff Present: Joe Carroll, Attorney
Daisy Rhodes, 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 18 01/04/2023
SB 29 01/04/2023
SB 40 01/04/2023
SB 56 01/04/2023
SB 74 01/04/2023
SJ 4 01/04/2023

Executive Action:

SB 18 DO PASS
SB 40 DO PASS
SJ 4 DO PASS

15:03:45

HEARING ON SB 56 - Revising ballot initiative petition forms for consistency with the constitution

Opening Statement:

15:05:29 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 56, Revising ballot initiative petition forms for consistency with the constitution.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:07:56 Sen. Mark Noland

15:08:13 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty-D

Closing Statement:

15:08:40 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, closed the hearing on SB 56.

HEARING ON SB 74 - Revise administrative provisions of MPERA

Opening Statement:

15:10:02 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 74, Revise administrative provisions of MPERA.

Proponent Testimony:

15:20:44 William Holahan, Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (MPERA)

15:21:54 Sen. Mike Cuffe joined the meeting.

15:24:09 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.

15:26:54 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:28:57 Sen. Mark Noland

15:29:10 William Holahan, MPERA

Closing Statement:

15:30:40 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 74.

HEARING ON SJ 4 - Provide for interim study of PERS and TRS

Opening Statement:

15:32:06 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SJ 4, Provide for interim study of PERS and TRS.

Proponent Testimony:

15:35:21 Dore Schwinden, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration (MPERA)

15:36:36 Shawn Graham, Montana Teachers Retirement System (MTRS)

15:37:11 Shelley Turner, Montana Association of School Business Officials (MASBO)

[EXHIBIT\(230109STSa1\)](#)

15:38:42 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:42:26 Sen. Mark Noland

15:43:35 Dore Schwinden, MPERA

Closing Statement:

15:46:45 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SJ 4.

HEARING ON SB 29 - Increase and Extend the PERS Supplemental Employer Contribution

Opening Statement:

15:49:05 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 29, Increase and Extend the PERS Supplemental Employer Contribution.

Proponent Testimony:

15:52:18 Dore Schwinden, Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (MPERA)

15:54:45 Greg Chilcott, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:55:51 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees, MFPE

15:56:39 Shelley Turner, Montana Association of School Business Officials (MASBO)

[EXHIBIT\(230109STSa2\)](#)

15:58:00 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:00:22 Sen. Mark Noland

16:00:33 Dore Schwinden, MPERA

Closing Statement:

16:02:05 Sen. Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 29.

HEARING ON SB 40 - Generally revise laws related to Montana national guard duty status

Opening Statement:

16:10:40 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 40, Generally revise laws related to Montana national guard duty status.

Proponent Testimony:

16:13:24 Major General J. Peter Hronek, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

16:15:07 Roger Hagan, Montana Air and National Guard Officer and Enlisted Associations (MT NG Assns)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:17:42 Major Todd A. Wayne, Montana National Guard (MT NG)

16:18:29 Trent Gibson, Youth Challenge Academy (YCA)

Questions from Committee:

16:19:14 Sen. Theresa Manzella

16:19:50 Sen. Mike Cuffe-R

16:20:30 General J. Peter Hronek, DMA

16:21:17 Sen. Shelley Vance

16:22:38 General J. Peter Hronek, DMA

16:24:38 Sen. Mark Noland

16:25:35 General J. Peter Hronek, DMA

16:27:17 Sen. Dan Bartel

16:27:50 General J. Peter Hronek, DMA
16:28:20 Sen. Dan Bartel
16:28:56 Roger Hagan MT NG Assns
16:30:32 General J. Peter Hronek, DMA
16:31:47 Trent Gibson, YCA
16:33:22 Sen. Theresa Manzella
16:34:00 General J. Peter Hronek, DMA
16:35:43 Sen. Shelley Vance
16:36:23 Trent Gibson, YCA
16:37:07 Sen. Shelley Vance
16:37:17 Sen. Wendy McKamey
16:37:46 General J. Peter Hronek, DMA

Closing Statement:

16:39:07 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 40.

Discussion:

16:39:20 Sen. Mike Cuffe-R

HEARING ON SB 18 - Add benefit policy statement to pension systems

Opening Statement:

16:40:43 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 18, Add benefit policy statement to pension systems.

Proponent Testimony:

16:43:10 Shawn Graham, Montana Teachers Retirement System (MTRS)
16:44:45 Dore Schwinden, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration (MPERA)
16:45:58 Sarah Piper, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:27:53 Sen. Manzella has arrived
15:46:28 Sen. Cuffe has arrived
16:05:36 Recessed
16:10:12 Reconvened
16:47:38 Sen. Mark Noland
16:49:02 Shawn Graham, MTRS

Closing Statement:

16:50:11 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 18.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 18 - Add benefit policy statement to pension systems

16:51:41 **Motion:** Sen. Janet Ellis moved that **SB 18 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:51:53 Sen. Mark Noland
16:54:39 Sen. Wendy McKamey
16:54:49 Sen. Mike Cuffe
16:55:02 Sen. Janet Ellis
16:56:38 Sen. Shelley Vance
16:57:51 Sen. Mark Noland
16:58:51 Sen. Mike Cuffe
16:59:40 Sen. Wendy McKamey
16:59:47 Shawn Graham, Montana Teachers Retirement System (MTRS)

17:01:49 Sen. Dan Bartel
17:02:37 Dore Schwinden, Montana Public Employees Retirement Administration (MPERA)
17:03:06 Sen. Wendy McKamey
17:05:15 Sen. Dan Bartel
17:05:31 Dore Schwinden, MPERA
17:14:50 Sen. Manzella has left
16:52:09 Sen. Mike Cuffe
17:03:09 Sen. Mark Noland
16:51:41 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 40 - Generally revise laws related to Montana national guard duty status

17:13:23 **Motion:** Sen. Janet Ellis moved that **SB 40 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:08:10 Sen. Dan Bartel
17:09:35 Sen. Wendy McKamey
17:11:28 Sen. Dan Bartel
17:11:49 Sen. Mike Cuffe
17:12:17 Sen. Wendy McKamey
17:13:23 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 4 - Provide for interim study of PERS and TRS

17:15:20 **Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SJ 4 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:15:35 Sen. Shelley Vance
17:16:40 Sen. Janet Ellis
15:03:45

17:15:20 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:18:04

Daisy Rhodes, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230109STSaad\)EXHIBIT\(230109STSaad\)](#)