

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R, on January 10, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 422

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mike Fox, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Willis Curdy (D)
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Mark Noland (R)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)

Staff Present: Joe Kolman, Research Analyst
Casey Pallister, Research Analyst
Lynnette Sena, 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 58 01/05/2023

SB 76 01/05/2023

SB 88 01/05/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON SB 88 - Exempt lifetime fishing licenses for the blind from AIS pass

Opening Statement:

15:02:19 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 98, opened the hearing on SB 88, Exempt lifetime fishing licenses for the blind from AIS pass.

Discussion:

15:03:00 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

15:03:44 Robin Graham, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

15:04:31 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:05:39 Sen. Bob Brown

15:05:46 Robin Graham, FWP

15:05:48 Sen. Bob Brown

15:05:57 Robin Graham, FWP

15:06:13 Sen. Mark Noland

15:07:13 Robin Graham, FWP

Closing Statement:

15:07:42 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 98, closed the hearing on SB 88.

HEARING ON SB 58 - Increase landowner payment cap for block management

Opening Statement:

15:08:20 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB 58, Increase landowner payment cap for block management.

Proponent Testimony:

15:09:54 Hank Worsech, Director of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
[EXHIBIT\(230110FISa1\)](#)

15:12:35 Ed Beall, Chairman of Private Land Public Wildlife (PLPW)

15:14:56 Noah Marion, Wild Montana

15:15:43 Jon Sonju, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

15:16:02 Charlie Booher, Montana Wildlife Federation, Montana Citizens Elk Management Coalition

15:16:58 Jerry Davis, Montana Bow Hunters Association (MBA)

15:17:34 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

15:18:30 Matt Leow, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

15:20:00 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA)

15:20:56 Jason Callahan, Green Diamond Resource Company

15:23:20 Dale Tribby, Private Land Public Wildlife (PLPW)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:25:31 Sen. Daniel Emrich

15:25:55 Hank. Worsech, FWP

15:26:08 Sen. Daniel Emrich

15:26:27 Hank Worsech, FWP

15:26:40 Hope Stockwell, FWP

15:27:34 Sen. John Fuller

15:28:01 Sen. Bob Brown

15:28:42 Hope Stockwell, FWP

Closing Statement:

15:29:24 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, closed the hearing on SB 58.

HEARING ON SB 76 - Remove requirement to attach paper tags to a game animal carcass

Opening Statement:

15:30:55 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 76, Remove requirement to attach paper tags to a game animal carcass.

Proponent Testimony:

15:32:20 Ron Howell, Chief of Enforcement Division of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

15:34:57 Matt Leow, Montana Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

15:36:14 Dale Tribby, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:38:00 Sen. Flowers

15:38:29 Ron Howell, FWP

15:39:10 Sen. Daniel Emrich

15:41:34 Ron Howell, FWP

15:42:09 Sen. John Fuller

15:43:56 Ron Howell, FWP

15:44:28 Sen. Mark Noland

15:46:30 Ron Howell, FWP

15:46:53 Sen. Bob Brown
15:47:48 Ron Howell, FWP
15:48:10 Sen. Bob Brown
15:48:27 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

Closing Statement:

15:48:38 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D), SD 38, closed the hearing on SB 76.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:49:55

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230110FISaad\)](#)