

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA SENATE**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (S) LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**Call to Order:** Chair Sen. Chris Friedel-R, on January 16, 2023 at 1:53 PM, in 405

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Chris Friedel, Chair (R)  
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)  
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)  
Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)  
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)  
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

**Staff Present:** Toni Henneman, Research Analyst  
Lorna Mason, 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 142 01/11/2023

SB 143 01/11/2023

Executive Action:

SB 152 DO PASS AS AMENDED

**HEARING ON SB 143 - Allow for a referendum to terminate citizen initiated zoning district**

**Opening Statement:**

14:22:34 Sen. John Esp (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SB 143, Allow for a referendum to terminate citizen initiated zoning district.

**Proponent Testimony:**

14:24:04 Charles Denown, Property Owners of Montana  
14:25:36 Karen Alley, Montana Association of Counties (MACO)  
14:26:03 Henry Kregel, Americans for Prosperity  
14:28:23 Ann Hollowell, Citizen  
14:28:59 Sen. Christopher Pope joined the meeting.  
14:29:47 Sen. Forrest Mandeville joined the meeting.  
14:30:34 Steve Wade, Montana Contractors Association  
14:31:06 John Ostlund, Billings

**Opponent Testimony:**

14:33:38 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Informational Center (MEIC)  
14:35:45 Sen. Kenneth Bogner joined the meeting.  
14:36:53 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

14:40:12 Sen. Jeremy Trebas  
14:40:18 Chuck Denowh  
14:40:43 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

14:40:48 Sen. John Esp-R  
14:42:17 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell  
14:42:34 Sen. John Esp-R  
14:43:24 Sen. Christopher Pope  
14:44:03 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov left the meeting.  
14:44:42 Sen. John Esp-R  
14:45:30 Sen. Christopher Pope  
14:46:06 Sen. John Esp-R  
14:46:16 Sen. Christopher Pope  
14:46:35 Karen Alley MT Association of Counties (MACo)  
14:47:28 Sen. Christopher Pope  
14:48:13 Karen Alley MT Association of Counties (MACo)

**Closing Statement:**

14:48:51 Sen. John Esp (R), SD 30, closed the hearing on SB 143.

**HEARING ON SB 142 - Provide oversight of local impact fee laws**

**Opening Statement:**

14:50:22 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 142, Provide oversight of local impact fee laws.

**Proponent Testimony:**

14:58:21 Paul Gillman, Citizen  
15:02:34 William Halama, Citizen  
15:04:26 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov joined the meeting.  
15:06:04 William Burg, Citizen  
15:11:19 Charles Denown, United Property Owners

**Opponent Testimony:**

15:12:50 Joe Briggs, Montana Association of Counties (MACO)  
15:16:00 Mike Meis, Belgrade City  
15:18:37 Russ Nelson, Mayor of Belgrade  
15:21:56 Neil Cartwell, Belgrade City  
15:25:38 Jim Kambich, Butte-Silver Bow  
15:26:40 Sam Forstag, City of Bozeman/Missoula  
15:27:40 Darryl James, Infrastructure Coalition  
15:29:22 Kelly Lynch, Cities and Towns  
15:32:14 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings  
15:32:54 Dana Smith, City Manager of Whitefish

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:05:11 Mandy Rambo, Department of Commerce (DOC)  
15:21:15 Rene Lemon, Self

**Questions from Committee:**

15:38:16 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov  
15:38:22 William Halama Citizen  
15:38:57 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov  
15:39:22 Kelly Lynch (MTLCT)  
15:39:33 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov  
15:39:58 Kelly Lynch (MTLCT)  
15:40:43 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov  
15:40:53 Kelly Lynch (MTLCT)  
15:41:30 Sen. Forrest Mandeville  
15:41:45 Joe Briggs, Montana Associations of Counties

15:42:20 Sen. Forrest Mandeville  
15:42:30 Joe Briggs Montana Association of Counties  
15:42:42 Sen. Forrest Mandeville  
15:42:46 Montana Association of Counties  
15:43:45 Sen. Jeremy Trebas  
15:44:18 Toni Henneman  
15:44:21 Sen. Jeremy Trebas  
15:44:37 Kelly Lynch (MTLCT)  
15:45:52 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov  
15:45:57 Joe Briggs Montana Association of Counties  
15:49:03 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov  
15:50:53 Joe Briggs Montana Association of Counties  
15:53:14 Sen. Chris Friedel  
15:53:32 William Halama  
15:54:58 Sen. Chris Friedel  
15:55:02 Dana Smith

**Closing Statement:**

15:55:38 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SB 142.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 152 - Revise minor subdivision laws**

16:00:19 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 152 DO PASS.**  
16:00:19 **Vote:** Motion failed unanimously by voice vote.  
16:00:40 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 152 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

16:00:39 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

16:00:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:03:32 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 152 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

16:03:32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:24:52

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Lorna Mason, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230116LOSaad\)](#)