

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE

68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON (S) ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Walt Sales-R, on January 17, 2023 at 3:04 PM, in 317

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Walt Sales, Chair (R)
Sen. Jason Small, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Sen. Denise Hayman (D)
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)

Staff Present: Hunter Camac, Attorney
Jason Mohr, OBPP Staffer
Jack Racicot, 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 147 01/13/2023

Executive Action:

16:05:39

Committee Discussion:

16:06:06 Sen. Walt Sales

16:06:11 [EXHIBIT\(230117ENSa2\)](#)

16:06:31 Jason Mohr

16:06:48 Sen. Brad Molnar

16:07:29 Sen. Walt Sales

16:08:09 Sen. Brad Molnar

16:08:18 Sen. Walt Sales

16:08:29 Sen. Denise Hayman

16:08:48 Sen. Walt Sales

HEARING ON SB 147 - Create state energy conservation standards

Opening Statement:

15:05:59 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 65, opened the hearing on SB 147, Create state energy conservation standards.

Proponent Testimony:

15:15:00 Matt Thompson, Ameresco

15:18:26 Andrew Valainis, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)

15:22:14 Diego Rivas, NorthWest Energy Coalition

[EXHIBIT\(230117ENSa1\)](#)

15:29:00 Makenna Sellers, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)

15:30:46 Caroline Canarios, Northern Plains Resource Council

15:31:44 Ian Lund, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Opponent Testimony:

15:34:06 Chris Puyear, NorthWest Energy

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:17:50 Sen. Tempel has left

15:39:55 Sen. Keith Regier

15:40:14 Chris Puryear NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

15:40:51 Sen. Keith Regier

15:41:07 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:41:09 Sen. Keith Regier

15:41:28 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:42:32 Sen. Keith Regier

15:42:37 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:42:38 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

15:42:59 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:43:59 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

15:44:33 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:46:07 Sen. Walt Sales

15:46:10 Sen. Denise Hayman

15:46:54 Diego Rivas, (NW Energy Coalition)

15:47:31 Sen. Keith Regier left the meeting.

15:48:13 Sen. Denise Hayman

15:48:58 Diego Rivas, (NW Energy Coalition)

15:51:44 Sen. Brad Molnar
15:52:32 Sen. Christopher Pope
15:52:51 Sen. Brad Molnar
15:53:33 Sen. Christopher Pope
15:55:41 Sen. Brad Molnar
15:56:29 Sen. Christopher Pope
15:57:50 Sen. Janet Ellis
15:58:37 Diego Rivas, (NW Energy Coalition)
16:00:38 Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel joined the meeting.

Closing Statement:

16:01:55 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 65, closed the hearing on SB 147.

Discussion:

16:05:39

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:09:12

Jack Racicot, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230117ENSaad\)](#)

