

MINUTES

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

Call to Order: Chair Wendy McKamey-R, on January 23, 2023 at 3:00 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. Theresa Manzella (R)
Sen. Mark Noland (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (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 153 01/16/2023

SB 156 01/16/2023

SJ 7 01/17/2023

Executive Action:

SB 30 DO PASS

SJ 7 DO PASS

HEARING ON SJ 7 - Joint resolution recognizing Ireland on St. Patrick's Day

Opening Statement:

15:02:00 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, opened the hearing on SJ 7, Joint resolution recognizing Ireland on St. Patrick's Day.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:07:07 Sen. Dan Bartel

15:07:18 Sen. Shannon O'Brien-D

15:07:30 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey

15:07:53 Sen. Shannon O'Brien-D

Closing Statement:

15:08:22 Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D), SD 46, closed the hearing on SJ 7.

HEARING ON SB 153 - Revise ballot initiative laws

Opening Statement:

15:10:07 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 153, Revise ballot initiative laws.

Proponent Testimony:

15:13:59 Mark Mackin, on behalf of Supreme Court Justice, James C. Nelson

[EXHIBIT\(230123STSa1\)](#)

15:20:35 Mark Mackin, self

[EXHIBIT\(230123STSa2\)](#)

15:23:40 Jonathan Motl, self
[EXHIBIT\(230123STSa3\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(230123STSa4\)](#)

15:24:03 Chair Cuffe has arrived

15:31:49 Carol Mackin, self

15:34:28 Robyn Morrison, League of Women Voters (LWV)

15:37:50 Matthew Monforton, Cap Montana Property Taxes (CPT)

Opponent Testimony:

15:41:35 Charles Robinson, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)
[EXHIBIT\(230123STSa5\)](#)

15:44:56 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)

15:46:51 Allen Olsen, Executive Director, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:49:29 Brent Mead, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Questions from Committee:

15:50:08 Sen. Theresa Manzella

15:55:15 Brent Mead, DOJ

15:55:57 Sen. Mark Noland

15:56:26 Brent Mead, DOJ

15:58:46 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey

15:59:18 Darryl James, MIC

15:59:38 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey

15:59:48 Charles Robinson, MCC

16:00:30 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey

16:02:20 Alan Olsen, MPA

16:02:44 Vice Chair Denise Hayman
16:04:12 Matthew Monforton, CPT
16:07:05 Sen. Theresa Manzella
16:08:23 Brent Mead, DOJ
16:10:20 Sen. Janet Ellis
16:10:56 Joe Carroll

Closing Statement:

16:11:33 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, closed the hearing on SB 153.

HEARING ON SB 156 - Require elected county clerks to run nonpartisan

Opening Statement:

16:17:08 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 156, Require elected county clerks to run nonpartisan.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

16:21:41 Darin Gaub, self
16:23:25 Gina Reilly, self
16:24:21 Mary Tapper, self
16:26:02 Lant Barney, self
16:27:16 Lisa Bennett, self
16:29:02 Chair Cuffe has left
16:29:08 Sen. Vance has left
16:35:06 Elizabeth Hale, self

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:36:17 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders (MACR)

16:37:00 Chair Cuffe has arrived

Questions from Committee:

16:38:30 Sen. Theresa Manzella

16:39:28 Regina Plettenberg, MACR

Closing Statement:

16:40:04 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey (R), SD 19, closed the hearing on SB 156.

16:40:13 Sen. Shelley Vance joined the meeting.

Committee Discussion: Discussion on SB 117

16:40:54 Chair Mike Cuffe

16:41:28 Sen. Shelley Vance

16:42:40 Chair Mike Cuffe

16:43:51 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey

16:42:43 Chair Mike Cuffe

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 30 - Repeal Clean Campaign Act

16:45:26 **Motion:** Sen. Wendy McKamey moved that **SB 30 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

16:45:39 Sen. Theresa Manzella

16:45:42 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick joined the meeting.

16:47:56 Chair Mike Cuffe

16:48:16 Sen. Theresa Manzella

16:48:46 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

16:49:36 Sen. Dan Bartel

16:49:56 Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick

16:50:32 Chair Mike Cuffe

16:45:26 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bartel, Sen. Manzella, Sen. Noland, Sen. Vance, voting no.

Committee Discussion: Discussion on SB 31

16:51:58 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey
16:53:47 Chair Mike Cuffe
16:54:01 Sen. Theresa Manzella
16:54:21 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey
16:54:50 Sen. Theresa Manzella
16:55:07 Chair Mike Cuffe
16:55:17 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey
16:55:38 Chair Mike Cuffe
16:57:44 Vice Chair Wendy McKamey

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 7 - Joint resolution recognizing Ireland on St. Patrick's Day

16:58:06 **Motion:** Sen. Wendy McKamey moved that **SJ 7 DO PASS.**
16:58:06 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:00:47

Daisy Rhodes, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230123STSaad\)](#)