

**MINUTES**  
**MONTANA SENATE**  
**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**  
**COMMITTEE ON (S) ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Sen. Walt Sales-R, on January 24, 2023 at 3:01 PM, in 317

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Walt Sales, Chair (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Jason Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mike Cuffe (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. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)

**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 109 01/19/2023

Executive Action:

SB 147 TO TABLE

15:03:04

**Committee Discussion:**

15:02:31 Sen. Walt Sales

15:18:21 Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel

15:28:16 Sen. Walt Sales

**HEARING ON SB 109 - Revise laws related to redistricting the PSC**

**Opening Statement:**

15:03:25 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 109, Revise laws related to redistricting the PSC.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:05:47 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:07:15 Sen. Jason Small

15:07:32 Brad Tschida, Public Service Commission (PSC)

15:09:13 Sen. Janet Ellis

15:09:49 Sen. Keith Regier-R

15:09:52 Jason Mohr

15:10:22 Sen. Janet Ellis

15:10:54 Jason Mohr

15:11:09 Sen. Ryan Lynch  
15:11:40 Sen. Keith Regier-R  
15:12:10 Sen. Christopher Pope  
15:12:37 Sen. Keith Regier-R  
15:13:13 Sen. Christopher Pope  
15:13:37 Sen. Keith Regier-R  
15:14:07 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
15:15:48 Sen. Keith Regier-R  
15:16:06 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov  
15:17:10 Sen. Keith Regier-R

**Closing Statement:**

15:17:26 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SB 109.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 147 - Create state energy conservation standards**

15:18:48 **Motion:** Sen. Jason Small moved that **SB 147 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

15:19:22 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:20:36 Sen. Denise Hayman

15:21:39 Sen. Cuffe has left

15:22:52 Sen. Jason Small

15:24:08 Sen. Brad Molnar

15:18:48 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:26:44 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Brad Molnar moved that **SB 147 TO TABLE.**

**Discussion:**

15:03:04

15:26:44

**Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 7 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Ellis, Sen. Hayman, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Pope, Sen. Tempel, voting no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 15:29:12

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Jack Racicot, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230124ENSaad\)](#)