

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Mike Lang-R, on January 31, 2023 at 3:26 PM, in 335

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Mike Lang, Chair (R)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Susan Webber, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)
Sen. Wendy McKamey (R)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)

Staff Present: Grace Gibney, Secretary
Trevor Graff, Research Analyst
Heather Vande-Sandt, Attorney

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:

HB 93 01/24/2023
HB 94 01/24/2023
SR 26 01/24/2023
SR 27 01/24/2023

Executive Action:

HB 85
SR 27 DO PASS
SR 26 DO PASS
HB 93
HB 94

16:21:35

Sen. Boldman has arrived

HEARING ON HB 93 - Eliminate noxious weed seed free forage advisory council

Opening Statement:

15:27:57 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 93, Eliminate noxious weed seed free forage advisory council.

Proponent Testimony:

15:29:00 Cort Jensen, Montana Department of Agriculture

15:30:49 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:31:31 Sen. Morigeau has arrived

15:32:15 Sen. Daniel Salomon

15:32:23 Cort Jensen

15:33:12 Sen. Welborn has arrived

15:34:02 Trevor Graff

Closing Statement:

15:34:27 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, closed the hearing on HB 93.

HEARING ON HB 94 - Repeal Montana huckleberry products law

Opening Statement:

15:34:51 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 94, Repeal Montana huckleberry products law.

Proponent Testimony:

15:36:01 Cort Jensen, Montana Department of Agriculture

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:38:15 Sen. Mike Lang

15:38:24 Cort Jensen

15:38:41 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

15:39:04 Sen. Shane Morigeau

15:39:17 Cort Jensen

15:40:17 Sen. Lenz has arrived

15:45:21 Sen. Mike Lang

Closing Statement:

15:45:42 Rep. Paul Green (R), HD 41, closed the hearing on HB 94.

HEARING ON SR 26 - Confirm governor's appointees for the board of veterinary medicine

Opening Statement:

15:46:31 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SR 26, Confirm governor's appointees for the board of veterinary medicine.

Proponent Testimony:

15:47:40 Hannah Slusser, Governors Office

15:49:23 Stuart Doggett, Montana Veterinary Medical Association

15:50:02 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

15:50:59 Marcia Cantrell, Governors Appointee

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

15:52:01 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, closed the hearing on SR 26.

HEARING ON SR 27 - Confirm governor's appointee for the board of hail insurance

Opening Statement:

15:52:50 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SR 27, Confirm governor's appointee for the board of hail insurance.

Proponent Testimony:

15:53:49 Hannah Slusser, Governors Office

15:54:29 Kristi Clark, Montana Department of Agriculture

15:54:53 Jim Schillinger, Governors Appointee

15:55:36 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:56:32 Sen. Daniel Salomon

Closing Statement:

15:56:46 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, closed the hearing on SR 27.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 85 - Expand MEPA categorical exclusions

15:59:47 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **HB 85 BE CONCURRED IN.**

15:59:47 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Boldman, By Proxy

15:59:47 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Mike Lang

16:00:43 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **HB 85 BE AMENDED.**

16:00:43 **Vote:** Motion failed 6 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. O'Brien, Sen. Salomon, Sen. Webber, voting yes.
Sen. Boldman, By Proxy

16:01:19 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **HB 85 BE AMENDED.**

16:01:19 **Vote:** Motion failed 6 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. O'Brien, Sen. Salomon, Sen. Webber, voting yes.
Sen. Boldman, By Proxy

12:16:53 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **HB 85 BE CONCURRED IN.**

12:16:53 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Webber, voting no.
Sen. Boldman, By Proxy

12:16:53 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Mike Lang

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 27 - Confirm governor's appointee for the board of hail insurance

16:10:03 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **SR 27 DO PASS.**

16:10:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 26 - Confirm governor's appointees for the board of veterinary medicine

16:11:20 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **SR 26 DO PASS.**

16:11:20 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 93 - Eliminate noxious weed seed free forage advisory council

16:12:59 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **HB 93 BE CONCURRED IN.**

16:12:59 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

16:12:59 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Wendy McKamey

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 94 - Repeal Montana huckleberry products law

16:15:37 **Motion:** Sen. Bruce Gillespie moved that **HB 94 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

16:18:23 Sen. Dan Bartel

16:18:41 Sen. Shane Morigeau

16:21:22 Sen. Daniel Salomon

16:15:37 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. O'Brien, Sen. Webber, voting no.

16:15:37 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Daniel Salomon

Discussion:

16:21:35 Sen. Boldman has arrived

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 16:25:36

Grace Gibney, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230131AGSaad\)](#)