

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Sen. John Esp-R, on February 02, 2023 at 3:45 PM, in 317 - After Senate Energy

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. John Esp, Chair (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Carl Glimm, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)

Staff Present: Julie Johnson, Research Analyst
Joe Triem, Fiscal Analyst
Cy Walsh, 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 60 01/31/2023
SB 94 01/31/2023
SB 121 01/31/2023

SB 124 01/31/2023
SB 148 01/31/2023
Executive Action:
SB 124 DO PASS

HEARING ON SB 121 - Reduce top marginal income tax rate and increase EITC

Opening Statement:

15:46:33 Sen. Becky Beard (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 121, Reduce top marginal income tax rate and increase EITC.

Proponent Testimony:

15:54:59 Glenn Oppel, Policy Director for the Governor's Office
[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa1\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa2\)](#)

15:56:36 Rebecca Meyers, Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)

15:57:19 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)
[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa3\)](#)

15:59:15 Steve Wade, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

15:59:44 Duane Williams, Montana Trucking Association (MTA)

16:09:19 Scott Osterman, Director of Department of Commerce (DOC)

Opponent Testimony:

16:01:21 Rose Bender, Montana Budget & Policy Center (MCPC)
[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa4\)](#)

16:04:21 Erik Burke, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

16:07:03 Margret MacDonald, Big Sky 55+

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:10:24 Aaron McNay, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

16:10:59 Sen. John Esp

16:11:49 Erik Burke, MFPE

16:12:30 Sen. Tom McGillvray

16:12:56 Aaron McNay, DOR

16:13:40 Sen. John Esp

Closing Statement:

16:14:04 Sen. Becky Beard (R), SD 40, closed the hearing on SB 121.

HEARING ON SB 124 - Revise corporate income tax apportionment

Opening Statement:

16:15:53 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 124, Revise corporate income tax apportionment.

Proponent Testimony:

16:19:11 Derek Bell, Department of Revenue (DOR)

[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa5\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa6\)](#)

16:21:31 Allen Lloyd, Montana Society of CPAs (MSCPA)

16:21:59 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)

16:23:12 Erik Burke, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

16:23:51 Steve Wade, BNSF Railway

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:24:54 Finn McMichael, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

16:25:21 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 124.

HEARING ON SB 148 - Revise laws regarding legal representation of children

Opening Statement:

16:26:06 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, opened the hearing on SB 148, Revise laws regarding legal representation of children.

16:26:19 Sen. Glimm has left

16:26:34 Sen. Flowers has arrived

Proponent Testimony:

16:28:23 Nikki Grossberg, Child and Family Services (CFS)

16:29:00 Maggie Bornstein, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU MT)

16:29:36 Jennifer Owen, self

16:31:32 Sen. Lynch has left

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:32:35 Sen. Ellie Boldman
16:33:14 Sen. Dennis Lenz-R
16:34:55 Sen. John Esp
16:35:04 Sen. Ellie Boldman
16:35:40 Nikki Grossberg, CFS

Closing Statement:

16:37:00 Sen. Dennis Lenz (R), SD 53, closed the hearing on SB 148.
16:37:52 Sen. Morigeau has left

HEARING ON SB 60 - Establish enterprise fund for Montana spatial real time network

Opening Statement:

16:38:21 Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R), SD 14, opened the hearing on SB 60,
Establish enterprise fund for Montana spatial real time network.

Proponent Testimony:

16:39:22 Evan Hammer, Montana State Library (MSL)
[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa7\)](#)
16:44:58 Dustin Rouse, Department of Transportation (DOT)
[EXHIBIT\(230202FCSa8\)](#)
16:48:01 Larry Hendrickson, Commissioner of Liberty County
16:48:56 Brian Thompson, Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors
(MARLS)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:50:09 Sen. John Esp
16:50:20 Dustin Rouse, DOT
16:51:25 Sen. Shelley Vance
16:52:26 Evan Hammer, MSL
16:53:42 Sen. Pat Flowers
16:55:24 Evan Hammer, MSL (fix timestamp)
16:55:29 Sen. Janet Ellis

16:55:58 Evan Hammer, MSL
16:56:41 Sen. Mike Lang
16:56:56 Sen. Pope has left
16:57:08 Larry Hendrickson, Liberty County
16:58:08 Sen. Dennis Lenz
16:58:45 Evan Hammer, MSL

Closing Statement:

16:59:49 Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R), SD 14, closed the hearing on SB 60.

HEARING ON SB 94 - Generally revise laws related to recovery residences

Opening Statement:

17:01:15 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 94, Generally revise laws related to recovery residences.

Proponent Testimony:

17:03:42 Aimee Gromoljez, City of Billings
17:05:33 Brian Thompson, Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA)
17:06:24 Caroline Belling, Hope Center Ministries (HCM)
17:07:48 Kendra Shaw, City of Billings

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:10:30 Sen. Dan Bartel
17:11:13 Sen. John Esp
17:11:39 Sen. Janet Ellis
17:12:16 Sen. Barry Usher-R
17:12:57 Sen. Janet Ellis
17:13:09 Sen. Mike Lang
17:13:18 Caroline Belling, HCM
17:14:05 Sen. Janet Ellis
17:15:13 Caroline Belling, HCM
17:15:45 Sen. Barry Usher-R
17:18:08 Sen. John Esp
17:18:10 Sen. Barry Usher-R

17:18:30 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn
17:19:13 Sen. Barry Usher-R

Closing Statement:

17:19:27 Sen. Barry Usher (R), SD 40, closed the hearing on SB 94.

Committee Discussion:

17:21:19 Sen. Ellie Boldman
17:21:37 Sen. John Esp
17:22:12 Sen. Dennis Lenz
17:22:26 Sen. John Esp
17:24:10 Sen. Janet Ellis
17:24:36 Recessed
17:33:19 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 124 - Revise corporate income tax apportionment

17:33:33 **Motion:** Sen. Tom McGillvray moved that **SB 124 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:33:33 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting no. Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:35:34

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230202FCSaad\)](#)