

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R, on February 02, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 422

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Chair (R)  
Sen. Bob Brown, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mike Fox, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Willis Curdy (D)  
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. John Fuller (R)  
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)  
Sen. Mark Noland (R)  
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)  
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)

**Staff Present:** Casey Pallister, Research Analyst  
Lynnette Sena, 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:

HB 42 01/30/2023

HB 146 01/30/2023

Executive Action:

**Committee Discussion:**

15:01:27 Sen. Steve Hinebauch  
15:02:10 Sen. Bob Brown  
15:03:08 Sen. Steve Hinebauch  
15:04:33 Recessed  
15:05:53 Reconvened

**HEARING ON HB 146 - Create landowner preference to hunt deer and antelope**

**Opening Statement:**

15:06:07 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 146, Create landowner preference to hunt deer and antelope.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:06:51 Emily Cooper, Licensing Bureau Chief, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)  
15:08:05 Ben Lamb, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)  
15:09:23 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

**Opponent Testimony:**

15:10:28 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MT BHA)  
15:12:16 Dale Tribby, Montana Sportsman Alliance

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:14:07 Sen. John Fuller  
15:14:49 Rep. Joshua Kassmier  
15:15:03 Emily Cooper, FWP  
15:15:32 Sen. John Fuller  
15:16:13 Emily Cooper, FWP

15:16:45 Sen. Willis Curdy

15:17:00 Emily Cooper, FWP

15:17:11 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:18:06 Emily Cooper, FWP

15:18:40 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:19:11 Ben Lamb, MWF

15:20:01 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:21:02 Ken McDonald, Administrator, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

15:21:50 Quentin Kujala, Chief of Staff, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

15:22:35 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

15:22:40 Quentin Kujala, FWP

15:22:46 Sen. Mark Noland

15:23:28 Emily Cooper, FWP

15:23:48 Quentin Kujala, FWP

15:24:30 Sen. Daniel Emrich

15:25:59 Emily Cooper, FWP

15:26:22 Sen. Daniel Emrich

15:26:37 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

15:26:43 Emily Cooper, FWP

15:27:10 Sen. Bob Brown

15:28:47 Emily Cooper, FWP

15:29:03 Quentin Kujala, FWP

15:29:23 Sen. Greg Hertz left the meeting.

15:29:26 Sen. John Fuller left the meeting.

15:30:02 Sen. Bob Brown  
15:31:01 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
15:31:49 Sen. Pat Flowers  
15:32:19 Quentin Kujala, FWP

**Closing Statement:**

15:32:46 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 146.

**HEARING ON HB 42 - Revise laws related to FWP employee firearm use**

**Opening Statement:**

15:33:23 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB 42, Revise laws related to FWP employee firearm use.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:36:03 Quentin Kujala, Chief of Staff, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

[EXHIBIT\(230202FISa1\)](#)

15:37:11 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:38:22 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
15:39:11 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle  
15:40:15 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
15:40:36 Sen. Pat Flowers  
15:43:16 Quetin Kujala, FWP

15:43:45 Sen. Mark Noland  
15:44:41 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
15:45:29 Sen. Mark Noland  
15:45:57 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle  
15:48:34 Sen. Mike Fox  
15:48:51 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
15:49:13 Sen. Bob Brown  
15:50:35 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
15:50:39 Sen. Bob Brown  
15:52:04 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle  
15:52:58 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
15:54:04 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
15:54:41 Sen. Bob Brown  
15:56:21 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
15:57:23 Sen. Pat Flowers  
15:57:49 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
15:58:16 Sen. Steve Hinebauch  
15:58:43 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle

**Closing Statement:**

15:58:51 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R), HD 67, closed the hearing on HB 42.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:05:58

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Lynnette Sena, Secretary

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