

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Chris Friedel-R, on February 08, 2023 at 2:28 PM, in 405

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Chris Friedel, Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)
Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)

Staff Present: Toni Henneman, Research Analyst
Lorna Mason, 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 245 02/03/2023

SB 262 02/03/2023

Executive Action:

SB 226 DO PASS AS AMENDED

SB 227 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HEARING ON SB 262 - Generally revise licensing requirements

Opening Statement:

14:34:00 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 262, Generally revise licensing requirements.

Proponent Testimony:

14:36:09 John Sinrud, Montana Landlords Association (MLA)

[EXHIBIT\(230208LOSa1\)](#)

14:40:44 Allen LLoyd, Montana Society of CPAs (MSCPA)

Opponent Testimony:

14:42:04 S.K. Rossi, City of Missoula, City of Bozeman

14:44:58 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

14:46:30 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

14:46:54 S.K. Rossi

14:47:50 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

14:48:01 S.K. Rossi

14:50:11 Sen. Christopher Pope

14:52:50 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

14:53:32 Sen. Chris Friedel

14:54:55 S.K. Rossi

14:55:44 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

14:56:19 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov-R

Closing Statement:

14:56:31 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, closed the hearing on SB 262.

HEARING ON SB 245 - Revise municipal zoning to allow multifamily and mixed use development

Opening Statement:

14:57:31 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 245, Revise municipal zoning to allow multifamily and mixed use development.

Proponent Testimony:

15:09:35 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish

15:13:24 Kendall Cotton, Frontier Institute

15:15:43 Ethan Hanley, Associated Students, University of Montana

15:16:42 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

[EXHIBIT\(230208LOSa2\)](#)

15:20:19 Dan Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

15:22:34 Izzy Milch, Forward Montana

15:23:53 Adam Hertz, Self

Opponent Testimony:

15:27:32 Kelly Lynch, (MTLCT)

15:32:56 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

15:36:15 Neil Cardwell, City of Belgrade

15:45:33 S.K. Rossi

15:49:32 Russ Nelson, City of Belgrade

15:53:10 Wyeth Friday, City of Billings

15:56:24 Allison Mouch, Montana Association of Planners (MAP)

15:58:49 Ed Meece, City of Polson
16:04:09 Robin Turner, City of Whitefish

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:06:35 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
16:10:16 Jake Brown
16:10:25 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
16:11:52 Jake Brown
16:12:53 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
16:13:55 Sen. Ellie Boldman left the meeting.
16:15:18 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov-R
16:18:24 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
16:22:47 Neil Cardwell
16:23:06 Sen. Christopher Pope
16:35:26 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov-R
16:37:22 Sen. Chris Friedel
16:37:41 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
16:38:33 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov-R
16:40:05 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
16:41:15 Ann Schwend, MEIC
16:42:40 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
16:45:04 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov-R
16:45:12 Sen. Terry Vermeire
16:49:20 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov-R

16:49:32 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

16:52:28 Kelly Lynch, MTLCT

Closing Statement:

16:52:47 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R), SD 45, closed the hearing on SB 245.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 226 - Allow for subdivision reviews by independent reviewing entities

17:03:53 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 226 DO PASS.**

17:05:09 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 226 BE AMENDED.**

17:05:09 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:07:02 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 226 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

17:07:02 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 2 by voice vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Dunwell, voting no.
Sen. Boldman, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 227 - Allow DEQ to pre-certify subdivision applicants

17:07:57 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 227 DO PASS.**

17:08:07 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 227 BE AMENDED.**

17:08:07 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:09:25 **Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 227 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

17:09:25 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Pope, voting no.
Sen. Boldman, By Proxy

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:15:30

Lorna Mason, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230208LOSaad\)](#)