

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Jeffrey Welborn-R, on February 13, 2023 at 2:51 PM, in 303

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Jeffrey Welborn, Chair (R)
Sen. Walt Sales, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Bob Brown (R)
Sen. Willis Curdy (D)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Jason Small (R)
Sen. Barry Usher (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)

Staff Present: Jason Mohr, Research Analyst
Jacelyn Sterling, 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 261 02/10/2023

Executive Action:

14:52:46 Recessed
14:53:21 Sen. Morigeau has arrived
14:55:01 Reconvened

HEARING ON SB 261 - Revise objections to water rights application

Opening Statement:

14:55:13 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 261, Revise objections to water rights application.

Proponent Testimony:

14:56:51 Alan Olsen, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)
14:59:37 Adrienne Cotton, Montana Building Industry Association
14:59:55 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resource Association
15:00:53 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Opponent Testimony:

15:01:57 Andrew Garder, Clark Fork Coalition (CFC)
15:04:58 Sen. Shane Morigeau left the meeting.
15:05:50 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited
15:07:18 Sen. Mike Lang left the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:07:39 Nate Ward, Department of Natural Resources (DNRC)

Questions from Committee:

15:08:18 Sen. Bruce Gillespie
15:09:13 Sen. Keith Regier-R
15:09:52 Sen. Walt Sales

15:12:45 Alan Olsen, MPA
15:13:09 Sen. Walt Sales
15:13:22 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn
15:14:39 Alan Olsen, MPA
15:15:26 Sen. Willis Curdy
15:15:51 Nate Ward, DNRC
15:16:29 Sen. Bob Brown
15:17:03 Jason Mohr
15:17:28 Sen. Bob Brown
15:18:03 Nate Ward, DNRC
15:18:11 Sen. Walt Sales
15:19:15 Nate Ward, DNRC
15:20:03 Sen. Willis Curdy
15:20:28 Andrew Garder, CFC
15:21:38 Sen. Willis Curdy
15:21:58 Andrew Gorder, CFC
15:22:34 Sen. Bob Brown
15:23:29 Sen. Keith Regier-R
15:23:49 Sen. Pat Flowers

Closing Statement:

15:25:55 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, closed the hearing on SB 261.

Discussion:

14:52:46 Recessed
14:53:21 Sen. Morigeau has arrived
14:55:01 Reconvened

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:28:08

Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230213NASaad\)](#)