

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R, on February 16, 2023 at 2:49 PM, in 303

**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. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. Greg Hertz (R)  
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)  
Sen. Mark Noland (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)  
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)  
Sen. John Fuller (R)  
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

**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:

SB 298 02/13/2023

SB 305 02/13/2023

Executive Action:

SB 281 DO PASS AS AMENDED

SB 293 DO PASS

14:50:30

Sen. Vermeire has arrived

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 281 - Revise laws related to nonresident hunting and fishing**

14:51:01 **Motion:** Sen. Pat Flowers moved that **SB 281 DO PASS.**

14:51:40 **Motion:** Sen. Pat Flowers moved that **SB 281 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

14:51:50 Sen. Pat Flowers

14:51:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

14:53:17 **Motion:** Sen. Pat Flowers moved that **SB 281 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

14:53:17 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 293 - Revise transportation laws related to invasive species**

14:54:30 **Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SB 293 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

14:54:41 Sen. Mark Noland

14:54:46 Sen. Daniel Emrich joined the meeting.

14:55:40 Sen. Bob Brown

14:54:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**HEARING ON SB 305 - Revise definition of nonresident related to hunting and fishing licenses**

**Opening Statement:**

14:57:32 Sen. Tom McGillvray (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 305, Revise definition of nonresident related to hunting and fishing licenses.

[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa1\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:01:34 Tom Hauptman, self

15:04:34 Scott Boulanger, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

**Opponent Testimony:**

15:05:27 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited (TU)  
15:07:30 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)  
15:08:58 Katjana Stutzer, Montana Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MT BHA)  
15:10:30 Stephanie Prater, self

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

15:11:42 Quentin Kujala, Chief of Staff, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee:**

15:12:18 Sen. Bob Brown  
15:13:30 Quentin Kujala, FWP

**Closing Statement:**

15:13:56 Sen. Tom McGillvray (R), SD 23, closed the hearing on SB 305.

**HEARING ON SB 298 - Revise laws related to hunting by disabled persons**

**Opening Statement:**

15:17:14 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 298, Revise laws related to hunting by disabled persons.

[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa2\)](#)

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:32:47 Joel Peden, Summit Independent Living Center, Ability Montana  
15:36:22 Sean Conroe, Ability Montana  
15:37:38 Scott Birkenbuel, self  
15:38:47 Adam Haight, Laborers Local 1686 Union  
15:39:24 Amanda Frickle, Montana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization (AFL-CIO)  
15:41:03 Al Ekblad, Operating Engineers Local 400  
15:42:18 Peter Siegel, self

**Opponent Testimony:**

- 15:46:38 Liberty Brown, self  
[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa3\)](#)  
[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa4\)](#)
- 15:50:31 Paul Kemper, Vice President, Traditional Bow Hunters of Montana  
[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa5\)](#)  
[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa6\)](#)  
[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa7\)](#)
- 15:52:26 Dr. Amy LePage, self
- 15:56:00 Jeremy Harwood, Board of Directors, Montana Bowhunters Association (MBA)
- 15:58:33 Marlon Clapham, Montana Bowhunters Association (MBA)  
[EXHIBIT\(230216FISa8\)](#)
- 16:04:49 Sen. Mark Noland left the meeting.
- 16:06:34 June LePage, self
- 16:08:29 Brian Koelzer, self
- 16:11:18 Steven LePage, Board of Directors, Pope and Young Club
- 16:14:05 Stephanie Prater, self
- 16:15:54 Jess Wagner, self
- 16:17:49 John Sullivan, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

- 16:19:54 Ken McDonald, Wildlife Division Administrator, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
- 16:21:22 Richard Lewallen, self/opponent

**Questions from Committee:**

- 16:23:01 Sen. Greg Hertz

16:23:26 Dr. Amy LePage, self  
16:25:59 Sen. Greg Hertz  
16:28:23 Liberty Brown, self  
16:29:28 Sen. Willis Curdy  
16:30:31 Sen. Brad Molnar-R  
16:31:50 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty  
16:32:26 Sen. Brad Molnar  
16:34:00 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty  
16:34:39 Ken McDonald, FWP  
16:35:13 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
16:37:12 June LePage, self  
16:37:37 Sen. Daniel Emrich  
16:40:49 Sen. Mark Noland joined the meeting.  
16:42:00 Steve LePage, Pope and Young Club  
16:42:11 Sen. Bob Brown  
16:43:27 Ken McDonald, FWP  
16:43:48 Sen. Pat Flowers  
16:45:04 Liberty Brown, self  
16:45:10 Sen. Pat Flowers  
16:45:40 Ken McDonald, FWP  
16:45:54 Sen. Pat Flowers  
16:46:18 Sen. Greg Hertz  
16:47:36 Ken McDonald, FWP  
16:47:54 Sen. Bob Brown

16:50:18 Liberty Brown, self  
16:50:37 Sen. Terry Vermeire  
16:51:20 Ken McDonald, FWP

**Closing Statement:**

16:51:55 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, closed the hearing on SB 298.  
16:54:08 Sen. Greg Hertz left the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:02:18

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Lynnette Sena, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230216FISaad\)](#)