

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE**

**68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON (S) ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Sen. Walt Sales-R, on February 21, 2023 at 3:00 PM, in 317

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. Walt Sales, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jason Small, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Denise Hayman (D)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)  
Sen. Keith Regier (R)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)  
Sen. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)

**Staff Present:** Hunter Camac, Attorney  
Jason Mohr, OBPP Staffer  
Jack Racicot, 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 47 02/16/2023

Executive Action:

SB 208 TO TABLE  
SB 255 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
SJ 10 DO PASS AS AMENDED

**HEARING ON HB 47 - Generally revise the Montana Information Technology Act**

**Opening Statement:**

15:01:58 Rep. Julie Dooling (R), HD 70, opened the hearing on HB 47, Generally revise the Montana Information Technology Act.

**Proponent Testimony:**

15:03:39 Kevin Gilbertson, Montana State Information Technology Service Division (MTSITSD)

[EXHIBIT\(230221ENSa1\)](#)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee:**

15:03:18 Sen. Lynch has arrived

15:13:34 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

15:14:15 Kevin Gilbertson, MTSITSD

15:14:28 Sen. Denise Hayman

15:17:23 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov left the meeting.

15:20:10 Kevin Gilbertson, MTSITSD

15:21:02 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:21:12 Sen. Brad Molnar joined the meeting.

15:23:55 Kevin Gilbertson, MTSITSD

15:24:52 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov joined the meeting.

15:27:34 Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel

15:29:24 Kevin Gilbertson, MTSITSD

15:30:34 Sen. Keith Regier

15:33:45 Kevin Gilbertson, MTSITSD  
15:34:00 Sen. Ryan Lynch  
15:34:17 Kevin Gilbertson, MTSITSD  
15:35:28 Sen. Walt Sales  
15:35:45 Kevin Gilbertson, MTSITSD

**Closing Statement:**

15:36:40 Rep. Julie Dooling (R), HD 70, closed the hearing on HB 47.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 208 - Prohibit local governments from banning or limiting energy choices**

15:49:33 **Motion:** Sen. Jason Small moved that **SB 208 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

15:38:01 Recessed  
15:48:56 Sen. Fitzpatrick has arrived  
15:49:13 Reconvened  
15:49:49 Sen. Ryan Lynch  
15:50:11 Sen. Jason Small  
15:49:33 **Vote:** Motion tied 6 - 6 by voice vote  
15:52:38 **Motion:** Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick moved that **SB 208 TO TABLE.**  
15:52:38 **Vote:** Motion tied 6 - 6 by voice vote

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 255 - Revising electric vehicle charging station laws**

15:53:58 **Motion:** Sen. Jason Small moved that **SB 255 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

15:54:38 Sen. Christopher Pope  
15:53:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Fitzpatrick, voting no.

15:57:08 **Motion:** Sen. Jason Small moved that **SB 255 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

15:57:23 Sen. Keith Regier

15:57:53 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:59:47 Sen. Jason Small

15:57:08 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 3 by voice vote with Sen. Cuffe, Sen. Molnar, Sen. Regier, voting no.  
Sen. Cuffe, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 10 - Resolution against removal of Snake River dams**

16:01:14 **Motion:** Sen. Jason Small moved that **SJ 10 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

16:01:45 Sen. Keith Regier

16:02:28 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

[EXHIBIT\(230221ENSa2\)](#)

16:01:14 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 4 by voice vote with Sen. Ellis, Sen. Hayman, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Pope, voting no.  
Sen. Ellis, Sen. Lynch, By Proxy

16:03:39 **Motion:** Sen. Jason Small moved that **SJ 10 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

16:03:39 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 4 by voice vote with Sen. Ellis, Sen. Hayman, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Pope, voting no.  
Sen. Ellis, Sen. Lynch, By Proxy

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:04:56

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Jack Racicot, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230221ENSaad\)](#)