

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

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Steve Hinebauch-R, on February 21, 2023 at 3:01 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. Daniel Emrich (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Mark Noland (R)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Willis Curdy (D)
Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)
Sen. John Fuller (R)
Sen. Greg Hertz (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 357 02/17/2023

SR 3 02/16/2023

Executive Action:

SB 295 DO PASS AS AMENDED

SB 305 TO TABLE

SR 3 RESOLUTION ADOPTED

15:02:05

Sen. Flowers has arrived

HEARING ON SR 3 - Confirm governor's appointees for the fish and wildlife commission

Opening Statement:

15:02:34 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SR 3, Confirm governor's appointees for the fish and wildlife commission.

Proponent Testimony:

15:03:45 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor, Governor's Office

[EXHIBIT\(230221FISa1\)](#)

15:07:33 Lesley Robinson, appointee

15:08:49 Jeff Burrows, appointee

15:10:35 Bill Lane, appointee

15:12:24 Susan Kirby Brooke, appointee

15:14:06 Richard Dunbar, self

15:14:49 Hank Worsech, Director, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

15:16:01 Carl Seilstad, self

15:16:48 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited

15:18:37 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

15:20:04 John Grande, President, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)

15:21:38 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

15:23:03 Bob Gilbert, Walleyes Unlimited Montana

15:23:58 Scott Boulanger, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

15:25:05 Keith Kubista, Director, Montana Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife

15:26:41 Vicki Olson, self

15:44:42 Matt Lumley, Outdoor Heritage Coalition (OHC)

15:45:22 Edwin Johnson, Park County GOP State Committee

Opponent Testimony:

15:27:36 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:29:56 Sen. Mark Noland

15:30:26 Lesley Robinson, appointee

15:31:51 Bill Lane, appointee

15:32:49 Jeff Burrows, appointee

15:33:56 Susan Kirby Brooke, appointee

15:35:35 Sen. Mark Noland

15:35:51 Lesley Robinson, appointee

15:36:45 Bill Lane, appointee

15:37:43 Jeff Burrows, appointee

15:39:08 Susan Kirby Brooke, appointee

15:39:54 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:40:39 Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty left the meeting.

15:40:54 Susan Kirby Brooke, appointee

15:42:39 Sen. Pat Flowers

15:43:23 Jeff Burrows, appointee

15:46:17 Sen. Bob Brown

15:46:47 Jeff Burrows, appointee

15:48:18 Sen. Bob Brown

15:48:43 Bill Lane, appointee

15:50:28 Sen. Bob Brown
15:51:06 Lesley Robinson, appointee

Closing Statement:

15:52:02 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, closed the hearing on SR 3.

15:53:34 Recessed
15:54:58 Sen. Hertz has arrived
15:55:17 Reconvened

HEARING ON SB 357 - Require terms for conservation easements using state funds

Opening Statement:

15:55:27 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB 357,
Require terms for conservation easements using state funds.

Proponent Testimony:

16:05:35 Charles Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana (UPOM)

Opponent Testimony:

16:12:08 Dick Dolan, Northern Rockies Director, Trust for Public Land (TPL)
[EXHIBIT\(230221FISa2\)](#)
16:18:18 Lisa Bay, Bay Ranch
16:20:22 Tyrrell Hibbard, Sieben Live Stock Company
16:23:28 Sen. Daniel Emrich left the meeting.
16:23:48 David Mannix, self
16:28:05 George Olsen, Board President, Montana Land Reliance (MLR)
16:31:29 Raylee Honeycutt, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGa)
16:32:51 Pat Bousliman, Montana Association of Land Trust (MALT), speaking on
behalf of Alan Maki, Chair, Ravalli County Right to Farm and Ranch Board
16:35:03 Ryan Callagham, Meat Eater, Inc.

16:37:57 Mark Aagenes, TNC Nature Conservancy
[EXHIBIT\(230221FISa3\)](#)

16:38:54 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association (TSRA)

16:40:21 Matt Leow, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MT-BHA)

16:41:00 Noah Marion, Wild Montana

16:41:28 Jocelyn Leroux, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

16:41:54 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

16:42:42 Barry Dexter, Stimson Lumber Company

16:43:33 Paul McKenzie, General Manager, F.H. Stoltze Land and Lumber Company

16:47:37 Jennifer Doherty, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
[EXHIBIT\(230221FISa4\)](#)

16:48:35 Brian Hobday, Area Manager, Green Diamond Resource Company

16:50:35 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association

16:51:50 Andrew Dana, self

16:54:25 Sen. Willis Curdy joined the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:59:55 Bill Schenk, Land and Water Program Manager, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee:

17:00:24 Sen. Greg Hertz

17:02:00 Dick Dolan, TPL

17:02:25 Sen. Greg Hertz

17:03:06 George Olsen, MLR

17:04:17 Sen. Pat Flowers

17:05:16 Dick Dolan, TPL
17:07:07 Sen. Mark Noland
17:08:11 Sen. Steve Hinebauch
17:10:00 Sen. Willis Curdy
17:12:05 Bill Schenk, FWP
17:12:28 Sen. Willis Curdy
17:13:14 Dick Dolan, TPL
17:14:00 Sen. Greg Hertz
17:14:11 Dick Dolan, TPL
17:14:47 Sen. Bob Brown
17:14:57 Dick Dolan, TPL
17:15:15 Sen. Pat Flowers
17:16:08 Paul McKenzie, F.H. Stoltze Land and Lumber Company

Closing Statement:

17:17:01 Sen. Steve Hinebauch (R), SD 18, closed the hearing on SB 357.
17:17:24 Sen. Emrich has arrived

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 295 - Revising laws to accommodate grizzly bear delisting

17:22:33 **Motion:** Sen. Bob Brown moved that **SB 295 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:22:46 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

17:23:12 **Motion:** Sen. Pat Flowers moved that **SB 295 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:22:33 Sen. Pat Flowers
17:26:08 Sen. Daniel Emrich
17:26:22 Sen. Pat Flowers

17:23:12 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

17:27:18 **Motion:** Sen. Bob Brown moved that **SB 295 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:27:29 Sen. Pat Flowers

17:28:50 Sen. Willis Curdy

17:29:35 Sen. Bob Brown

17:27:18 **Vote:** Motion carried 9 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, Sen. Fox, Sen. McClafferty, voting no.
Sen. McClafferty, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 305 - Revise definition of nonresident related to hunting and fishing licenses

17:31:23 **Motion:** Sen. Bob Brown moved that **SB 305 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

17:31:40 Sen. Bob Brown

17:32:50 Sen. Steve Hinebauch

17:33:09 **Motion:** Sen. Bob Brown moved that **SB 305 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

17:33:41 Casey Pallister

17:34:40 Sen. Greg Hertz

17:34:49 Casey Pallister

17:35:32 Sen. Mark Noland

17:35:35 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SB 305 TABLE AMENDMENT.**

17:35:35 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 11 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Hinebauch, voting no.

17:37:50 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Mark Noland moved that **SB 305 TO TABLE.**

17:37:50 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 10 - 2 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, Sen. Hinebauch, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 3 - Confirm governor's appointees for the fish and wildlife commission

17:39:16 **Motion:** Sen. Bob Brown moved that **SR 3 RESOLUTION ADOPTED.**

Discussion:

17:39:38 Sen. Willis Curdy

17:39:16 **Vote:** Motion carried 11 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Curdy, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:41:19

Lynnette Sena, Secretary

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