

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

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Chris Friedel-R, on February 22, 2023 at 2:46 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)

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

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 327 02/15/2023
SB 332 02/15/2023
SB 343 02/17/2023
SB 382 02/17/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON SB 327 - Allow water well at any location within setbacks

Opening Statement:

14:47:40 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on SB 327, Allow water well at any location within setbacks.

Proponent Testimony:

14:49:54 Rhonda Wiggers, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)

14:50:57 Chad Danielson, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)

14:51:49 Kurt Westra, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)

Opponent Testimony:

14:53:00 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

14:55:58 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

14:58:06 Sen. Carl Glimm-R

14:59:04 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

14:59:31 Ann Schend, MEIC

Closing Statement:

15:00:57 Sen. Carl Glimm (R), SD 6, closed the hearing on SB 327.

HEARING ON SB 332 - Require property tax increase information to be included in budget discussions

Opening Statement:

15:02:51 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 332, Require property tax increase information to be included in budget discussions.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:05:04 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:05:44 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

Closing Statement:

15:05:55 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 332.

HEARING ON SB 382 - Create the Montana Land Use Planning Act

Opening Statement:

15:08:05 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, opened the hearing on SB 382, Create the Montana Land Use Planning Act.

Proponent Testimony:

15:13:20 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

[EXHIBIT\(230222LOSa1\)](#)

15:16:25 Mike Hopkins, County of Missoula

15:18:50 Sam Still, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

15:20:11 Cory Shaw, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)

15:21:07 Andrew Hagemeyer, Community and Planning Services (CAPS)

15:22:20 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

15:23:35 Kendall Cotton, Frontier Institute

15:24:39 Ethan Handley, Students Association for Montana University

15:25:38 J.P. Gallagher, City of Butte, City of Silver Bow

15:26:44 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

15:27:35 Margaret MacDonald, Big Sky 55 Plus
15:28:50 Colen Cooley, Travel Unlimited
15:29:22 S.K. Rossi, City of Missoula, City of Bozeman
15:31:21 Mike Nugent, self
15:32:05 Wyeth Friday, City of Billings
15:33:31 Ed Meece, City of Polson

Opponent Testimony:

15:34:59 Randy Brodel, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:37:04 Sen. Ellie Boldman left the meeting.
15:38:27 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:39:51 Allen Olson, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)
15:41:02 Sen. Kenneth Bogner joined the meeting.
15:41:35 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
15:43:10 Pam Holmquist, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:44:15 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish
15:45:55 Brad Abell, County of Flathead
15:47:23 Dan Brooks, City of Billings
15:48:46 Sean O'Callaghan, County of Gallatin

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:51:55 Rene Lemon, Montana Department of Commerce (COMMERCE)

Questions from Committee:

15:52:57 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
15:53:27 Sen. Ellie Boldman-D
15:54:11 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
15:54:31 Jasmine Krofer, MFU

15:54:52 Sen. Jeremy Trebas left the meeting.

15:55:34 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:56:41 Kelly Lynch, MTLCT

15:58:15 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:59:05 Eric Bryson MACo

16:01:11 Sen. Christopher Pope

16:03:03 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

16:06:24 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

16:06:43 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

16:07:19 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

16:11:47 Allen Olson, MPA

16:13:15 Sen. Chris Friedel

16:14:02 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

16:14:18 Kelly Lynch, MTLCT

16:15:15 Sen. Chris Friedel

16:15:55 Eric Bryson MACo

16:17:28 Sen. Chris Friedel

16:17:48 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

Closing Statement:

16:18:39 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, closed the hearing on SB 382.

HEARING ON SB 343 - Generally revise public sector unions law related to use of taxpayer resource

Opening Statement:

16:28:41 Sen. John Fuller (R), SD 8, opened the hearing on SB 343, Generally revise public sector unions law related to use of taxpayer resource.

Proponent Testimony:

- 16:31:42 Maxford Nelsen, Freedom Foundation
[EXHIBIT\(230222LOSa2\)](#)
- 16:38:36 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.
- 16:42:22 Henry Kriegel, Americans for Prosperity (AFP)

Opponent Testimony:

- 16:43:49 Quint Nyman, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
- 16:51:10 Amanda Frickle, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
[EXHIBIT\(230222LOSa3\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(230222LOSa4\)](#)
- 16:53:03 J.P. Gallagher, City of Butte, City of Silver Bow
- 16:54:15 Doug Robison, Billings Education Association
- 16:56:15 Carter Marsh, Montana State Firefighters Association (MSFA)
- 16:58:12 Andy Ekband, Montana Professional Firefighters (MSPFA)
- 16:59:38 Jacob Strissel, County of Hill
- 17:00:51 Adam Haight, Local Laborers 1686
- 17:02:41 Al Ekblad, Operating Engineers 400
- 17:04:54 Jackie McBroom, Montana State Conference of Employee and Workers (MSCEW)
[EXHIBIT\(230222LOSa5\)](#)
- 17:06:13 Dwight Rose, Line Constructors and Utility workers
- 17:06:50 Clarrisa Shaffer, self
- 17:09:49 Bryan Blair, Local Workers 8527
- 17:11:50 Katie Nordstrom, Billings Public Schools
- 17:13:16 Greg Upom, self

Informational Witness Testimony:

17:14:37 Anjenette Schafer, Department of Administration (DOA)
17:15:05 Brian Gootkin, Department of Corrections (DOC)

Questions from Committee:

17:15:38 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
17:18:06 Anjenette Schafer, DOA
17:18:55 Amanda Fickle, AFL-CIO
17:22:17 Sen. Christopher Pope
17:24:44 J.P. Gallagher, self
17:26:26 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
17:26:48 Dwight Rose, self
17:29:10 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
17:39:39 Sen. Ellie Boldman
17:40:14 Amanda Frickle, AFL-CIO
17:43:15 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
17:46:16 Quint Nyman, MFPE
17:46:48 Sen. Chris Friedel
17:47:25 Maxford Nelson, Freedom Foundation
17:48:57 Sen. Chris Friedel
17:49:18 Quint Nyman, MFPE
17:49:59 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
17:50:13 Quint Nyman, MFPE
17:50:53 Sen. Christopher Pope
17:50:59 Amanda Frickle, AFL-CIO
17:51:54 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

17:52:35 Quint Nyman, MFPE

Closing Statement:

17:54:08 Sen. John Fuller (R), SD 8, closed the hearing on SB 343.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:01:33

Lorna Mason, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230222LOSaad\)](#)