

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Carl Glimm-R, on February 24, 2023 at 9:02 AM, in 317

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Sen. John Esp, Chair (R)  
Sen. Janet Ellis, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Carl Glimm, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Dan Bartel (R)  
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. John Fuller (R)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)  
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)  
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)  
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)  
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)  
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)

**Staff Present:** Julie Johnson, Research Analyst  
Joe Triem, Fiscal Analyst  
Cy Walsh, 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 93 02/23/2023  
SB 127 02/23/2023  
SB 224 02/22/2023  
SB 417 02/22/2023

Executive Action:

SB 93 DO PASS  
SB 417 DO PASS AS AMENDED  
SB 224 DO PASS AS AMENDED

**HEARING ON SB 93 - Generally revising ballot issues**

**Opening Statement:**

09:03:44 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 93, Generally revising ballot issues.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:05:58 Charles Robison, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

09:06:22 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:07:30 Andy Ritter, Secretary of State's Office (SoS)

**Questions from Committee:**

None

**Closing Statement:**

09:07:59 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, closed the hearing on SB 93.

**HEARING ON SB 417 - Pay off bonded debt**

**Opening Statement:**

09:08:29 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 417, Pay off bonded debt.

**Discussion:**

09:08:51 Sen. Dennis Lenz left the meeting.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:11:48 Ryan Evans, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

**Questions from Committee:**

09:12:15 Sen. Tom McGillvray

09:13:05 Sen. Shane Morigeau left the meeting.

09:13:08 Sen. Brad Molnar-R

09:14:01 Chair John Esp

09:14:09 Sen. Daniel Salomon

09:14:16 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.

09:14:31 Sen. Brad Molnar-R

09:14:55 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
09:15:04 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:15:24 Chair John Esp  
09:15:38 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
09:15:56 Chair John Esp  
09:16:16 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
09:16:32 Sen. Brad Molnar-R  
09:17:25 Sen. Pat Flowers  
09:17:53 Sen. Brad Molnar-R  
09:18:05 Vice Chair Carl Glimm  
09:18:31 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:18:36 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.  
09:20:22 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
09:20:55 Joe Triem  
09:21:24 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
09:21:36 Joe Triem

**Closing Statement:**

09:22:26 Sen. Brad Molnar (R), SD 28, closed the hearing on SB 417.  
  
09:24:35 **Recessed**  
09:38:06 **Reconvened**

**HEARING ON SB 224 - Require court report on district court case numbers and substitutions**

**Opening Statement:**

09:38:19 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 224, Require court report on district court case numbers and substitutions.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:40:27 Lisa Mader, Judicial Branch

**Questions from Committee:**

09:41:46 Sen. Dan Bartel  
09:42:07 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:43:21 Sen. Mike Cuffe

**Closing Statement:**

09:43:27 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 224.

**HEARING ON SB 127 - Require Montana to provide funding for enforcement of PL280**

**Opening Statement:**

09:43:57 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 127, Require Montana to provide funding for enforcement of PL280.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:48:19 Scott Reichner, Lake County

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:49:09 Nate Thomas, Department of Justice (DOJ)

**Questions from Committee:**

09:49:34 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
09:50:54 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
09:51:27 Scott Reichner, Lake County  
09:52:31 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
09:53:00 Scott Reichner, Lake County  
09:53:15 Sen. Pat Flowers  
09:54:48 Scott Reichner, Lake County  
09:57:55 Sen. John Fuller  
09:58:27 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
10:00:46 Sen. Shane Morigeau  
10:03:13 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
10:03:24 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.  
10:05:59 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
10:06:34 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
10:06:40 Sen. Shane Morigeau left the meeting.  
10:08:56 Sen. John Fuller  
10:09:17 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
10:10:50 Chair John Esp  
10:11:19 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
10:12:37 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
10:13:09 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

10:13:44 Sen. Daniel Salomon  
10:15:59 Chair John Esp  
10:16:05 Vice Chair Carl Glimm  
10:16:28 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
10:17:46 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn  
10:19:10 Sen. Greg Hertz-R  
10:20:35 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
10:21:16 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

**Closing Statement:**

10:22:46 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 127.

10:25:32 **Recessed**

10:34:36 **Reconvened**

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 93 - Generally revising ballot issues**

10:35:49 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 93 DO PASS.**

10:35:49 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by voice vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting no.  
Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, By Proxy

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 417 - Pay off bonded debt**

10:36:11 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 417 DO PASS.**

10:36:30 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 417 BE AMENDED.**

10:36:30 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:36:57 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 417 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:37:08 Sen. Tom McGillvray

10:38:03 Sen. Pat Flowers

10:38:40 Sen. Tom McGillvray

10:39:12 Sen. Mike Cuffe

10:39:47 Chair John Esp

10:36:57 **Vote:** Motion carried 18 - 1 by voice vote with Sen. Cuffe, voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 224 - Require court report on district court case numbers and substitutions**

10:40:58 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 224 DO PASS.**

10:41:14 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 224 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

10:41:34 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
10:42:37 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.  
10:42:54 Lisa Mader, Judicial Branch  
10:43:31 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
10:41:14 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.  
10:44:12 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 224 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**  
10:44:12 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by voice vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting no.  
Sen. Boldman, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, By Proxy

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:46:40

---

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230224FCSaad\)](#)