

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

Call to Order: Chair Chris Friedel-R, on February 24, 2023 at 8:08 AM, in 405

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Chris Friedel, Chair (R)
Sen. Kenneth Bogner, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)
Sen. Terry Vermeire (R)
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 401 02/21/2023
SB 403 02/22/2023
SB 404 02/21/2023
SB 406 02/21/2023
SB 407 02/21/2023
SB 420 02/22/2023
SB 474 02/23/2023
SB 486 02/23/2023

Executive Action:

SB 401 TO TABLE
SB 403 TO TABLE
SB 420 DO PASS
SB 486 TO TABLE
SB 404 TO TABLE
SB 406 DO PASS
SB 268 DO PASS AS AMENDED

HEARING ON SB 401 - Extend nonmotorized junk vehicle laws

Opening Statement:

08:09:05 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 98, opened the hearing on SB 401, Extend nonmotorized junk vehicle laws.

Discussion:

08:09:55 Sen. Willis Curdy-D

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

08:10:31 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 98, closed the hearing on SB 401.

HEARING ON SB 403 - Generally revise county speed limits

Opening Statement:

08:10:59 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 98, opened the hearing on SB 403, Generally revise county speed limits.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230224LOSa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

08:14:42 Shane Stack, Missoula County

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:16:57 Sen. Christopher Pope joined the meeting.

08:17:06 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

08:17:57 Sen. Willis Curdy-D

Closing Statement:

08:18:19 Sen. Willis Curdy (D), SD 98, closed the hearing on SB 403.

HEARING ON SB 420 - Require the election of city officials on even years

Opening Statement:

08:20:33 Chair Chris Friedel (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 420, Require the election of city officials on even years.

Discussion:

08:21:04 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell left the meeting.

08:21:31 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

08:23:24 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerk and Recorders (MACR)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:27:52 Sen. Christopher Pope

08:29:00 Sen. Chris Friedel-R

08:32:10 Sen. Terry Vermeire

08:32:55 Sen. Chris Friedel-R

08:33:31 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

08:35:42 Regina Plettenberg, MACR

Closing Statement:

08:38:14 Chair Chris Friedel (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 420.

HEARING ON SB 474 - Generally revise laws pertaining to sports betting

Opening Statement:

08:41:26 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, opened the hearing on SB 474, Generally revise laws pertaining to sports betting.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:44:26 Sen. Christopher Pope

08:44:58 Sen. Forrest Mandeville-R

08:45:42 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell joined the meeting.

Closing Statement:

08:45:52 Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R), SD 57, closed the hearing on SB 474.

HEARING ON SB 486 - Revise subdivision laws related to glamping

Opening Statement:

08:46:44 Sen. Pat Flowers (D), SD 32, opened the hearing on SB 486, Revise subdivision laws related to glamping.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:50:41 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
08:52:59 Sen. Pat Flowers-D
08:54:48 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
08:55:25 Sen. Pat Flowers-D
08:55:37 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell
08:55:58 Sen. Pat Flowers-D
08:56:17 Chair Chris Friedel
08:56:53 Sen. Pat Flowers-D

Closing Statement:

08:57:13 Sen. Pat Flowers (D), SD 32, closed the hearing on SB 486.

Discussion:

08:57:42 Sen. Forrest Mandeville left the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 404 - Generally revise local government laws for fire departments

Opening Statement:

08:58:39 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 404,
Generally revise local government laws for fire departments.

Proponent Testimony:

09:01:07 John Sinrud, self

Opponent Testimony:

09:04:10 Gordy Hughes, Missoula Fire Department
09:07:49 Dustin Tetrault, Big Sky Fire Department

09:09:21 Rich Cowger, Montana Fire Alliance
09:10:36 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)
09:12:00 Shane Grube, Hebger Fire Department
09:13:40 Tom Kuntz, Red Lodge Fire Department
09:15:04 Shaun Ray, National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA)
09:16:59 Ed Shindoll, Broadwater Rural Fire Department
09:17:22 Frank Dahlquist, West Valley Fire Department
09:19:13 Mike McIntosh, Great Falls Fire Rescue

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:21:58 Eric Copeland, Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI)

Questions from Committee:

09:23:11 Sen. Christopher Pope
09:24:51 Rich Cowger, MFA
09:26:14 Sen. Christopher Pope
09:26:29 Eric Copeland, DOLI
09:29:32 Sen. Christopher Pope
09:29:49 Gordy Hughes, self
09:31:50 Chair Chris Friedel
09:32:03 Rich Cowger, MFA
09:33:34 Eric Copeland, DOLI

Closing Statement:

9:36:01 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 404.

HEARING ON SB 406 - Revise laws related to local building codes

Opening Statement:

09:38:14 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 406, Revise laws related to local building codes.

Proponent Testimony:

09:40:40 John Sinrud, self

Opponent Testimony:

09:44:07 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

09:44:57 Shane Ray, National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA)

09:46:21 Shane Grube, Hebgen Basin/West Yellowstone Fire Department

09:46:53 Jeromy Jones, Great Falls Fire Department

09:47:43 Frank Dahlquist, West Valley Fire Department

09:47:55 Sen. Christopher Pope left the meeting.

09:48:42 Mike McIntosh, Great Falls Fire Rescue

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:49:28 Eric Copeland, Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI)

Questions from Committee:

09:50:39 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

09:50:49 Kelly Lynch, MTLCT

Closing Statement:

09:51:32 Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R), SD 26, closed the hearing on SB 406.

09:54:06 Recessed

10:09:23 Reconvened

HEARING ON SB 407 - Revise municipal zoning laws

Opening Statement:

10:10:55 Sen. Shane Morigeau (D), SD 95, opened the hearing on SB 407, Revise municipal zoning laws.

Proponent Testimony:

None

Opponent Testimony:

10:15:14 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

10:18:16 Chere Jiusto, Preserve Montana

10:20:43 Chair Chris Friedel left the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

10:25:00 Kate Hampton, Montana Historic Preservation Society (MHPS)

Questions from Committee:

10:25:54 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

10:27:50 Sen. Shane Morigeau-D

10:29:16 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

10:30:56 Chair Chris Friedel joined the meeting.

10:33:25 Kate Hampton, MHPS

10:33:51 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

10:33:57 Sen. Shane Morigeau-D

10:35:24 Vice Chair Kenneth Bogner joined the meeting.

10:35:46 Sen. Ellie Boldman

10:39:07 Kate Hampton, MHPS

10:41:07 Sen. Christopher Pope

10:41:34 Chair Chris Friedel left the meeting.

10:45:53 Sen. Shane Morigeau-D

10:47:52 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

10:49:01 Sen. Ellie Boldman left the meeting.

10:49:44 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

10:49:54 Sen. Shane Morigeau-D
10:51:50 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
10:52:09 Sen. Shane Morigeau-D
10:53:02 Toni Henneman

Closing Statement:

10:53:14 Sen. Shane Morigeau (D), SD 95, closed the hearing on SB 407.

10:55:26 Recessed

12:02:19 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 401 - Extend nonmotorized junk vehicle laws

12:05:57 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 401 DO PASS.**
12:06:15 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell moved that **SB 401 TO TABLE.**
12:06:15 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 403 - Generally revise county speed limits

12:06:51 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 403 DO PASS.**
12:09:33 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville moved that **SB 403 TO TABLE.**
12:09:33 **Vote:** Substitute Motion carried 7 - 2 by voice vote with Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Trebas, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 420 - Require the election of city officials on even years

12:11:00 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 420 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

12:11:13 Sen. Christopher Pope
12:13:40 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
12:13:44 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell
12:11:00 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 2 by roll call vote with Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Pope, voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 486 - Revise subdivision laws related to glamping

12:12:37 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 486 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

12:12:51 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

12:15:02 Sen. Ellie Boldman

12:12:37 **Vote:** Motion failed 5 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Pope, Sen. Trebas, Sen. Vermeire, voting yes.

12:16:39 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 486 TO TABLE.**

12:16:39 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 404 - Generally revise local government laws for fire departments

12:17:02 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 404 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

12:17:12 Sen. Christopher Pope

12:17:02 **Vote:** Motion failed 5 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Bogner, Sen. Trebas, Sen. Vermeire, Sen. Zolnikov, voting yes.

12:18:24 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 404 TO TABLE.**

12:18:24 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 406 - Revise laws related to local building codes

12:18:39 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 406 DO PASS.**

12:18:39 **Vote:** Motion carried 6 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Pope, voting no.
Sen. Boldman, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 268 - Generally revise short-term rental laws

12:19:50 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 268 DO PASS.**

12:20:00 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 268 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

12:20:50 Toni Henneman

- 12:21:35 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell
- 12:20:00 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 12:22:11 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 268 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- 12:22:32 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 268 BE AMENDED.**
- Discussion:**
- 12:23:06 Toni Henneman
- 12:24:03 Sen. Christopher Pope
- 12:24:20 Toni Henneman
- 12:25:12 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell
- 12:22:32 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- 12:25:55 **Motion:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner moved that **SB 268 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
- Discussion:**
- 12:26:09 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell
- 12:25:55 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Pope, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:34:33

Lorna Mason, Secretary

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