

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

**Call to Order:** Chair Carl Glimm-R, on March 15, 2023 at 9:01 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. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. John Fuller (R)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)  
Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)  
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)  
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)  
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Dan Bartel (R)  
Sen. Kenneth Bogner (R)  
Sen. Ellie Boldman (D)  
Sen. Dennis Lenz (R)  
Sen. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Sen. Shane Morigeau (D)  
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)

**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 47 03/13/2023

SB 250 03/13/2023

SB 296 03/13/2023

Executive Action:

SB 303 DO PASS

**HEARING ON SB 296 - Revise nursing home and/or assisted living funding**

**Opening Statement:**

09:03:52 Sen. Becky Beard (R), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 296, Revise nursing home and/or assisted living funding.

**Proponent Testimony:**

09:06:13 Rose Hughes, Montana Healthcare Association (MHA)

[EXHIBIT\(230315FCSa1\)](#)

09:14:53 Margaret MacDonald, Big Sky 55+ (BS55)

09:16:14 Jasmine Krotkov, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

09:17:40 Michael Coe, self

09:18:37 Duane Preshinger, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

09:19:05 Claire Marshall, Alzheimer's Association (AA)

09:19:34 Jill Sark, Montana Healthcare Association (MHA)

[EXHIBIT\(230315FCSa2\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(230315FCSa3\)](#)

09:22:10 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn joined the meeting.

09:26:05 Carla Wilton, Immanuel Lutheran Communities (ILC)

09:26:54 David Trost, St. John's United (SJU)

**Opponent Testimony:**

None

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

09:28:03 Gene Hermanson, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

09:28:32 Barbra Smith, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

**Questions from Committee:**

09:28:59 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

09:29:53 Barbara Smith, DPHHS

09:30:55 Sen. Tom McGillvray

09:31:24 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS

09:31:51 Sen. Dan Bartel joined the meeting.

09:33:08 Sen. Tom McGillvray

09:33:58 Rose Hughes, MHA

09:37:26 Sen. Christopher Pope

09:38:23 Barbara Smith, DPHHS

09:42:02 Chair John Esp

09:42:37 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS  
09:43:45 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
09:44:27 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS  
09:45:04 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
09:45:25 Rose Hughes, MHA  
09:45:44 Chair John Esp  
09:46:20 Rose Hughes, MHA  
09:47:25 Sen. Mike Lang  
09:48:45 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS  
09:52:19 Vice Chair Janet Ellis  
09:53:00 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS  
09:53:46 Sen. Pat Flowers  
09:54:45 Rose Hughes, MHA  
09:56:57 Vice Chair Carl Glimm  
09:57:40 Gene Hermanson, DPHHS  
09:59:09 Vice Chair Carl Glimm  
09:59:43 Barbara Smith, DPHHS  
10:00:06 Vice Chair Carl Glimm  
10:00:49 Rose Hughes, MHA  
10:03:27 Chair John Esp  
10:04:11 Rose Hughes, MHA

**Closing Statement:**

10:04:46 Sen. Becky Beard (R), SD 40, closed the hearing on SB 296.

**HEARING ON SB 47 - Revise commercial drivers license laws to comply with federal requirements**

**Opening Statement:**

10:08:56 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, opened the hearing on SB 47, Revise commercial drivers license laws to comply with federal requirements.

**Proponent Testimony:**

10:13:00 Malcolm Long, Department of Transportation (MDT)  
10:15:17 Brad Marten, Department of Transportation (MDT)  
[EXHIBIT\(230315FCSa4\)](#)  
10:18:10 Dave Galt, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)  
10:19:03 Mark Lambrecht, Montana Electric Cooperatives Association (MECA)  
10:19:37 Duane Williams, Montana Trucking Association (MTA)

[EXHIBIT\(230315FCSa5\)](#)

10:23:43 Aimee Grmoljez, MDU Resources (MDU)  
10:25:25 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)  
10:26:13 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)  
10:26:46 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Association (MIA)  
10:27:43 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Opponent Testimony:**

10:28:29 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association (MTTA)

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

10:31:25 Nate Thomas, Department of Justice (DOJ)

**Questions from Committee:**

10:31:50 Sen. John Fuller  
10:32:10 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
10:32:35 Sen. John Fuller  
10:32:54 Brad Marten, MDT  
10:33:53 Sen. Shelley Vance  
10:34:16 Brad Marten, MDT  
10:34:33 Vice Chair Carl Glimm  
10:35:18 Brad Marten, MDT  
10:35:56 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.  
10:37:52 Vice Chair Carl Glimm  
10:38:24 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
10:41:02 Chair John Esp  
10:41:11 Nate Thomas, DOJ  
10:42:36 Sen. Dan Bartel  
10:43:40 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn  
10:44:14 Brad Marten, MDT  
10:44:59 Chair John Esp

**Closing Statement:**

10:45:38 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, closed the hearing on SB 47.

**HEARING ON SB 250 - Adopt Safety of the Child First Act**

**Opening Statement:**

10:48:33 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, opened the hearing on SB 250, Adopt Safety of the Child First Act.

**Proponent Testimony:**

None

**Opponent Testimony:**

10:52:55 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)

10:55:23 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV)

**Informational Witness Testimony:**

11:00:59 Natalia Bowser, Board of Crime Control (MCC)

11:01:17 Erica Johnston, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

11:01:36 Beth McLaughlin, Judicial Branch

11:01:59 Nate Thomas, Department of Justice (DOJ)

**Questions from Committee:**

11:02:21 Sen. John Fuller

11:02:46 Beth McLaughlin, Judicial Branch

11:03:45 Sen. Ryan Lynch

11:04:03 Robin Turner, MCADSV

11:05:52 Sen. Ryan Lynch

11:06:09 Natalia Bowser, BCC

11:08:04 Chair John Esp

11:08:12 Natalia Bowser, BCC

11:09:14 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R

11:11:13 Robin Turner, MCADSV

11:12:07 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.

[EXHIBIT\(230315FCSa6\)](#)

11:13:16 Sen. Tom McGillvray

11:13:25 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R

11:14:01 Sen. Pat Flowers

11:14:14 Sen. Shane Morigeau left the meeting.

11:14:52 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R

[EXHIBIT\(230315FCSa7\)](#)

11:16:29 Chair John Esp

11:16:38 Sen. Pat Flowers

11:17:06 Sen. Theresa Manzella-R

11:18:29 Sen. Pat Flowers

11:18:52 Robin Turner, MCADSV  
11:20:05 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
11:20:57 Kelsen Young, MCADSV  
11:22:46 Chair John Esp  
11:23:23 Kelsen Young, MCADSV  
11:24:31 Sen. Mike Cuffe  
11:24:43 Natalia Bowser, BCC

**Closing Statement:**

11:26:09 Sen. Theresa Manzella (R), SD 85, closed the hearing on SB 250.

11:29:49 **Committee Discussion:** Committee Discussion

11:29:51 Sen. Dan Bartel joined the meeting.

11:29:53 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.

11:29:53 Sen. Ellie Boldman joined the meeting.

11:29:53 Sen. Shane Morigeau joined the meeting.

11:29:53 Sen. Forrest Mandeville left the meeting.

11:29:54 Sen. Mike Cuffe

11:30:14 Chair John Esp

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 303 - Revise withholding penalties for certain taxes**

11:31:36 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 303 DO PASS.**

11:31:36 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:33:27

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Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230315FCSaad\)](#)