

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

Call to Order: Chair Chris Friedel-R, on March 20, 2023 at 2:58 PM, 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:

HB 215 03/13/2023
HB 241 03/13/2023
HB 262 03/13/2023
HB 299 03/13/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 215 - Revise the definition of the governing body of a local health board

Opening Statement:

14:59:35 Rep. David Bedey (R), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 215, Revise the definition of the governing body of a local health board.

Proponent Testimony:

15:01:03 Joe Briggs, County of Cascade, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

15:02:44 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:04:08 Chair Chris Friedel

15:04:29 Eric Bryson (MACo)

Closing Statement:

15:05:12 Rep. David Bedey (R), HD 86, closed the hearing on HB 215.

HEARING ON HB 299 - Revise resolution and ordinance requirements re: land use regulation enforcement

Opening Statement:

15:05:39 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB 299, Revise resolution and ordinance requirements re: land use regulation enforcement.

Proponent Testimony:

15:09:22 Karen Alley, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:11:00 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

15:11:06 Karen Alley (MACo)

Closing Statement:

15:11:33 Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R), HD 67, closed the hearing on HB 299.

HEARING ON HB 241 - Prohibit government from requiring buildings be constructed with solar panels

Opening Statement:

15:41:39 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, opened the hearing on HB 241, Prohibit government from requiring buildings be constructed with solar panels.

Proponent Testimony:

15:42:38 Ruth Rater, self

Opponent Testimony:

15:45:49 Delia Schmidt, Montana Sierra Club

15:47:06 Mckenna Sellers, Montana Renewal Energy Associations (MRA)

15:51:16 Charles Denowh, Tesla

[EXHIBIT\(230320LOSa1\)](#)

15:53:17 John MacDonald, Automotive Innovation Alliance

15:55:05 Ann Schwend, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

15:56:38 Sen. Christopher Pope joined the meeting.

15:56:59 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)
16:00:01 Terry Cunningham, City of Bozeman
16:02:16 Caroline Bean, self
16:06:09 Karin Kirk, self

Informational Witness Testimony:

16:09:26 Eric Copeland, Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI)

Questions from Committee:

16:10:01 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
16:10:18 Terry Cunningham, self
16:14:43 Eric Copeland (DOLI)
16:16:03 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell
16:16:37 Eric Copeland (DOLI)
16:18:19 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R
16:20:07 Ann Schwend, (MEIC)
16:21:32 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
16:22:42 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R
16:23:28 Eric Copeland (DOLI)
16:23:38 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
16:23:50 Makenna Sellers (MRA)
16:26:47 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R
16:27:20 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov
16:28:05 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R
16:28:50 Sen. Christopher Pope
16:29:46 Eric Copeland (DOLI)
16:35:41 Rep. Joshua Kassmier-R

16:36:41 Chair Chris Friedel
16:37:12 Eric Copeland (DOLI)
16:40:20 Caroline Bean, (MRA)
16:41:19 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov
16:41:48 Sen. Terry Vermeire

Closing Statement:

16:41:59 Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R), HD 27, closed the hearing on HB 241.

HEARING ON HB 262 - Revise local government financial reporting and audit requirements

Opening Statement:

15:12:20 Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 262, Revise local government financial reporting and audit requirements.

Proponent Testimony:

15:14:13 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:16:56 Todd Devlin, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:18:34 Joe Briggs, Cascade County, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:20:51 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)
15:21:34 Daneille Vincent, Department of Administration (DOA)

Opponent Testimony:

15:22:19 Allen Lloyd, Montana Society of CPAs (MSCPA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:25:26 Nancy Everson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
15:26:03 Joel Black, Governmental Accounting Standards Board

Questions from Committee:

15:27:19 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

15:31:39 Rep. Jerry Schillinger-R
15:32:02 Eric Bryson (MACo)
15:32:51 Todd Devlin (MACo)
15:34:20 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
15:36:32 Joel Black, self
15:39:59 Chair Chris Friedel
15:43:11 Rep. Jerry Schillinger-R
15:50:02 Joel Black,self

Closing Statement:

16:47:48 Rep. Jerry Schillinger (R), HD 37, closed the hearing on HB 262.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:00:42

Lorna Mason, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230320LOSaad\)](#)