

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

Call to Order: Chair Carl Glimm-R, on March 21, 2023 at 8:00 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. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (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. Tom McGillvray (R)
Sen. Shane Morigeau (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:

HB 38 03/17/2023
HB 60 03/17/2023
HB 81 03/17/2023
HB 375 03/17/2023

Executive Action:

HB 274 BE CONCURRED IN AS
AMENDED

SB 246 DO PASS

HB 38 BE CONCURRED IN

HB 60 BE CONCURRED IN

HEARING ON HB 60 - An act providing for an annual fee on electric vehicles registered in the state

Opening Statement:

08:02:09 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 60, An act providing for an annual fee on electric vehicles registered in the state.

Proponent Testimony:

08:04:17 Joe Briggs, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

08:04:50 David Smith, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)

08:05:35 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

08:07:44 John MacDonald, Alliance for Automotive Innovation (AAI)

08:08:30 Kendra Smith, Department of Transportation (MDT)

08:08:46 Laurie Bakri, Department of Transportation (MDT)

Questions from Committee:

08:09:15 Sen. John Fuller

08:09:17 Sen. Tom McGillvray joined the meeting.

08:09:33 John MacDonald, AAI

08:10:26 Sen. Dennis Lenz left the meeting.

08:10:40 Sen. Daniel Salomon

08:10:57 Rep. Denley Loge-R

08:11:14 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

08:11:36 Rep. Denley Loge-R

08:12:21 Sen. Pat Flowers

08:12:37 Rep. Denley Loge-R

08:12:56 Sen. Mike Cuffe
08:13:40 Rep. Denley Loge-R
08:15:06 Sen. Mike Cuffe
08:15:22 Laurie Bakri, MDT
08:15:46 Sen. Dan Bartel
08:16:22 Rep. Denley Loge-R

Closing Statement:

08:17:15 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 60.

HEARING ON HB 375 - Appropriate funds to pave road providing access to Lost Creek State Park

Opening Statement:

08:18:09 Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 375, Appropriate funds to pave road providing access to Lost Creek State Park.

Discussion:

08:23:20 Sen. Dennis Lenz joined the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

08:23:43 Carl Hamming, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County (ADLC)

08:24:56 Tammy Mattson, self

Opponent Testimony:

08:27:13 Mandy Rambo, Department of Commerce (DOC)

08:29:03 Scott Osterman, Department of Commerce (DOC)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

08:30:30 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

08:30:47 Rep. John Fitzpatrick-R

08:30:58 Sen. Tom McGillvray left the meeting.

08:31:30 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

08:31:52 Rep. John Fitzpatrick-R

08:32:38 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

08:32:50 Mandy Rambo, DOC

08:33:11 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn

08:33:52 Rep. John Fitzpatrick-R

08:34:15 Sen. John Fuller

08:34:46 Rep. John Fitzpatrick-R

08:35:52 Sen. Dan Bartel

08:36:08 Mandy Rambo, DOC

08:36:24 Sen. Shelley Vance left the meeting.

08:36:29 Sen. Mike Cuffe

08:37:28 Rep. John Fitzpatrick-R

08:38:29 Sen. Pat Flowers

08:39:15 Rep. John Fitzpatrick-R

08:40:27 Sen. Pat Flowers

08:40:40 Mandy Rambo, DOC

08:42:47 Scott Osterman, DOC

08:44:56 Chair John Esp

08:45:05 Scott Osterman, DOC

08:46:45 Sen. Daniel Salomon left the meeting.

08:46:50 Sen. Mike Cuffe left the meeting.

08:49:23 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

08:49:34 Rep. John Fitzpatrick-R
08:53:11 Sen. Mike Lang
08:53:29 Mandy Rambo, DOC
08:54:39 Chair John Esp
08:54:54 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn
08:55:10 Chair John Esp
08:55:30 Scott Osterman, DOC

Closing Statement:

08:57:11 Rep. John Fitzpatrick (R), HD 77, closed the hearing on HB 375.

HEARING ON HB 38 - Generally revise theft laws to enumerate theft of a light vehicle

Opening Statement:

08:59:29 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 38, Generally revise theft laws to enumerate theft of a light vehicle.

Discussion:

08:59:48 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn left the meeting.
09:01:40 Chair John Esp left the meeting.

Proponent Testimony:

09:03:32 Brian Thompson, Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA)
09:04:28 Dan Smith, Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA)
09:05:42 Sen. Forrest Mandeville left the meeting.

Opponent Testimony:

09:05:55 Maggie Bornstein, American Civil Liberties Union of Montana (ACLU MT)
09:06:19 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.
09:06:23 Chair John Esp joined the meeting.

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:07:03 Natalie Smitham, Department of Corrections (DOC)
09:07:27 Nate Thomas, Department of Justice (DOJ)
09:07:45 Brian Smith, Office of the State Public Defender (OPD)

Questions from Committee:

09:08:14 Vice Chair Janet Ellis
09:08:41 Rep. Greg Oblander-R
09:09:03 Sen. Christopher Pope
09:09:34 Natalie Smitham, DOC
09:10:03 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn joined the meeting.
09:11:24 Chair John Esp
09:11:42 Sen. John Fuller
09:12:12 Brian Smith, OPD
09:13:38 Sen. Ryan Lynch
09:13:42 Sen. Daniel Salomon joined the meeting.
09:13:57 Brian Smith, OPD

Closing Statement:

09:15:15 Rep. Greg Oblander (R), HD 40, closed the hearing on HB 38.

Discussion:

09:15:26 Sen. Ryan Lynch left the meeting.
09:15:44 Sen. Forrest Mandeville joined the meeting.

HEARING ON HB 81 - Create new state veterans' cemetery

Opening Statement:

09:17:57 Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R), HD 3, opened the hearing on HB 81, Create new state veterans' cemetery.

Proponent Testimony:

09:19:26 Major General J. Peter Hronek, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

[EXHIBIT\(230321FCSa1\)](#)

09:22:18 Kelly Ackerman, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

09:26:19 Janae Grotbo, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Questions from Committee:

09:27:14 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

09:27:15 Sen. Pat Flowers left the meeting.

09:27:37 Sen. Ryan Lynch joined the meeting.

09:28:08 Janae Grotbo, DMA

09:28:20 Chair John Esp

09:28:36 Kelly Ackerman, DMA

Closing Statement:

09:33:17 Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R), HD 3, closed the hearing on HB 81.

09:36:43 **Recessed**

09:59:57 **Reconvened**

09:59:57 Sen. McGillvray has arrived

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 274 - Revise civil air patrol funding

10:00:59 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **HB 274 BE CONCURRED IN.**

10:01:19 **Motion:** Sen. Tom McGillvray moved that **HB 274 BE AMENDED.**

10:01:19 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:02:36 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **HB 274 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

10:02:36 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

10:02:36 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Tom McGillvray

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 246 - Revise corporate income tax water's-edge election laws

10:03:48 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 246 DO PASS.**

10:04:22 **Motion:** Sen. Janet Ellis moved that **SB 246 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

10:04:40 Vice Chair Janet Ellis

10:05:49 Chair John Esp

10:06:14 Sen. Ryan Lynch

10:04:22 **Vote:** Motion failed 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting yes.
Sen. Boldman, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy

10:07:46 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **SB 246 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

10:08:48 Sen. Pat Flowers joined the meeting.

10:07:46 **Vote:** Motion carried 13 - 6 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, voting no.
Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 38 - Generally revise theft laws to enumerate theft of a light vehicle

10:09:03 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **HB 38 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:09:19 Sen. Christopher Pope

10:10:39 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn

10:11:58 Sen. Dan Bartel

10:13:39 Chair John Esp

10:09:03 **Vote:** Motion carried 12 - 7 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Ellis, Sen. Flowers, Sen. Lynch, Sen. Morigeau, Sen. Pope, Sen. Salomon, voting

no.
Sen. Boldman, Sen. Morigeau, By Proxy

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 60 - An act providing for an annual fee on electric vehicles registered in the state

10:15:36 **Motion:** Sen. Carl Glimm moved that **HB 60 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:15:55 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

10:16:22 Sen. Ryan Lynch

10:16:31 Vice Chair Carl Glimm

10:16:42 Chair John Esp

10:15:36 **Vote:** Motion carried 17 - 2 by roll call vote with Sen. Ellis, Sen. Mandeville, voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:19:45

Cy Walsh, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230321FCSaad\)](#)