

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: Chair Theresa Manzella-R, on March 21, 2023 at 2:59 PM, in 405

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Theresa Manzella, Chair (R)
Sen. Chris Friedel, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Andrea Olsen, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Becky Beard (R)
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Sen. Carl Glimm (R)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)
Sen. Barry Usher (R)
Sen. Shelley Vance (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Kathy Kelker (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)

Staff Present: Trudy Burke, Secretary
Joe Carroll, Attorney

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 344 03/10/2023

HB 622 03/15/2023

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 344 - Require new school buses to be equipped with lap-shoulder belts

Opening Statement:

15:01:14 Rep. Mark Thane (D), HD 99, opened the hearing on HB 344, Require new school buses to be equipped with lap-shoulder belts.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230321HISa1\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

15:08:03 Bob Gilbert, Montana School Bus Contractors Association (MSBCA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

15:09:52 Becky Belling, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Questions from Committee:

15:10:33 Vice Chair Chris Friedel

15:11:09 Bob Gilbert, MSBCA

15:11:32 Rep. Mark Thane-D

15:11:55 Vice Chair Chris Friedel

15:14:01 Rep. Mark Thane-D

15:14:03 Bob Gilbert, MSBCA

15:14:47 Chair Theresa Manzella

15:14:52 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

15:15:33 Rep. Mark Thane-D

15:16:13 Sen. Carl Glimm

15:16:39 Rep. Mark Thane-D

15:17:23 Sen. Shelley Vance

15:18:44 Rep. Mark Thane-D
15:19:11 Sen. Barry Usher
15:20:09 Rep. Mark Thane-D
15:20:25 Sen. Becky Beard
15:20:46 Rep. Mark Thane-D
15:21:05 Sen. Barry Usher
15:21:18 Rep. Mark Thane-D
15:21:29 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
15:22:14 Rep. Mark Thane-D
15:22:34 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell
15:23:17 Rep. Mark Thane-D
15:23:32 Chair Theresa Manzella
15:24:02 Rep. Mark Thane-D

Closing Statement:

15:24:37 Rep. Mark Thane (D), HD 99, closed the hearing on HB 344.

HEARING ON HB 622 - Provide for non-resident titling

Opening Statement:

15:26:18 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, opened the hearing on HB 622, Provide for non-resident titling.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT\(230321HISa2\)](#)

Proponent Testimony:

15:28:04 Laurie Bakri, Department of Justice, Motor Vehicle Division (DOJ MVD)
15:29:19 Elaine Taylor, Vitu and on behalf of the Montana Automobile Dealers Association

15:30:13 John Brueggeman, Vitu

15:32:53 Stewart Doggett, Montana Recreational Vehicle Dealers Association
(MRVDA)

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

15:33:48 Vice Chair Chris Friedel

15:36:06 Laurie Bakri, DOJ MVD

15:36:39 Vice Chair Chris Friedel

15:36:50 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

15:37:36 Stewart Doggett, MRVDA

15:39:02 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

15:39:14 John Brueggeman, Vitu

15:40:08 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

15:42:42 Laurie Bakri, DOJ MVD

15:43:06 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

15:47:52 John Brueggeman, Vitu

15:48:15 Sen. Barry Usher

15:48:33 Laurie Bakri, DOJ MVD

15:49:07 Sen. Barry Usher

15:50:38 John Brueggeman, Vitu

15:51:00 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

15:51:28 Laurie Bakri, DOJ MVD

15:51:46 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

15:51:58 Laurie Bakri, DOJ MVD

Closing Statement:

15:52:37 Rep. Denley Loge (R), HD 14, closed the hearing on HB 622.

15:56:44 **Committee Discussion:** Study bill process.

15:57:47 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

15:57:50 Sen. Barry Usher

15:57:50 Chair Theresa Manzella

15:57:57 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

15:58:08 Vice Chair Andrea Olsen

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 15:58:41

Trudy Burke, Secretary

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