

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

Call to Order: Chair Chris Friedel-R, on March 22, 2023 at 2:56 PM, in 405

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Chris Friedel, 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)

Members Excused: Sen. Kenneth Bogner (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 282 03/13/2023
HB 488 03/13/2023
HB 675 03/15/2023
HB 731 03/13/2023

Executive Action:

HB 246
HB 316
HB 211
HB 291
HB 299

15:36:31 **Recessed**

15:42:05 **Reconvened**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 246 - Allow for the zoning of tiny dwelling units

15:42:27 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 246 BE CONCURRED IN.**

15:42:27 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:42:27 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 316 - Generally revise laws related to advisory councils

15:44:04 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 316 BE CONCURRED IN.**

15:44:04 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:44:04 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 211 - Revise the local subdivision review process

15:44:57 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 211 BE CONCURRED IN.**

15:44:57 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:45:33 **Motion:** Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell moved that **HB 211 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:47:48 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

15:48:54 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

15:48:56 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

15:45:33 **Vote:** Motion failed 5 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Pope, Sen. Trebas, voting yes.

15:50:14 **Motion:** Sen. Christopher Pope moved that **HB 211 BE AMENDED.**

Discussion:

15:51:17 Sen. Christopher Pope

15:52:28 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

15:50:14 **Vote:** Motion failed 6 - 3 by roll call vote with Sen. Boldman, Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Pope, voting yes.

15:54:41 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 211 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

15:55:06 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

15:55:36 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

15:54:41 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 1 by roll call vote with Sen. Dunwell, voting no.

15:54:41 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 291 - Revise local government investment laws

15:57:28 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 291 BE CONCURRED IN.**

15:57:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:57:28 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Forrest Mandeville

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

15:58:11 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 299 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

15:58:35 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell

15:58:11 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

15:58:11 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Kenneth Bogner

HEARING ON HB 282 - Generally revise rental laws

Opening Statement:

16:00:36 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 282, Generally revise rental laws.

Proponent Testimony:

16:02:55 John Sinrud, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)

16:10:32 Steve Skinner, self

Opponent Testimony:

16:13:00 Ethan Handley, Associated Students of University of Montana (ASUM)

16:15:31 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish
16:17:59 Sam Forstag, City of Missoula
16:22:27 Margaret McDonald, Big Sky 55 Plus
16:25:16 Bill Entwistle, Democratic Socialist Association (DSA)
16:28:41 Tim Matthews, self

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

16:30:05 Sen. Christopher Pope
16:35:02 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
16:36:31 Toni Henneman
16:37:08 Sen. Christopher Pope
16:38:16 Rep. Steven Galloway-R
16:40:43 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
16:41:47 John Sinrud, MLA
16:42:48 Vice Chair Mary Ann Dunwell
16:42:57 Ethan Handley, ASUM
16:47:21 Sen. Jeremy Trebas
16:47:44 Rep. Steven Galloway-R

Closing Statement:

16:49:21 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 282.

HEARING ON HB 675 - Authorize consolidation of county and municipal water and/or sewer districts

Opening Statement:

16:52:25 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, opened the hearing on HB 675, Authorize consolidation of county and municipal water and/or sewer districts.

Proponent Testimony:

16:55:35 Frank Ewalt, self

16:57:35 Pam Ellis, self

16:58:34 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

16:59:45 Doug Kary, self

Opponent Testimony:

None

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:02:08 Chair Chris Friedel

17:02:16 Rep. Larry Brewster-R

Closing Statement:

17:02:29 Rep. Larry Brewster (R), HD 44, closed the hearing on HB 675.

HEARING ON HB 488 - Revise security deposit law

Opening Statement:

17:03:32 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 488, Revise security deposit law.

Proponent Testimony:

17:05:38 John Sinrud, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)

Opponent Testimony:

17:16:05 Ethan Handley, Associated Students of University of Montana (ASUM)

17:18:32 Bill Entwistle, Democratic Socialist of Montana (DSA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:31:08 Chair Chris Friedel
17:31:14 John Sinrud, MLA
17:32:20 Sen. Christopher Pope
17:32:50 Toni Henneman
17:33:03 John Sinrud, MLA

Closing Statement:

17:34:56 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 488.

HEARING ON HB 731 - Generally revise landlord tenant law

Opening Statement:

17:36:12 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, opened the hearing on HB 731,
Generally revise landlord tenant law.

Proponent Testimony:

17:41:32 John Sinrud, Montana Landlord Association (MLA)

Opponent Testimony:

17:49:32 Sam Forstag, City of Bozeman City of Missoula
17:52:12 Ethan Handley, Associated Students of University of Montana (ASUM)
17:54:28 Jake Brown, Shelter Whitefish
17:56:51 Bill Entwistle, Democratic Socialist Association of Montana (DSA)

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

17:59:44 Chair Chris Friedel
18:06:10 John Sinrud, MLA

18:14:03 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

18:14:08 Ethan Handley, ASUM

Closing Statement:

18:15:46 Rep. Steven Galloway (R), HD 24, closed the hearing on HB 731.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 18:20:19

Lorna Mason, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230322LOSaad\)](#)